



THE LARRY H. MILLER Collection PART TWO



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2020

Stack's  *Bowers*
GALLERIES



Stack's Bowers Galleries

Upcoming Auction Schedule

Coins and Currency

Date	Auction	Consignment Deadline
December 3, 2020	Collectors Choice Online Auction – <i>U.S. Coins & Currency</i> StacksBowers.com	visit stacksbowers.com
December 16, 2020	Collectors Choice Online Auction – <i>U.S. Coins & Currency</i> StacksBowers.com	November 23, 2020
December 16-18, 2020	Stack's Bowers Galleries – <i>U.S. Coins & Currency</i> December 2020 Auction	October 20, 2020
January 15-16, 2021	Stack's Bowers Galleries – <i>Ancient and World Coins & Paper Money</i> An Officially Sanctioned Auction of the N.Y.I.N.C. Santa Ana, CA	November 4, 2020
January 27, 2021	Collectors Choice Online Auction – <i>U.S. Coins & Currency</i> StacksBowers.com	January 4, 2021
February 22, 2021	Collectors Choice Online Auction – <i>U.S. Coins & Currency</i> StacksBowers.com	January 27, 2021
February 23-25, 2021	Collectors Choice Online Auction – <i>Ancient, World Coins & Paper Money</i> StacksBowers.com	January 12, 2021
March 17, 2021	Collectors Choice Online Auction – <i>U.S. Coins & Currency</i> StacksBowers.com	February 22, 2021
March 24-26, 2021	Stack's Bowers Galleries – <i>U.S. Coins & Currency</i> March 2020 Baltimore Auction Baltimore, MD	January 25, 2021
April 4-7, 2021	Stack's Bowers and Ponterio – <i>Chinese & Asian Coins & Banknotes</i> Official Auction of the Hong Kong Coin Show Hong Kong	January 15, 2021
April 2021	Collectors Choice Online Auction – <i>U.S. Coins & Currency</i> StacksBowers.com	visit stacksbowers.com
May 2021	Collectors Choice Online Auction – <i>U.S. Coins & Currency</i> StacksBowers.com	visit stacksbowers.com
Summer 2021	Stack's Bowers Galleries – <i>U.S. Coins & Currency</i> Summer 2021 Baltimore Auction Baltimore, MD	April 15, 2021
August 10-14, 2021	Stack's Bowers Galleries <i>Ancient and World Coins & Paper Money; U.S. Coins & Currency</i> An Official Auction of the ANA World's Fair of Money Rosemont, IL	June 10, 2021

Front Cover (left to right): Lot 1089: 1794 \$1 MS-62 (NGC). Lot 1227: 1894-S 10¢ Proof-65 (NGC). CAC. Lot 1094: 1804 \$1 Class I Original. Proof-65 (PCGS).

Back Cover (top to bottom): Lot 1446: 1849 Mormon \$2.50. MS-61 (PCGS). Lot 1447: 1849 Mormon \$5. AU-55 (PCGS). CAC. Lot 1450: 1850 Mormon \$5. AU-55 (PCGS). CAC. Lot 1451: 1860 Mormon \$5. MS-61 (PCGS). CAC. Lot 1448: 1849 Mormon \$10. AU-53 (PCGS). CAC. Lot 1449: 1849 Mormon \$20. EF-45 (PCGS). CAC.



THE LARRY H. MILLER Collection PART TWO



Session 1 • 1:00 PM PT • Thursday, December 17, 2020

The Quarter Deck Room • The Balboa Bay Resort
1221 West Coast Highway • Newport Beach, CA 92663

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United States

Fax: 844.645.7624

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Live Bidding

In person live bidding will be allowed in accordance with COVID-19 directives and local mandates at the time of auction. Reservations required.

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THE LARRY H. MILLER COLLECTION PART TWO

Session 1 • 1:00 PM (PT) • Thursday, December 17, 2020

Lot Viewing

Lot Viewing will be conducted at The Grand Hyatt DFW (*by appointment only*): December 2-4, 2020
2337 South International Parkway, DFW, Airport, TX 75261, America's Ballroom

Lot Viewing will be conducted at the New York City offices (*by appointment only*): December 7-11, 2020
470 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022

Lot Viewing will be conducted in the Costa Mesa, CA offices (*by appointment only*): December 14-18, 2020
1550 Scenic Avenue #150, Costa Mesa, CA 92626

If you cannot view in person, we will have our professional numismatists on hand to answer questions via phone or email about specific lots. Please email info@stacksbowers.com to make arrangements.

Auction Location

The Balboa Bay Resort
1221 West Coast Highway
Newport Beach, CA 92663

In person live bidding will be allowed in accordance with Covid-19 directives and local mandates at the time of the auction. Reservations required.

Auction Details

Session 1

The Larry H. Miller
Collection Part Two
Thursday, December 17
The Quarter Deck Room
1:00 PM PT
Lots 1001-1533

Session 2*

U.S. Coins
Friday, December 18
The Quarter Deck Room
1:00 PM PT
Lots 2001-2539

Session 3*

U.S. Coins
Internet Only
Monday, December 21
StacksBowers.com
9:00 AM PT
Lots 3001-4156

*Please refer to our other December 2020 auction catalog for further offerings of U.S. Coins.
View our entire auction schedule online at StacksBowers.com.*

Lot Pickup

Lot Pickup will be conducted at the Stack's Bowers Galleries Costa Mesa offices (*by appointment only*).

Dates, times and locations are subject to change.

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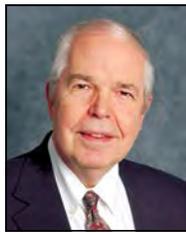
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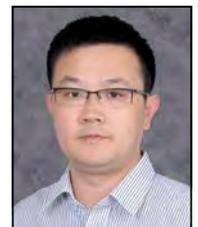
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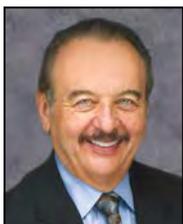


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LARRY H. MILLER

I had the privilege of meeting Larry Miller in 1999. My good friend Dwight Manley was managing superstar Karl Malone of the Utah Jazz at this time, and had learned through conversations with Larry that he was an avid coin collector. Dwight suggested that Larry give me a call if he was interested in building a world class collection.



When Larry and I spoke on the phone it was clear he was already more than a modest collector. At the recent Eliasberg auction, he had been the mystery buyer of the 1804 \$1 along with many other fabulous coins. When we discussed this coin and the other jewels he had purchased at the sale, I was struck by his humility. Soon enough Larry invited me and my sons to Salt Lake City so that I could take a gander at his coins and also be his guests at a Jazz game. Larry and I sat for hours perusing his coins and getting to know one another. Certain things quickly became obvious to me. One was that he had a true passion for coins and two, he had absolutely boundless energy! He was also the most interesting man I had ever met. Over the next ten years we worked together building a world class silver dollar collection, a fabulous type set, and all the other amazing sets and coins in his collection. Even better was the personal friendship we developed. I always felt our hours together in his den looking at and talking about coins was a great respite for him from the rigors of his long work week.

Larry Miller was born in 1944 to a humble family in Salt Lake City. Who could have guessed his would become one of the great Horatio Alger stories of the 20th century? Growing up, Larry had little interest in school studies, but he did have

a great passion for fast cars and softball. He met his future wife, Gail, in junior high school. They were married in 1965, beginning their lifelong partnership. They were blessed with five children.

In 1976, as parts manager of a Colorado car dealership, Larry's brilliance became evident when he transformed the parts department into a nationwide juggernaut. Larry bought his first dealership in Utah in 1979 and as they say, "the rest is history." Today the Miller auto group owns over 60 dealerships throughout the western United States. The Jazz were purchased

in 1985 and the Millers further cemented their place in Utah lore by ensuring that the Jazz would stay in Utah. While working 18 hour days as a world class entrepreneur, Larry, an ordained Elder in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, made time to serve in his local congregation. He was always willing to talk to and encourage young people.

Though Larry passed much too soon in 2009 at only 64 years of age, his legacy will live on forever. Over the past ten years Gail Miller has shown her own incredible acumen as chairwoman of the Larry H. Miller Group. Gail and her children have built the company to even greater heights on the foundation that Larry provided. Her amazing generosity in donating the full proceeds of Larry's coin collection to help build the Primary Children's hospital in Lehi, Utah, is further evidence of this family's amazing generosity.

Respectfully

Kevin Lipton

Stack's Bowers Galleries presents

THE LARRY H. MILLER COLLECTION

PART TWO

Many great numismatic collections are assembled with tremendous showmanship and fanfare. Others, however, are built quietly and with discretion, allowing the collector to appreciate the satisfaction of accomplishment and the joy of ownership. Often it is these cabinets that elicit the most excitement when they are presented to the market, as collectors compete enthusiastically to acquire newly re-discovered rarities. Such is the case with the magnificent Larry H. Miller Collection.

Acquiring coins discretely and off the radar of the collecting community, the late Larry H. Miller assembled a world-class cabinet that spans nearly the entire *Guide Book of United States Coins*. The breadth and density of rarities included are hallmarks of only the most disciplined and passionate collectors; any individual segment of the Larry H. Miller Collection would be a major lifetime accomplishment on its own.

Stack's Bowers Galleries is truly honored to have been selected to present the Larry H. Miller Collection at auction, with the proceeds helping to facilitate the Miller family's \$50 million donation to Intermountain Healthcare's Primary Children's Hospital in Lehi, Utah. Part One of the Miller Collection was featured in our November 2020 Showcase Auction and focused on the most emblematic issues of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, including a world-class set of Morgan and Peace dollars.

Part Two of the Miller Collection, offered in the following pages, showcases a magnificent type set of United States coinage that spans from the pre-Federal era through to the 20th century. Featured within the set is a magnificent run of early silver dollars that includes a Mint State 1794, the finest known 1795 BB-14, and the Gem Stickney-Eliasberg 1804.

The Miller type set is accompanied by a complete suite of Mormon gold coinage that ranks among the finest such sets ever assembled. Each Mormon issue is represented by one of the finest known examples, including the Green-Carter 1849 \$10 and the historic Jenks-Nygren 1849 \$20, each of which is the sole finest approved by CAC for its issue. These magnificent rarities are joined by an impressive set of Barber coinage across all denominations, highlighted by the Gem Eliasberg 1894-S dime. Also of note are important offerings of Flying Eagle cents, Indian Head cents, and two-cent pieces.

The Larry H. Miller Collection is landmark cabinet, not only for the quality of the coins, but also for its level of completeness. The accomplishment represented by this offering is sure to be remembered by numismatists for many decades to come.



Order of Sale

Session 1

The Larry H. Miller Collection, Part Two

Thursday December 17

The Quarter Deck Room • Balboa Bay Resort

1:00 pm PT

Category Lot Number

The Larry H. Miller Type Set of United States Coins..... 1001-1143

Continental Dollar.....	1001
Half Cents.....	1002-1006
Large Cents.....	1007-1013
Small Cents.....	1014-1022
Two-Cent Pieces.....	1023
Silver Three-Cent Pieces.....	1024-1026
Nickel Three-Cent Pieces.....	1027
Nickel Five-Cent Pieces.....	1028-1037
Half Dimes.....	1038-1045
Dimes.....	1046-1057
Twenty-Cent Pieces.....	1058
Quarter Dollars.....	1059-1074
Half Dollars.....	1075-1088
Silver Dollars.....	1089-1108
Trade Dollars.....	1109
Gold Dollars.....	1110-1112
Quarter Eagles.....	1113-1118
Three-Dollar Gold Pieces.....	1119
Four-Dollar Gold Pieces.....	1120
Half Eagles.....	1121-1130
Eagles.....	1131-1137
Double Eagles.....	1138-1143

U.S Coins and Related..... 1144-1533

Small Cents.....	1144-1205
Two-Cent Pieces.....	1206-1217
Dimes.....	1218-1293
Quarter Dollars.....	1294-1367
Half Dollars.....	1368-1441
Early Proof Sets.....	1442-1445
Private and Territorial Gold Coins and Related.....	1446-1451
Small Cents.....	1452-1462
Silver Three-Cent Pieces.....	1463
Nickel Five-Cent Pieces.....	1464-1473
Dimes.....	1474-1479
Quarter Dollars.....	1480-1490
Half Dollars.....	1491-1511
Silver Dollars.....	1512-1522
Eagles.....	1523
Rolls.....	1524-1533



THE LARRY H. MILLER Collection PART TWO



SESSION 1

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2020, 1:00 PM PT

LOTS 1001-1533



The Larry H. Miller Type Set of United States Coinage

Collecting by design type is perhaps one of the most thrilling ways to study and experience United States coinage. Endless opportunities for customization make type set collecting a very popular and approachable way to build a collection. It can be, however, a daunting endeavor to complete a set at the highest level. Assembling a world-class Type Set demands not only an understanding of the wide realm of United States coinage, but also more specialized knowledge of production methods and rarity within each series and at each Mint. To achieve consistent quality and eye appeal across more than 200 years of coinage is a challenge completed by only the most dedicated students of this genre, as exemplified by such luminaries as Oliver Jung, Haig A. Koshkarian, and Norman Stack.

The Larry H. Miller Type Set of United States Coinage showcases exactly this superior connoisseurship and attention to detail. It features over 140 coins spanning from the pre-Federal era to the very cusp of the 21st century. It is highlighted by an incredible set of early silver dollars that includes a Mint

State 1794, the finest known 1795 BB-14, and the Gem Stickney-Eliasberg 1804, and exhibits a coalescence of quality and rarity that has seldom been duplicated.

The earliest issues of the Philadelphia Mint are represented by an impressive selection of Draped Bust and Capped Bust coins, followed by important rarities of the Liberty Seated and Liberty Head series from the 19th century. The finest known 1797 O-102 half dollar and a Choice 1808 quarter eagle are sure to draw considerable interest from specialists. The Mint's renewed emphasis on artistry in the 20th century is exemplified by key-dates in exceptional condition, including a Choice 1916 Standing Liberty quarter, a Gem 1907 Wire Rim Indian \$10 and a Superb Gem Proof 1912 Saint-Gaudens \$20.

The lots that follow offer one of the most spectacular tours through the evolution of United States coinage, and we are honored to present the Larry H. Miller Type Set for a new generation of collectors to cherish.





Lot 1001

“1776” (1783) Continental Dollar. Newman 3-D, W-8460. Rarity-4.
CURRENCY, EG FECIT. Pewter. MS-64 (PCGS). CAC.



COLONIAL COINS AND RELATED

Classic “1776” Continental “Dollar”

EG FECIT Variety in Pewter

Ex Dr. Jerry Buss



1001

“1776” (1783) Continental Dollar. Newman 3-D, W-8460. Rarity-4. CURRENCY, EG FECIT. Pewter. MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. This is a beautiful Choice Mint State example of the fabled Continental “dollar,” a type whose history has recently been rewritten by numismatic researchers, but whose popularity is as strong as it has ever been. Light pewter gray patina is seen on both sides, with a few swirls of copper-russet around the peripheries, especially at the letter L in CONTINENTAL. The surfaces are predominantly satiny yet there are modest hints of semi-reflectivity in the fields. The strike is bold to sharp throughout, and the face of the sun has far sharper detail than typically seen in examples of this type. The appearance is smooth, and the eye appeal is strong in all regards. Here is a carefully produced, nicely preserved example that is sure to find a place of honor in an advanced cabinet of early American and related issues.

The Continental “dollar” is an enigmatic type for which no specific documentation detailing its origin has ever been found. Numismatic scholars pieced together a story that, up until recently, had become the generally accepted version of events. According to this story, resolutions passed by the Continental Congress on February 17, 1776, and May 9 of the same year provided for the issuance of paper money in various denominations, including a \$1 note. Resolutions passed later in the year on July 22 and November 2, however, omitted the \$1 note. Based on these facts and supported by the existence of these coins, it was theorized that the Continental Congress intended these pieces to serve in lieu of the \$1 note beginning in the latter half of 1776. The vast majority of surviving examples are struck in pewter, as here, although a few silver and brass impressions are also known. It was easy to conclude that pewter was the intended composition of such a coin, as the coins would have been fiat money without intrinsic backing, as the notes were. In addition, the fledgling government did not have a significant treasury reserve. Elisha Gallaudet was identified by Eric Newman as the likely maker based on convenient circumstantial evidence. He was a New

York City engraver of the period who was known to have been involved in production of New York paper money issues of the 1770s and thus clearly a prime candidate.

The earliest known published record of the Continental “dollar” came, oddly enough, in the German book *Historical and Genealogical Almanac, or Yearbook of the Most Remarkable New World Events for 1784* by Matthias Christian Sprengel. Despite the date in the title, the book was published in 1783, the captions for its illustrations rendered in German for the benefit of its target audience. Two illustrations were used to represent the new American nation: one depicting the famous Libertas Americana medal and the other the equally iconic Continental “dollar.” The caption provided for the obverse of the Continental “dollar” was AMERICANISCHE LANDES MUNTZE, which roughly translates into “American Country Money.” The publisher actually wrote to Benjamin Franklin requesting illustrations to use in the book, although with no record of Franklin’s reply the exact origin of Sprengel’s illustrations remains unknown.

A few years later, in 1786, Bishop Richard Watson’s *Chemical Essays (Volume IV)* also mentioned the Continental “dollar.” Watson was a professor of chemistry and divinity at Cambridge sanctioned by the British Crown. After discussing the “gun money” issues of King James III, Watson writes:

The Congress in America had recourse to the same expedient; they coined several pieces of about an inch and a half in diameter, and of 240 grains in weight; on one side of which was inscribed in a circular ring near the edge - Continental Currency, 1776 - and within the ring a rising sun, with - fugio - at the side of it, shining upon a dial, under which was - Mind your business. - On the reverse were thirteen small circles joined together like the rings of a chain, on each of which was inscribed the name of some one of the thirteen states; on another circular ring, within these, was inscribed - American Congress - and in the central space - We are One.

Although the authors of these early publications obviously believed that the Continental “dollars” were coins of American



manufacture, no documentary evidence was provided to substantiate this claim. In fact, it is the lack of documentary evidence authorizing the issue of these pieces in the records of the Continental Congress that has long troubled researchers.

As tempting as it is to assign primary source status to the Sprengel and Bishop Watson accounts because they date to the 1780s, recent research and a two-part article by Erik Goldstein and David McCarthy entitled “The Myth of the Continental Dollar” published in the January and July 2018 editions of *The Numismatist* challenge the long accepted theories surrounding these coins. They discovered that a long string of early Americans — people who were actually in a position to provide concrete facts about these pieces — went on the record to mention that they had never seen or heard of such a thing as a Continental dollar coin. Paul Revere and Josiah Meigs both went on the record within a decade of the end of the American Revolution to correct Bishop Watson’s report that the pewter “dollar” was an American coin. In the December 12, 1788 issue of *The New Haven Gazette*, which he owned and published, Meigs, who at the time was New Haven’s city clerk, boldly rebuked Bishop Watson’s conclusion:

The following extract from the learned Bishop Watson’s Chemical Essays Vol. 4. Page 136. shews how easily strange errors are introduced into the writing of even careful men when they write on any subject relative to distant countries—It is probable that some workman amused himself with copying one of the small bills emitted by Congress, into a die or mould, and then impressed or cast a piece of Pewter such as the Bishop has described.—If the author of that work should publish a future addition, it is hoped that clause will be omitted.

Goldstein and McCarthy also quote Paul Revere’s correction to Bishop Watson’s conclusion about the Continental “dollar,” which the famous Boston silversmith and American patriot sent in a letter dated February 21, 1790:

In perusing your valuable Chemical Essays vol. 4 page 136, you make mention of pewter money coined by the American Congress, and give a description of it. The very great pleasure which I have received from the perusal of those volumes and the exceeding good character I have heard of you, from some of your countrymen, as a Man and for fear some person of consequence, has not endeavored to set you right in that piece of History; I have enclosed you two pieces of money, one of them printed under the direction of the American Congress, the other I am not so fully assured of; as they both answer to your description, except the metal, I have sent them, supposing, if you were not possessed of them before, they might be acceptable to you as curiosities.

As for pewter money struck in America, I never saw any. I have made careful enquiry, and have all the reason in the world to believe that you were imposed upon by those who informed you.

As the most significant American coin collector of the 18th century, Pierre Eugene Du Simitiere, a Philadelphian, was also ideally placed to understand the true origin and status of the Continental “dollar.” Before his death in 1784, he amassed every kind of rare and common American coin then available, including seven Higley coppers that he scrupulously sketched in his inventory book. In November 1779 the Congress officially proposed naming him “Historiographer of the Congress of the United States,” with a salary paid in Continental Currency and a three-year contract to write the Congress’ official history. Du Simitiere, a numismatist and daily observer of the Congress, not only never owned a Continental “dollar,” but he described it in his notes as “a coin of the size of a crown, with devices and Mottos, taken from the continental money, Struck’t in London on Type-Metal and dated 1776.” In truth, there was literally not a single American better equipped to know its story than he.

Du Simitiere was just the first of many pioneering numismatists who never owned or saw a Continental “dollar,” and who denied its American provenance. Matthew A. Stickney began collecting in 1823. He traded his Immune Columbia piece to the United States Mint in 1843 to get a brand-new 1804 dollar. His acquisition of his first Continental “dollar” came a full decade later, while on a trip to England. Joseph B. Felt was a leading American antiquarian when he wrote his *Historical Account of Massachusetts Currency* in 1839. He noted the 1786 account of Bishop Watson in *Chemical Essays*, quoted above, and acted incredulously that Watson believed the Continental “dollar” to be an American coin:

It will be perceived that such a description was similar, in several respects, to that on the copper coin, which Congress ordered, in 1787, to be issued. The preceding coin, so particularly mentioned by Bishop Watson, has no reference made to it in the Congress Journals.

Jeremiah Colburn never saw or heard of one until Matthew Stickney showed him his, as he noted in his column in *Historical Magazine* in 1857. Colburn noted “no coins were ever in circulation, as currency, of this type, but copies of the Medal are extant struck in white metal.” And Sarah Sophia Banks, the London numismatist whose father was the world’s most renowned scientist of his day, purchased her Continental “dollar” new upon issuance, logging its acquisition in her pre-1790 inventory books with the notes “Congress Dollar. 1776. never current, struck on speculation in Europe, for sale in America.” In sum, those who were there knew the score: the Continental “dollar” was a London-made medal, using designs inspired by Continental Currency, not a coin made by the Continental Congress.

Perhaps the most persuasive document is the paperwork Sarah Sophia Banks preserved with her “Congress Dollar.” The two best known American-reference medals of 1783, the year the Continental “dollar” appears to have been struck, were initially sold with what the French called an “explication,” a simple handbill or flyer explaining the designs, what they meant, and where they came from. The Libertas Americana medal was sold with one. Betts-610, the usually pewter medal coined to celebrate the Treaty of Paris, was also sold with one. And so, too, was the Continental “dollar.” Banks preserved hers, and it reads just as other contemporary explications do, explaining the motifs, “representing the Paper Currency of a Dollar....the Thirteen Colonies united like a Chain....the Date, 1776, is the time they declared Independency.”

That the Continental “dollar” was intended as a medal and not a coin, and that it was struck in London in 1783 instead of an unknown American location in 1776, changes very little in the scheme of things. The Libertas Americana medal was coined in Paris but is consistently rated as among the most desirable American numismatic collectibles; the Continental “dollar” should not forfeit a similar place in the hearts of American collectors. It remains scarce, attractive, historic and valuable. It’s a piece that Paul Revere — no man of letters, typically — felt passionately enough about to write a missive to the Bishop of London. And it’s a piece that all of us grew up looking at and wanting to own, just as every generation of American collector since 1823 has. Indeed, the inclusion of a high grade and attractive Continental “dollar,” as here, will continue to help define the difference between an average and outstanding collection of early American types.

PCGS# 795. NGC ID: 2AYU.

PCGS Population: 12; 6 finer (MS-66 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex Superior’s sale of the Dr. Jerry Buss Collection, January 1985, lot 4.



HALF CENTS

Condition Rarity 1793 C-2 Half Cent



1002

1793 Head Left. C-2. Rarity-3. MS-62 BN (NGC). A noteworthy condition rarity for both the issue and variety, this 1793 Cohen-2 half cent is a significant highlight among the early copper offerings from the Larry H. Miller cabinet. The strike is impressive for its execution, as both sides are near-perfectly centered with complete border beading. All design elements are firmly impressed with universally bold to sharp detail throughout the design. The surfaces exhibit a hard, satiny texture with a generally smooth appearance and virtually no detracting blemishes. Two tiny carbon flecks at the obverse border before the date are out of the way and easily overlooked, while a pair of minor edge nicks at 10 and 12 o'clock on the same side are useful for provenance purposes. Handsomely toned in warm gray-brown, the surfaces retain plenty of faded mint orange color that is most pronounced in the protected areas around the design elements. Per Ronald P. Manley (*The Half Cent Die State Book: 1793-1857*, 1998), only a single major die state of this variety is known, which is characterized by considerable evidence of die rust on both sides. The present example shows more evidence of this rust on the obverse, typical of the variety, although its high grade also allows this feature to be seen on the reverse, especially through and around the right branch of the wreath.

The 1793 half cent is significant as the first United States half cent, the only issue of the Liberty Cap, Head Left design type and one of just two denominations struck during the Mint's first full year of coinage operations (the other is the large cent). Henry Voigt engraved the dies, and by mid-May the Mint had already prepared more than 30,000 planchets for the half cents, including having their edges lettered. All of the planchets were made from sheet copper. Actual coinage did not commence until July 19, however, with production on that date probably accounting for most or all of the 7,000 examples delivered to

the treasurer the following day. The remaining 24,934 half cents were struck from July 23 to 25 and delivered on July 26, for a total mintage of 31,934 pieces for the 1793 Liberty Cap issue. The oft-published mintage of 35,334 pieces for this issue includes an additional 3,400 coins delivered with the Liberty Cap cents on September 18, 1793, that William R. Eckberg (*The Half Cent, 1793-1857: The Story of America's Greatest Little Coin*, 2019) believes were actually cents based on the records of Mint Treasurer Tristram Dalton. When half cent coinage resumed in 1794, the denomination featured a modified Liberty Cap design by Robert Scot with the portrait facing to the right.

Given its current popularity, it may be surprising that the 1793 half cent seems to have been generally overlooked by contemporary collectors. No notable high grade pieces appeared from English or other European sources in the 20th century, suggesting that few, if any, Mint State examples were set aside by numismatists and others who visited the early United States. It was not until the 1850s that numismatics as a hobby began to gain widespread popularity in the United States, and the earliest known interest in the 1793 half cent as a valuable collectible dates to that decade. In 1855 collector Winslow Howard purchased a lot of two examples in the Pierre Flandin sale, one of the first major numismatic auctions held in the United States. Mr. Howard paid \$7 for his two 1793 half cents, a sizable sum, especially since half cents could still be found in commerce during the 1850s, at least in major Eastern cities like Philadelphia and New York. It is almost certainly the retrieval of coins from circulation during the decade preceding the Civil War that accounts for the majority of 1793 half cents known today, a theory that squares nicely with an extant population comprised almost exclusively of worn coins.



The exact number of Mint State 1793 half cents extant is a matter of debate, although it certainly represents an infinitesimal proportion of all survivors. While NGC has assigned a Mint State grade on 17 occasions, and PCGS 29 times, Breen's Condition Census includes just 21 Uncirculated pieces, and even his list is full of evident duplication. The more stringent Condition Census listings published in William Noyes' *Penny Prices* and Jack Robinson's *Copper Quotes by Robinson* include just 12 and nine specimens respectively in Mint State, a grade defined perhaps more strictly by those parties than by the grading services and others. Most recently, Bill Eckberg provides as estimate of "possibly as many as 25 MS survivors." One thing is for certain: market appearances for Mint State 1793 half cents are few and far between; in the decade since 2009 we have offered only eight different Uncirculated coins through auction, including the present example.

Numismatic researchers have identified four different die pairings for the 1793 half cent. Cohen-2, represented by the Miller specimen, shares its obverse with C-1 and its reverse with C-3. Bill Eckberg asserts that this variety was struck on July 23, 1793, and delivered with the C-3 and C-4 coins on July 26. The author's estimate on the number of survivors for the C-2 pairing is 250 to 325 coins. Although all four die marriages of this issue are of roughly equal availability in an absolute sense, the C-2 is very rare above Extremely Fine with Ronald Manley observing that examples are "usually available only in low grades." The present example is a strong contender for Condition Census, and it is a fabulous coin that is destined for inclusion in another world class cabinet.

PCGS# 35006. NGC ID: 2222.

NGC Census (all die marriages of the issue): 6; 7 finer (MS-66 BN finest). There are currently no RB or RD examples listed by this service.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1003

1794 C-9. Rarity-2. High-Relief Head. EF-45 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Handsome autumn-brown patina is seen on both sides, and the surfaces exhibit a generally hard, satiny texture. Minor planchet fissures along the lower reverse border are as made and require a loupe to discern. The central reverse is typically soft for the variety as Liberty's portrait is executed in uncommonly high relief, but even so the denomination HALF CENT is fully legible. Most of the wispy marks in the center of the reverse represent original planchet texture, and most handling marks on the obverse are also easily forgiven. We do note shallow scrapes in the left obverse field behind the cap

and on the reverse at the letters LF in HALF. The detail is pleasingly sharp for the assigned grade, and the eye appeal is superior for a lightly circulated early copper. Cohen-9 is an excellent candidate to represent the High-Relief Head *Guide Book* variety of the 1794 half cent in a type set, as it is the most available die marriage of the issue after only the C-2a Normal Head (a.k.a. Low-Relief Head). Manley Die State 1.0, described as "rare" by the author.

PCGS# 1003. NGC ID: 2223.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1004

1804 C-12. Rarity-2. Crosslet 4, Stemless Wreath. MS-64 BN (NGC). This is a handsome half cent that exhibits dominant steely-copper patina to both sides. The strike is very well executed for the type, the centering is good and all design elements show intricate detail. The texture is satiny and smooth and there are no marks or other blemishes of note. Curious iridescent rose undertones suggest an ancient cleaning, although the coin has retoned nicely and presents exceptionally well. Half cent specialists have long been intrigued by the 1804-dated issue. Though many denominations with the 1804 date are well known rarities, the half cents are comparatively common, with 13 die varieties (one of which is often regarded as a die state) and seemingly infinite collectible die states. Several of the individual die varieties are extremely elusive, scarce in all grades and

unknown in Mint State. While the Cohen-12 is not as common as the C-13 or C-10 in Mint State grades, it remains a popular choice for type collectors, especially since it is the only die pairing of the Crosslet 4, No Stems *Guide Book* variety.

The stemless wreath on the reverse die of this variety is attributable to human error. The device punch that Mint employees created for the wreath design of 1802 to 1808 included only the leaves; the berries and stems had to be cut into each working die by hand. In the case of the reverse die of the 1804 C-12, the engraver simply forgot to add the stems. According to Ronald P. Manley (1998), this is the final die variety struck for the 1804-dated half cent.

PCGS# 1072. NGC ID: 222F.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1005

1829 C-1, the only known dies. Rarity-1. MS-65 BN (NGC). CAC. Both sides of this beautiful coin exhibit intermingled steel-blue and pale rose iridescence on antique copper-brown patina. It is smartly impressed with razor sharp to full striking detail and outstanding frosty mint luster. The 1829 half cent represented an inflection point in the history of this denomination. Pauses punctuate the half cent's timeline, but rarely do they beget change. No half cents were struck between 1811 and 1825, but after the 14-year sabbatical, the coins looked about as they did before. After 1829, the half cent took a year off in 1830 and was retooled with a modified version of the Classic

Head design. William Kneass' reworking took into account changes in technology, giving the coins that followed a squarer edge and a higher rim. Soft strikes became a thing of the past. This coin is the last of the old guard. After the half cent returned in 1831, in addition to using a modified design, the denomination's days as a workhorse copper in circulation would be largely behind it.

PCGS# 35267. NGC ID: 222X.

NGC Census: 19; 4 finer in this category (MS-66 ★ BN finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1006

1851 C-1, the only known dies. Rarity-1. MS-64 BN (NGC). CAC. OH. A particularly vivid example despite the BN color designation. Both sides exhibit only light olive-brown iridescence to dominant

golden-apricot color. Premium quality for the assigned grade, and sure to sell for a strong bid.

PCGS# 1224. NGC ID: 26YW.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



LARGE CENTS

Historic 1793 Chain Cent Rare About Uncirculated Preservation



1007

1793 Chain Reverse. S-2. Rarity-4+. AMERICA, Without Periods. AU-50 BN (NGC). Here is a truly memorable example of this first year issue in the United States Mint's large cent series. Handsome surfaces exhibit a warm blend of medium brown and autumn-orange patina. Both sides are exceptionally smooth, with only a few trivial carbon spots on the reverse at the letters NE in ONE. Even under close inspection with a loupe we note only wispy handling and a trace of extremely light pitting. The strike is well executed for a product of the early United States Mint, the word LIBERTY, the date 1793, and all design elements on the reverse as sharp as would be expected for the assigned grade. The central obverse high point is where much of this coin's light wear is concentrated, the hair immediately behind Liberty's neck blunt. Otherwise the portrait is impressively bold. For the assigned grade, it would be difficult to locate a more aesthetically pleasing example of this challenging type. Noyes Die State D/A.

The 1793 Chain cents are numismatic Americana at their finest. After pattern coinage in 1792, the first federal coins made for general circulation at the new Mint building in Philadelphia were struck at the end of February 1793, and delivered by the coiner in early March. These were the first large cents, production of which preceded that of half cents by several months. The pieces were put into circulation, with no known numismatic attention paid to them. Indeed, the number of people seriously interested in numismatics in the United States at that time could be counted on the fingers of one hand, and these gentlemen mainly concerned themselves with earlier and classic issues.

A newspaper article at the time stated that the Chain motif on the reverse was but "an ill omen for Liberty," certainly not

symbolic of our nation. No doubt for this reason the design was soon revised completely. The Chain cents are struck in rather low relief, whereas their successors, the Wreath cents, are in dramatic high relief, more so than any other large copper cent issue.

Over the years the cents of 1793 have had special place in the hearts of numismatists. Indeed, the first photographic plate printed in *The American Journal of Numismatics* in 1869 was a panel of cents of this year gathered from various collections. Ever since numismatics became widely popular in 1857-1858, the ownership of a 1793 Chain cent has been a badge of distinction.

Today in 2020 the typical 1793 Chain cent ranges in grade from Good to Fine, punctuated by an occasional VF, and an even more occasional EF. Examples at the About Uncirculated level attract much excitement; the presently offered NGC AU-50 is sure to see spirited bidding among both type collectors and early copper enthusiasts. An easily identifiable die marriage of the issue, Sheldon-2 combines the wide date obverse with the AMERICA reverse. Indeed, the digits in the date are markedly wider on this obverse than on any other used to strike Chain cents, with the most space between the digits 7 and 9. This obverse was also used to strike examples of the S-1 Chain AMERI. variety, the very first federal cent. The reverse die of the S-2 variety was also used to strike Chain cents of the S-3, S-4 and NC.1 varieties (i.e., all other die varieties of the issue except the aforementioned S-1 AMERI. variety). The presentation of the word AMERICA in full is the most readily identifiable diagnostic of this reverse die.

PCGS# 1341. NGC ID: 223E.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Perennially Popular 1793 Wreath Cent One-Year Design Type



1008

1793 Wreath Reverse. S-9. Rarity-2. Vine and Bars Edge. AU-58 BN (NGC). CAC. This 1793 Wreath cent offers superior quality and eye appeal for this design from the first year of regular issue U.S. Mint coinage. Warm deep brown patina dominates the appearance, although there is considerable faded orange mint color, especially on the reverse. Appreciable satin luster is noted, and the surfaces are hard, tight and undisturbed by even a single significant mark. Minor, shallow planchet voids in the upper obverse field before the letter L in LIBERTY and at the rightmost leaf in the sprig are the most useful identifiers for provenance purposes. Boldly to sharply defined from a well executed strike, this is a handsome, conditionally scarce Chain cent that will appeal to both advanced type collectors and discerning early copper enthusiasts. Noyes Die State C/F.

While Chain cents often attract the most interest for their position as the first made, there is not a collector alive who would assert that Chain cents are more beautiful than their Wreath reverse counterparts. Breen boldly suggested that the elegance of the Wreath cents “was Director David Rittenhouse’s answer to the newspaper criticisms” lodged against the Chain

cent. Though no evidence exists to support this, the fact remains that the Wreaths represented a substantial step up in both design artistry and engraving execution. The details of this fine style design are lost with even light wear, making high grade Wreath cents such as this the crown princes of the early copper world.

In any numismatic season a 1793 Wreath cent is an object of desire, and even coins that are worn nearly smooth command interest and attention. The 2000 reference *Walter Breen’s Encyclopedia of Early United States Cents: 1793-1814* states that approximately 4% of the mintage of 63,353 coins for the 1793 Wreath cent is extant, or 2,400 to 2,800 in all grades. About Uncirculated and Mint State survivors exist in a slightly greater percentage of the mintage than for later years, perhaps due to interest shown in these early U.S. Mint products by contemporary collectors in England, where numismatics was firmly established by the 1790s. Advanced numismatists will be sure to take note of this highlight among the early coppers in the Larry H. Miller Collection.

PCGS# 1347. NGC ID: 223H.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1009

1794 S-21. Rarity-3. Head of 1794. EF-45 BN (NGC). CAC—Gold Label. OH. Offering premium quality for both the variety and the assigned grade, this is one of the two finest large cents from the Sheldon-21 dies that we have handled in at least 15 years. The obverse exhibits particularly bold denticulation for a variety that is typically seen incomplete with regard to this feature. The reverse denticulation is sharper as expected; the impression is ideally centered on both sides. Apart from a touch of softness to the central obverse high point, the detail is universally sharp and close to what one might

expect to see in a Mint State Liberty Cap cent. Warm medium to deep brown patina dominates the appearance, with some attractive iridescent undertones of golden-apricot. The surfaces are hard, tight and satiny in texture with only a few wispy handling marks that are easily overlooked. A coin that surely rivals many of the finer examples of the 1792 S-21 variety extant, even if only for striking detail and visual appeal. Noyes Die State D/D.

PCGS# 901374. NGC ID: 223M.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

Lovely Choice Uncirculated 1797 S-135 Cent Likely from the Nichols Find



1010

1797 S-135. Rarity-3. Reverse of 1797, Stems to Wreath. MS-64 BN (PCGS). CAC. OGH. A beautiful high grade Draped Bust cent irrespective of date or die pairing, this satiny and smooth near-Gem will please even the most discerning numismatist. Striking detail is razor sharp to full over most design elements, and nowhere is it less than bold. The impression is also ideally centered, and both sides have uniformly crisp denticulation around the borders. Faded autumn-orange mint color blends with warm medium brown patina to provide a picture of attractive originality. A faint, inoffensive toning spot at the right obverse border before Liberty's nose is the only worthwhile provenance marker. Noyes Die State A/B, with faint die clash (as made) on the obverse through the date, below the ribbon ends, and before Liberty's profile.

Sheldon-135 is one of the most frequently encountered Draped Bust cents of any date in Mint State, due to the fact that it comprised a major portion of the Nichols Find. During the late 1850s David Nichols of Gallows Hill, Massachusetts began distributing an outstanding cache of approximately 1,000 Mint

State 1796 and 1797 Draped Bust cents. The most plentiful varieties associated with the Nichols find are S-119, S-123 and S-135 (as here), although S-104, S-118, S-136 and S-137 were also represented. The coins were supposedly acquired directly from the Mint by Benjamin Goodhue of Salem, Massachusetts in late 1797 or early 1798. Goodhue, a congressman from 1789 to 1796 and senator from 1796 to 1800 as a member of the Federalist party, passed the coins to his daughters, after which they went to Nichols, who dispersed the last examples in 1863. Fortunately for today's type collectors and early copper enthusiasts, many of the Nichols Find cents were subsequently handled with great care and have remained in problem free Mint State. Almost certainly from this find, the Larry H. Miller specimen would make an impressive addition to either a type or Sheldon number set, as well as a collection of *Guide Book* varieties as an example of the Reverse of 1797, Stems to Wreath of the 1797-dated Draped Bust issue.

PCGS# 1422. NGC ID: 2242.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Condition Rarity 1808 Classic Head Cent

Sheldon-278

Finest Certified for the Issue



1011

1808 S-278. Rarity-3. MS-67 BN (NGC). Offered is a truly outstanding example of one of the most conditionally challenging design types in all of U.S. numismatics. Highly lustrous bluish-steel and rose-brown with a faint wisp of darker steel toning at the cap above the letters RT in LIBERTY. The surfaces are satiny and the luster is unbroken. The only notable marks are a pair of very tiny nicks on the base of the digit 1 in the date, a speck of carbon on the leaf above the letter C in CENT, and a short pin scratch at the letters S O in STATES OF. Middle die state, Noyes B/B, Breen II. Softly struck along the denticles at the right obverse and reverse, but the rest of the details are crisp and the eye appeal is outstanding. Struck very slightly off center to 3 o'clock. Graded EAC MS-60 and tied for CC#5 in the Noyes census, also EAC MS-60, but tied for CC#7 in the Bland census. A beautiful example of the popular, yet challenging "Turban Head" cent.

Produced for only seven years from 1808 through 1814, the Classic Head cent design is the work of German-born engraver John Reich. Known for years among numismatists as the Turban Head cent (based on the name popularized by Edouard Frossard in his 1879 monograph), the more familiar Classic Head name used today actually predates Frossard's description and is attributed to Ebenezer Locke Mason, Jr. in 1868. Regardless of the exact circumstances of its design and replacement,

the Classic Head series is one of the shortest among early coppers from the United States Mint. The paucity of examples produced does not alone explain why this is also one of the most challenging types to locate in finer circulated and Mint State grades. Planchet stock for this series, all of which was supplied by Matthew Boulton of Birmingham, England, is inferior to that which the Mint used to produce other large cent types. The copper used for the Classic Head coinage is softer with more metallic impurities, which made the finished coins more susceptible to wear, environmental damage and unattractive toning. Indeed, the vast majority of survivors of all dates of this type are well worn or impaired. Even many high grade survivors exhibit streaky and/or splotchy toning that, while not a factor in determining the grade, can limit a coin's appeal. Problem free, high quality Mint State examples that also possesses attractive color and strong eye appeal are difficult to find. This first year 1808 is just such a coin and would make an impressive addition to the finest type or variety set.

PCGS# 1543. NGC ID: 224P.

Combined PCGS and NGC Population (all die marriages of the issue): just 1 in MS-67 in all categories; 0 finer.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex Paramount's sale of May 1969, lot 573; Ted Kress, June 1991; Fred H. Borchardt; our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the James W. Lull Collection, January 2005 Rarities Sale, lot 640.



1012

1833 N-3. Rarity-1. MS-65 BN (NGC). Iridescent medium and steel-brown patina is seen on both sides. The reverse retains original pinkish-orange mint color in the protected areas around some of the design elements. All focal features are sharp, the borders a bit soft due to die state. Hard, satiny and otherwise smooth, a shallow flan flaw (as made) at star 8 on the obverse and a small carbon spot above the letter N in CENT are noted. This is a pleasing NGC-certified Gem Mint State quality example of the Matron Head large cent design type of 1816 to 1835. Noyes Die State B/B.

PCGS# 1696. NGC ID: 225P.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1013

1850 N-1. Rarity-2. MS-67 BN (NGC). CAC. This lovely Superb Gem large cent exhibits slightly mottled steel-brown patina on both sides, through which ample mint color in vivid rose-orange can be seen. The strike is very well executed for the type, the borders are suitably bold and most design elements are sharply to fully rendered. Softly frosted in texture, both sides are nice for the assigned grade without so much as a single mentionable blemish. The 2017 edition of *Penny Prices* by William C. Noyes lists a 67 as CC#1 for the 1850 Newcomb-1 dies, albeit using EAC as opposed to PCGS/NGC grading standards. The Larry H. Miller specimen is certainly among the finest certified examples of both the date and variety available, and would do equally well in a high quality type or variety set. Grellman Die State b.

PCGS# 1889. NGC ID: 226G.

NGC Census (all die marriages of the issue): 9; 0 finer in this category.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

SMALL CENTS



1014

1858 Large Letters, Low Leaves (Style of 1858), Type III. MS-65 (NGC). CAC. With smooth satin luster and very sharp striking detail for this challenging variety, this is an outstanding coin to represent the brief Flying Eagle cent in a high grade type set. Originally preserved, and displaying speckled rose-russet overtones to a base of warm golden-tan patina. The mintage of the second year 1858 Flying Eagle cent was larger than the 1857, 24,600,000 vs. 17,450,000 circulation strikes. Both issues are of similar availability, with worn survivors plentiful and even Mint State coins readily obtainable in grades through MS-64. However, the type as a whole is scarce in MS-65 and rare any finer, making this handsome NGC/CAC MS-65 example an important offering for quality conscious collectors.

PCGS# 2019. NGC ID: 2277.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1015

1859 MS-65 (NGC). CAC. Here is an attractive and highly desirable Gem Mint State example of this perennially popular first year Indian cent issue. Vividly patinated in reddish-apricot and golden-tan, the surfaces are highly lustrous with a softly frosted texture. Fully struck with equally impressive technical and aesthetic merits. James Barton Longacre's Indian cent made its debut in 1859 with a mintage of 36,400,000 circulation strikes and approximately 800 Proofs. The obverse portrait is not of a Native American but is a representation of Liberty wearing a feathered headdress. The artist's original concept for this design appeared in 1849 on the gold dollar, and subsequently went through various refinements before appearing on the one-cent piece. The reverse exhibits a simple olive wreath without a shield at its top, a design that was abandoned in 1860 in favor of the Oak Wreath with Shield design. (The olive wreath has gone down in numismatic literature as a laurel wreath due to Mint Director James Ross Snowden's designation from 1860.) The 1859 Indian cent, therefore, is a one year design type that is eagerly sought by collectors. Many 1859 Indian cents have survived in Mint State, but most are poorly defined due to the Mint's widespread use of worn dies in production of this issue. Well produced and expertly preserved, the coin offered here will please even the most discerning numismatist.

PCGS# 2052. NGC ID: 227E.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex Foxfire Collection.



1016

1863 MS-66 (NGC). CAC. Vivid pinkish-rose and deep tan patina is bolder on the reverse of this richly original example. Sharply struck with full satin to softly frosted luster. With the highest mintage of its type, the 1863 is the quintessential type issue in the copper-nickel, Oak With Shield Indian cent series of 1860 to 1864. Quality conscious collectors will want to compete vigorously for the present offering since, despite the issue's ready availability in lower grades, the 1863 is rare in premium quality Gem Mint State.

PCGS# 2067. NGC ID: 227J.

NGC Census: 24; 5 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1017

1868 MS-65 RB (NGC). CAC. Slightly speckled copper-rose patina enlivens otherwise deep orange surfaces. Softly frosted in texture with bold to sharp striking detail. The 1868 is one of the scarcer bronze Indian cents due both a mintage of 10,266,500 circulation strikes and the destruction through melting of many redeemed examples during the recoinage of the 1870s. Selected for inclusion in the advanced type set in the Larry H. Miller Collection, this upper end Gem will be just right for another impressive cabinet.

PCGS# 2092. NGC ID: 227S.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1018

1909 Lincoln. V.D.B. MS-67 RD (PCGS). OGH. A frosty and delightful Superb Gem featuring vivid, richly original, rose-orange color. Fully struck and equally well suited for another high grade type set or a top flight Lincoln cent collection.

PCGS# 2425. NGC ID: 22AZ.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1019

1943-D MS-67 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. A fully struck and brightly lustrous example of this perennially popular one year type in the Lincoln cent series.

PCGS# 2714. NGC ID: 22E6.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1020

1945-S MS-67 RD (PCGS). CAC. Lovely rose-red surfaces are sharply struck, expertly preserved, and sure to please discerning Lincoln cent enthusiasts.

PCGS# 2740. NGC ID: 22EJ.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Highly Desirable Full Red 1955 Doubled Die Obverse Cent



1021

1955 FS-101. Doubled Die Obverse. MS-64 RD (PCGS). CAC. OGH. This is a beautiful example of perhaps the most popular of all Lincoln cent varieties. Displaying vivid medium rose color, the surfaces are fully lustrous with a soft satin finish. The design is sharp to full, and the all important obverse doubling is readily evident to the naked eye. Generally pristine and very close to full Gem Mint State quality.

Some years ago, not long after the first 1955 Doubled Die Obverse cents were discovered and popularized by James Ruddy, Q. David Bowers inquired at the Mint and learned that about 40,000 examples were struck. At that time a press inspector noticed the defect, and destroyed pieces that had been accumulating in a bin behind the press in question. Some 24,000 others had already been mixed with the output from other presses and were on their way to be bagged and sent to the Federal Reserve system. There was no thought that these would have any special value, as at that time there was hardly any numismatic interest in what we call Mint errors today. Such pieces of various denominations, when they did surface, were generally called "freaks." Distribution of the estimated 24,000 pieces was to banks in the greater Boston area, in western Massachusetts around Pittsfield, and in the Southern Tier area of New York State, the district encompassing Endicott, Johnson City and

Binghamton. Beginning in 1958, Dave Bowers and Jim Ruddy, then associated in the Empire Coin Company in Johnson City, started making a market for such pieces, advertising for them in different newspapers. At the same time, these were offered for retail sale, at prices generally from \$7.95 per coin upward. Later, the price went way up. Today it is estimated that about 3,000 to 4,000 1955 Doubled Die Obverse cents exist. All pieces have the reverse die misaligned about 5% from the normal 180 degree rotation, a feature evident on the present example. As there are many counterfeits, purchasing an example certified by a leading service, as here, is mandatory.

The vast majority of Mint State 1955 Doubled Die Obverse cents that have been certified by PCGS and NGC either grade no finer than MS-64 or are in the BN or RB categories. The coin offered here is an extraordinary condition rarity due to its combination of full mint color and premium Choice Mint State surfaces. It is surely among the very finest obtainable at the assigned grade level, and will certainly find its way into another advanced Lincoln cent set or a collection of popular 20th century Mint varieties.

PCGS# 2827. NGC ID: 22FG.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1022

1995 FS-101. Doubled Die Obverse. MS-66 RD (NGC). CAC. An intensely lustrous example with vivid pinkish-rose color and smartly impressed designs.

PCGS# 3127. NGC ID: 22JS.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



TWO-CENT PIECES



1023

1864 FS-401. Small Motto. MS-65 RB (NGC). CAC. OH. Here is a lovely Gem Mint State example of this scarce hub type from the first year of two-cent coinage. Splashed with mottled steel-brown patina, both sides also exhibit considerable mint orange color. Satiny and smooth overall with impressively sharp striking detail.

PCGS# 3580. NGC ID: 22N8.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1026

1862 MS-66 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. This delightful, virtually brilliant example exhibits only the lightest golden toning around the peripheries. Satiny surfaces are lustrous and smooth throughout, the strike bold in all but a few isolated areas. The metallic composition and design of the Type III trime are identical to those on its Type II predecessor except for the removal of one of the extra outlines to the obverse star. Walter Breen (1988) speculates that this minor design change was made to extend working die life and otherwise ease the Mint's burden in producing these coins. The 1862 is one of the most popular type candidates of this new design, and the last issue for the denomination with a six-figure circulation strike mintage. The present Gem would serve well in a high quality set.

PCGS# 3680. NGC ID: 22ZB.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

SILVER THREE-CENT PIECES



1024

1852 MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. With delicate iridescent toning on smooth, lustrous surfaces, this is an outstanding high grade representative of the brief Type I silver-three cent design of 1851 to 1853.

PCGS# 3666. NGC ID: 22YZ.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

NICKEL THREE-CENT PIECES



1027

1875 MS-66 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Gorgeous satin-white surfaces are lustrous, smooth, and fully struck throughout the design. The lightest iridescent gold toning is noted. Introduced in 1865, the nickel three-cent piece was intended as a substitute for its silver counterpart, which disappeared from circulation in the East along with other silver coins early in the Civil War. Eagerly accepted at first by the contemporary public, the popularity of the nickel three-cent piece waned quickly once the nickel five-cent denomination became a reality in 1866. Whereas the Philadelphia Mint struck 11,382,000 pieces in 1865, by 1875 the mintage for circulation amounted to just 228,000 coins. Apart from an isolated increase in 1881, production would fall off even more through the series' end in 1889. The present example, one of the finer certified survivors of the circulation strike 1875, is sure to find its way into an advanced type set or specialized collection.

PCGS# 3743. NGC ID: 22NS.

PCGS Population: 28; 9 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1025

1864 MS-65 (PCGS). Handsome satin to softly frosted surfaces exhibit blushes of olive-russet toning on a base of warm pearl gray patina. Produced from 1854 through 1858 using a design with two outlines to the star and a bundle of arrows and olive sprig on the reverse, the Type II silver-three cent piece is the scarcest in this series in the finer Mint State grades, as here.

PCGS# 3670. NGC ID: 22Z3.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



NICKEL FIVE-CENT PIECES



1028

1866 Rays. MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Splashes of beautiful reddish-apricot, champagne-gold and powder blue iridescence adorn the obverse of this vivid example. The reverse is more reserved with delicate golden overtones. Boldly to sharply struck in most areas, especially on the obverse, this is a desirable Gem Mint State representative of the first year of the brief Shield nickel with Rays design type.

PCGS# 3790. NGC ID: 22NX.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1029

1881 MS-66 (NGC). CAC. Satiny and fully struck, both sides of this lovely Gem are enhanced by iridescent toning in pale champagne-gold. The 1881 is the final date in a run of low mintage nickel five-cent issues that began in 1877. During the first two years of that era, 1877 and 1878, the Mint actually produced no circulation strike coins of this denomination. In 1879, only 25,900 circulation strikes were produced, followed by just 16,000 coins in 1880 and 68,800 pieces in 1881. The 1881 is understandably elusive in all grades; Mint State survivors are universally rare and exceedingly so with the outstanding quality offered here.

PCGS# 3811. NGC ID: 276F.

NGC Census: 11; 6 finer (all MS-67).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1030

1883 Liberty Head. No CENTS. MS-65 (NGC). CAC. Delicate golden toning is seen on both sides of this satiny and generally well struck example. It offers desirable Gem Mint State quality for this popular one year design type from the start of the Liberty Head nickel series.

PCGS# 3841. NGC ID: 2772.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1031

1900 MS-66 (NGC). CAC. A brilliant and beautiful example with intense satin luster on both sides.

PCGS# 3861. NGC ID: 22PS.

NGC Census: 42; 7 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1032

1913 Type I. MS-67 (PCGS). CAC. A virtually pristine example of this perennially popular Buffalo nickel type issue. Frosty surfaces are lightly and attractively toned in iridescent champagne-apricot and pale pink. Sharply to fully struck.

PCGS# 3915. NGC ID: 22PW.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Choice Mint State 1918/7-D Nickel



1033

1918/7-D FS-101. MS-64 (NGC). Here is an exceptional condition rarity that ranks among the finest certified for this elusive and challenging overdate. Light attractive toning of iridescent golden-apricot is seen toward the borders. Both sides are lustrous throughout with a softly frosted finish. Striking detail is bold overall; the all-important 7 underdigit is discernible by the unaided eye, and crisp when examined with the aid of a loupe. Nicely preserved and fully deserving of the Choice Mint State grade from NGC.

This overdate was a result of the United States' insatiable demand for circulating minor coins during the final two years of World War One. There was a nationwide shortage of cents and nickels in 1917 and 1918 that resulted in very large outputs of these denominations. During the final quarter of 1917 the engraving

department at the Philadelphia Mint was busy producing dies for both 1917- and 1918-dated coinage. One of the obverse dies for the Buffalo nickel received its first impression from a 1917-dated hub, but the second impression came from a 1918-dated hub. This die was then shipped west for use in the Denver Mint, where it produced an unknown, yet presumably small number of 1918/7-D nickels.

With the vast majority of examples circulated to one degree or another, this significant Choice Uncirculated survivor will be a highlight in even the finest Buffalo nickel set or variety collection.

PCGS# 38446. NGC ID: 22RJ.

NGC Census: 14; 4 finer (MS-66 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Low Mintage, Key Date 1926-S Nickel



1034

1926-S MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Richly toned in deep, vivid autumn-orange, this handsome Choice Uncirculated Buffalo nickel also exhibits intermingled silver-gray and champagne-pink patina on the reverse. Both sides are boldly to sharply struck throughout the design, atypical for this challenging issue. It is softly frosted in finish with smooth surfaces that are very close to full Gem Mint State quality.

Discounting only the overdates and varieties such as the 1918/7-D and 1916 Doubled Die Obverse, the 1926-S is the rarest

Buffalo nickel in Mint State. It has the lowest mintage of any circulation strike of the type with only 970,000 coins produced. Even low grade Uncirculated survivors are very scarce, while coins that approach MS-65 are rare from a market availability standpoint. This is one of the nicest 1926-S nickels one is likely to encounter at the assigned grade level, and it is sure to sell for a strong premium.

PCGS# 3959. NGC ID: 22S7.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



A Remarkable Second Choice Mint State 1926-S Nickel



1035

1926-S MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. We are pleased to present an incredible second Choice Uncirculated example from the Larry H. Miller Collection of this key date Buffalo nickel. It is vividly and beautifully toned coin, with both sides displaying even reddish-apricot iridescence that yields to a blush of lilac-blue near the upper right obverse border. The luster is full and frosty throughout, and the surfaces are smooth for the assigned

grade. The above average strike that is bold to sharp overall. Our multiple offerings in this sale notwithstanding, high grade Mint State 1926-S nickels such as this are very difficult to come by, such is the popularity of this issue with advanced collectors. Interested parties are urged to pursue this lot with vigor.

PCGS# 3959. NGC ID: 22S7.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1036

1937-D FS-901. 3-Legged. MS-63 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. This is an very well produced and attractive example of a perennially popular Buffalo nickel variety. Lustrous frosty surfaces are dusted in lovely iridescent golden-apricot toning. The striking quality is superior for this challenging variety, with most design elements sharp and the bison's shoulder and tail on the reverse exhibiting emerging to bold detail. Smooth for the assigned grade with strong eye appeal, there is much to appreciate about this appealing coin.

PCGS# 3982. NGC ID: 22SX.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1037

1938-D Buffalo. MS-66 (NGC). CAC. OH. A sharply struck and highly lustrous premium Gem that displays pretty golden-apricot iridescence.

PCGS# 3984. NGC ID: 22SZ.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Lot 1038
1795 LM-10. Rarity-3. MS-67 (PCGS). CAC.



HALF DIMES

Dazzling Superb Gem 1795 Half Dime Tied for Finest Certified at PCGS With CAC Approval



1038

1795 LM-10. Rarity-3. MS-67 (PCGS). CAC. Here is a wonderfully original, Condition Census example of the brief and historic Flowing Hair half dime. Both sides exhibit splashes of iridescent steel-blue and olive-copper toning on warm pearl gray patina. The surfaces are highly lustrous with a delightful satin to softly frosted texture. The strike is beyond reproach for a product of the early United States Mint, with all major design elements boldly to sharply rendered, and many more or less full. Smooth and attractive, even the most discerning collectors will appreciate this premium quality Superb Gem example.

Half dimes were the first denomination struck by the United States Mint. After the “small beginning” of half dimes in 1792, the next issue of half dimes came a couple of years later with the Flowing Hair type designed by Robert Scot. While the dies for the 1794 half dimes were ready by year’s end, they were not put into service until 1795. All told, 86,416 Flowing Hair half dimes were struck, of which 78,660 were dated 1795. In 1796, the obverse was replaced with the Draped Bust motif.

With Liberty’s distinctive flowing hair and the delicate small eagle on the reverse, this design type has long been a favorite among devotees of early American coinage. Demand among type collectors has remained steady over the years and has put pressure on the 1795-dated pieces. The denomination saw heavy use in commerce and the vast majority of specimens are found at lower circulated grade levels, and many are damaged or exhibit as-made adjustment marks. While PCGS estimates approximately 1,750 pieces are known, less than one-tenth are Mint State, and most of those grade no finer than MS-64.

At the Superb Gem level the 1795 half dime is a landmark rarity with PCGS having bestowed the MS-67 grade on only three examples, with none finer. One of these coins is from the LM-9 die pairing, the other two are attributed as LM-10:

1: LM-9. Ex Knoxville Collection; Jay Parrino (The Mint); Heritage’s Baltimore, MD Signature Sale of July 2003, lot 6408; our Stack’s Orlando Sale of January 2007, lot 352; Heritage’s sale of the Bob R. Simpson Collection, Part I, September 2020, lot 10038.

2: LM-10. Ex Superior’s Pre-Long Beach Elite Coin Auction of May 2003, lot 2312; our (Bowers and Merena’s) sale of the James W. Lull Collection, January 2005 Rarities Sale, lot 657; Larry H. Miller Collection. *The present example.*

3: LM-10. Ex our (American Numismatic Rarities’) sale of the Frog Run Farm Collection, November 2004, lot 471; our (in conjunction with Sotheby’s) sale of the D. Brent Pogue Collection, Part I, May 2015, lot 1004; The Type Set Collection (PCGS Set Registry).

As of this writing, only the Miller specimen, offered here, and the Pogue coin have been approved by CAC.

A numismatic treasure, this beautiful condition rarity will be a highlight of any collection in which it is included.

PCGS# 4251. NGC ID: 22ZV.

PCGS Population (all die marriages of the issue): 3; 0 finer.

CAC Population: 2; 0.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex Superior’s Pre-Long Beach Elite Coin Auction of May 2003, lot 2312; our (Bowers and Merena’s) sale of the James W. Lull Collection, January 2005 Rarities Sale, lot 657.



Condition Census 1796 LM-1 Half Dime Popular LIKERTY Variety The Bareford-Walter-Miller Specimen



1039

1796 LM-1. Rarity-3. LIKERTY. MS-65 (NGC). We have been honored to offer this numismatic treasure three times since 1981. As part of our (Stack's) sale of the famous John Whitney Walter Collection in May 1999, it was cataloged as:

"Possibly the Finest Known. Certainly the Sharpest and Fullest Strike seen on any V.1 Half Dime of this date. Bright silver in color, with russet toning on both sides. The fields on the obverse and reverse are semi-reflective. Liberty's hair is sharp and fully struck up, as is her bodice, and the stars show fully. On the reverse, the eagle's breast feathers are complete, its neck and eye are both super strong, and while the right leg is typically soft (as it is opposite the highest point of the obverse), the leaves in the wreath show inner details. Perfectly centered. In the date, 17 and 9 show repunching. Faint break from the rim to the 6th star, ribbon ends; reverse broken from the rim between TA to branch below, faint break on rocks [sic] in field under left wing."

While the D. Brent Pogue specimen in PCGS MS-67+ is now widely regarded as the finest 1796 LM-1 half dime, the Gem Miller example is solidly in the Condition Census for both the issue and die pairing. It will be an excellent choice for another world class cabinet.

The popular 1796 is the first of only two half dime years that feature the Draped Bust, Small Eagle design type. Two die marriages are known, with Logan-McCloskey 1, represented here, corresponding to the LIKERTY *Guide Book* variety. This name is derived from the use of a broken B punch that gives that letter the appearance of a K.

PCGS# 4254. NGC ID: 22ZW.

NGC Census (both die marriages of the issue): 1; 2 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex New Netherlands Coin Company, privately to the following in March 1947; our (Stack's) sale of the Harold Bareford Collection, October 1981, lot 29; our (Stack's) sale of the John Whitney Walter Collection, The Coins of 1796, May 1999, lot 1759.



Appealing Choice Uncirculated 1800 Half Dime LM-3 LIBEKTY Variety



1040

1800 LM-3. Rarity-4. LIBEKTY. MS-64 (NGC). Offered is a handsome and conditionally rare example of the Draped Bust, Heraldic Eagle half dime. Warm pearl gray patina is seen on both sides, with subtle highlights of pale powder blue and pinkish-silver. The texture is smooth and satiny, and the strike is sharp, apart from where Liberty's bust and the eagle's left wing are in opposition to one other, with the result that both features are quite blunt. Damage to the reverse die at the letters BUS in PLURIBUS also explains the lack of detail both in that area and within Liberty's hair behind the ear. Well centered with superior surface preservation, this delightful Choice example is ideally suited for inclusion in a high grade Mint State type set. The LIBEKTY *Guide Book* variety is not noted on the NGC insert.

After a hiatus in 1798 and 1799, when no half dimes were struck, the Mint resumed production of this denomination in 1800. During the years leading up to the turn of the 19th century, Chief Engraver Robert Scot's Heraldic Eagle reverse design (copied from the Great Seal of the United States) had been introduced to more and more of the United States' silver and gold denominations. Its first use was in 1796 on the quarter eagle, followed by the eagle in 1797 and the dime, silver dollar and half eagle in 1798. Next came the half dime in 1800, with the half dollar and quarter the last to make the change in 1801 and 1804, respectively. Gaps in production, as with the half dime in 1798

and 1799, explain why it took the Mint so long to standardize the design of all of the silver and gold denominations around the Heraldic Eagle reverse, but by 1804 the transition was complete. The obverse remained the Draped Bust motif, enduring on the silver coins until John Reich's Capped Bust design made its first appearance in 1807.

As the half dime was not a popular denomination with early depositors of silver bullion, after 1805 no more examples were struck until 1829. As well, no 1804-dated half dimes were produced. Comprising just five dates, the Draped Bust, Heraldic Eagle half dime is one of the shortest series in all of U.S. numismatics. Not surprisingly, it is also one of the most challenging types to collect in even the lowest Mint State grades. Most such pieces seem to have survived as a matter of chance, although a few of the very finest survivors may have been used for presentation to important visitors or other special persons with connections to the early Mint. The survival of an early half dime with the quality and eye appeal of the Miller example is an extremely rare occurrence, and this represents a significant bidding opportunity for the connoisseur.

PCGS# 4265. NGC ID: 2326.

NGC Census (all die marriages of the issue): 15; 12 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1041

1835 LM-8.1. Rarity-2. Small Date, Large 5 C. MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Brilliant satin to softly frosted surfaces are fully lustrous with bold to sharp striking detail. Although the 1835 LM-8 is one of the most frequently encountered die marriages in the Capped Bust half dime series of 1829 to 1837, the type as a whole is conditionally rare in the finest Mint State grades. This is a lovely representative of

the design that would fit comfortably into any high grade set. The old style PCGS insert uses coin #4282, which is now reserved for the Large Date, Large 5 C *Guide Book* variety of the 1835 half dime.

PCGS# 4284. NGC ID: 232H.

PCGS Population (all die marriages of the Small Date, Large 5 C variety): 6; 2 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1042

1837 Liberty Seated. No Stars. Small Date. MS-66 (PCGS). CAC. Splendid premium Gem surfaces are brilliant with full, satiny mint luster. The popular first year 1837 is one of only two issues in the Liberty Seated half dime series to display the cameo-like No Stars design on the obverse. This issue employed two distinct date punches, designated Large Date and Small Date, although the actual size variation is relatively imperceptible. As also used on dies of the preceding Capped Bust type, the Large Date style was used to strike the earliest Liberty Seated half dimes and is best distinguished by the narrow, peaked 1. Conversely, the scarcer Small Date, represented here, displays a flat-topped 1 and a nearly straight digit placement,

characteristics found on 1837 half dimes struck later in the year, as well as coins struck in 1838. As a first year issue from the Philadelphia Mint the 1837 was saved in significant numbers, and there are several hundred Uncirculated examples known. However, most of these are in grades of MS-65 or lower, making this MS-66 one of the finest coins extant. It ranks near the top of the *PCGS Population Report* for the Small Date variety, making it a beauty that will please even the most discerning type collector.

PCGS# 4312. NGC ID: 232M.

PCGS Population: 13; 11 finer (MS-68 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1043

1839 No Drapery. MS-67 (NGC). Brilliant superb surfaces are highly lustrous and sharply to fully struck on both sides. The half dimes of 1839 are the last of the series without drapery at Liberty's elbow, a feature added in 1840 by a revision of the Liberty Seated design. Robert Ball Hughes was paid \$25 for die work in this time, leading some to suggest that he revised the motif. With a mintage of 1,069,150 pieces — generous for the era — the 1839 is among the more readily obtainable early date Liberty Seated half dimes. There

are even a number of exceptional Superb Gems known, as here, although clearly they are rare in an absolute sense. With outstanding eye appeal to complement its extraordinary surface preservation, one would be hard pressed to improve upon the Larry H. Miller specimen.

PCGS# 4319. NGC ID: 232S.

NGC Census: 11; with a single MS-68 finer at this service.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Superb Gem 1855 Arrows Dime



1044

1855 Arrows. MS-67 (NGC). This flashy Superb Gem is fully brilliant with smooth, satiny mint luster. The strike is razor sharp throughout and far superior to that often seen in circulation strike half dimes from the mid to late 1850s. Expertly preserved and bordering on pristine, our offering of this lovely coin represents an important bidding opportunity for high grade type collectors. The With Arrows Liberty Seated half dime was produced for only three years from 1853 through 1855. The Philadelphia Mint issues dated 1853, 1854 and 1855 account for the majority of coins struck, as well as the great majority of Mint State survivors. Indeed, locating

an example that falls into the MS-60 to MS-64 grade range should prove to be a relatively easy task under normal market conditions. The type as a whole is conditionally scarce in MS-65, however, and coins that grade MS-66 or finer are very rare and can be challenging to acquire. A simply outstanding representative, this 1855 is fully Superb in quality and solidly in the Condition Census for both the issue and the type.

PCGS# 4360. NGC ID: 2344.

NGC Census: 4; 1 finer (MS-68).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1045

1862 MS-65 (PCGS). CAC—Gold Label. OGH. A beautiful numismatic jewel, this lustrous and satiny coin exhibits delicate champagne-gold iridescence that is a bit bolder on the reverse. The 1862 is the final Liberty Seated half dime produced before 1871 with a circulation strike mintage of more than 1 million coins, and it is among the more readily obtainable of the Legend Obverse design.

The Larry H. Miller specimen is an upper end MS-65 that will surely bring a price closer to MS-66 levels. Thoroughly PQ, and a delight to behold.

PCGS# 4381. NGC ID: 234B.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Lot 1046
1796 JR-1. Rarity-3. MS-66 (NGC). OH.



DIMES

Exceptional 1796 Draped Bust Dime Popular First Year Issue



1046

1796 JR-1. Rarity-3. MS-66 (NGC). OH. Here is an outstanding premium Gem Mint State quality example of this historic first year dime from the United States Mint. A beautifully and originally toned coin, the obverse exhibits wisps of cobalt blue and golden-apricot on silver-rose iridescence. The reverse features even more vivid cobalt blue iridescence with intermingled accents of antique gold and silver-mauve. Both sides are intensely lustrous with a smooth satin texture. A touch of softness is confined to the centers, the striking detail otherwise bold to sharp.

As the first regular issue dime and one of only two dates for the Draped Bust, Small Eagle design type, the 1796 is an eagerly sought issue. As is the case with numerous first year issues in U.S. coinage, many 1796 dimes were saved as mementos. As such, Mint State survivors are among the most available in the Draped Bust series. Even so, demand for examples for type, date and variety purposes is high and premium quality coins like this Gem from the Larry H. Miller Collection attract a lot of attention when they cross the auction block.

The JR-1 is one of the more frequently encountered of the seven die marriages known for this issue. The present example is struck from a late die state with the design elements haloed by a patchwork of clash marks that are more prominent on the obverse. Similarly, the lower points of star 1 have been consumed by a cud that stretches outward from the rim, and several of Liberty's hair curls have been effaced from lapping. A pair of die cracks from the reverse border through the letters E and C in AMERICA extend toward the center, joining in the open field area below the eagle's left wing. There are additional cracks on that side from the border after the word OF, bisecting the eagle's head, and from the back of the eagle's neck to the top of its right wing.

PCGS# 4461. NGC ID: 236B.

NGC Census (all die marriages of the issue): 6; 2 finer in this category (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Lovely Choice Uncirculated 1807 Dime



1047

1807 JR-1, the only known dies. Rarity-1. MS-64 (NGC). CAC. OH. From the final year of the challenging Draped Bust series comes this beautiful Choice Mint State dime. Iridescent steel-lilac and reddish-gold peripheral toning adorns both sides, the boldest color at the lower and left reverse borders. Peripheral softness is typical of the issue, but the strike is appreciably sharper in and around the centers. Prominent clash marks in the obverse field are as made, and there are no detracting blemishes to challenge the near-Gem grade assigned by NGC, and confirmed by CAC.

The Heraldic Eagle reverse was created when the tradition of adding a star to the reverse with each new state compelled a redesign once Tennessee was admitted as the 16th state in 1796. Mint Director Elias Boudinot instructed Engraver Robert Scot to fix the number of stars at 13 to recognize the original colonies. In 1798 Scot introduced the Heraldic Eagle reverse based on the Great Seal of the United States while retaining the Draped Bust obverse. Because there is no mark of value, many of the reverse dies used in the Heraldic Eagle Draped Bust

dime series were originally used to strike gold quarter eagles, since both denominations share a similar planchet diameter. The Heraldic Eagle dimes were produced until 1807 and were struck in respectable quantities. Weak strikes, die clashing and adjustment marks are frequent occurrences within this series, especially for the later dates where softly impressed details are the norm.

The final issue in the Draped Bust dime series, and always in demand to represent the Heraldic Eagle reverse design in type sets, the 1807 is a strong performer in all grades. In the finer Mint State grades, as here, this issue is scarce to rare, especially relative to the demand that such pieces enjoy among today's collectors. The 1807 holds additional appeal to variety specialists, the single die marriage of the year featuring the same reverse that the Mint previously used to strike Capped Bust Right quarter eagles of the 1805, 1806/4, 1806/5 and 1807 deliveries.

PCGS# 4480. NGC ID: 236T.

NGC Census: 23; 14 finer (MS-66 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Popular 1809 Capped Bust Dime Tied for Finest Certified



1048

1809 JR-1, the only known dies. Rarity-3+. MS-66 (PCGS). OGH. One of only two 1809 dimes to have received an MS-66 grade from the major third party certification services, with none finer, our offering of the Larry H. Miller specimen represents an exceedingly rare bidding opportunity for advanced collectors. This is a delightful premium Gem example, both sides brilliant with a bright satin texture. Softness to the first four stars is typical of the issue, the detail otherwise boldly to sharply rendered from a well centered strike. Virtually pristine, a faint planchet streak above the digit 8 in the date and a tiny reverse mark below the letter E in UNITED are the most useful identifiers for establishing the provenance of this important condition rarity.

In 1808 no dimes were struck and when production resumed in 1809 the denomination featured the popular Capped Bust design by John Reich. The mintage is 51,065 pieces, all struck using a single pair of dies. These coins were delivered in five separate batches, three during 1809 and the final two on June 6 and December 17, 1810. No dimes were struck from 1810-dated dies. Two distinct die states are known for the 1809, the earlier

(and rarer) state with both As in AMERICA open, and the later with the tops of both of those letters filled. On the present example the top of the first A is completely filled while the top of the second A is open.

Unlike most other first year U.S. coins, the 1809 was not saved to an appreciable extent, which is not surprising since there were few numismatists active in the United States early in the 19th century. In fact, the 1809 is one of the scarcer issues in the Large Diameter portion of the Capped Bust dime series. Of the 200 to 300 coins believed extant in all grades, only 20 or so are Uncirculated (these estimates per Winston Zack, Louis Scuderi and Michael Sherrill in the 2015 reference *Bust Dime Variety Identification Guide*). The present example is tied for CC#1 with only one other grading event in PCGS MS-66, and it is making its first known auction appearance in the modern market.

PCGS# 4486. NGC ID: 236U.

PCGS Population: 2; 0 finer. There are no examples of this issue certified finer than MS-65 at NGC.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1049

1829 JR-12. Rarity-3. Medium 10 C. MS-66 (NGC). Impressive satin-white surfaces are brilliant, sharply struck overall, and border on pristine. With a reported mintage of 770,000 pieces for the year, 12 known die marriages were employed to strike the dimes of 1829. The JR-12 is one of only two die pairings that correspond to the Medium 10 C. *Guide Book* variety (the other is JR-11). Writing in the 2015 reference *Bust Dime Variety Identification Guide*, Winston Zack, Louis Scuderi and Michael Sherrill describe this die pairing as “moderately common in low grade, but difficult to find in AU or MS.” The John Reich Collectors Society reports an MS-65 example as

“finest seen” for the 1829 JR-12 variety as of 1984. The introduction of third party certification in the years since has provided a clearer understanding of the Condition Census for many die marriages of early United States coins, and MS-66s such as the Larry H. Miller specimen are now closer to CC#1 standing for the 1829 JR-12 dime than MS-65s. A superior quality example of the type, date and variety that is sure to appeal to advanced collectors.

PCGS# 84511. NGC ID: 2378.

NGC Census (all die marriages of the issue): 7; 3 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

Classic No Stars 1837 Liberty Seated Dime



1050

1837 Liberty Seated. No Stars. Fortin-101b. Rarity-2. Large Date, Repunched Date. MS-66 (NGC). The Miller Collection 1837 No Stars dime offers outstanding quality and eye appeal for this brief design type from the early Liberty Seated dime series. Smooth and lustrous surfaces exhibit delicate gold and champagne-pink iridescence on a softly frosted finish. The strike is razor sharp over even the most intricate design elements, and the eye appeal is strong. The Fortin-101b attribution represents the middle die state of the circulation strike 1837 Large Date dime, the base of the digit 7 in the date repunched and the lower obverse shattered by pie-shaped die cracks.

One of the classic U.S. Mint designs of the 19th century, the Liberty Seated motif would eventually be used at one point or another on all silver denominations from the half dime through the silver dollar. It made its debut on the dime in 1837 with a mintage of 682,500 circulation strikes from the Philadelphia

Mint, as well as a small number of Proofs. A refreshingly uncluttered design that allows the eye to focus on the most significant device (Liberty's portrait), the No Stars type remained in production for just two years, only at the Philadelphia Mint in 1837, and the New Orleans Mint likewise alone in 1838. With the 1838-O much scarcer in all grades and elusive in Mint State, virtually all pressure from type collectors for this brief design is focused on the 1837. Buyers seeking a circulated example will usually have an easy go at it, as this issue is plentiful in those grades. Mint State pieces are another matter, however. In premium Gem Uncirculated this issue is rare, and our offering of the Larry H. Miller specimen is a special occasion that deserves the undivided attention of astute bidders.

PCGS# 4561. NGC ID: 237R.

NGC Census (both date logotypes of the issue): 22; 11 finer in this category (MS-67 ★ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1051

1839 No Drapery. Fortin-102. Rarity-3. Repunched Date. MS-66 (NGC). Stunning iridescent toning in salmon pink, medium rose and reddish-orange colors are seen toward the borders on both sides of this lovely example. The surfaces are intensely lustrous, and display a lively satin finish. Razor sharp striking detail and expert surface preservation are also notable.

The 1839 dime was struck in depths of the Hard Times era, a major financial depression that affected the nation throughout much of the 1830s and the early years of the 1840s. The 1839 dime has a mintage of 1,053,115 pieces, achieved through the pairing of at least three obverse dies and eight reverse dies. 1839 also proved to be the last year of the original Gobrecht/Peale/Sully Liberty Seated design, which featured a more delicate composition than the modified hub that was used beginning in 1840. On these early dimes, the rock upon which Liberty is seated has a more naturalistic look and the shield

rests at an angle, but the most obvious difference between the two hubs is the absence of drapery on Liberty's arm.

The issue is generally well struck, though quite a few are known with weak or uneven strikes most evident on the high points of the shield. The dies saw hard use, with many showing extensive die breaks that created varieties that are popular with specialists. Even if they were not cracked, some dies show heavy wear especially along the denticles. Found in a wide range of grades, an estimated one-fifth of the 1,000 or so extant specimens may be found Mint State, primarily in the Choice levels. Gems in MS-65, while available, are quite rare, and only a handful survive in finer grades, as here.

PCGS# 4571. NGC ID: 237X.

NGC Census: 18; 20 finer (MS-68 ★ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

Superb Gem 1853 Arrows Dime



1052

1853 Arrows. MS-67 (PCGS). Seldom do examples of this popular and otherwise relatively plentiful type of Liberty Seated dimes possess the virtually pristine surfaces that characterize the Larry H. Miller specimen. Both sides are silky smooth with full, softly frosted luster. Iridescent peripheral toning in reddish-apricot adds to the appeal, as does razor sharp to full striking detail. An outstanding coin worthy of the strongest bids.

One of the more popular type coins in the Liberty Seated dime series of 1837 to 1891, the 1853 is the most readily obtainable issue of the brief Arrows design type. As with the half dime, quarter and half dollar whose designs were also modified in

similar fashion that year, the arrows were introduced to the obverse of the dime in 1853 to signify a weight reduction, in this case from 2.67 grams to 2.49 grams. The weight standard was changed through the Act of February 21, 1853 to discourage hoarding of silver coins in the East that followed within a couple of years of the discovery of gold in California and the onset of the Gold Rush. By reducing the coins' weight and making them subsidiary, the dime was once again worth more in face value than as bullion and was able to circulate freely.

PCGS# 4603. NGC ID: 2398.

PCGS Population: 15; 5 finer (MS-68 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1053

1859-O Fortin-103. Rarity-3. Medium O. MS-66 (NGC). This stunning high grade dime exhibits subtle semi-prooflike tendencies to otherwise satiny mint luster. Lightly toned in pale iridescent gold, the surfaces are silky smooth and feature a sharp strike. Although ranking among the easier New Orleans Mint Liberty Seated dimes to locate in lower grades, the 1859-O is scarce to rare above the VF level. As a premium quality Gem the lovely coin here offered here is worthy of the strong bids.

PCGS# 4620. NGC ID: 2395.

NGC Census: 11; 4 finer (MS-68 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1055

1874 Arrows. MS-65 (NGC). Satiny and brilliant surfaces are smooth and attractive with most design elements sharply struck. The 1874 Arrows dime is in constant demand by type coin specialists seeking to represent brief two-year design. Gem Mint State examples of any Liberty Seated dime are desirable, and the Larry H. Miller specimen will make an appealing addition to another high grade set.

PCGS# 4668. NGC ID: 23BK.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1054

1870 Fortin-104. Rarity-3. Repunched Date. MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Here is a rare and desirable Gem Mint State example of this underrated Legend Obverse Liberty Seated dime. It is attractive, with an intermingling of sandy-gold iridescence, attractive mint luster on both sides, and a boldly executed strike. With silver specie payments still suspended in the East and Midwest after the Civil War, circulation strike dime production at the Philadelphia Mint remained low in 1870. Survivors from a mintage of 470,500 pieces are scarce in all circulated grades, very scarce at lower Mint State levels, and rare in Gem MS-65 and higher grades. The Larry H. Miller specimen also represents an interesting variety, the Fortin-104 dies exhibiting repunching to the digits 8 and 0 in the date and a die line within the top of the letter O in ONE on the reverse.

PCGS# 4651. NGC ID: 23A2.

PCGS Population: 6; 4 finer (MS-66+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1056

1904 MS-66 (NGC). A highly lustrous, sharply struck and attractive Gem. Mostly brilliant, there is a halo of reddish-apricot toning around the obverse periphery.

PCGS# 4833. NGC ID: 23ER.

NGC Census: 6; 0 finer.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1057

1940-D MS-65 FB (PCGS). OGH. Nearly brilliant.

PCGS# 5025. NGC ID: 23JV.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



TWENTY-CENT PIECES



1058

1875-S BF-9. Rarity-2. MS-66 (NGC). An impressive high grade example from this eagerly sought odd denomination series. Satin to softly frosted luster enhances the brilliant surfaces. The strike is sharp to full overall and the coin presents solid Gem Mint State quality overall.

The twenty-cent piece features the Liberty Seated design, after Gobrecht, but by Chief Engraver William Barber. On the shield the word LIBERTY is raised, quite unlike the regular Liberty Seated coinage (but similar to that used on early Gobrecht silver dollars). The reverse illustrates an eagle holding three arrows and an olive branch, copied from the design used on Barber's trade dollar of 1873. Inscriptions are around the border.

The twenty-cent pieces were produced under the Act of March 3, 1875, sponsored by John P. Jones, Nevada senator, who felt that this denomination would be useful in commerce in the West. At the time, no silver coins of any kind were to be seen in circulation in the East or Midwest (explaining why mintage was concentrated on the West Coast once it began). With enthusiasm production began at the San

Francisco Mint and, as noted, over a million were struck. Almost immediately such pieces were confused with quarter dollars. They became unpopular and the denomination was discontinued.

At 1,155,000 pieces produced, the 1875-S has the highest mintage in the twenty-cent series. It is by far the most available issue of this denomination in today's market, and is the quintessential type candidate. Perhaps interestingly for a denomination that proved such a failure in commerce, most 1875-S twenty-cent pieces are worn, often to a considerable extent. Even so, Mint State survivors are usually available in quantity in major auctions and at other large numismatic gatherings. However, in the finer Gem and Superb Gem grades, it becomes scarce to rare. A significant bidding opportunity for the discerning type collector or twenty-cent piece specialist.

The Larry H. Miller specimen was struck from an early state of the BF-9 dies with no cracks evident on the reverse.

PCGS# 5298. NGC ID: 23R7.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Senator John P. Jones of Nevada.



Lot 1059
1796 B-2. Rarity-3. MS-64 (NGC).



QUARTER DOLLARS

Landmark Choice Mint State 1796 Quarter One Year Design Type



1059

1796 B-2. Rarity-3. MS-64 (NGC). Offered is an impressive condition rarity for this one year design type that is eagerly sought even in the lowest circulated grades. The Miller Collection 1796 quarter is richly toned with surfaces that exhibit an even overlay of bold steely-olive patina. The strike is expertly centered with most design elements sharply defined; softness to the eagle's head, breast and left leg is typical of most examples. It is smooth and attractive with a satin to modestly semi-reflective finish.

The 1796 quarter has long been an object of desire for all who form type sets of American coinage. Struck only in this single year, the Draped Bust obverse in combination with the Small Eagle reverse is very rare relative to the demand for it, as no type set can be complete without an example. Survivors are scarce as the mintage was just 6,146 pieces. The Mint required

two obverse dies and one reverse to achieve this mintage, with Browning-2, as offered here, the more frequently encountered by a small margin. This is the High 6 variety of the issue, so named because the digit 6 in the date is closer to the bust than on the B-1 Low 6 variety.

While a number of Mint State 1796 quarters are extant from both die marriages, the vast majority of survivors are circulated to one degree or another. Demand for high grade coins is particularly intense and, indeed, the Miller specimen is an ideal example — the very best that most collectors could realistically hope for in a 1796 quarter. Worthy of a strong bid, and destined for inclusion in another fine cabinet.

PCGS# 5310. NGC ID: 23RA.

NGC Census: 9; 7 finer in this category (MS-67+ ★ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Lovely Choice Mint State 1807 Quarter



1060

1807 B-1. Rarity-2. MS-64 (NGC). An exceptional example of one of the more underrated condition rarities among U.S. Mint quarter design types. Lustrous surfaces exhibit a lively satin to softly frosted finish, adorned with beautiful champagne-gold iridescence on both sides. Wisps of even more vivid reddish-rose and cobalt blue are evident around the peripheries, especially at the upper obverse border. The strike is exceptional for an issue that is often quite blunt, both sides of the present example have universally bold to sharp detail to the major design elements. Smooth and attractive overall, this quarter will hold great appeal for discerning type collectors or advanced early quarter enthusiasts.

Now a mainstay denomination familiar to all, this was not the case for the quarter dollar in the beginning. The denomination was first struck four years after it was authorized by the Mint Act of 1792 and, due to lack of demand from bullion depositors, was not struck again until 1804. Robert Scot's Draped Bust, Heraldic Eagle design was utilized beginning in that year and the mintage barely exceeded that of 1796. Starting in 1805, however, production consistently exceeded 100,000 pieces per year. In 1807 a mintage of 220,643 quarters was achieved, the highest yearly output for the denomination up to that point in time.

However, the quarter dollar remained unpopular with contemporary bullion depositors. The 1807 is not only the final

issue of the Draped Bust design type, but also the final year of quarter dollar production until the denomination returned in 1815. Over this interval, half dollars became the largest coin of the realm as silver dollar coinage had been suspended three years earlier. Despite Jefferson's insistence that the Mint make small silver coins for common people, at this point the decision of what kind of coins were to be struck was up to the persons depositing the bullion, not the Mint. Given that most depositors were banks or corporate entities, coins of larger value were preferred. Although the mintage for quarters surpassed 200,000 coins per year in both 1806 and 1807, there would not be two consecutive years with mintages surpassing even 150,000 quarters again until the 1830s.

Numismatists have identified two die varieties of the 1807-dated quarter issue. In lower grades, neither variety is a rarity. In the finer Mint State grades, as here, each is an object of great desire. This date is often chosen by type collectors, but even those who pursue exclusively Mint State coins often must settle for lower grades, or coins certified at high grades but exhibiting poor aesthetic appeal. The present example has it all — superior striking quality, condition rarity, outstanding eye appeal — and it is sure to please.

PCGS# 5316. NGC ID: 23RF.

NGC Census (both die marriages of the issue): 11; 9 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Enchanting 1818 Capped Bust Quarter



1061

1818/(5) B-3. Rarity-3. MS-66 (NGC). This premium Gem example of the challenging Capped Bust design type will also appeal to advanced specialists in the series. Brilliant surfaces are fully lustrous with a smooth appearance to both sides. Striking detail is razor sharp to full over virtually all design elements, the impression expertly centered with uniform denticulation around the borders. As carefully preserved as any example of this type that we have handled over the years, and sure to catch the eye of quality-conscious bidders.

Despite the quarter's continued unpopularity with contemporary silver bullion depositors, 1818 did see unusually high demand, and the mintage of 361,174 pieces is the highest for this denomination from 1796 through 1828. The Large Diameter Capped Bust type as a whole is rare in the finest Mint State grades, however, and the 1818 is no exception. Opportunities

to acquire an example as technically sound and aesthetically pleasing as this premium Gem MS-66 usually come along only once in a long while.

The NGC insert attributes this coin as an 1818 quarter, which is technically correct even though the B-3 variety shares its obverse with the 1818/5 B-1 overdate. In the later B-3 marriage, lapping of the obverse die has removed virtually all remnants of the 5 underdigit. The Larry H. Miller specimen is a newcomer to the Condition Census for this variety as listed in the 2010 reference *Early Quarter Dollars of the United States Mint* by Rory R. Rea et al., the MS-66s therein tied for CC#2.

PCGS# 5322. NGC ID: 23RH.

NGC Census (all die marriages of the issue): 12; 3 finer (MS-67 ★ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1062

1831 B-2. Rarity-2. Small Letters. MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Lustrous and smartly impressed, this is an attractive Choice Mint State example with brilliant silver-gray surfaces. To prepare the quarter for close collar production, Chief Engraver William Kneass modified John Reich's Capped Bust design to allow it to fit onto smaller planchets of uniform diameter. Kneass refined the portrait and eagle, removed the scroll upon which the Latin motto E PLURIBUS UNUM had been inscribed, and added a raised border around both sides. This type has since become known to numismatists as the Reduced Diameter, Reduced Size or, more informally, Small Size Capped Bust quarter. It was produced from 1831 through early

1838. The first examples produced in 1831 display small letters in the reverse legend UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, with all subsequent deliveries displaying large letters. The more frequently encountered die marriages of the 1831 are extremely popular with type collectors, especially those of the one year Small Letters design. Collectors who demand above average quality and strong eye appeal will definitely find much to admire in this premium quality MS-64 example from the Larry H. Miller cabinet.

PCGS# 5348. NGC ID: 23RW.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Gem Mint State 1838 Liberty Seated Quarter



1063

1838 Liberty Seated. No Drapery. Briggs 1-A. Open Claws. MS-65 (NGC). This intensely lustrous and silky smooth example will be perfect for inclusion in the finest type set or Liberty Seated collection. Satiny surfaces are brilliant and highly appealing. Striking detail is razor sharp throughout the design, and the technical quality and eye appeal are far superior to what is typically offered for the brief No Drapery design type.

At the request of Mint Director Robert M. Patterson, Engraver William Kneass conceived a rudimentary sketch for a proposed design depicting Liberty seated upon a emblemized shield facing left, holding a pole topped with a pileus (the cap given by the Romans to slaves upon their liberation). Famed portrait painter Thomas Sully refined this concept, and it is from this proposal that Christian Gobrecht made a copperplate engraving to submit to Treasury Secretary Levi Woodbury for approval. This is the design from which the Gobrecht dollars were crafted, along with several pattern pieces for Liberty Seated half dollars but, curiously, no patterns for Liberty Seated quarters.

Struck on the cusp of autumn in 1838, 466,00 1838 Liberty Seated quarters were produced. Beginning with Kneass' original sketch, the

Liberty Seated design had been in a state of perpetual revision, and even within the few months of mintage in 1838 the reverse design had been modified to extend the eagle's claws. Though researcher Larry Briggs noted in *The Comprehensive Encyclopedia of United States Liberty Seated Quarters* (1991) that this Closed Claws reverse was an alteration to the initial Open Claws design, continued research questions this direct progression and even introduces the possibility of a third, intermediate design that closely resembles another Closed Claws reverse.

Once again, in 1840, the dies were reworked, most notably adding drapery folds beneath her left elbow and thereby creating the Drapery design type that would be used until the conclusion of this series in 1891. The present offering represents a pairing of the No Drapery obverse, Open Claws reverse design types. While 1838 No Drapery Liberty Seated quarters are relatively common in lower circulated grades, availability is strictly limited in Mint State. This Gem is among the finest certified, and worthy of serious bidder consideration.

PCGS# 5391. NGC ID: 23SE.

NGC Census: 5; 4 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1064

1853 Arrows and Rays. MS-65 (NGC). Dusted with iridescent golden-champagne toning, this is a lovely high grade representative of one of the most eagerly sought Liberty Seated design types. The luster is smooth with a satin to softly frosted texture, and the design elements are sharply to fully rendered from an impressive strike. The huge quantities of gold coming from California beginning in 1849 drove up the price of silver relative to gold, resulting in the melting of many minor silver coins. To counteract this, Congress passed the Act of February 21, 1853, which reduced the weights of the minor silver denominations, but left the silver dollar unchanged. The quarter's weight dropped from 103.125 grains (6.6 grams) to 96.000 grains (6.22 grams), significant enough to keep the coins from the

crucible. The change in standard was marked by the addition of arrows at either side of the date of all affected denominations and a halo of rays surrounding the eagle on the reverse on the quarter and half dollar. The Philadelphia Mint struck over 15 million Arrows and Rays quarters in 1853 using more than 100 obverse and reverse dies. This would prove to be the only year of issue for the type as the rays were removed the following year. While this is one of the most available Liberty Seated quarter issues, it is decidedly rare at the Gem level and finer.

PCGS# 5426. NGC ID: 23U4.

NGC Census: 30; 12 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Stunning 1854 Arrows Quarter Tied for Finest Certified



1065

1854 Arrows. Breen 2-B. MS-67 (NGC). This beautiful quarter has just the lightest iridescent peripheral toning to otherwise brilliant, frosty surfaces. The focal features exhibit razor sharp striking detail, both sides appear pristine as would be expected for the assigned grade. A small area of possibly impurity in the planchet between the eagle's left leg and wing is mentioned as a provenance marker.

The removal of the rays from the reverse of the quarter allowed for longer die life, but even so several dozen dies would still have been required to produce the 12,380,000 quarters that came off the Philadelphia Mint's presses in 1854. The drop in production from 1853 was the start of a trend. As more and more old tenor silver coins were turned into bullion and recoined into the new pieces, the need for more coins dropped. The following year, just under three million quarters were struck at Philadelphia, while the production at New Orleans dropped to one-tenth of its mintage in 1854. Even the introductory mintage from the still new San Francisco Mint was not substantial.

For numismatists, the 1854 Philadelphia issue is far more available in high grades than the 1854-O and all three 1855 issues, making it especially desirable for a type set. Indeed, demand for the 1854 quarter is perennially strong as quarter specialists, aficionados of the Liberty Seated design, and advanced type collectors all vie for coins at the very upper echelons, especially above the Gem level. Neither of the two certification services has graded a single coin above MS-67 and the population figures no doubt reflect resubmissions hoping to break through that barrier. That the Larry H. Miller cabinet contains one of the finest certified examples is further testament to the outstanding quality of this collection.

PCGS# 5432. NGC ID: 23U6.

NGC Census: 3; 0 finer.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex Heritage's sale of the Andre Dawson Collection of All-American Coins, September 1998 Long Beach Sale, lot 6661; Heritage's Long Beach Sale of February 2000, lot 6314.



1066

1858 MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. This lovely example is fully brilliant with smooth satin to softly frosted luster. The 1858 is among the more plentiful No Motto Liberty Seated quarters, although the type as a whole is challenging to find in Gem Mint State, as here.

PCGS# 5445. NGC ID: 23TH.

PCGS Population: 40; 19 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1067

1874-S Arrows. Briggs 3-A. MS-65 (NGC). A bright and brilliant quarter with satiny mint luster and a sharp strike. In 1873 the weight of dimes, quarters and half dollars were adjusted upward, from 6.22 to 6.25 grams in the case of the quarter dollar, a tiny amount that made very little difference to the “average Joe” in America. Today’s numismatists appreciate the associated design change of 1873 to 1874, however, and the Arrows coinage of those dates is eagerly sought by

type collectors and Liberty Seated quarter specialists. Thanks to the discovery of a hoard of 80 to 100 pieces in a West Coast bank in 1949 (per Larry Briggs, 1991), the 1874-S is the most available quarter of the Arrows, Motto design type in Mint State.

PCGS# 5495. NGC ID: 23VY.

NGC Census: 35; 27 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

Outstanding 1877 Quarter Dollar



1068

1877 MS-68 (NGC). CAC. Offered is an ultra-condition rarity from the otherwise readily obtainable circulation strike 1877 quarter issue. Rich satin to softly frosted luster is seen on surfaces that are as smooth as the day of striking. The strike is virtually full with all major design elements sharply rendered. An outstanding coin that will please even the most discerning numismatist.

The Specie Payment Resumption Act of January 14, 1875, ushered in a brief period of heightened quarter dollar production that lasted into 1878. With the government seeking to remove the paper currency that had become prevalent in circulation during and after the Civil War and replace it with “hard money,” the three operating mints at the time (Philadelphia, Carson City and San Francisco) increased

production of the dime, quarter and half dollar. The 1877 is the third of four high mintage quarter deliveries from the Philadelphia Mint during this era, with 10,911,200 circulation strikes being produced, making this a relatively plentiful issue in most grades. We stress that word “most” here for in the finest Mint State grades, as here, the 1877 emerges as a noteworthy condition rarity. This is certainly a superior quality survivor which has few peers among Motto Liberty Seated quarters of any issue. An exquisite Superb Gem destined for inclusion in the finest cabinet.

PCGS# 5504. NGC ID: 23V5.

Combined PCGS and NGC Population: 13; 0 finer.

CAC Population: 3; 0.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Impressive Gem Key Date 1913-S Barber Quarter



1069

1913-S MS-65 (NGC). CAC. Here is a remarkable second Gem Mint State 1913-S quarter from the Larry H. Miller Collection, this key date chosen by the consignor to represent the Barber design in his type set. It was an excellent choice, for with razor sharp striking detail and silky smooth surfaces the viewer is able to fully appreciate all aspects of Charles E. Barber's design. Delicate champagne-gold iridescence mingles with satin to softly frosted luster adding to the appeal of this beautiful coin.

An issue that needs no introduction among specialists in Barber coinage, the 1913-S has the lowest mintage in the circulation

strike quarter series with just 40,000 pieces produced. Examples are eagerly sought throughout the numismatic grading scale, from heavily worn Fair and AG, to Gem and Superb Gem Mint State. Of course, coins in the latter category are far rarer than those in the former, and only the most advanced collectors will have the honor of owning a high quality survivor such as the Miller specimen offered here.

PCGS# 5666. NGC ID: 23ZW.

NGC Census: 4; 11 finer (MS-67+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Key Date 1916 Standing Liberty Quarter Lovely Choice Mint State



1070

1916 Standing Liberty. MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. The Miller Collection offers a highly desirable Choice Uncirculated example of this fabled key date Standing Liberty quarter issue. Brilliant apart from the lightest golden iridescence, both sides are fully lustrous and frosty. Sharply to fully struck in most areas with a pleasingly smooth appearance, this premium quality example is not all that far from a Gem Mint State rating.

Hermon A. MacNeil's Standing Liberty quarter of 1916 is generally considered one of the high-water marks of American coin design, along with the Winged Liberty (a.k.a. Mercury) dime and Walking Liberty half dollar. MacNeil submitted plaster models which the Mint's engravers and sculptors modified significantly, apparently without input from MacNeil. Although it is widely believed that the addition of the chain mail to Liberty in 1917 resulted from widespread public outcry regarding the exposed breast, there is no evidence that this was the case. Numismatic scholar Roger W. Burdette has not uncovered any

supporting documentation to that effect. In fact, MacNeil had proposed the design change (along with some modifications to the reverse) in reaction to the Mint's modifications to his original designs before the coins were even released to the general public. The chain mail was added to symbolize Liberty's preparedness to defend the nation with the coming of the United States' involvement in World War One.

The 52,000 1916-dated Standing Liberty quarters were struck late in the year and released in mid-January alongside the first 1917-dated quarters. As far more 1917 Type I quarters were struck, more of those were saved as keepsakes. The 1916 Standing Liberty quarter has become one of the most sought after 20th century U.S. Mint issues. The Larry H. Miller specimen is a lovely example for both the issue and the assigned grade and should attract very strong bidding.

PCGS# 5704. NGC ID: 242Y.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Choice Mint State 1918/7-S Quarter Rarity The Eliasberg-Larry H. Miller Specimen



1071

1918/7-S FS-101. MS-64 (PCGS). Here is an outstanding example of the greatest major variety in the 1916 to 1930 Standing Liberty quarter series. Highly lustrous and very attractive, delicate champagne-gold and pinkish-silver toning enhances frosty surfaces. The detail to Liberty's head is about 60% full and the 7 underdigit is bold and clear. As one of the highest graded survivors of a prized overdate, this handsome near-Gem will be an important addition to another advanced Standing Liberty quarter set.

The 1918/7-S was created when Mint personnel reworked a leftover 1917-dated quarter die for use the following year. This was done in the Philadelphia Mint, where all dies were prepared at that time. Once on the West Coast, this overdate die struck an

unknown, although presumably small number of the 11,072,000 quarters attributed to the San Francisco Mint in 1918. Although the overdate feature is quite bold and easily discerned with the naked eye, it escaped the attention of numismatists until 1937, by which time the vast majority of examples had entered circulation. Scarce even in worn condition, the 1918/7-S is very rare in Mint State. A leading highlight of the Standing Liberty quarters from the Larry H. Miller cabinet, and an important bidding opportunity for astute collectors.

PCGS# 5726. NGC ID: 243A.

PCGS Population: 29; 6 finer in this category (MS-66 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex our (Bowers and Merena's sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, April 1997, lot 1629.



1072

1920-D MS-66 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Delightful champagne-pink toning blends with lovely mint frost on both sides of this very attractive premium Gem. The 1920-D quarter has a smaller mintage by the standards of the Standing Liberty type (3,586,400 pieces), and only a small percentage of Mint State survivors are as carefully

preserved and visually appealing as the Larry H. Miller specimen offered here.

PCGS# 5736. NGC ID: 243F.

PCGS Population: 35; 7 finer in this category (MS-67+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Key Date 1927-S Quarter



1073

1927-S MS-64 (PCGS). OGH. Intense frosty-white surfaces are well preserved and a delight to behold. The definition is bold over most features and the coin offers premium Choice Mint State quality. With the second lowest mintage of any Standing Liberty quarter — only the 1916 has a lower mintage — the 396,000 coins that were struck at the San Francisco Mint in 1927 have become a classic rarity in the U.S. series. Contemporary numismatists paid very little attention to this issue and, as a consequence, the vast majority entered circulation and remained

there until worn out or lost. Today it is estimated that some 95% of all surviving specimens are in grades of Good-6 and lower. Conditionally challenging even in mid-level circulated grades, 1927-S quarters are especially challenging to locate in Mint State. The acquisition of this lovely MS-64 example would be a significant achievement for any Standing Liberty quarter enthusiast.

PCGS# 5764. NGC ID: 243W.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1074

1928 MS-64 FH (PCGS). CAC. A smartly impressed and highly lustrous example with abundant eye appeal.

PCGS# 5767. NGC ID: 243X.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



HALF DOLLARS

Superior 1794 Flowing Hair Half Dollar

Historic Key Date Issue



1075

1794 O-101a, T-7. Rarity-3+. AU-53 (NGC). This is a richly original, very high grade example of one of the most eagerly sought dates in the entire U.S. half dollar series. Warmly toned in blended steel-gray and olive-russet, both sides also display iridescent undertones of cobalt blue and antique gold. The strike is expertly centered, and virtually all design elements retain razor sharp detail. Only isolated central high points show light wear from circulation. Traces of original mint luster also point to only a brief stint in active commerce. There are no marks of consequence, and even adjustment marks — as made, and often quite heavy on early U.S. Mint silver coins — are minor and confined to the right obverse border. A handsome coin that is sure to see spirited bidding among advanced type, date and variety collectors. Tompkins Die Stage 1/5.

While today the half dollar is seldom seen in circulation and offering one up in change will often generate odd looks and questions, it is only relatively recently that this has been the case. Half dollars have traditionally been “workhorse coins intended for use in the channels of commerce,” as Q. David Bowers described them. The reduction in the required surety bonds for the chief coiner and the assayer so that production of precious metal coins could commence came late in 1794 and in this first year, 23,464 (or fewer) pieces were made, as opposed to a much larger delivery of 299,680 pieces for calendar year 1795. By that year, which was the last in which the Mint used the Flowing Hair motif in this series, the half dollar had already established itself as the denomination of choice among bullion depositors, a situation that would continue well into the 19th century.

Of the 11 known die marriages of the 1794 half dollar, O-101 is the most frequently encountered. This is not to imply that this is a common variety, for the 1794 as an issue is scarce to rare in all grades, irrespective of die marriage. The first half dollars struck in the United States Mint were 5,300 examples delivered on December 1, 1794. All of these coins are assumed to have been struck from 1794-dated dies. The *Guide Book*, among other numismatic references, provides a mintage figure of 23,464 pieces for this issue, as above, which assumes that the 18,164 half dollars delivered on February 4, 1795, were also coined from 1794-dated dies. This is conjecture, and we will never know for certain whether the coins delivered on February 4, 1795, were dated 1794, 1795, or both. Based on the number of die marriages known for the 1794-dated issue, as well as the number of coins extant, it is likely that at least some of the coins delivered in early 1795 were from 1794-dated dies. We suspect that the actual mintage for this issue is somewhat less than 23,464 pieces, most of which have long since been lost to commercial use.

The 1794 O-101 half dollar is conditionally challenging, with the vast majority of survivors well worn in grades such as VG, Fine and VF. The Condition Census as given in the 2015 reference *Early United States Half Dollars, Volume 1: 1794-1807* by Steve M. Tompkins reads: 64, 63, 61, 61, 61, 58, 58. The Larry H. Miller specimen, just shy of that standing, is still a superior quality example, and it is a newcomer to the variety's census as listed in the Autumn 2020 revision to Stephen J. Herrman's *Auction & Mail Bid Prices Realized for Bust Half Dollars: 1794-1839*.

PCGS# 6051. NGC ID: 24E6.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Lot 1076

1797 Small Eagle. O-102, T-2. Rarity-6-. 15 Stars. MS-61 (NGC).



Legendary Draped Bust, Small Eagle 1797 Half Dollar Rarity

Condition Census #1

Sole Mint State Example of the O-102 Variety



1076

1797 Small Eagle. O-102, T-2. Rarity-6-. 15 Stars. MS-61 (NGC). Here is a splendid 1797 half dollar, a Mint State example of the single rarest and most desirable silver type in the entire American series. The obverse and reverse are toned in mottled silver-gray and olive-russet. On the obverse the hair details are exquisitely delineated, indeed among the finest we have ever seen on any half dollar of 1796 or 1797. The stars are all well formed, but most do not have detail at the center, this being typical for the issue. The word LIBERTY is bold, and the denticles around the border are especially well defined. Under magnification some Mint-made adjustment marks can be seen in the right obverse field and elsewhere, not unusual as this was standard Mint procedure at the time for reducing the weight of a planchet to the statutory level. The reverse is actually quite incredible by virtue of its strike, displaying detail that is needle sharp except for on the very highest points of the eagle's breast and left leg. The feathers in the wings are detailed enough to have pleased Audubon had he chosen to sketch them, the cloud on which the eagle is perched (or otherwise situated) offers a full outline, and the wreath has enough detail to have pleased Linnaeus. Around the border the inscription UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and fraction 1/2 are bold, as are the denticles. This coin displays truly exceptional striking quality and surface preservation for this brief and challenging design type, and is sure to see spirited bidding among advanced collectors. Tompkins Die Stage 1/1.

The half dollars that the United States Mint delivered in 1797 differed from the previous issues for this denomination from 1794 and 1795. In late 1796 Mint personnel adopted for the half dollar Robert Scot's Draped Bust, Small Eagle design, that had already been used in the production of 1795-dated silver dollars. The delivery of 1797 amounted to 3,918 pieces, 1,934 or so examples having been struck from one of two 1796-dated

obverse dies and the remainder from two 1797-dated die pairings. Surprisingly for a denomination that otherwise proved extremely popular with contemporary bullion depositors, no more half dollars were ordered until 1801, at which time the Heraldic Eagle reverse design was used. The Draped Bust, Small Eagle half dollar, therefore, became an instant numismatic rarity — a two-year type with a combined mintage of just 3,918 pieces. Survivors of both the 1796 and 1797 dates are scarce to rare in all grades, and they never fail to cause a stir among advanced collectors whenever they appear at auction.

There are two die marriages known for the 1797-dated half dollar issue, as above, both of which share the same obverse die. Overton-102, offered here, is attributable by having leaf points directly in line with the right foot of the second letter T in STATES and the left foot of the letter F in OF. It is rarer than the 1797 O-101 variety, and the rarest die marriage of the Draped Bust, Small Eagle half dollar type across both dates. This variety is also a formidable condition rarity, with only a single Mint State coin — the present specimen — included in the census compiled by Jon P. Amato in his 2012 reference *The Draped Bust Half Dollars of 1796-1797*. Confirmed as CC#1 for the 1797 O-102 dies by Steve M. Tompkins (2015) and Stephen J. Herrman (Autumn 2020), this is one of the most significant examples of the type that we have ever had the privilege of offering at auction.

PCGS# 6060. NGC ID: 24EC.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex Superior's June Pre-Long Beach Sale of 1999, lot 2173; our (Bowers and Merena's) Baltimore ANA Auction of July 2003, lot 1383; David Lawrence Rare Coins' Fixed Price List of November-December 2003; our (American Numismatic Rarities') Allison Park Collection sale, August 2004, lot 420.



Phenomenal Gem Mint State 1807 Draped Bust Half Dollar Condition Census for the O-105 Dies



1077

1807 Draped Bust. O-105, T-4. Rarity-1. MS-65 (PCGS). Dusted with iridescent silver and golden-apricot toning, this is a beautiful condition rarity to represent the type, date and variety. The surfaces are further adorned with billowy mint luster, the texture a blend of satin and softly frosted qualities. The strike is virtually full, and truly exceptional for a Draped Bust half dollar, as are the surfaces, which are remarkably smooth with a pristine appearance in hand. Tompkins Die Stage 2/2.

As one of the mainstay denominations in commerce during the early 19th century, the Draped Bust half dollars were produced in prodigious quantities for the era. The 1807 is the final date in this series, the mintage estimated at 760,076 pieces by Steve M. Tompkins (2015). Before the year was out the Draped Bust design was supplanted by the new Capped Bust motif attributed to John Reich. Regardless of the exact mintage, the 1807 Draped

Bust was certainly produced in large enough numbers that pleasing specimens can be obtained today in lower grades without much difficulty. However, the date becomes scarce in Mint State and rare at the Gem level. With its Rarity-1 rating, it may perhaps come as no surprise to read that the Overton-105 variety accounts for a good number of the finest 1807 Draped Bust half dollars extant, and the Condition Census provided by Tompkins reads: 66; 65; 65; 64; 64; 63. The present example is a newcomer to this list, as it is unlisted in the Autumn 2020 revision to Stephen J. Herrman's *AMBPR* for Bust half dollars. Among the finest known for both the issue and die pairing, this extraordinary Gem would serve as a highlight in any numismatic cabinet.

PCGS# 6079. NGC ID: 24EM.

PCGS Population (all die marriages of the issue): 7; 2 finer (MS-66 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Stellar 1834 Capped Bust Half Dollar Tied for Finest Certified for the Issue CC#1 for the O-108 Dies



1078

1834 O-108. Rarity-2. Large Date, Small Letters. MS-67 (NGC). Appealing surfaces exhibit mottled blushes of powder blue, champagne-pink and pale gold iridescence on dominant pearl gray toning. The luster is full and frosty and, while the strike is a tad soft in isolated areas, the detail is predominantly sharp and superior to that often seen in late date Capped Bust half dollars of the Lettered Edge type. Bordering on pristine, this lovely Condition Census Superb Gem is sure to be of keen interest to high grade type collectors as well as Bust half dollar variety enthusiasts.

The Capped Bust half dollar is the work of John Reich, a German-born engraver who came to the United States to escape the turmoil of a Europe engulfed in the Napoleonic Wars. Joining the staff at the United States Mint in 1807 as assistant engraver to Robert Scot at the salary of \$600 per year, Reich's first official task was to redesign the gold and silver denominations. The most popular denominations with bullion depositors at that time, the half eagle and half dollar were the first to receive Reich's attention, and the first examples of his Capped Bust half dollar were struck the same year that he joined the Mint.

The basic Reich design remained in use on the half dollar through the end of the 1830s. As the highest denomination silver coin of the realm throughout much of its production lifespan, the Capped Bust half dollar was struck in large quantities. During calendar year 1834, for example, the Mint reported a mintage of 6,412,004 pieces. Generally speaking, late date issues such as the 1834 are more readily obtainable in Mint State than counterparts from 1807 through, say, the early 1820s. Of course, Capped Bust half dollars are rare in the finest grades irrespective of date. Tied for finest certified for the issue in its entirety, the Larry H. Miller specimen is also the sole finest example from the 1834 Overton-108 dies listed in the autumn 2020 revision to Stephen J. Herrman's *Auction & Mail Bid Prices Realized for Bust Half Dollars: 1794-1839*.

PCGS# 6165. NGC ID: 24FY.

Combined PCGS and NGC Population (all die marriages of the issue): 7; 0 finer.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex Ira & Larry Goldberg's Dr. Richard Ariagno Collection sale, May-June 1999, lot 341.



Gem Mint State 1837 Reeded Edge, 50 CENTS Half Dollar



1079

1837 Reeded Edge. 50 CENTS. GR-13. Rarity-1. MS-65 (NGC). Offered is a superior example of this Reeded Edge type coin, issued only in 1836 and 1837, before the denomination was changed from 50 CENTS to HALF DOL. starting in 1838. Both sides are dusted with slightly mottled pearl gray patina, while the reverse also has iridescent champagne-apricot and powder blue highlights around the periphery. The strike is virtually full, and the surfaces are smooth and lustrous. This coin and other high grade 1837 half dollars may owe their exceptional preservation to the Panic of 1837, which settled over the United States after New York City banks suspended specie payments on May 10, 1837. Bank customers could no longer exchange paper at par for specie, leaving paper money and copper coinage to carry the work of day-to-day business in most areas of the

country. Millions of half dollars, along with Spanish colonial 8 reales and smaller subsidiary denominations, sat in bank vaults, despite the 1837 establishment of a bullion fund by Act of Congress that allowed the U.S. Mint to produce silver coins without waiting for deposits of bullion. By the time the panic subsided, allowing silver coins to reenter circulation, few Gems were left among the bank stockpiles. Today, 93% of Mint State 1837 halves certified by PCGS grade MS-64 or lower. For the quality-conscious type collector, this is another of many offerings from the Larry H. Miller Collection that represent an important bidding opportunity.

PCGS# 6176. NGC ID: 24G4.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Gem 1838 Reeded Edge Bust Half Dollar



1080

1838 Reeded Edge. HALF DOL. GR-9. Rarity-3. MS-65 (NGC). CAC. Here is an amazing premium Gem Mint State example for this brief subtype within the Capped Bust half dollar series. Beautifully toned, both sides exhibit splashes of reddish-gold iridescence toward the borders. The surfaces are intensely lustrous with a delightful frosty finish. The dies imparted razor sharp to full striking detail to virtually all elements of the design. As nice as the day it was coined, type collectors with an eye for quality and aesthetic appeal would be wise to pursue this offering with vigor.

In 1838 the half dollar was subject to additional design modifications. This time the denomination was modified to read HALF DOL. on the reverse, likely to bring it more in line with the quarter dollar. This, too, ended up being a short-lived transitional type replaced in 1839 by the highly successful Liberty Seated design. This series is notable as being the first coins ever struck at a branch mint when 20 Proof half dollars rolled off the presses at the newly opened New Orleans Mint, creating one of the most desirable rarities in American

numismatics. At the Philadelphia Mint, 3,546,000 half dollars were struck in 1838 and additional examples were produced in 1839. Since silver dollars were practically unknown in everyday commerce aside from Spanish-American dollars, the half dollar was one of the preferred silver coins for banks to hold in vaults, usually in large bags, resulting in coins that have bag marks and scuffs. As with many of the half dollars from the period, the 1838 is available with relative ease through the lower end of the Mint State scale, but is seldom found above MS-63. Due to the brevity of the design, both half dollar enthusiasts and type collectors seek out particularly nice examples, creating continual pressure for the few remaining Gems. An assemblage of Gem Mint State half dollars from 1836 to 1839 showing the transition from the Capped Bust to the Liberty Seated design would be most impressive and a worthy challenge for the advanced numismatist.

PCGS# 6177. NGC ID: 24G5.

NGC Census (all die marriages of the issue): 18; 5 finer (MS-67 finest).

CAC Population: 4; 2 (MS-66).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Lot 1081

1839 Liberty Seated. No Drapery. WB-4. Rarity-4. MS-65 (PCGS). OGH.



Historic First Year 1839 Liberty Seated Half Dollar One Year No Drapery Design Type



1081

1839 Liberty Seated. No Drapery. WB-4. Rarity-4. MS-65 (PCGS). OGH. This 1839 is brilliant and exceptionally smooth for an example of this challenging one year design type in the Liberty Seated half dollar series. Mint luster is full with a satin to softly frosted texture that provides modest cartwheel visual effects. Liberty's right leg and talon are blunt, a feature shared by the plate coin for the WB-4 variety in Bill Bugert's 2016 *Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties, Volume V*. Otherwise, however, we note bold to sharp detail with much of Liberty's portrait and the eagle's plumage fully rendered and crisp. Among the finest certified for the No Drapery design, here is a significant offering for high grade type collectors.

Gobrecht's Liberty Seated design came last to half dollars, three years after its introduction to dollars, two years after it first

appeared on dimes and half dimes, and a year after it was first seen on quarter dollars. Half dollars since 1836 had displayed a Gobrecht reworking of the old design by John Reich, with a capped bust of Liberty on the obverse and eagle on the reverse. The reverse design was retained with slight modifications; in 1842, the size of the legend on the reverse increased notably, 1853 saw the brief use of a glory of rays around the eagle, and in the 1866 the motto IN GOD WE TRUST was added. Of vital importance to type collectors, the No Drapery obverse design was used exclusively in 1839, and for only a portion of that year. Breen once called any Mint State example "prohibitively rare," and high grade pieces such as this are even more so.

PCGS# 6230. NGC ID: 24GK.

PCGS Population: 4 with a single MS-65+ finer.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Near Gem 1839 With Drapery Half Dollar



1082

1839 Liberty Seated. Drapery. WB-6. Rarity-3. MS-64 (NGC). Here is a very scarce Choice Mint State quality example for this overlooked issue from the early Liberty Seated half dollar series. The obverse is ringed in vivid golden-olive, powder blue and reddish-apricot iridescence, the reverse border also adorned with reddish-apricot toning. The centers on both sides are brilliant, and satiny mint luster is smooth and lively throughout. Razor sharp to full striking detail is also notable.

This is the first issue of the Drapery Liberty Seated half dollar, featuring the addition of extra folds of drapery to the gown at Liberty's left elbow. This work was done by Christian Gobrecht, who seems to have added the extra folds directly to the master die, from which a new master hub was raised. In order to balance the new design, Gobrecht modified the master hub by removing portions of the rock upon which Liberty is seated, both below the foot and, in

particular, in the area closest to star 1. So modified, the master hub was used to raise another, final, master die for the new With Drapery half dollar type.

Although somewhat overshadowed by the 1839 No Drapery because of that issue's status as a one year type, the 1839 Drapery is nearly on par as a condition rarity. Indeed, Randy Wiley and Bill Bugert (*The Complete Guide to Liberty Seated Half Dollars*, 1993) rank Mint State survivors of these two issues as Rarity-6- and Rarity-5+, respectively. For the first year type collector or Liberty Seated half dollar specialist, this is an important bidding opportunity, as once sold it may be many years before an example of comparable quality returns to the market.

PCGS# 6232. NGC ID: 24GL.

NGC Census: 13; 5 finer (all MS-65).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Gem 1853 Arrows and Rays Half Dollar Perennially Popular One Year Design Type



1083

1853 Arrows and Rays. WB-101. MS-66 (NGC). A true “wonder” coin among Liberty Seated half dollars, especially for an example of the extremely popular, one year Arrows and Rays design type of 1853. This brilliant, premium Gem remains as bright and lustrous as the day it was struck. Well struck with both sides showing sharp definition to the focal features of the design. Technically and aesthetically impressive in all regards, this coin is one of the finest certified for the type and is a delight to behold.

The half dollar was the largest denomination affected by the wholesale weight reductions introduced to United States silver coinage through the Act of February 21, 1853. The new weight standard for the half dollar was 12.44 grams, as opposed to 13.36 grams for preceding issues produced beginning in the late 1830s. The weight reduction was introduced to return the half dollar to active circulation in the Eastern states, as they had disappeared through hoarding as the price of silver rose in response to the vast quantities of gold being mined in California during the Gold Rush. In essence, silver had become scarce relative to gold in the market of the early 1850s, and old tenor pieces were quickly removed from circulation as their bullion value exceeded their face value. As the 2020 edition of the standard reference *A Guide Book of United States Coins* explains:

On February 21, 1853, fractional silver coins were made subsidiary by reduction of their weights. As the coins' face value now exceeded their bullion value, free coinage of silver was prohibited except for dollars, and the Mint was authorized to purchase its silver requirements on its own account using the bullion fund of the Mint, and, according to law, "the profit of said coinage shall be....transferred to the account of the treasury of the United States."

As with the quarter, arrows were added to the obverse before and after the date and a glory of rays added to the reverse field around the eagle. The reverse design proved to be too highly detailed for efficient coinage operations, and the rays were dropped in 1854, creating a one year type in the 1853 Arrows and Rays design.

The Philadelphia Mint issue of the year is the preferred type candidate for the Arrows and Rays half dollar, being far more plentiful than the 1853-O in all grades. Uncirculated coins through MS-64 are scarce, yet obtainable with patience. Beginning at the MS-65 level even the 1853 develops into a significant condition rarity. The Condition Census for this popular Philadelphia Mint issue comprises a handful of coins in MS-66, MS-66+ and MS-67, as certified by PCGS and NGC. The present example is part of this highly select group, and we anticipate a very strong price for this fabulous rarity.

PCGS# 6275. NGC ID: 24JJ.

NGC Census: 8; 0 finer at this service.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1084

1854-O Arrows. WB-4. Rarity-3. MS-66 (NGC). A bright and brilliant example to represent this popular two-year design type from the Liberty Seated half dollar series. Virtually all design elements are fully rendered, and the surfaces are as nice as would be expected at the premium Gem Mint State grade. The distinct Arrows, No Motto half dollar type of 1854 to 1855 was created when the Mint decided to drop the rays from the reverse design. Those features, along with the arrows at the date on the obverse, were added in 1853 to denote a weight reduction for the denomination pursuant to the Act of February 21, 1853. Whereas the rays were discarded after 1853 (they

likely complicated the striking process and led to early die breakage), the Mint continued the arrows for two more years through 1855.

The 1854-O is a popular type issue of this design. However, this New Orleans Mint half dollar is a noteworthy rarity at and above the Gem MS-65 grade level. The present high Condition Census example is worthy of an aggressive bidding strategy.

PCGS# 6280. NGC ID: 24JM.

NGC Census: 6; with a single MS-68 finer at this service.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

Exceptional Gem Mint State 1874 Arrows Half Dollar



1085

1874 Arrows. WB-102. Large Arrows. MS-65 (NGC). CAC. OH. This is a truly memorable, stellar-quality Gem half dollar. The centers are snowy white and encircled by halos of reddish-gold and cobalt blue iridescence that are bolder on the obverse. The satiny complexion is uniform and unbroken throughout. The motifs are bold and the fields are smooth with delightful cartwheel visual effects. A premium quality example for the type, issue and assigned grade, only the strongest bids are likely to be competitive when this beautiful coin appears at auction.

The weight of the half dollar was once again modified in 1873 when the Act of February 12 mandated an increase from 12.44 grams to 12.50 grams. The Mint once again decided to add arrows to the obverse before and after the date for coins struck to the new weight standard. This second Arrows Liberty Seated

half dollar type remained in production only in 1873 and 1874, after which the basic Motto type returned, albeit with the weight standard as mandated in 1873.

The Arrows type of 1873 to 1874 is more challenging to locate than its predecessor of 1854 to 1855, in all grades, both circulated and Mint State. 1874 has the highest mintage of this type at 2,359,600 circulation strikes and, as a result, it is obtainable with more or less patience in grades up to and including MS-64. Above that level the 1874 is rare, especially relative to the strong demand. An important condition rarity from the Miller Collection, this lovely Gem will be a highlight in another fantastic numismatic cabinet.

PCGS# 6346. NGC ID: 24LA.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1086

1887 WB-101. MS-66 (NGC). Brilliant, silky-smooth surfaces display a bright satin to semi-prooflike finish. Production of this denomination remained low in 1887 as the nation's economy continued to absorb a backlog of previously hoarded silver coins that had disappeared from commerce in the East early in the Civil War. Only 5,000 circulation strike half dollars were struck for the year, all at the Philadelphia Mint. Along with the other low mintage

half dollars produced beginning in 1879, the 1887 is among the more eagerly sought issues in the Liberty Seated series. It is seldom found in Gem MS-65, let alone in higher grades, as here. This piece delivers excellent eye appeal to match the superlative surface quality.

PCGS# 6369. NGC ID: 24L2.

NGC Census: 9; 5 finer (MS-67+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1087

1899-S MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. We are pleased to be offering two high grade Mint State examples of the normally elusive 1899-S half dollar in Part Two of the Larry H. Miller Collection. This premium Choice example exhibits mottled reddish-apricot and rose-russet iridescence around the peripheries. Brilliant in the centers,

with sharp striking detail and lovely mint luster throughout, this is an impressive example that would do well in an advanced set.

PCGS# 6485. NGC ID: 24M8.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1088

1941 MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Brilliant and beautiful.

PCGS# 6611. NGC ID: 24S3.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Lot 1089
1794 BB-1, B-1. Rarity-4. MS-62 (NGC).



SILVER DOLLARS

Historic First Year 1794 Silver Dollar A Landmark Rarity in NGC MS-62 The Austrian-Wittlin-Willing Specimen



1089

1794 BB-1, B-1. Rarity-4. MS-62 (NGC). The silver dollar was authorized by the Act of April 2, 1792, that also established the United States Mint and created our nation's coinage. While not the highest denomination coin authorized by that act, the silver dollar was obviously the most important as it was the standard unit upon which the United States' monetary system would be based. All other coins struck in the United States Mint from the 1790s to the present day are either fractional parts of the dollar or multiples of that unit. The silver dollar is, without a doubt, the most popular and widely collected coin ever struck in the United States Mint, and is eagerly sought by both advanced numismatists and the general public as a historic treasure, a cherished collectible and (for common date examples of the later Morgan and Peace types) a storehouse of wealth for those with an interest in owning silver bullion.

The most important silver dollar ever struck — and also one of the rarest — is the 1794 Flowing Hair. The first coin of its kind and a famous numismatic rarity in all grades with a mintage of just 1,758 pieces, the 1794 Flowing Hair silver dollar is a coin of which legends are made. Survivors are always greeted with eager anticipation when they are offered for sale either through auction or via private treaty. Such is the importance and popularity of the 1794 Flowing Hair dollar that it has been honored with the No. 13 ranking in the 2008 edition of *100 Greatest U.S. Coins* by Jeff Garrett and Ron Guth.

The design of the nation's first silver dollar was entrusted to Chief Engraver Robert Scot, whose obverse features the most mature evolution of the Flowing Hair Liberty portrait that was first featured on Augustin Dupre's *Libertas Americana* medal of 1783. By the time Dupre's Liberty found her way onto the silver dollar, however, she had been turned to the right and no longer displayed the liberty pole and cap. The basic design is superficially similar to its earliest inception, nonetheless, with Liberty's hair free flowing along the back of her head and neck, thus explaining the widely used name. Scot's dollar obverse also exhibits 15 stars around the border arranged eight left, seven right in honor of the number of states that made up the Union in 1794, the word LIBERTY at the upper border, and the date at the lower.

The reverse of the Flowing Hair silver dollar mirrors Scot's work for the Flowing Hair half dime and half dollar. A spread-wing eagle is surrounded by two branches bound at their base by a thin ribbon with the legend UNITED STATES OF AMERICA around the border. Curiously, the denomination is not featured on either the obverse or reverse of the Flowing Hair silver dollar — something that might appear as a sign of ineptitude on the part of early Mint employees to someone familiar with United States coinage of the 21st century. The omission was intentional, however, as United States coinage was new to the world market of the 18th century and the term "dollar" would have been



unfamiliar to merchants of the day. In order to facilitate the coins' acceptance in as many quarters as possible, therefore, the Mint omitted the denomination from the design and opted to let the silver dollar's weight and precious metal content establish its value. For those willing to look closer, they would find the denomination on the edge, which is lettered HUNDRED CENTS ONE DOLLAR OR UNIT with decorations between the words.

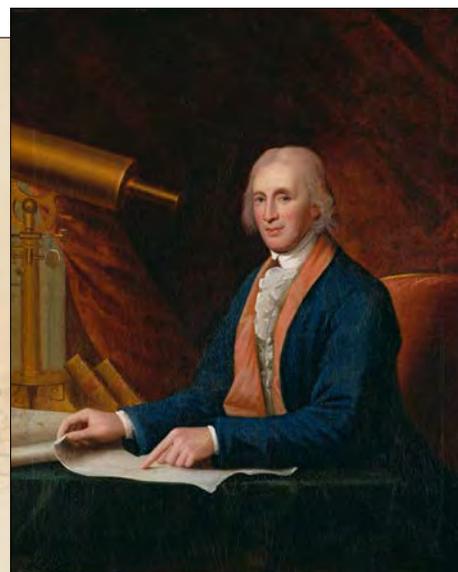
By the time Mint employees had posted the necessary bonds to begin working with precious metals — which was not until 1794 even though the silver dollar had been authorized by Congress in 1792 — Mint Director David Rittenhouse wanted to begin production of these coins as soon as possible. His decision was a bold one, for the press he had on hand was better suited for striking smaller coins such as dimes, quarters and half dollars. In recognition of the silver dollar's status as the basic unit of our national currency and the largest coin authorized by the Act of April 2, 1792, however, Rittenhouse insisted that it be the first precious metal coin struck in the United States Mint.

Difficulties in achieving Rittenhouse's goal arose immediately because bullion was lacking. The early United States Mint did not strike silver and gold coins on its own account but, rather, was dependent upon private deposits of these precious metals. The first deposit of silver to arrive at the United States Mint came from the Bank of Maryland on July 18, 1794. Composed of French coins, Assayer Albion Cox's tests of the metal's fineness averaged just .737 fine, meaning the deposit would have to be heavily refined to bring it up to the congressionally mandated .8924 standard for silver coinage. With the refining department understaffed, Rittenhouse made a bold choice: rather than follow the letter of the law, whereby depositors received finished coins based upon the order of their initial deposits, Rittenhouse himself jumped the line. On August 29, 1794, he made two deposits, composed of silver ingots of relatively fine purity (.900

and .8665 fine) that added up to \$2001.33 worth of silver, or enough to strike almost exactly 2,000 silver dollars.

On October 15, 1794, Chief Coiner Henry Voigt delivered 1,758 silver dollars to David Rittenhouse, representing the entire mintage for the year. The Mint's workmen could have struck all of these coins in a single afternoon, using a press ill-suited for the rigors of striking the large diameter dies. Rittenhouse later received \$242.50 in half dollars, plus six half dimes, to complete the total initial deposit, but according to traditional numismatic wisdom the original mintage of 1794 dollars amounted to 2,000 coins. Proponents of this theory believe that the remaining 242 examples were judged to be underweight and/or too poorly struck to be released, the coins either remelted or used as planchets for 1795-dated silver dollars. At least one poorly struck 1794 dollar was used as a planchet for a 1795 dollar, but since that coin's discovery in the 1960s no other examples have come to light. If the original mintage of the 1794 dollar was 2,000 pieces, the remaining 242 or so coins were almost certainly melted. Alternatively, the total mintage might be just 1,758 pieces, the failure of the press under the rigors of striking these large coins ending the day's work prematurely and prompting the chief coiner to make up the balance of Rittenhouse's bullion deposits in half dollars and half dimes, as related above. We will never know for sure because no details were recorded and no ceremony was held, despite the historical significance of the event.

Indeed, even those 1794 dollars that were deemed acceptable for distribution exhibit many of the coining difficulties suffered by the early United States Mint. Virtually all of the known examples are softly struck to one degree or another at the left obverse and reverse borders. This is due not only to the Mint's use of a press that was initially intended for smaller-size coins, but also because the dies eventually "slipped" and became misaligned in the press. On some 1794 dollars the misalignment is so pronounced that



The first United States Mint and Mint Director David Rittenhouse. (Ye Olde Mint lithograph by Frank H. Taylor; Rittenhouse portrait by Charles Willson Peale.



the date can be difficult to discern. Additionally, many examples display adjustment marks that represent the Mint's filing down of overweight planchets to make them conform to the legally specified weight range for this issue. While these adjustment marks are often innocuous, they are sometimes so numerous as to severely compromise one or more elements of a coin's design.

Regardless of striking quality or level of preservation, a 1794 Flowing Hair silver dollar is an extremely important numismatic find, and the ownership of even a low grade or impaired example is the mark of an important collection. Writing in the 2010 edition of the reference *The Flowing Hair Silver Dollars of 1794: An Historical and Population Census Study*, Martin Logies of the Cardinal Collection Educational Foundation accounts for a surviving population of 140 examples. A slightly more liberal estimate of 150 or so coins is provided by PCGS *CoinFacts*, while Q. David Bowers (*The Encyclopedia of United States Silver Dollars: 1794-1804*, 2013) agrees with both of these other sources when he says that 135 to 150 examples are extant. These estimates represent a rather high percentage of the mintage based upon most statistical survivorship models of early American coins. This high percentage reflects the early date at which collectors placed a premium on 1794 dollars, thus saving low grade specimens that would have been consigned to the melting pot if they were of any other date. Indeed, many of the known examples are significantly impaired due to cleaning, repairs, edge damage, or other problems.

Even most problem free 1794 Flowing Hair dollars that have survived did so only after acquiring some degree of wear. Indeed, in Mint State this issue is a landmark rarity. Exactly how many Uncirculated 1794 dollars are extant is a matter of debate as fluctuating grading standards over the years have resulted in some specimens alternating between About Uncirculated and Mint State grades. The finest is unequivocally the Neil-Carter-Contursi specimen certified Specimen-66 by PCGS that Stack's Bowers Galleries sold for the record-setting price of \$10,016,875 in our January 2013 sale of the Cardinal Collection. The Larry H. Miller specimen has long been noted among Mint State 1794 dollars certified by PCGS and NGC, and it is ranked either CC#8 or CC#9 by Martin Logies in his aforementioned and exhaustive census studies published in 2010 and 2014. Widely known as the Austrian-Whittlin-Willing specimen, it

is very well struck and remarkably well preserved for the issue. Dollars of this date often display soft to blunt detail along the left obverse and reverse borders due to the misalignment of the dies in the press. For the present example, however, we note nearly complete denticulation around both sides. Only from 10 to 11 o'clock on the obverse does the detail to the denticulation come up a bit short, but minimally so and hardly significant. All 13 stars are boldly to sharply rendered, all four digits in the date are bold and clear, and the word LIBERTY is fully legible despite a touch of softness at the top of the letter L. The reverse features a fully legible legend UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, a touch of softness to the top of the letters TED STA along the left border is noted solely for accuracy. Both sides are boldly to sharply struck in and around the centers with crisp detail throughout much of Liberty's hair and the eagle's plumage.

The often-seen adjustment marks (as made) are barely in evidence here, there being only a trace at the reverse border outside the letters TE in UNITED that help to explain the trivial softness of strike in that area. Lustrous satin surfaces are enhanced by light iridescent toning in golden-tan and powder blue. Scattered handling marks are commensurate with the grade, and they are inconsequential in a survivor of this rare issue from the earliest days of U.S. Mint operations. The most useful feature for provenance purposes is actually as made: a shallow, circular planchet flaw near the center of the eagle's breast on the reverse. BB Die State II with light clash marks (again as made) in both the obverse and reverse fields, the second to lowest curl of Liberty's hair approaches the innermost point of star 2.

A leading highlight of the Larry H. Miller cabinet, this is a truly exceptional 1794 dollar. It is sure to see spirited bidding among advanced type collectors, early dollar enthusiasts, and other numismatists who appreciate the historical significance and well known rarity of this issue.

PCGS# 6851. NGC ID: 24WY.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex "Austrian private collection" (or possibly the Paris Mint Collection or that of the Bibliotheque Nationale); Paul H. Wittlin; James Kelly's ANA sale of 1956, lot 1509; Stack's; private owner, repurchased by the following in 1975; Stack's; Julian Leidman and Mike Brownlee; Paul Nugget; Dave Berg; private owner; our (Bowers and Ruddy's) Dr. Edward B. Willing Collection sale, June 1976, lot 412; Superior's Father Flanagan's Boys Home Sale, May 1990, lot 3875.



Lot 1090

1795 Flowing Hair. BB-14, B-4. Rarity-3. Two Leaves. MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH.



Gem Uncirculated 1795 Flowing Hair Silver Dollar

Condition Census for the Issue

Finest BB-14 Two Leaves Variety



1090

1795 Flowing Hair. BB-14, B-4. Rarity-3. Two Leaves. MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Simply put, this is an outstanding coin that ranks among the finest 1795 Flowing Hair dollars irrespective of die variety. Its combination of superior striking quality and extraordinary surface preservation immediately evoke thoughts of a coin that was set aside soon after striking, perhaps by an early visitor to the United States Mint. Both sides are fully defined with crisp, uniform denticulation that shows to excellent effect the very high borders for which this particular die pairing is known. Moving toward the centers there are full radial lines in the stars as well as crisp LIBERTY and date on the obverse. Equally fully rendered are the legend UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and the wreath on the reverse. At the centers is found razor sharp delineation between the individual strands in Liberty's hair and virtually all feathers within the eagle's plumage. Even the breast feathers are nearly complete, the detail to the eagle's eye and beak no less impressive. Full satin to softly frosted mint luster blankets surfaces that are as fresh as the day this coin emerged from the dies more than two centuries ago. There are no blemishes of consequence, hardly any even of a trivial nature; two tiny nicks near the lower reverse border below the left (facing) ribbon end serve as useful provenance markers. (These took some time to find, and are easily overlooked under all but the closest scrutiny.) Wisps of beautiful iridescent reddish-gold, champagne-pink and olive-blue toning appear toward the borders and round out the remarkable list of attributes for this amazing Gem Mint State early dollar.

Robert Scot was appointed engraver at the United States Mint in November 1793 and was employed in that position until his death in 1823. Scot was responsible for engraving master

dies, which he called "original dies," and the central device punches or hubs that were raised from them. He also had a hand in producing the working dies that were used for coining, though some of that work was delegated to assistants like John Smith Gardner. Though modern writers have attributed several designs of this era to Gardner, he likely accomplished the day-to-day grunt work in the engraving department, executing a wide range of working dies, called "coining dies" by Scot, rather than performing the creative work that has been credited to him.

Scot's written testimony to Congress, offered early in 1795 to answer questions about the workload of the engraving department, has been cited by authors including Don Taxay and Robert Hilt, though Bill Nyberg was the first to actually publish it (*John Reich Journal*, August 2012). Scot's testimony reveals that the time to engrave an obverse master die for a 1795 dollar, consisting of the Liberty head design, took "six or eight days" and a reverse master die took "nearly the same time." "After their Hubbs are completed," Scot wrote, "a head Die for striking money may be finished in two days," assuming that the brittle steel of the die did not crack during the hardening process.

The master dies created hubs, which were then used to produce working dies. Reverses required two master dies, with the eagle device on one hub or punch, the wreath on another. Today, 1795 Flowing Hair dollars are neatly divided into two groups based upon which wreath hub was used, one showing two leaves under each wing, the other showing three leaves. Two different eagle hubs were used as well. Numismatic scholars have identified 19 different pairings of working dies for the 1795 Flowing Hair dollar. The BB-14, represented here, is one of the die pairings that corresponds to the Two Leaves *Guide Book* variety.



BB-14 numbers among the more frequently encountered for this issue in today's market and is popular among collectors seeking a single example of either the Flowing Hair dollar type or the 1795 Two Leaves *Guide Book* variety. Bowers accounts for 350 to 550 coins extant in all grades and, while the typical survivors grades no finer than VF, the persistent collector should be able to acquire an EF example without too much effort. The 1795 BB-14 is rare in About Uncirculated preservation, however, and exceedingly rare in Mint State.

The exceptionally solid strike seen on the Miller specimen could not have happened using the press that the Mint employed for the incompletely struck 1794 dollars. Intended for smaller coins, that press was pushed beyond its limits to coin the large diameter dollars. Its insufficiency resulted in a halt in dollar coinage until the situation could be remedied. Elias Boudinot, director of the Mint, assured Congress on February 9 that "A fourth [press] for dollars and medals, in particular, will be finished in about three months." The first group of dollars struck on the new press was delivered on May 6, 1795, almost exactly three months after his testimony. The press was paid for on February 2, a week before Boudinot testified, when a warrant for \$937.19 was made payable to Samuel Howell, Junior and Co. for "sundry castings, wrought iron, etc." Records cited in Frank H. Stewart's *History of the First United States Mint* indicate that this press weighed "1 ton 11 cwt," or 3,232 pounds. This enormous, durable machine never yielded its position as the largest of the Mint's screw presses, striking all future Flowing Hair and Draped Bust dollars.

Though the dollar press of 1795 represented a giant leap forward for the Philadelphia Mint, silver dollars continued to be struck with more attention to their weight than their aesthetics. Production of specimens like this, sharply struck upon a planchet free of significant adjustment marks or other natural flaws, remained inconsistent, and examples of this remarkable technical quality that have survived to the present are extraordinarily rare. Indeed, PCGS has certified only five 1795 Flowing half dollars of all die varieties at or above the MS-65 level:

1 - **PCGS MS-66. CAC. BB-18, B-7. Three Leaves.** Ex Catherine Bullowa Collection, by purchase, 1965; Catherine Bullowa's (Coinhunter) sale of December 2005, lot 393; D. Brent Pogue; our sale of the D. Brent Pogue Collection, Part II, September 2015, lot 2042; The Type Set Collection (Oliver Jung); Bruce Morelan.

2 - **PCGS MS-65+. CAC. BB-18, B-7. Three Leaves. Silver Plug.** Ex William Strickland; Charles Winn (husband of Priscilla Strickland, son in-law and cousin of William Strickland), by sale, 1834; Rowland Winn, 1st Baron St. Oswald of Nostell, by descent, 1874; Rowland Winn, 2nd Baron St. Oswald of Nostell, by descent, 1893; Rowland George Winn, 3rd Baron St. Oswald of Nostell, by descent, 1919; Rowland Denys Guy Winn, Major the Lord St. Oswald, M.C., by descent, 1957; Christie, Manson, and Woods' sale of English, Foreign, and Important American Coins, the Property of Major the Lord St. Oswald, M.C., October 1964, lot 141; Lester Merkin's sale of October

1973, lot 451; Dr. Herbert Ketterman to Jimmy Hayes, via sale; Jimmy Hayes Collection; our (Stack's) Greater New York Numismatic Convention Sale of April 1983, lot 1220; RARCOA, by sale, September 1987; D. Brent Pogue; our sale of the D. Brent Pogue Collection, Part II, September 2015, lot 2043; Bob R. Simpson; Heritage's sale of the Bob R. Simpson Collection, Part I, September 2020, lot 10095.

3 - **PCGS MS-65. CAC. BB-14, B-4. Two Leaves.** Ex Larry H. Miller Collection. **The present example**, prior provenance unknown. When we reached out to him for help in determining this coin's provenance prior to its inclusion in the Miller cabinet, noted early dollar expert W. David Perkins informed us that in 35 years of researching and tracking these coins he had never seen this example of the 1795 BB-14 variety. We believe that it is a newcomer to the census for the variety and handily outdistances the Parmelee-Carter specimen (PCGS MS-62+) as the finest known 1795 BB-14 dollar.

This coin is incorrectly listed on the *PCGS Population Report* as an example of the Three Leaves variety, due to the use of the incorrect PCGS coin number on the old style insert.

4 - **PCGS MS-65. BB-21, B-1. Two Leaves.** Ex Robert Coulton Davis; New York Stamp and Coin Company's (Harlan Page Smith and David Proskey) sale of the Robert Coulton Davis Collection, January 1890, lot 427; Lawrence Stack Type Set; Stack's, via sale, January 2003; D. Brent Pogue; our sale of the D. Brent Pogue Collection, Part II, September 2015, lot 2045.

5 - **PCGS MS-65. BB-24, B-13. Two Leaves.** Ex William Cutler Atwater; William C. Atwater, Jr. and John J. Atwater, by descent, 1940; B. Max Mehl's sale of the William Cutler Atwater Collection, June 1946, lot 187; Louis G. Stirling; Frank Mumford Stirling, by gift or descent, before 1984; Heritage's ANA Mid-Winter Auction of February 1986, lot 1328; Anthony Terranova; our (Bowers and Merena's) Four Landmark Collections sale, March 1989, lot 1942; Superior Galleries' May 27, 28, 1991 Auction, lot 948; Lawrence Stack Type Set; Stack's, via sale, January 2003; D. Brent Pogue; our sale of the D. Brent Pogue Collection, Part II, September 2015, lot 2046.

Amazingly, D. Brent Pogue once owned four of the five Gem Mint State 1795 Flowing Hair dollars certified by PCGS, and at the same time. The Larry H. Miller specimen is the only exception. Its offering in this sale represents a significant bidding opportunity for a numismatic connoisseur to acquire a truly outstanding example of the United States Mint's first silver dollar design type. A landmark rarity and premium quality coin worthy of the strongest bids.

Stack's Bowers Galleries would like to thank W. David Perkins for providing provenance information on some of the finest known 1795 Flowing Hair dollars of the BB-14 variety.

PCGS# 6853. NGC ID: 24WZ.

PCGS Population (all die marriages of the issue): 4; with single MS-66 finer.

The old style PCGS insert uses coin #6852, which is now reserved for the Three Leaves variety of the 1795 Flowing Hair silver dollar.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Condition Census 1795 Draped Bust Dollar

BB-51 Off-Center Bust Variety



1091

1795 Draped Bust. BB-51, B-14. Rarity-2. Off-Center Bust. MS-64 (PCGS). A truly memorable example that ranks high in the Condition Census for the Off-Center Bust variety of the popular first year 1795 Draped Bust dollar. Both sides display warm pearl gray patina with splashes of iridescent rose-russet, pinkish-apricot and, to a lesser extent, cobalt blue toning. The surfaces are also awash in full satin mint luster. The obverse exhibits a concentration of adjustment marks from the border at the letters LIB in LIBERTY into Liberty's hair. Fainter adjustment marks are found along the obverse border from 12 to 3 o'clock, although the reverse is free of these. Adjustment marks are as made and were commonly used by early U.S. Mint employees to bring overweight silver and gold planchets down to the statutory level. The presence of these features has resulted in somewhat soft striking detail at stars 11 to 12 and the letters LIB in LIBERTY, but otherwise we note impressively sharp definition throughout much of the design. Liberty's portrait and the eagle are particularly well executed with even most of the intricate design elements crisp. A beautiful and exceptionally well preserved example that will delight both high grade type collectors and advanced early dollar enthusiasts.

When Henry William DeSaussure became Mint Director in June of 1795, he set two goals: to get gold coins to actively circulate and to improve the appearance of each denomination, with particular attention to the silver coinage. DeSaussure contracted with famed portrait artist Gilbert Stuart to prepare a depiction of Liberty to replace Robert Scot's Flowing Hair bust. Stuart's design was then transferred into plaster models and punches by John Eckstein for Scot. Eckstein also prepared improved versions of the Small Eagle reverse punches that showed the eagle in intricate detail and style. For this work Eckstein was paid \$30 in September. The resulting Draped Bust, Small Eagle silver dollar is often heralded as a masterpiece from the early United States Mint. DeSaussure's tenure at the helm was very short, however; in October of that same year he resigned his position due in part to illness and general dissatisfaction. While

only there for a few months, he made a long-lasting impression on the nation's coinage. While the Small Eagle reverse would only be employed until 1798, the Stuart/Eckstein Draped Bust was used for the rest of the series until coinage of silver dollars was suspended in 1804.

Two different die combinations were used for the 1795 Draped Bust dollar. The die pair believed to have been struck first is the so-called Off-Center Bust variety, BB-51, which features Liberty appearing too far to the left from the center, a position used only on this die pair. This positioning was corrected to a more aesthetically pleasing centered location on the second variety, BB-52. The precise number struck and timing of each variety is unclear. Mint records from the time are not as thorough as scholars would like and much of what can be determined is conjecture. The commonly cited mintage figure of 42,738 is believed to be only a portion of the overall total for the 1795 Draped Bust dollar. Dave Bowers (2013) posits that somewhere in the vicinity of 100,000 coins were produced of both BB-51 and BB-52 varieties and that while the first deliveries likely took place in October, the later deliveries could have extended into 1796. In fact, the reverse die of BB-52 was used as late as 1798, lending credence to this being the later of the two varieties.

BB-51 is the more plentiful of the two die marriages of this issue, and Bowers suggests that 1,400 to 2,000 coins are extant in all grades. With the typical survivor grading VF, however, even EF and AU coins are scarce and Mint State examples are rare. The Larry H. Miller specimen is included in the list of "Notable Specimens" in Dave Bowers' 2013 silver dollar encyclopedia, where it is tied for CC#3 with a few other MS-64s. Among our most significant offerings for both the issue and variety in recent memory, this impressive coin is sure to see spirited competition when bidding opens.

PCGS# 96858. NGC ID: 24X2.

PCGS Population (Off-Center Bust variety only): 2; 3 finer (MS-66 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex Heritage's sale of the Jack Lee Collection, III, November 2005 Dallas, TX Signature Auction, lot 2187.



Finest Certified 1799/8 15-Star Reverse Dollar Extraordinary Gem Mint State Preservation



1092

1799/8 BB-141, B-3. Rarity-3. 15-Star Reverse. MS-65 (NGC). Here is an amazing early dollar irrespective of date or die pairing, a strong contender for CC#1 for the 1799/8 BB-141 variety. Highly lustrous surfaces exhibit minimal frosting to a lively satin texture. Both sides are dusted with delicate silver-gray iridescence that appears to drift toward the borders, and we also note a few blushes of more vivid reddish-apricot scattered about. The strike is ideally centered and well executed for an early dollar, the detail sharp to full over all but a few isolated design elements. Free of adjustment marks as well as other pre- and post-striking distractions, we are hard pressed to find even a single useful provenance marker. Given that this coin seems to have eluded the census trackers, however, we offer a few faint, tiny planchet drift marks (as made) on the obverse behind the ribbon ends for this purpose. BB Die State IV.

BB-141 is one of the most popular and eagerly sought die marriages among 1799-dated silver dollars, combining as it does an overdate obverse die with a reverse die readily recognizable as having a blundered arc star pattern. On the obverse, the final digit 9 in the date has been punched over an 8, remnants of the underdigit quite bold and readily evident even without

the aid of a loupe. The reverse exhibits 15 stars above the eagle as opposed to the normal 13, although the additional two stars can be difficult to discern for the uninitiated. They protrude from the first and final clouds, which were enlarged by the engraver to cover most of the extra stars when he realized his blunder. BB-141 is not a major rarity in an absolute sense — it is actually a fairly plentiful die marriage by 1799 dollar standards — but in Mint State the variety is a significant condition rarity. The Larry H. Miller specimen is a landmark Gem, a coin that would be CC#1 were it included in Dave Bowers' (2013) list of "Notable Specimens" for the variety (which tops out at MS-64). *PCGS CoinFacts* also provides no provenance data or auction appearances for a 1799/8 dollar of any variety in MS-65. An apparent newcomer to the Condition Census for the BB-141 die marriage, this remarkable coin also ranks among the finest certified examples of both the date and the Draped Bust, Heraldic Eagle dollar type. Worthy of inclusion in the finest cabinet.

PCGS# 6883. NGC ID: 24X8.

NGC Census (all die marriages of the 1799/8 dollar): 1; 1 finer (MS-66). PCGS reports only a single 1799/8 dollar in grades finer than MS-64, a 13-Star Reverse coin in MS-65.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Amazing Gem 1802 BB-241 Silver Dollar Tied for CC#1



1093

1802 BB-241, B-6. Rarity-1. Narrow Date. MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. This Gem Mint State early dollar is one of the finest examples of both the date and die pairing in existence. A superb coin, both sides are extremely sharply struck with outstanding toning in iridescent reddish-apricot and powder blue. Luster is full with a softly frosted texture, the surfaces are as nice as would be expected for the assigned grade. A shallow planchet drift mark (as made) in the lower reverse field after the final letter A in AMERICA will serve as a provenance marker. BB Die State III.

For many issues in the United States Mint's early coinage series, there is some question regarding precisely how many coins were produced during any given calendar year. This is the case with the 1802 Draped Bust dollar, where the reported mintage of 41,650 pieces coined in 1802 is certainly lower than the quantity of 1802-dated dollars actually produced. Q. David Bowers in his 2013 book, *The Encyclopedia of United States Silver Dollars: 1793-1804*, estimates that the number of silver dollars that were struck using 1802-dated dies is likely closer to 80,000 pieces, made up of coins struck in 1802 and 1803. Even though seven different die pairings for the 1802/1 overdate have been identified, only two die marriages for the normal date

are confirmed. The distinctive obverse die used in the BB-241 pairing is characterized by the missing right foot of the letter T in LIBERTY, a diagnostic feature that is readily apparent in all die states. This obverse was only used for this die pair.

The BB-241 die marriage is far and away the most available of the entire 1802-dated dollar issue with an estimated 1,500 to 2,750 extant specimens primarily in the Very Fine to Extremely Fine grade range, though with perhaps as many as 50 to 70 Mint State pieces known. Even though a number of notable Mint State specimens are listed in the Bowers encyclopedia, including seven in PCGS/NGC MS-65, this variety is clearly a major condition rarity at this level. Due to its comparative availability, the BB-241 variety has long been popular with collectors in all grades as an example of not only the 1802-dated issue, but the Draped Bust, Heraldic Eagle design type. The Larry H. Miller specimen is tied for CC#1 in the Bowers census, and it is a beautiful coin that would be difficult to improve upon.

PCGS# 6895. NGC ID: 24XB.

PCGS Population (all die marriages of the issue): 4; 1 finer (MS-65+).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex Walton Hood Collection; our (Bowers and Merena's) Rarities Sale of January 2003, lot 426.



“The King of American Coins”



Lot 1094 Obverse
1804 Class I Original. BB-304. Proof-65 (PCGS). OGH.



Class I 1804 Silver Dollar

The Stickney Specimen

Obtained from the Mint in 1843

Wayte Raymond: “The Most Famous Pedigreed Coin in America”



1094

1804 Class I Original. BB-304. Proof-65 (PCGS). OGH. 415.3 grains. There are rarer coins, but in the federal series there are none that challenge the fame, tradition, and glory given to the 1804 silver dollar. In 1941 B. Max Mehl called it “The King of American Coins,” and it still commands that numismatic throne.

Over a long period of years it has been our pleasure to have handled most of the 15 1804 dollars in existence. Eight Class I dollars are known, one Class II (in the National Numismatic Collection in the Smithsonian Institution), and six of the Class III. Each of our past offerings has created a sensation. The ownership of an 1804 dollar places the buyer in a Pantheon of numismatic fame.

This is the second time we’ve had the honor and distinct pleasure to present the Stickney 1804 dollar in one of our catalogs. It first appeared in our (Bowers and Merena’s) April 1997 sale of the famed Eliasberg Collection, its first appearance in the numismatic marketplace in 51 years! Now this great treasure is offered as part of the magnificent Larry H. Miller cabinet, and it will surely find its way into another world class collection.

History of the Class I 1804 Dollar

Among the great and popular rarities that dot the American numismatic landscape, there is a small group that have been written about time and time again, and deservedly so; the 1804 dollar, the “King of American Coins,” is one of those coins. Indeed, no offering of an 1804 silver dollar would be complete without a background story, as its history is filled with colorful figures and fascinating stories of the inner workings of the Mint in early to mid-19th century America.

Though Mint records show a silver dollar mintage for 1804 of 19,570 pieces, these were all probably dated 1803. It was common practice at the early United States Mint to record annual mintages, but it was also common to use leftover, previously dated dies into the following calendar year, typically until the die steel gave out. The fact that only 15 Draped Bust 1804 dollars have ever come to light since the first notice of them appeared in print in 1842 -- with certain of the others first appearing in collections after 1858 -- gives testimony to the unreliability of the 19,570-piece mintage figure for calendar year 1804. After 1803, no dated circulation strike silver dollars were forthcoming from the Mint until 1,000 Gobrecht dollars were struck in 1836, followed by others of that design in smaller numbers in 1838 and 1839. In 1840 the new Liberty Seated design came to fruition, marking the first year in the denomination since 1803 that examples were struck in significant quantity.

The story of the 1804 dollar was the subject of much speculation until 1962 when Eric P. Newman and Kenneth E. Bressett’s book *The Fascinating 1804 Dollar* was issued by Whitman. In 1999 a detailed study by Q. David Bowers titled *The Rare Silver Dollars Dated 1804* added to the information. Other numismatic scholars have contributed valuable research and enhanced the story along the way.

We now know that on November 11, 1834, the Department of State made a request for special sets of coinage of the realm to be made for presentation purposes to monarchs on the far side of the world. Detailed histories of two deliveries, one to the King of Siam and the other to the Sultan of Muscat, are given in the above-mentioned books. It was desired to include one of each authorized denomination: the half cent, cent, half dime, dime,



The second United States Mint in Philadelphia. It was opened in 1833, the year before the Class I 1804 silver dollars were struck. Had they actually been made in 1804, they would have been produced at the first Philadelphia Mint building.



quarter, half dollar, silver dollar, quarter eagle, half eagle, and eagle -- which were to be struck in Proof finish for inclusion in the specially made boxed sets. Most of these denominations were being made currently, and thus it was a simple matter to add 1834-dated Proofs. A search of mintage records revealed that silver dollars and eagles had last been minted in 1804. In order to make the sets accurately reflect history, Mint engravers prepared dies of the old designs for those two denominations.

Many of the eagles struck that year had actually bore the date 1804, and in 1834 the Mint still had on hand an unused obverse die for this denomination from the period 1800 to 1804 (it was missing only the final digit in the date). This die was refinished, and the final digit 4 was added to make it ready for coinage. Whereas the eagles struck in 1804 display a Crosslet 4 in the date, however, the die finalized for use in 1834 displays a Plain 4, indicative of the change in style for this digit punch over the intervening 30 years. Credit for discovering the origin of the obverse die used to strike the 1804 Plain 4 eagles in 1834 goes to John W. Dannreuther. Interestingly, and as discovered by Bryce Brown and Bill Nyberg, the reverse die that the Mint used to strike these coins is an unused half dollar die leftover from 1806.

Regarding the silver dollar, in 1834 it was not realized that the dollars minted in 1804 had an earlier date. Thus, in 1834 the first 1804-dated dollars made their debut. Whether the dies for the 1804 dollar were made in 1834 or slightly earlier is a matter of debate. R.W. Julian suggests that they may have been prepared in 1831 in anticipation of a resumption in dollar coinage prompted by an increase in the United States' import of silver from the Orient. With the United States now importing more silver than it exported, Mint Director Samuel Moore requested that the ban on silver dollar coinage that had been in place since the early 19th century be lifted. Approval was forthcoming from President Andrew Jackson and the Treasury Department in the form of authorization to resume dollar coinage on April 31, 1831. According to Julian, the Mint prepared four obverse dies and two reverse dies using most of the same device punches used for original Draped Bust, Heraldic Eagle dies from the pre-1804 era. The first two obverse dies were dated 1802 and 1803, after which the top curl of Liberty's hair broke off the device punch

for the bust. This broken punch was then used to create the dies that were dated 1804 and (much later) 1801. The two reverse dies, which Newman and Bressett have designated Reverse X and Reverse Y, differ in the placement of the lettering in the words STATES OF along the upper obverse. On Reverse X, the letter E in STATES is over a cloud, while on Reverse Y it is over a space between two clouds. Absent from all six of these dies was the denticulated border of the pre-1804 dies, the borders instead consisting of the beaded design current in the 1830s.

The Mint's intent may have been to use these newly created dollar dies to strike a number of patterns in preparation for the resumption of coinage on or after April 31, 1831. Or the intent may have been to have two die pairs ready for regular issue production, with two more obverse dies in reserve. In the end, however, the increase in silver imports proved temporary and the plans to resume dollar coinage in 1831 came to an end before any coins (patterns or otherwise) were struck. Opinions vary with some numismatists asserting that the dollar dies were not prepared until the need arose in 1834 after the Mint received the Department of State's request for special presentation sets. If so, then why the first two obverse dies prepared were fully completed with the dates 1802 and 1803 is curious. The Mint's need in 1834 was for 1804-dated dollars, so on the surface it seems to make little sense at that time for the engravers to date the first two obverse dies (intact hair curl) 1802 and 1803, and then date the third (broken hair curl) 1804. All three of these obverse dies display similar date logotypes that were obviously prepared to mimic the style that was current on the original Draped Bust dollars dated 1800 to 1803. In any event, the Class I 1804 dollars were struck before the 1802- and 1803-dated Proofs, as confirmed by the progression of reverse die states (all three were struck from Reverse X). Apart from the bust, the fourth obverse die -- that eventually dated 1801 -- remained unfinished until a much later date, as evidenced by the radically different style of stars and date logotype. The Proof 1801 coins were likely struck around the same time as the Proof 1803 specimens.

Other opinions concern the second reverse die, Reverse Y per Newman and Bressett's designation. Diverging from the Julian theory, some researchers believe that this die was produced in



the late 1850s concurrently with the desire to create additional specimens for numismatic trade.

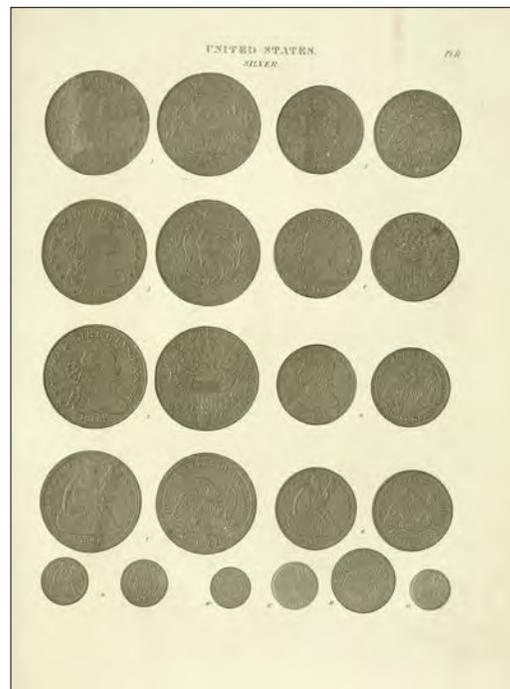
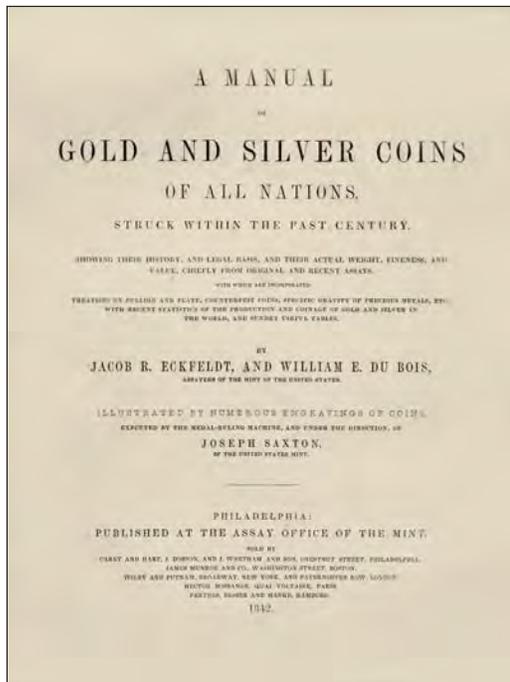
Returning to 1834, and regardless of whether they were prepared that year or in 1831, the Mint used the 1804-dated obverse and Reverse X to strike the silver dollars included in the special sets of coinage requested by the Department of State. These are the coins that numismatists now refer to as the Class I 1804 dollars. In further keeping with the design of the coins that the Mint believed had actually been struck in 1804, the old Castaing machine was used to add edge lettering to the planchets before striking. This edge lettering, however, was slightly crushed when the coins were struck with the close collar current in the Mint at that time. Indeed, the edge is among the technical aspects of the 1804 dollars that places the striking of the Class I examples in the mid-1830s. Before Eric Newman and Ken Bressett undertook their research project on 1804 dollars, even the most basic fact relating to 1804 dollars -- the question of when they were struck -- was not entirely settled. Independent of their inquiry into the 1804 dollar's documentable history, Newman and Bressett studied the coins themselves, knowing that what is written in metal can reveal truths that go unsaid on paper. Among their findings were the "raised flat border and dentilation" common to all 1804 dollars, "a style first adopted at the U.S. Mint in 1828." The size of the dies and the crushed edges both pointed to production in the age of the "collar die device [that was then] under development for the new Mint in the 1833-36 period," as does the weight standard of all Class I specimens, which conforms to the 416 grain pre-1837 standard.

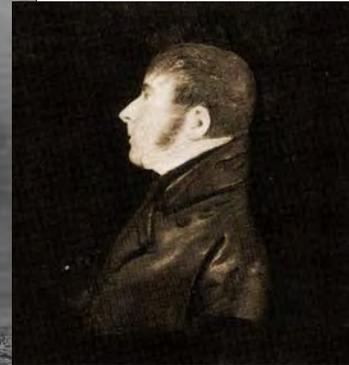
William E. DuBois, the keeper of the Mint Cabinet and an assistant assayer at the Philadelphia Mint, coauthored a work in 1842 with fellow assayer Jacob R. Eckfeldt entitled *A Manual of Gold and Silver Coins of All Nations, Struck Within The Past Century*. It was intended as a cambist, a guide for bankers and merchants, but became one of the first standard references for American coin collectors. Illustrated by the ingenious medal

ruling machine invented by photographic pioneer Joseph Saxton, the Eckfeldt and DuBois *Manual* was the very first work to depict a genuine 1804 dollar. Mixed in with more commonplace coins on Plate II, it is described perfunctorily in the text, with no mention of its interest or rarity. The image caught the attention of Matthew A. Stickney, one of the preeminent collectors of the age. In May 1843, Stickney traveled from his home in Salem, Massachusetts to Philadelphia to visit the Mint Cabinet, where he successfully obtained an 1804 dollar in trade for himself (see below). He was offered another by DuBois less than two months later. In a July 12, 1843, letter, DuBois said of the second offered example: "this I was obliged to take out of the cabinet, where there happened to be a duplicate. It is out of the question to get a piece struck from dies earlier than 1837, since they are of a different standard, both weight & fineness, and as planchets are made." This letter provides further evidence that all Class I 1804 dollar were before 1837, and that while restrikes could be struck for some rarities, the differences mentioned precluded such production of new 1804 dollars.

Exactly how many Class I 1804 dollars were struck during the 1830s is unknown, but given the special nature of these coins and the fact that their rarity was appreciated from an early date, the extant population of eight specimens probably represents the entire mintage. Although these coins have often been referred to as the "original" 1804 dollars, that term is inaccurate since they were not struck that year. They are also not "restrikes" since the first 1804-dated dollars were produced in 1834. The Class I 1804 dollars, along with the Proof 1801, 1802 and 1803 coins, are most accurately described as novodels, a term borrowed from Russian numismatics that refers to coins struck from newly created, backdated dies.

On board the sloop *USS Peacock* when she departed New York Harbor on April 23, 1835, were four of the special coinage sets requested by the Department of State, each of which included a Class I 1804 dollar. Two of these gift sets, one boxed in red





Edmund Roberts.
The USS Peacock, shown trapped in ice in 1840, several years after her voyage carrying Roberts and the 1804 silver dollars.

leather, the other in yellow leather, were delivered by Edmund Roberts, special envoy of President Andrew Jackson. (The aforementioned 1999 book by Q. David Bowers gives fascinating details of Roberts' memorable voyage.) One set was presented to the Sultan of Muscat in October 1835. That now known as the King of Siam set, which we (Bowers and Merena) offered in October 1987, was presented by Roberts in April 1836. The other two sets, intended for the emperors of Cochinchina and Japan, were never delivered since Roberts became sick and died in June 1836, before completing his mission. The sets were presumably returned to the Department of State when the *Peacock* returned to the United States in November 1837. The four additional Class I 1804 dollars (ie., those not included in diplomatic Proof sets) were retained by Chief Coiner Adam Eckfeldt and included in the Mint Cabinet when the collection was formed in 1838. Three of those were eventually dispersed by the Mint, at least one in trade for other objects for the Mint Cabinet collection, while the fourth remained in that collection and now resides in the Smithsonian Institution. These eight pieces make up the entire known population of Class I 1804 dollars. By name these are the Sultan of Muscat specimen, King of Siam specimen, Stickney specimen, Dexter specimen, Parmelee specimen, Mickley specimen, Mint Cabinet specimen, and the Cohen specimen. Several of these Class I 1804 dollars are permanently impounded in or on loan to museum collections.

History of the Class II and Class III 1804 Dollars

After 1857, interest in coin collecting blossomed in America. The U.S. Mint was an active player in the marketplace, producing medals and medallion coins, today called "patterns" though they were never intended as trial or experimental pieces, to sell or trade for items lacking in the Mint's cabinet. As the fame and market value of the 1804 dollar grew, certain Mint personnel retrieved the obverse used to strike the Class I specimens in the 1830s and paired it with either the unused reverse die from that earlier decade, or a new Heraldic Eagle dollar reverse die created in the late 1850s. Regardless of when it was produced, this is Reverse Y and, with the single 1804-dated obverse, it was used to strike several brand new 1804 dollars to meet collector

demand. These coins were produced unofficially, circa 1858, by George J. Eckfeldt and his son Theodore Eckfeldt. As related in an interview with Philadelphia dealer S.K. Harzfeld in 1880, Mint Superintendent A. Loudon Snowden, nephew of James Ross Snowden, mint director from 1853 to 1861, stated:

About this period an old employee of the mint, a relative of one of the first and most valuable officers of the mint, who had charge of dies in the engraver's department, was discovered by the sales made by an erring son to have taken impressions from 1804 and some other dies.

Both George and Theodore were relatives of Adam Eckfeldt, "one of the first and most valuable officers of the mint" referred to by Snowden, who was chief coiner at the time the Class I 1804 dollars were produced. George Eckfeldt was a foreman in the engraving department at the Philadelphia Mint in 1858, obviously the person "who had charge of dies" therein. The "erring son" was Theodore, a night watchman at the Mint.

The clandestine activities of the Eckfeldts circa 1858 were reported to then-Mint Director James Pollock in a letter of November 1861 from the Boston Numismatic Society concerning,

abuses which have of late years been practiced at the Mint, whereby numbers of pattern pieces, and coins from dies of former years, have been freely struck, and disposed of by employees of the Mint to dealers who have sold them at great prices. Two years since, members of this society were offered specimens of the dollar of 1804...two of which had been sold for \$75 each.

Robert Coulton Davis was tasked with securing the recently struck and distributed 1804 dollars. They were easy to identify for, unlike the Class I specimens from the 1830s, they were coined with a plain edge. At least two of these were returned to the Mint according to the May 1868 issue of the *American Journal of Numismatics*, which suggested, "it is perhaps not generally known that in 1858, certain dollars of 1804, re-struck from the original dies, without the collar, and therefore having plain edges, found their way out of the Mint...both were on solicitation returned to their source." William E. DuBois, curator of the Mint Cabinet at the time, later claimed that five specimens were struck, of which three were destroyed in his presence. One,



struck over an 1857 Swiss shooting thaler, stayed in the Mint Cabinet and is the only surviving Class II 1804 dollar, readily identifiable as such by its plain edge. The fifth plain edge coin may have been recycled and turned into a Class III specimen.

Having discovered the fatal flaw that revealed their dishonest plan, all further 1804 dollars distributed by the Mint had lettered edges, though the edge device was applied after striking, as the process that had created the distinctive crushed lettering of the Class I specimens had apparently been forgotten. These lettered edge coins are known as the Class III 1804 dollars, of which six are known. All were struck from the single 1804-dated obverse and Reverse Y, the same die pairing used for the Class II plain edge coins. As above, at least one of these Class III coins may have started out as a Class II, and some authorities even claim that all Class II and III examples were coined at the same time, ie, circa 1858. Proponents of this theory suggest that the remaining Class II coins had their edge lettering applied at the Mint after Henry R. Linderman became Mint Director in April 1873. Linderman was certainly more agreeable to "restrike" and other unofficial activity than his predecessor James Pollock, and a number of famous restrikes, fantasy pieces and other rarities are believed to have been produced during his tenure. These include the aforementioned Proof novodel dollars dated 1801, 1802 and 1803, closely related to their more famous 1804-dated brethren, and sharing the now-cracked Reverse X of the Class I 1804 pieces. Most of the Class III dollars first traded hands in the 1870s, however, and none are traceable before 1875, suggesting that they may have been struck later than 1858.

Six coins comprise the total population of the Class III 1804 dollars, half of which are in institutions: the American Numismatic Society, the American Numismatic Association, and the Smithsonian Institution, whose example was the property of Mint Director Henry R. Linderman. Mint officials created elaborate guarantees of authenticity to cover the tracks of their activities, even as their unofficial practices were well known. For the Class III 1804 dollars, this included jostling with other coins, use as pocket pieces, or other handling to give them the appearance of having been lightly circulated -- in other words, coins used in commerce since 1804. Most of the pieces were initially marketed by two Philadelphia dealers with close private connections to the Mint -- William Idler and Captain John W. Haseltine. Despite their troublesome origins, these manufactured rarities were soon highly valued as collectibles. In time these found their way to leading numismatists, including an example to T. Harrison Garrett, who in the late 19th century had the largest coin collection in private hands in America. We were proud to offer the Berg-Garrett specimen of the Class III 1804 dollar in our March 2020 auction of the D. Brent Pogue Collection, Part VII.

The Stickney Specimen of the Class I 1804 Dollar

One of the finest known examples of this classic American rarity, this specimen was obtained by Matthew A. Stickney, of Salem, Massachusetts, on May 9, 1843, in exchange for coins the curators needed for the Mint Cabinet. Later, the dollar went to Col. James W. Ellsworth, then to Wayte Raymond, and in early March 1923, to William Cutler Atwater, from the sale of whose collection Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. obtained it in 1946. Remaining in the Eliasberg family until our April 1997 auction sale, this special coin then found its way into the equally impressive Larry H. Miller cabinet.

Stickney on July 2, 1867, wrote to Edward Cogan, Esq., of New York, a letter which was published in the *American Journal of Numismatics* for August 1867. This letter detailed his decline of a \$1,000 offer for his 1804 dollar and provided information regarding his acquisition of this coin at the mint in 1843. Stickney also discussed various other collecting matters and spoke of his numismatic interests which had taken place for nearly 50 years.

In describing this 1804 dollar for sale in the Stickney collection, Henry Chapman wrote, in part:

This 1804 dollar has never been out of Mr. Stickney's possession and is so carefully guarded by him that few persons were ever even allowed to see it. He always considered the 1787 New York Brasher doubloon and this coin his greatest numismatic treasures.

Wayte Raymond published, in June 1931, a pamphlet describing the history of this specimen, later reprinted by B. Max Mehl in the Atwater Collection catalog. Raymond's foreword notes:

Ownership and pride of possession contribute a large part of the pleasure of collecting, and Mr. William C. Atwater of New York is justly proud of owning the celebrated Stickney 1804 dollar. This is by far the most famous pedigreed coin in America and is one of the outstanding pieces in his remarkable collection of United States coins.

The pedigree of this splendid coin dates back to May 9th, 1843, when it was purchased from the cabinet of the U.S. Mint by Mr. Matthew Stickney of Salem, Mass. It remained in the Stickney Collection until his death in 1894, and was finally sold at auction for his estate by Henry Chapman of Philadelphia in 1907. It thus remained in the possession of Mr. Stickney and his daughter for 64 years. It was purchased at the Chapman auction for \$3,600.00 by Col. James W. Ellsworth and Mr. Atwater acquired the Stickney Dollar, as well as many other rare pieces, from me. The letters reproduced in this pamphlet speak for themselves



CATALOGUE
OF THE
CELEBRATED COLLECTION
OF
UNITED STATES
AND
FOREIGN COINS
OF THE LATE
MATTHEW ADAMS STICKNEY, ESQ.
SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS
COMPRISING ONE OF THE GREATEST COL-
LECTIONS EVER SOLD IN THIS COUNTRY
UNIQUE COLONIAL AND STATE COINS
BRASHER'S 1787 NEW YORK DOUBLOON
1816 HALF EAGLE
AND AN ORIGINAL 1804 DOLLAR
CATALOGUED BY
HENRY CHAPMAN
NUMISMATIST
1348 PINE STREET
PHILADELPHIA
AND TO BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION BY
DAVIS & HARVEY
AUCTIONEERS
1112 WALNUT STREET
PHILADELPHIA
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday
JUNE 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 1907
COMMENCING EACH DAY AT 2 O'CLOCK



and confirm the pedigree of this famous coin from the time it left the United States Mint 88 years ago.

Several letters followed providing additional evidence of the pedigree of this “celebrated 1804 dollar.”

When the title of “King” was bestowed on the 1804 dollar is not known, but it was at an early date. In 1885 when S.H. and H. Chapman offered the Chapman Collection 1804, lot 354 of that sale, the introduction to the catalog noted “the great rarity, the King of the U.S. Series, the genuine 1804 dollar.” In his June 1907 catalog of the Matthew A. Stickney Collection, Henry Chapman titled the Stickney 1804 dollar a bit more boldly and with an exclamation mark, “THE KING OF UNITED STATES COINS!”

The King lived on, with his crown shining more brilliantly than ever, especially in the prose of B. Max Mehl, who in the early 20th century handled more rarities than any other professional numismatist. And, of the known examples of the King of American Coins the Stickney specimen is at once the first example privately held in the numismatic community, the most famous of all specimens, and among the four finest of the Class I examples. From the day it was obtained directly from the Philadelphia Mint by Matthew A. Stickney on May 9, 1843, it has been cherished and carefully preserved by several generations of numismatists.

In the Eliasberg Collection this famous classic rarity was a prime showpiece and, in fact, was the cover coin on the brochure Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr., prepared in connection with displays of his collection. The following was written by Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr., in 1956:

The dollar on exhibit is the only coin of this rare date that can be traced back to the United States Mint, where it was acquired by Mr. Stickney in 1843 in exchange for a gold [1785] IMMUNE COLUMBIA cent and several other pieces. There are six original 1804 dollars known to exist of which three, including this specimen, are in private collections. It is the most famous pedigreed coin in America and has only been in four collections in the past 113 years.

What happened to the 19,570 standard silver dollars of 1804 (indicated by Mint records to have been coined) has been for many years a subject of speculation. One theory is that they were lost when the ship sank which was transporting them to France in payment for the territory then known as Louisiana. The more generally accepted theory is based on the known fact that the bullion value of the silver dollar at that time exceeded the face value, for which reason the silver dollars which were coined were melted into bullion almost as fast as they were minted. In 1806 James Madison, then of the Department of State, wrote to the Mint director instructing him to discontinue striking silver dollars, stating that they were being exported almost as fast as they could be minted. Whether they were exported as bullion or as coined pieces is not known. None were issued again until 1836.

Much of what is known today about the 1804 silver dollars was not recognized when Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr., wrote his brochure in 1956. Reading his words today provides a fascinating glimpse into what collectors of an earlier generation understood about these rare and special coins.

Also a centerpiece in the Larry H. Miller

Collection, the Stickney specimen of the Class I 1804 dollar is an attractively toned Gem Proof. Both sides display blended medium gray and lilac patina. It is extremely well struck in all areas, a visual masterpiece, splendid in every regard. The edge lettering was flattened by striking in a close, plain collar, as is true of all Class I examples. On the obverse, a fine die crack begins at the outermost tip of star 6 and continues upward, through the top of the word LIBERTY, ending at the left side of the final letter. Reverse with a tiny crack beginning at the upper left side of the I in UNITED, continuing across the body of that letter, through the top of TED and ending in the field to the right of the D. As is true of certain other dollars, the veins in the lowest right leaf on the branch in the eagle's left talon are raised; other leaves have incuse veins.

Roster of Class I Original 1804 Dollars

The foundation of this roster is credited to Q. David Bowers in the 1993 edition of his reference *Silver Dollars & Trade Dollars of the United States*, our (Bowers and Merena's) cataloging of the Stickney specimen for the April 1997 Eliasberg Collection sale, and work presented in Heritage's June 2018 Long Beach Signature Auction catalog, lot 4003, in which the Mickley specimen of the Class I 1804 dollar was offered. Provenance information was also checked against the census listed on the PCGS CoinFacts website (accessed September 2020).

1 PCGS Proof-68. The Sultan of Muscat Specimen. Ex Chief Coiner Adam Eckfeldt; U.S. Department of State, c/o Edmund Roberts; Sayyid Sa'id-bin-Sultan (Sultan of Muscat), as part of a cased presentation set; unknown intermediaries; Charles A. Watters of Liverpool, England; Glendining & Co.'s sale of the Watters Collection, London, May 1917, lot 227; Henry Chapman; Virgil Brand; Brand estate; Armin W. Brand; Horace Louis Philip Brand; Ruth and Charles Green; Charles Frederick Childs; F. Newell Childs; Charles Frederick Childs II; our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Walter H. Childs Collection, August 1999, lot 458; Mack and Brent Pogue; our sale of the D. Brent Pogue Collection, Part IV, May 2016, lot 4020, unsold.

2. PCGS Proof-67. The King of Siam Specimen. Ex Chief Coiner Adam Eckfeldt; U.S. Department of State, c/o Edmund Roberts; King Ph'ra Nang Klao (Rama III) of Siam, as part of a cased presentation set, in which it is still included; David F. Spink and family, who acquired the set privately during the 1950s; private collector, possibly Elvin I. Unterman, via agent Lester Merkin; our (Bowers and Merena's) King of Siam Sale, October 1987, lot 2209, unsold; Stack's, as agent for the owner; Rarities Group (Martin Paul) and Continental Rarity Coin Fund I (Greg Holloway); Superior's Father Flanagan's Boys Home Sale, May 1990, lot 3364; Iraj Sayah and Terry Brand; Superior's January-February 1993 Auction, lot 1196; Spectrum Numismatics; private western collection; Goldberg Coins, privately, November 2005, to Steve Contursi and private collector. According to traditional numismatic wisdom, sometime during the 19th



Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.



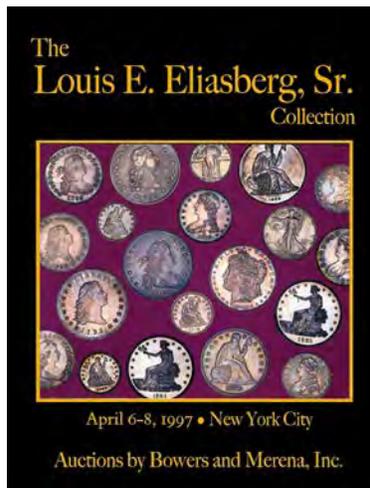
century the King of Siam set passed to Anna Leonowens, known as Anna of Siam and memorialized in the musical *The King and I*. David Spink purchased the set from two elderly ladies in England who were reported to be her descendants. There is no evidence to support this connection.

3. PCGS Proof-65. The Stickney Specimen. Ex Chief Coiner Adam Eckfeldt; Matthew Adams Stickney, May 9, 1843; Henry Chapman's sale of the Matthew Adams Stickney Collection, June 1907, lot 849; Col. James W. Ellsworth; Wayte Raymond; William Cutler Atwater; Atwater estate; B. Max Mehl's sale of the William Cutler Atwater Collection, June 1946, lot 213; Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.; Eliasberg estate; our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, April 1997, lot 2199; Spectrum Numismatics; Larry H. Miller Collection. **The present example.**

4. PCGS Proof-65. The Dexter Specimen. Ex Chief Coiner Adam Eckfeldt; unknown intermediaries, possibly S.H. and H. Chapman; Adolph Weyl's 46th Auction, October 1884, lot 159; S.H. and H. Chapman; S.H. and H. Chapman's Chapman Sale, May 1885, lot 354; Scott Stamp & Coin Company; James Vila Dexter; Dexter estate; H.G. Brown; Lyman Low's sale of the H.G. Brown Collection, October 1904, lot 431; William Forrester Dunham; B. Max Mehl; B. Max Mehl's W.F. Dunham Collection sale, June 1941, lot 1058; Charles M. Williams; Abe Kosoff and Sol Kaplan; Harold L. Bareford; our (Stack's) sale of the Harold L. Bareford Collection, October 1981, lot 424; RARCOA (Ed Milas); Leon Hendrickson and George Weingart; RARCOA's session of Auction '89, July 1989, lot 247; American Rare Coin Fund, Ltd. (Hugh Sconyers); Northern California collector; Superior's Baltimore '93 Auction, July 1993, lot 551, unsold; Northern California collector; Superior's May 30-31, 1994 U.S. Coin Auction, lot 761; Harlan White; private southeastern collection; our (Stack's) 65th Anniversary Sale, lot 1167; Mack and Brent Pogue; our sale of the D. Brent Pogue Collection, Part V, March 2017, lot 5045; Kevin Lipton and John Albanese; Bruce Morelan, via Legend Numismatics; Legend Rare Coin Auctions' sale of the Bruce Morelan Collection, October 2020 Regency Auction 41.

5. ICG Proof-64. The Parmelee Specimen. Ex Chief Coiner Adam Eckfeldt; unknown intermediaries; "an aged lady" who gave the coin to her son; E. Harrison Sanford; Edward Cogan's sale of the Sanford Collection, November 1874, lot 99; Lorin G. Parmelee; New York Stamp & Coin Company's sale of the Lorin G. Parmelee Collection, June 1890, lot 817; Byron Reed; Omaha City Library; Western Heritage Museum (now the Durham Museum).

6. PCGS Proof-62. The Mickley Specimen. Ex Chief Coiner Adam Eckfeldt; unknown intermediaries; Henry C. Young, a teller at the Bank of Pennsylvania; Joseph J. Mickley; W. Elliott Woodward's sale of the Joseph J. Mickley Collection, October 1867, lot 1676; William A. Lilliendahl; Edward Cogan; William Sumner Appleton; Massachusetts Historical Society, 1905; our (Stack's) sale of the Massachusetts Historical Society Collection, October 1970, lot 625; Chicago collection; Reed Hawn, via Stack's; our (Stack's) sale of the Reed Hawn Collection, October 1993, lot 735; David Queller; Heritage's sale of the Queller



Family Collection of Silver Dollars, April 2008 CSNS Signature Auction, lot 2089; Greensboro Collection; Heritage's sale of Greensboro Collection, Part IV, August 2013 Rosemont Signature Auction, lot 5699; Heritage's sale of "An Important New York Collection," June 2018 Long Beach Signature Auction, lot 4003.

7. Impaired Proof. The Mint Cabinet Specimen. Ex Chief Coiner Adam Eckfeldt; Mint Cabinet; National Numismatic Collection in the Smithsonian Institution.

8. Proof-30. The Cohen Specimen. Ex Chief Coiner Adam Eckfeldt; unknown intermediaries; Edward Cohen, passed over the counter at his exchange office in Richmond, Virginia, circa 1865; Col. Mendes I. Cohen, Baltimore, Maryland;

Edward Cogan's sale of the Colonel Mendes I. Cohen Collection, October 1875, lot 535; Henry S. Adams; Edward Cogan's sale of the Henry S. Adams Collection, November 1876, lot 356; Lorin G. Parmelee; Henry G. Sampson; Major William Boerum Wetmore; S.H. and H. Chapman's sale of the Major William Boerum Wetmore Collection, June 1906, lot 208; S.H. and H. Chapman; Thomas L. Elder; James H. Manning; B. Max Mehl's sale of the James H. Manning Collection, May 1921, lot 778; Elmer S. Sears; B. Max Mehl; Lamot DuPont; Willis H. DuPont; unknown thieves, recovered in Zurich, Switzerland, April 23, 1993; donated to the American Numismatic Association Museum.

Roster of Class II 1804 Dollars

1. Proof. The Mint Cabinet Specimen. Ex Mint Cabinet, circa 1858; National Numismatic Collection in the Smithsonian Institution.

Roster of Class III 1804 Dollars

1. Choice Proof. The Linderman Specimen. Ex Mint Director Henry R. Linderman; Linderman estate; Lyman H. Low's sale of Henry R. Linderman Collection, June 1887, lot 40, unsold; Scott Stamp & Coin Co.'s sale of the Henry R. Linderman Collection, February 1888, lot 40; James Ten Eyck; Ten Eyck estate; B. Max Mehl's sale of the James Ten Eyck Collection, May 1922, lot 394; Lamot DuPont; Willis H. DuPont; unknown thieves, recovered March 16, 1982; American Numismatic Association, on loan; National Numismatic Collection in the Smithsonian Institution.

2. Proof. The Idler Specimen. Ex William K. Idler; Captain John W. Haseltine; Capt. John W. Haseltine and Stephen K. Nagy; H.O. Granberg; William Cutler Atwater; William Cutler Atwater estate; B. Max Mehl's sale of the William Cutler Atwater Collection, June 1946, lot 214; Will W. Neil; B. Max Mehl's sale of the Will W. Neil Collection, June 1947, lot 31; Edwin Hydeman; Abe Kosoff's sale of the Edwin Hydeman Collection, March 1961, lot 994, bought in; on consignment to or owned by Abe Kosoff; World-Wide Coin Investments, Ltd. (John Hamrick and Warren Tucker), sold by private treaty to the following; Bowers and Ruddy Galleries, Inc.; Continental Coin Galleries (Kent M. Froseth and Chuck Parrish); Mark Blackburn; Larry Demer; Superior Galleries, agent for Dr. Jerry Buss, Los Angeles sports team owner; Dr. Jerry Buss; Superior's sale of the Dr. Jerry



Buss Collection, January 1985, lot 1337; Aubrey and Adeline Bebee; American Numismatic Association, on loan 1985-1991, subsequently donated by Mr. and Mrs. Bebee; American Numismatic Association Museum.

3. PCGS Proof-58. The Adams Specimen. Ex Captain John W. Haseltine; Captain John W. Haseltine's "Centennial Coin and Curiosity Sale" I, March 30, 1876, lot 194, Haseltine himself seems to have been the buyer (bidding on his own coin); Phineas Adams; Henry Ahlborn; John P. Lyman; S.H. Chapman's sale of the Lyman Collection, November 1913, lot 16; Waldo C. Newcomer; B. Max Mehl, on consignment from Newcomer; "Colonel" E.H.R. Green; "Colonel" Green estate; A.J. Allen; F.C.C. Boyd; Numismatic Gallery (Abe Kosoff and Abner Kreisberg), on consignment from Boyd; Percy A. Smith; B. Max Mehl; B. Max Mehl's Golden Jubilee Sale, May 1950, lot 804; Amon G. Carter, Sr.; Amon G. Carter, Jr.; our (Stack's) sale of the Amon G. Carter, Jr. Family Collection, January 1984, lot 241; John Nelson Rowe III, agent for the following; L.R. French, Jr.; our (Stack's) sale of the L.R. French, Jr. Family Collection, January 1989, lot 15; Rarities Group, Inc. (Martin Paul); National Gold Exchange (Mark Yaffe); Heritage Rare Coin Galleries; Indianapolis collection; unknown private collection; David Liljestrand; unknown Midwest collection; David Liljestrand; National Gold Exchange and Kenneth Goldman; Legend Numismatics (Laura Sperber); Phillip Flanagan; our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Phillip Flanagan Collection, May 2001, lot 4303; Donald H. Kagin; our (Bowers and Merena's) Baltimore ANA Auction of August 2003, lot 2026; West Coast collector, via Kevin Lipton; Heritage Rare Coin Galleries; East Coast collector; Heritage's CSNS Signature Sale of April 2009, lot 2567; John Albanese.

4. PCGS Proof-55. The Berg Specimen. Ex Captain John W. Haseltine; O.H. Berg; Captain John W. Haseltine's sale of the Berg Collection, May 1883, lot 568; George W. Cogan, agent for T. Harrison Garrett; T. Harrison Garrett; Robert and John Work Garrett, by descent; Robert Garrett interest to John Work Garrett, transfer completed 1921; John Work Garrett; The Johns Hopkins University; our (Bowers and Ruddy's) sale of the Garrett Collection for The Johns Hopkins University, Part II, March 1980, lot 698; Pullen & Hanks (William Pullen and Larry Hanks), later in combination with Santa ("Sam") Colavita; Sam Colavita, who purchased the interest of Pullen & Hanks; Pullen & Hanks' Long Beach Collector Series I Sale, February 1982, lot 1076, unsold; Sam Colavita; Mike Levinson, acquired in trade for eight acres of land in El Paso, Texas; Pennsylvania private collection; our (Bowers and Merena's) Harry Einstein Collection sale, June 1986, lot 1736; Rarities Group, Inc. (Martin Paul); American Coin Portfolios (Dan Drykerman), agent for the following; Mrs. Laura Sommer; private Southern California collector; our Chicago ANA Auction of August 2014, lot 13146; D. Brent Pogue; our sale of the D. Brent Pogue Collection, Part VII, March 2020, lot 7304.

5. Proof-40. The Davis Specimen. Ex Captain John W. Haseltine, as custodian (conjectured); William E. Dubois, curator of the Mint Cabinet, sold through Captain John W. Haseltine; Robert Coulton Davis; Captain John W. Haseltine; George M. Klein; W. Elliot Woodward's 95th Sale, May 1888, lot 1940; J. Colvin Randall, agent for R. Coulton Davis (who had owned the coin earlier); R. Coulton Davis; R. Coulton Davis estate; Captain John W. Haseltine; John M. Hale; John M. Hale family; R.H. Mull; Parke-Bernet Galleries' George Singer Collection sale, May 1950, lot 221; Mrs. Fullerton, agent for her father, Henry P. Graves; Henry P. Graves; Henry P. Graves estate; our (Stack's) Davis-Graves Sale, Part I, April 1954, lot 1333; Ben H. Koenig; our (Stack's) Fairbanks Collection sale, December 1960, lot 576; Samuel Wolfson; our (Stack's) sale of the Samuel Wolfson Collection, Part II, May 1963, lot 1394; Norton Simon; James H.T. McConnell, Jr., via Stack's.

6. Proof-40. The Driefus-Rosenthal Specimen. Ex unknown intermediaries; W. Julius Driefus; Isaac Rosenthal; Col. James W. Ellsworth, via Philadelphia Mint Superintendent Oliver C. Bosbyshell; Wayte Raymond; Farran Zerbe, via the Gutttag Brothers; Chase National Bank Collection, which became known as the Chase Bank Money Museum, in later times as the Chase Manhattan Bank Money Museum; American Numismatic Society.

Concluding Remarks

The present offering of the "King of American Coins" is an event that will create great excitement among those who attend the sale in person, and the thrill will no doubt extend to all who follow the action on the StacksBowers.com website. In our experience, sometimes the excitement at an auction gathering is so palpable it can nearly be felt, and we expect that will be the case in the auction room when the Stickney specimen of the Class I 1804 dollar comes up for sale as part of the fabulous Larry H. Miller Collection. There are just a handful of collectors who have the ability to purchase an 1804 dollar, and there are no doubt also a handful of dealers who will show an interest in owning the present rarity. Once sold, this coin will likely reside for another generation or so with its next numismatic steward, where it will remain a focal point, a piece of great rarity with a legendary story to tell, and a prize that will forever be cherished. Its owner will have earned a place in numismatic history and tradition as well.

PCGS# 6907. NGC ID: 24XH.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex Chief Coiner Adam Eckfeldt; Matthew Adams Stickney, May 9, 1843; Henry Chapman's sale of the Matthew Adams Stickney Collection, June 1907, lot 849; Col. James W. Ellsworth; Wayte Raymond; William Cutler Atwater; Atwater estate; B. Max Mehl's sale of the William Cutler Atwater Collection, June 1946, lot 213; Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.; Eliasberg estate; our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, April 1997, lot 2199; Spectrum Numismatics; Larry H. Miller Collection.



Lot 1094 Reverse
1804 Class I Original. BB-304. Proof-65 (PCGS). OGH.



Classic 1836 Name on Base Gobrecht Dollar



1095

1836 Name on Base. Judd-60 Original, Pollock-65. Rarity-1. Die State F. Silver. Plain Edge. Die Alignment I. Proof-64 (NGC). A richly toned and aesthetically appealing example of this scarce and eagerly sought silver dollar issue. Featuring dominant charcoal-gray patina, we also note intermingled blushes of pale silver-blue in and around the central obverse as well as more vivid undertones of cobalt blue, antique gold and, on the obverse only, pinkish-rose. The striking detail is razor sharp to full over virtually all design elements, and the surfaces are very nice for the assigned grade.

The historic 1836 Name on Base Gobrecht dollar is the first issue of this denomination produced for circulation since 1804 (from 1803-dated dies). Silver dollar production was suspended in the early 19th century after the value of the silver exceeded the coin's face value. While proposals to resurrect this denomination started as early as 1831, it was not until 1835 that any serious attempt was made. Christian Gobrecht was directed to prepare a set of pattern dies based on designs by Titian Peale and Thomas Sully. The result is a coin widely considered one of the classics of American numismatics with its beautiful representation of Liberty seated on the obverse and majestic soaring eagle on the reverse.

The Mint used only a single pair of dies to strike 1,000 examples of the new dollar in December 1836, the coins delivered in two batches: 400 pieces for distribution to the public and 600 for distribution into commercial channels through local Philadelphia banks. Mint personnel experienced considerable difficulty in production of this issue. Either the feed fingers for

the planchets were improperly designed, or the coiners used feed fingers intended for half dollars. In either case, the feed fingers kept slamming into the reverse die during coinage, forcing Mint personnel to deliberately rotate the dies and adjust the feed mechanism in an effort to solve the problem. This tinkering explains the three different die alignments for originals of this variety (I, II and IV), as well as the tiny nicks seen around the reverse rim through the various die states.

For generations, the precise timeline of this issue's production based on die alignment has been in dispute, but recent scholarship by John Dannreuther, Craig Sholley, and Saul Teichman has indicated that the correct sequence of all the Judd-60 dollars is I-IV-II-IV-I-IV, with all of the Die Alignment III pieces being later restrikes. Die State F, represented here, is a later known state for Die Alignment I examples.

As the most frequently encountered Gobrecht dollar, the popularity of the 1836 Name on Base issue for type purposes knows no bounds. Examples are certified as Proofs, but most show (considerable) wear and marks from time in commerce. A perennial favorite for generations, Gobrecht silver dollars remain as popular now as ever and are in constant demand. Opportunities to obtain a high grade coin such as the Larry H. Miller specimen are few and far between. A strong bidding strategy is advised.

PCGS# 11225. NGC ID: BLWV.

NGC Census: 7; 3 finer (Proof-65 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Highly Elusive 1838 Gobrecht Dollar

Judd-84 Restrike

Early State, Circa 1859-1863



1096

1838 Name Removed. Judd-84 Restrike, Pollock-93. Rarity-5. Silver. Reeded Edge. Die Alignment IV. Proof-63 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Here is a beautiful and premium quality 1838 Gobrecht dollar, the rarest date in this challenging series. Both sides are lightly and attractively toned in iridescent golden-gray. The strike is razor sharp over the features in and around the centers, and the surfaces are exceptionally nice at the assigned grade level. The finish is well mirrored overall. Really a lovely coin, just right for an advanced silver dollar cabinet.

For the collector assembling a complete date set of Gobrecht dollars, the 1838 will likely prove to be the most challenging to acquire. While traditional numismatic wisdom states that a small number of originals were struck that year in Die Alignment I, modern scholarship has discounted this theory. In fact, no Die Alignment I examples of this date are known to exist. The website gobrechtdollars.com contains the most in-depth and up-to-date scholarship on this series, the authors of which (Craig Sholley and John W. Dannreuther) have confirmed that only two original 1838 Gobrecht dollars are known to exist: the Mint Cabinet-Smithsonian Institution specimen in Die Alignment IV and the Eliasberg-ANS coin in Die Alignment III. Exactly when those coins were struck is not known, but it was sometime after July 1838.

Obviously, original 1838 Gobrecht dollars were exceedingly rare in their time, and it is likely that they were unknown outside of a small circle of Mint and other government officials. With the growth of numismatics in the United States during the late

1850s, demand for rare early issues soon reached a level where the Mint saw an opportunity to provide such coins to collectors for its own benefit. Indeed, the earliest restrikes of the 1838 Gobrecht dollar were made ca. June 1859 to 1863, most of which were used by Mint Director James Ross Snowden to trade for Washingtonia for the Mint Cabinet. These are the Early State Restrikes, per Sholley and Dannreuther. Two additional striking periods followed: Middle State Restrikes ca. 1867 to 1869, and Late State Restrikes ca. 1873 to 1874. The final two striking periods are attributed to Henry Richard Linderman, who served two non-consecutive terms as mint director from April 1867 to May 1869 and April 1873 to December 1878. The Linderman era is widely known for having spawned large numbers of restrikes, novodels, so-called patterns and fantasy pieces that were made expressly for distribution to collectors.

The 1838 Gobrecht dollar offered here dates to Snowden's tenure as mint director. It is an Early State Restrike, the obverse with an area of die rust below Liberty's left elbow and extending right into the field. On the reverse, the letters are granular due to die rust. Light die polish lines are evident in the fields on both sides, especially the reverse, with particularly heavy concentrations through the legend UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and along the back of the eagle's right wing.

PCGS# 11352. NGC ID: BLXE.

PCGS Population: 17; 18 finer (Proof-65 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Gem 1861 Silver Dollar Rarity None Graded Finer by NGC



1097

1861 OC-2. Rarity-3+. MS-65 (NGC). Offered is an exceptionally well preserved, Condition Census example of a circulation strike silver dollar issue that can be highly elusive even in worn condition. Brilliant surfaces are lustrous and satiny with strong eye appeal. Fully struck, visually appealing, and sure to appeal to advanced collectors of Liberty Seated coinage or silver dollars.

Much of the silver deposited at the Philadelphia Mint for dollar coinage in 1861 came from Nevada's rich Comstock Lode. Beginning in 1859, much of this metal found its way to California, where it flooded the market before being shipped East. In 1859, 1860 and 1861 U.S. merchants exported 1,250,000

silver dollars to China, where the coins were received at bullion value — although they were less popular than the slightly heavier Spanish-American dollars. Most of the 77,500 circulation strike dollars coined in 1861 were lost to future generations of numismatists in this manner, and Mint State survivors are particularly elusive. In Gem Mint State this issue is a landmark condition rarity, with Q. David Bowers providing for only four to six examples grading MS-65 or finer in his 2016 *Guide Book of Liberty Seated Silver Coins*, published by Whitman.

PCGS# 6951. NGC ID: 24ZA.

NGC Census: 3; 0 finer at this service.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Incredibly Rare Gem Uncirculated 1868 Silver Dollar Finest Prooflike Example Certified



1098

1868 OC-4. Rarity-3+. MS-65 PL (NGC). This Gem 1868 silver dollar is an amazing strike and condition rarity that really needs to be seen to be fully appreciated. The fields are deeply mirrored and contrast markedly with the satin to softly frosted texture of the design elements. Both sides are brilliant accenting the boldly cameo finish. The strike is razor sharp throughout, and the surfaces are remarkably well preserved for an example of this conditionally challenging silver dollar type.

This is one of several elusive circulation strike Liberty Seated dollars produced between 1840 to 1873. Struck well after silver dollars had ceased to be used in domestic commerce, the Philadelphia Mint delivered only 162,100 circulation strikes in 1868. As with all post-1852 issues in this series, the 1868 was struck to the order of silver bullion depositors who used the coins in international commerce. In essence, therefore, the Liberty Seated dollars of the 1854 to 1873 era were predecessors to the trade dollars that were minted from 1873 to 1878.

The most popular destinations for these exported Liberty Seated dollars during the 1850s and 1860s were Liverpool, England and China, the latter via the popular clipper ships of the day. Some of these coins returned to the United States, such as in exchange for bales of cotton purchased by English merchants. The vast majority did not, however, explaining the elusiveness of dates such as the 1868 at all levels of preservation. Numismatic interest at the time focused almost exclusively on yearly Proof coinage. Indeed, it is likely that the remarkable Gem rarity offered here survived in Mint State purely as a matter of chance. The first example of the issue certified as PL by the major third party grading services, and to date the finest certified in this category, this is an important silver dollar offering from the Miller Collection and a coin that belongs in another highly regarded cabinet.

PCGS# 86961. NGC ID: 24ZB.

NGC Census: just 1; 0 finer in this category. PCGS has yet to bestow a PL designation on an 1868 silver dollar.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex Heritage's FUN Signature Coin Auction of January 2007, lot 1058.



1099

1872 OC-3. Rarity-1. Misplaced Date, Doubled Die Reverse. MS-64 (PCGS). Brilliant apart from the lightest iridescent silver toning, this satin to softly frosted example also displays sharply executed strike. This is an example of Breen's "Blundered Date" variety, which shows faint remnants of a date logotype originally entered much too high — actually within the rocky base below Liberty's portrait. Close inspection with a loupe also reveals doubling on the reverse that is boldest at the letter E in WE. One of only two issue of this type with

a mintage of more than 1,000,000 pieces, the 1872 is very available in circulated grades. At the Mint State level, however, the story changes and examples become increasingly difficult to locate the higher one progresses up the numismatic grading scale. It is seldom encountered in MS-64 and is rare any finer. Sure to appeal to high grade type collectors as well as series specialists.

PCGS# 6968. NGC ID: 24ZJ.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

Outstanding Deep Mirror Prooflike 1879-CC Morgan Dollar



1100

1879-CC Clear CC. MS-64 DMPL (PCGS). CAC. This beautiful Morgan dollar features a bold cameo with strong contrast between frosty design elements and reflective, well mirrored fields. It is sharply struck throughout with brilliant surfaces that are very nice for the Choice Mint State grade assigned by PCGS.

After a promising start with 2,212,000 coins struck in 1878, Morgan dollar production at the Carson City Mint fell off markedly in 1879, with only 756,000 pieces produced, a trend that would continue to fall through 1881. Despite its proximity to Nevada's rich silver mines, the Carson City Mint was forced to play second fiddle as much of the bullion mined was sent instead to the San Francisco Mint for coinage. There was so little bullion on hand at the Carson City Mint throughout 1879, in fact, that the presses were still for much of the year. In our August 2012 sale of the Battle Born Collection, Rusty Goe reported that Superintendent Crawford received orders from his superiors

in Washington, D.C. to cease coinage operations in April and lay off workers. The presses in Carson City remained idle until August, after which only 210,000 additional silver dollars were struck before the end of 1879, creating the total for the year of 756,000.

With a far smaller percentage of the mintage represented in the various GSA sales of the 1970s, the 1879-CC is rarer than the lower mintage 1880-CC, 1881-CC and 1885-CC in Mint State. This issue, in fact, is the rarest Carson City Mint Morgan dollar of the 1878 to 1885 era. Particularly desirable as a Deep Mirror Prooflike example, and a significant strike rarity as such, the currently offered Miller example is sure to attract the notice of astute bidders.

PCGS# 97087. NGC ID: 253T.

PCGS Population: 20; 3 finer in this category (MS-65 DMPL finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1101

1879-CC VAM-3. Top 100 Variety. Capped Die. MS-64 (PCGS). Beautiful mint frost is seen on both sides of this well preserved, visually appealing Morgan dollar. Brilliant throughout with an impressive, sharp strike, this coin is sure to appeal to Morgan dollar VAM collectors. Largely known as the Capped Die, the 1879-CC Large CC Over Small CC variety is actually an overmintmark. The reverse die was first affixed with the small CC as used in the production of the 1878-CC Morgan dollar. This small CC was later partially effaced and a larger CC was entered in its place. Still later, the die acquired a considerable amount of rust in the mintmark area, and all known 1879-CC Capped Die Morgans display the effects around the CC. Since this variety has also been described as the Broken CC, the 1879-CC Capped Die has garnered quite a bit of negative press over the years. This is unfortunate, since the Capped Die is actually scarcer than its Perfect CC counterpart in all grades. Nowhere is this discrepancy more marked than at the finer Mint State levels, as here.

PCGS# 7088. NGC ID: 255H.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1102

1879-S Reverse of 1878. Top 100 Variety. MS-63 PL (NGC). OH. Among the most visually appealing examples of this scarce variety that we have handled in recent years, this coin displays an uncommon degree of reflectivity in the fields for a variety that is seldom offered with a PL or DMPL/DPL finish. The design elements are more frosty with razor sharp striking detail. Predominantly brilliant, both sides are enhanced by mottled cobalt blue and pinkish-apricot peripheral iridescence. First publicized during the 1960s, the Reverse of 1878 is the scarcer hub variety of the otherwise plentiful 1879-S Morgan dollar. Apparently, these coins were struck from leftover reverse dies from the 1878-S silver dollar. The mintage of this hub variety was not reported separately. Q. David Bowers (2019) provides an estimate of 600,000 coins struck based on the fact that at least half a dozen die pairs were used. Even if half that number were struck, most were obviously melted since Mint State examples are scarce to rare in all grades by Morgan dollar standards. The Larry H. Miller specimen is one of the few certified Prooflike examples available to Morgan dollar enthusiasts.

PCGS# 7095. NGC ID: 253W.

NGC Census: 40; 12 finer in this category (MS-66 PL finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1103

1886-O MS-63 (PCGS). CAC. This is a frosty and brilliant example for which all design elements are sharply to fully rendered. A key date Morgan dollar issue in all Mint State grades, the 1886-O is particularly desirable at and above the Choice level, as here.

PCGS# 7168. NGC ID: 254W.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1104

1894 MS-64 (NGC). OH. Dusted with pale iridescent gold toning, this frosty example also has a few tiny speckles of russet patina. Most design elements are sharply struck, and none are less than bold. At just 110,000 pieces produced, the 1894 has the lowest mintage among circulation strike Morgan dollars from the Philadelphia Mint. It is a key date in this widely collected series, and is the rarest Philadelphia Mint Morgan in Mint State after only the challenging 1901.

PCGS# 7228. NGC ID: 255V.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Incredible Superb Gem Mint State 1896-S Dollar

Condition Census #2

The Clapp-Eliasberg-Miller Specimen

Acquired Directly from the San Francisco Mint in 1896



1105

1896-S MS-67 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. The two finest 1896-S Morgan dollars known to both PCGS and CAC are certified MS-67 and MS-69. Incredibly, both examples were part of the Larry H. Miller Collection. We had the privilege of offering the PCGS/CAC MS-69 in our November 2020 sale of Part One of the Miller Collection. Here, as a highlight of the Miller Collection, Part Two, is the PCGS/CAC MS-67. A beautiful Superb Gem, both sides exhibit bountiful mint luster overlaid in splashes of iridescent reddish-apricot and champagne-pink toning. The reverse is modestly prooflike, evident when the coin is held at an angle to the light and viewed in the reflection. A special Morgan dollar, obviously hand-selected at the San Francisco Mint in 1896 in fulfillment of John M. Clapp's request. Outstanding quality.

A generous mintage of 5 million coins conceals the rarity of the 1896-S in Mint State. While circulated examples are plentiful, at least in grades up to and including Choice VF, Mint State coins are scarce by the standards of this series. We suspect that much of the mintage remained undistributed and was eventually included among the 270,232,722 silver dollars melted pursuant to the Pittman Act of 1918. Some coins were distributed into commerce, probably during the final years of the 19th through the earliest decades of the 20th centuries, and these account for most of the circulated survivors. Although additional distributions from the San Francisco Mint were made during the 1950s, the scarcity of this issue in Mint State was not widely understood by that time. Q. David Bowers (1993) reports that another 1,000-coin bag emerged from a bank in Oakland, California during that decade, possibly followed by a few other similar finds. By the late 1950s and early 1960s, however, dealer offerings were apt to be for single coins only, the issue no longer plentiful in quantity. The appearance of several rolls during the early 1970s (as reported by Wayne Miller, 1982) resulted in only

a temporary change in availability, as by the early 1980s the individual coins had been widely dispersed.

Today Mint State 1896-S dollars are scarce, with offerings even in the largest auction sales usually two or three examples at most. Among Uncirculated survivors the typical certified coin is in the MS-62 to MS-64 range. Moderately to heavily abraded surfaces are the norm, and many are also softly struck, if not quite blunt at the central high points. Acquiring a sharply struck and attractive example in PCGS or NGC MS-65 is challenging, and the collector who has done so owns a significant coin of which they should be proud.

In grades above the MS-65 level, the 1896-S is a formidable condition rarity. In MS-67 the present example is virtually unsurpassed, as above. It is a coin that, as they say, took the path less traveled, and that has certainly made all the difference regarding its quality. Whereas most Mint State 1896-S dollars entered numismatic hands through the various distributions reported by Dave Bowers, and related above, this special coin was obtained directly from the San Francisco Mint by John M. Clapp in the year of issue. It has been carefully preserved and cherished by only a handful of collectors since. After offering it as part of our (Bowers and Merena's) April 1997 Eliasberg Collection sale, we are once again honored to have the opportunity to present this Condition Census 1896-S for the consideration of advanced Morgan dollar enthusiasts.

PCGS# 7244. NGC ID: 2564.

PCGS Population: 1; 1 finer (MS-69).

CAC Population: 1; 1 (MS-69).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex John M. Clapp, who obtained the coin directly from the San Francisco Mint, August 1896; John H. Clapp; Clapp estate, 1942; Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.; our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, April 1997, lot 2303.



1106

1899-S MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Frosty silver surfaces display sharp to full striking detail throughout. A scarce and desirable Gem Mint State 1899-S dollar from the Larry H. Miller Collection that is sure to see spirited bidding.

PCGS# 7262. NGC ID: 256D.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1107

1925-S MS-64 (NGC). CAC. Remarkably smooth for a Peace dollar issue that is often characterized by granular luster and/or heavily abraded surfaces. This Choice Mint State example also exhibits emerging detail in the centers. Brilliant with full, frosty mint luster.

PCGS# 7366. NGC ID: 257M.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1108

1934-S MS-64 (PCGS). Here is a nice, Choice Mint State example of this key date Peace dollar. Both sides are frosty and smooth overall. Minimally toned, more so on the obverse than the reverse, with wisps of pale silver and iridescent gold. Although it did not have the lowest mintage in its series, the 1934-S has long been recognized as the rarest Peace dollar in terms of total number of Mint State coins extant. Writing in *Silver Dollars & Trade Dollars of the United States: A Complete Encyclopedia*, Q. David Bowers speculates that many of the 1,011,000 coins minted went into circulation as early as the mid to late 1930s. Dealers and other numismatists active in the 1940s paid little attention to the 1934-S, falsely believing that thousands of Mint State coins were still tucked away in vaults at the San Francisco Mint. When such pieces failed to emerge during the 1950s or 1960s, the key date status of the 1934-S in Uncirculated preservation was solidified.

PCGS# 7377. NGC ID: 257Z.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

TRADE DOLLARS



1109

1877-S MS-65 (NGC). Brilliant satin-white surfaces are modestly semi-prooflike in the fields. Fully struck over all major design elements, there is much to recommend this lovely Gem to high grade type collectors. Although a great success in Oriental commerce beginning with its introduction in 1873, the trade dollar suffered a setback in 1876 from which the denomination never recovered. In that year silver prices dropped to the point where a trade dollar contained only 91 cents worth of silver, a significant reduction from the \$1.02 bullion value of these coins at the series' debut. The federal government reacted quickly and, as one of its provisions, the Act of July 22, 1876, demonetized the trade dollar within the United States and limited its coinage for use in the export trade (the *raison d'être* for the denomination, anyhow). Circulation strike production continued apace, as a result, with the 1877-S even setting the mintage record for the series at 9,519,000 pieces. On February 22, 1878, however, Treasury Secretary John Sherman halted trade dollar coinage for commercial use. Brother of the famous Civil War general, Sherman was a foe of the trade dollar and, with the standard silver dollar re-authorized through the Bland-Allison Act of February 28, 1878, western mining interests were more than content that there was still a ready outlet for their precious metal. Thanks to its record mintage, as above, the 1877-S is one of the quintessential type candidates in this short-lived series. All trade dollar issues are rare in the finest Mint State grades, however, and the present offering sure to catch the eye of discerning numismatists.

PCGS# 7046. NGC ID: 253E.

NGC Census: 27; 5 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



GOLD DOLLARS

Superb 1851 Gold Dollar



1110

1851 MS-67 (NGC). An appealing, conditionally rare example of the first design type in the United States Mint's circulating gold dollar series. Lustrous and satiny surfaces exhibit a few peripheral highlights of powder blue on dominant golden-orange patina. Both sides are smooth and free of grade-limiting blemishes; a bit of light roughness along the lower reverse border is as made and due to shallow planchet flaws. Fully struck, expertly preserved, and simply a delight to behold.

Struck at a time of high mintages due to the great influx of California gold, the 1851 was produced to the extent of 3,317,671 pieces and is ideal for type collections. While Mint

State survivors are plentiful by the standards of this series, most collectors will have to settle for a coin that grades no finer than MS-64. Gems in MS-65 are scarce in an absolute sense, while anything finer is undeniably rare. In Superb Gem MS-67 the Larry H. Miller specimen is solidly in the Condition Census for the issue and will please even the most discerning gold enthusiast.

PCGS# 7513. NGC ID: 25BK.

NGC Census: 4; 3 finer (MS-69 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex our (American Numismatic Rarities') Richard C. Jewell Collection sale, March 2005, lot 518.



Incredible Premium Gem 1855 Gold Dollar Scarce and Challenging Type II Design



1111

1855 Type II. MS-66 (PCGS). CAC. This exceptional upper end Gem 1855 gold dollar will please even the most discerning collector. Frosty surfaces are fully lustrous and display warm medium gold patina with blushes of even more vivid reddish-rose iridescence on the obverse. Sharply struck overall with only a trace of faint clash marks (as made) in the fields around the central design elements.

When the Act of February 21, 1853 was passed, its intended purpose was to return subsidiary silver coinage into circulation by reducing the weight of those denominations enough that their face value exceeded their intrinsic value. Huge quantities of the lighter coins were produced, so much so that by 1855, the law had basically achieved its goal. The gold dollar was created to help fill the void formed by the disappearance of silver from commerce, and as more and more silver coins circulated, the need for the gold dollar began to drop. Production figures fell accordingly; in 1855 only 758,269 gold dollars were coined at the Philadelphia Mint while the three Southern branch mints turned out well under 70,000 pieces combined. Once silver quarters and half dollars were frequent sights again, the tiny gold dollar was no longer a desired coin.

The high relief of the Type II gold dollar caused problems when the pressure required to strike up the design also put undue stress

on the thinner planchet. This caused the centers of the coin to be very poorly struck; in fact nearly every known example of the 1855 gold dollar is found with weakness at the digits 85 in the date and the letters LL in DOLLAR. Even on specimens struck from fresh dies the 8 in the date is often very flat at the upper left portion of the top loop, as it is here. This issue is particularly well known for being generally poorly struck and clashed dies are the rule rather than the exception. The design's technical difficulties proved to be its undoing and in 1856, a revised version with a larger bust designed in lower relief was introduced.

The high relief also proved to be detrimental in circulation, as the obverse was quick to show signs of wear, making Mint State examples particularly elusive. Maybe about a fifth of the estimated 5,000 to 7,500 survivors qualify as Mint State, of which only a couple dozen are at the Gem level. As one of the finest known examples graded by PCGS, this is a superior quality example both for the issue and for the entire type. A superb candidate for anyone seeking a premium quality representative of this challenging type.

PCGS# 7532. NGC ID: 25C4.

PCGS Population: 13; 8 finer (MS-67+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1112

1882 MS-66 (PCGS). CAC—Gold Label. OGH. Virtually a Superb Gem example, this beautiful coin exhibits a pristine appearance to vivid golden-orange surfaces. It is semi-prooflike and features full striking detail. The 1882 gold dollar is a great low mintage issue with only 5,000 pieces produced for circulation. This is one of the absolute finest examples that we have had the privilege of bringing

to auction, and offers strong visual appeal along with outstanding surface quality. A prize for the astute numismatist, and sure to sell for a strong premium.

PCGS# 7583. NGC ID: 25DL.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

QUARTER EAGLES

Choice Mint State 1802 Quarter Eagle



1113

1802/'1' BD-1. Rarity-4. Spike Shield. MS-63 (NGC). CAC. OH. A simply outstanding example of the type, date and die pairing that will please even the most discerning gold enthusiast. Rich reddish-gold patina blankets both sides and wisps of pinkish-rose iridescence appear toward the left borders. The finish is satiny overall, but there is also appreciable semi-reflectivity in the fields. Light adjustment marks along the left obverse have interfered with the border detail both on the obverse and reverse, but otherwise we note a sharp strike that wanes only minimally (and characteristically for the type) at the eagle's breast. Remarkably nice for the assigned grade, and not all that far from a near-Gem rating.

Among dates of this type, the 1802 is not considered elusive in circulated grades. Many collectors choose an 1802 or 1807 to represent the design type, and with perhaps 200 specimens of

the 1802 surviving in all grades, there are generally enough for collectors to at least locate one. In Mint State grades, especially higher grades like this, the air is rarefied. This is one of our finest offerings so far during the 21st century, highlighting the significance of this opportunity for advanced bidders.

For many years numismatists believed that the 2 was over a 1, a feature seen on its big brother the half eagle of this year, which often shows the overdate feature rather sharp. However, more recent scholarship has discounted the presence of an underlying 1 on the sole 1802-dated quarter eagle die.

PCGS# 7650. NGC ID: 25F6.

NGC Census (all die marriages of the issue): 5; 3 finer (MS-65 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex Heritage's FUN Signature Coin Auction of January 2007, lot 3385.



Handsome Mint State 1807 Quarter Eagle Popular Final Year Capped Bust Right Issue



1114

1807 BD-1, the only known dies. Rarity-3. MS-62 (NGC). CAC. Offered is an attractive Mint State example of a challenging early U.S. Mint gold design type. The obverse exhibits a pleasant blend of rose-orange and golden-yellow patina. The reverse is golden-yellow with only a few light blushes of champagne-pink. Satiny mint luster adorns both sides, and the appearance is very nice for the assigned grade. The strike is well centered and, while soft in the centers — a common attribute for the type — is significantly sharper elsewhere. A lovely piece, and very significant as few certified Mint State examples of this issue have been approved by CAC. BD Die State b/b.

With a mintage of 6,812 pieces, the 1807 Capped Bust Right quarter eagle is the issue most typically encountered of the type. While it is likely that some of the coins included in this mintage figure are of earlier dates, the 1807 is still the most plentiful Capped Bust Right quarter eagle by a wide margin. Just one die pair is known to have struck the entire issue, and yet the majority of coins exhibit a virtually unimpaired state of the die. This

single pair of dies held up so well that, as John W. Dannreuther (2006) suggests, even Harry Bass might not have encountered an example of the second obverse die state! Significantly, the Larry H. Miller specimen represents this scarce late die state, the obverse with light cracks through the base of the date extending toward star 1, from star 1 to 2, stars 2 through 6, and (faintly) through the tops of the letters ERTY in LIBERTY.

Further setting this coin apart from the majority of 1807 quarter eagles extant, the preservation is fully Mint State, and nearly Choice. Among the finest certified of perhaps 250 to 350 coins extant in all grades (per Dannreuther), the CAC sticker adds further appeal and will surely result in strong bids for this premium quality example.

PCGS# 7656. NGC ID: BFVY.

NGC Census: 14; 5 finer (MS-64 finest).

CAC Population: 2; 1 (MS-63).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Lot 1115
1808 BD-1. Rarity-4. MS-63 (NGC).



Exceptional Choice Mint State 1808 Quarter Eagle A One Year Only Type



1115

1808 BD-1, the only known dies. Rarity-4. MS-63 (NGC). This is a rare and significant Choice Mint State example of a classic one year design type in the early U.S. Mint gold series. In fact, for the completion of a basic type set of federal coins from the half cent to the double eagle, the 1808 quarter eagle is one of the key challenges. In Mint State the 1808 is even more so, as years can pass between auction appearances.

A lovely example, both sides are warmly and evenly toned in vivid medium orange-gold. The surfaces are lustrous with a delightful satin to softly frosted texture. Striking quality is sharp throughout much of Liberty's portrait and the eagle's plumage, and even the stars on the obverse possess very bold detail for the issue with most displaying at least partial radial lines, and many fully rendered. There is scant denticulation around the borders, as nearly always noted on extant 1808 quarter eagles. Light adjustment marks along the obverse border from 12 to 2 o'clock are as made, and a tiny nick in the field at the back of Liberty's lower hair curls is mentioned solely for provenance purposes. Remarkably well produced and preserved for this challenging issue, this coin would serve as a highlight in the finest gold type or date set. BD Die State b.

In everyday commercial activities, the quarter eagle was never especially popular. The half eagle was a more convenient way of handling overseas transactions since it better approximated (though not perfectly) some of the frequently encountered gold coins in Europe. Domestically, bullion depositors seldom requested the quarter eagle, opting instead for the half eagle. Consequently, production of the denomination came in fits and starts throughout the early decades of its existence, and rarely in large numbers. Such is the case with the 1808 Capped Bust quarter eagle, now considered an essential component in any advanced type set and a classic American rarity.

The 1808 quarter eagle got its start as part of an effort by Mint Director Robert Maskell Patterson to modernize the designs of the nation's coinage. Originally from Bavaria, Johann Mattheus Reich came from a long line of clock makers and engravers. Taking up the

family occupation, he began engraving on his own and achieved some measure of success. He arrived in Philadelphia in 1800 and quickly secured employment at the new Mint. Even though Reich expected to work on engraving dies for coins, Engraver Robert Scot had different ideas and assigned rather minor tasks to Reich. Disenchanted with his small role, Reich enlisted the help of Mint Director Robert Patterson, who secured for Reich a long-overdue promotion to the position of assistant engraver. As part of his promotion, Reich was tasked by Patterson to perform a wholesale redesign of all the currently circulating coinage starting with the half dollar and half eagle. The new designs met with approval and remained current well into the 1830s. Buoyed by this early success, Reich next turned his attention to the cent and quarter eagle. Borrowing heavily from his half dollar and half eagle, Reich's quarter eagle design features a bust of Liberty facing left and wearing a large cap inscribed LIBERTY as well as a dress that is pinned at her shoulder with an oval ornament. The stars on the obverse are arranged seven left, six right. The final star on the right side is marked with a small notch serving as a hidden "signature" of sorts, a feature Reich continued to use until 1817, when he finally left the Mint's service after a request for a raise was denied. Scot's Heraldic Eagle design was completely scrapped in favor of a more naturalistic eagle standing with its wings stretched up and facing left, its breast protected by a large shield. Reich also made a significant heraldic change that some from the era might have called an overdue correction: he moved the olive branch of peace to the left claw (considered the position of honor) and the arrows to the right claw. Taking a cue from his earlier designs, Reich placed the denomination 2 1/2 D. below the eagle in the hope that adding this would encourage greater international acceptance of the new nation's coins.

Because of desultory interest from banks and merchants for the denomination, only one pair of dies was required to produce the entire mintage of 2,710 quarter eagles in 1808. Right from the outset, the obverse die suffered a crack that runs from the top of Liberty's cap to the stars on the right which appears on all known specimens. This feature, readily evident on



the present example, serves as an important diagnostic for determining authenticity. Since there were so few requests for the denomination from bullion depositors, production of the quarter eagle was suspended until 1821, at which time a new design was introduced as Reich had long since left the Mint.

Most 1808 quarter eagles met their fate in the bullion speculators' crucibles during the widespread melts of the 1820s and 1830s, and even earlier generations of numismatists recognized the importance of this issue. It has long been celebrated as a great type coin. In the past some numismatists even claimed that as few as 35 to 40 coins were extant. With the advent of third-party certification in the mid 1980s and more comprehensive tracking of auction and other sales in recent decades, the estimate has

been revised to approximately 125 to 150 extant specimens. The 1808 remains scarce, and most examples spend years, if not decades in tightly held collections. Most are found in the finer circulated grades (EF and AU), attesting to their limited use in active commerce. True Mint State examples are exceedingly rare and eagerly pursued by advanced numismatists. The finest is the Pogue specimen in PCGS MS-65 that we sold in 2015. Tied for CC#2 with a few other certified MS-63 examples, the Larry H. Miller specimen is a highly regarded condition rarity that will be perfect for another world class cabinet.

PCGS# 7660. NGC ID: BFVZ.

NGC Census: 5; 0 finer. The corresponding PCGS Population is 1/1 (MS-65 finest at that service).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

Vivid Gem Mint State 1834 Classic Head Quarter Eagle Impressive Condition Rarity



1116

1834 Classic Head. HM-1. Rarity-2. Small Head. MS-65 (NGC). Offered is an exceptionally well preserved and attractive example of this popular first year Classic Head quarter eagle issue. Delightful medium gold patina is enhanced by tinges of pale olive. The texture is satiny and the strike is razor sharp and virtually full. The fields are subtly semi-reflective and the coin looks pristine. Even the most discerning gold enthusiasts will find much to admire in this gorgeous Gem.

Struck pursuant to the Act of June 28, 1834, this is a superior quality survivor of the first "new tenor" gold coinage. By diminishing the weight standard for the new quarter eagle, the quarter eagle's intrinsic value was, at last, equal to two and a half dollars in American silver coins. It had been decades since gold and silver coins could circulate on the same footing, an imbalance that forced gold coins into a non-circulating role while American commerce was conducted with paper money, U.S. silver coins, and mostly worn-out foreign silver coins. The mintage of the 1834 Classic Head quarter eagle is 27 times greater than the mintage of 1833 old tenor quarter eagles but, rather than being exported

or serving as bullion deposits in banks, the new coins actually circulated. Newspapers across the country excitedly reported seeing the new coins for the first time, publishing updates on mintage figures and hopeful editorials on what the "Gold Coinage Act" would mean for the American economy. Referred to by some as "Jackson Gold," the new tenor coins started appearing beyond Philadelphia in the late summer of 1834. Throughout autumn, more than \$200,000 worth of gold coins were struck per week, consisting entirely of quarter eagles and half eagles, while the citizenry worried that too much of it was going to the banks and not enough into the pockets of regular folk. Of course, the Mint delivered coined gold to those who deposited gold for coining, and most depositors were banks. Much of the gold deposited by the banks was pre-1834 products of the United States Mint, for which the Mint paid a premium, guaranteeing the rarity of those coins for modern collectors.

PCGS# 7692. NGC ID: 25FS.

NGC Census: 15; 2 finer in this category (MS-66 ★ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1117

1905 MS-67 (NGC). CAC. Mint luster mingles with vivid deep gold patina on both sides of this fully struck, expertly preserved example. One of the longest running types in U.S. coinage history, the Liberty Head quarter eagle was produced without major design modification for 68 years. Making its debut in 1840 with mintages from the Philadelphia, Charlotte, Dahlonega and New Orleans mints, this type was designed by Christian Gobrecht and based very closely on his Liberty Head eagle and half eagle designs introduced in 1838 and 1839, respectively. Given its longevity, it is not surprising that the Liberty Head quarter eagle series has numerous rare issues

and important varieties, among which are the 1848 CAL., 1854-S, 1856-D, 1864, 1865 and 1875. Proofs are universally rare, with those struck during and prior to the Civil War seldom encountered. Assembling even a partial set of Liberty Head quarter eagles in Proof or circulation strike format is a major challenge, and many collectors choose simply to add a single example of this design to a type set of classic U.S. Mint gold coinage. This Superb Gem 1905, scarce at the MS-67 level, is ideal for such purposes.

PCGS# 7857. NGC ID: 25LW.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1118

1908 MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. Bold golden-rose patina blankets both sides of this Indian quarter eagle. The surfaces also display lovely mint luster and sharp striking detail. Saved in significant numbers by the contemporary public as the first quarter eagle to display Bela Lyon Pratt's novel incuse design, the 1908 now ranks among the more readily obtainable Indian quarter eagles in all Mint State grades.

Even so, upper end Gems such as this are scarce in an absolute sense and rare relative to the demand that they enjoy among today's gold enthusiasts.

PCGS# 7939. NGC ID: 288Y.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

THREE-DOLLAR GOLD PIECES



1119

1882 MS-63 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Splendid light golden-rose patina adorns modestly semi-prooflike surfaces. The fields are reflective and form an excellent backdrop to frosty, smartly impressed design elements. The Philadelphia Mint struck only 1,500 circulation strike three-dollar gold pieces in 1882 during an era when the usefulness of this denomination in commerce (such as it ever was) had long since passed. Survivors are scarce in an absolute sense, and most are

lightly circulated after having been obtained from bank deposits by numismatists such as Thomas L. Elder during the early 20th century. Mint State coins are scarcer still, and with superior technical quality and strong visual appeal the coin offered here will surely find its way into an advanced type or date set.

PCGS# 8004. NGC ID: 25N5.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Lot 1120

1879 Flowing Hair. J-1635, P-1833, JD-1. Rarity-3. Gold. Reeded Edge. Proof-65 (NGC).



FOUR-DOLLAR GOLD PIECES

Dazzling Gem Proof 1879 Flowing Hair \$4 Gold Stella



1120

1879 Flowing Hair. Judd-1635, Pollock-1833, JD-1. Rarity-3. Gold. Reeded Edge. Proof-65 (NGC). Obv: The Flowing Hair design by Charles E. Barber. Head of Liberty with flowing hair faces left with the date 1879 below. Liberty is wearing a coronet inscribed LIBERTY, and the inscription ★ 6 ★ G ★ .3 ★ S ★ .7 ★ C ★ 7 ★ G ★ R ★ A ★ M ★ S ★ encircles the border. **Rev:** Five-pointed star, or Stella, is inscribed with the denominations ONE STELLA and 400 CENTS. The Latin mottoes E PLURIBUS UNUM and DEO EST GLORIA are above and below the star, respectively. The legend UNITED STATES OF AMERICA is inscribed along the upper border, and another expression of the denomination FOUR DOL. is inscribed along the lower border. This is a supremely attractive Gem Proof drenched in warm medium gold patina. Sharply struck overall with expertly preserved surfaces, few four-dollar gold coins of either date or type possess the superior quality and strong eye appeal embodied in the Larry H. Miller specimen.

The story of the four-dollar gold Stellas of 1879 and 1880 begins with the desire to create an international coinage system that would be readily recognized and accepted throughout the world. Although it had surfaced earlier, this idea gained its greatest momentum in 1879 through the efforts of John A. Kasson, the United States' minister plenipotentiary to the Austro-Hungarian Empire and a former chairman of the Congressional Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures. Kasson urged the federal government to consider creation of a four-dollar gold coin as the basis for a new international monetary system. In Kasson's opinion, a four-dollar gold coin would more closely approximate in value the more widely accepted gold coins of several European countries, including Austria's 8 florins, the Dutch 8 florins, France's 20 francs, Italy's 20 lire and Spain's 20 pesetas.

Throwing his weight behind Kasson's proposal, serving chairman of the Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures, Alexander H. Stephens, wrote to Treasury Secretary John Sherman requesting that the Mint prepare pattern \$4 gold pieces for evaluation by Congress. The Mint prepared two different proposed designs, a

flowing hair motif by Charles E. Barber and a coiled hair design by George T. Morgan. The Barber Flowing Hair type was used to prepare only 25 (and possibly as few as 15) for distribution to Congressional leaders. Those coins are dated 1879 and, per traditional numismatic wisdom, were struck in a metric alloy of 85.71% gold, 4.29% silver and 10.00% copper.

Demand among Congressional and other government officials for examples of the proposed four-dollar gold Stella proved so great, however, that the Mint eventually prepared perhaps as many as 700 additional specimens in early 1880, still using the 1879-dated Flowing Hair dies. These pieces are struck in standard alloy of 90.00% gold, 10.00% copper on shaved half eagle planchets (per the website us.patterns.com) and, as with their predecessors produced in 1879, were used for presentation and other official purposes as well as for numismatists. Despite its popularity with Congressional leaders and other contemporary politicians, in the end the four-dollar gold Stella failed to gain authorization for regular issue production and the project ended.

As a "type coin," the 1879 Flowing Hair Stella is a significant rarity, even more so from a market availability standpoint given the strong demand it generates. Although technically a pattern, the Stella has long been collected as an integral part of a complete type set of classic United States Mint gold coinage. The denomination has been ranked 18th in the 2008 edition of *100 Greatest U.S. Coins* by Jeff Garrett and Ron Guth.

All Stellas were struck as Proofs, but because many were once used as pocket pieces or set into jewelry, they often appear as if they have seen very heavy circulation. Many are damaged with filed rims, scratches, and wear commensurate with long service in necklaces. The present coin is a noteworthy exception. Carefully preserved through the years with not even the barest signs of mishandling, the acquisition of this Gem Stella would be an impressive achievement for any advanced collector.

PCGS# 8057, NGC ID: 28AZ.

NGC Census: 18; 12 finer in this category (Proof-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



HALF EAGLES

Historic First Year 1795 Small Eagle \$5 Gold



1121

1795 Small Eagle. BD-3. Rarity-3+. MS-61 (NGC). Offered is a scarce Mint State example of one of the most significant and eagerly sought of all U.S. Mint gold issues. Pleasing deep gold patina displays a tinge of orange-apricot on both sides. The fields are semi-reflective in finish and form a nice backdrop to satiny, boldly to sharply struck design elements. There are no sizable or otherwise individually distracting marks, and the eye appeal is superior for the grade level. The reverse is rotated nearly 90 degrees clockwise from normal coin alignment, providing further interest for variety specialists. BD Die State c/b.

The first gold coin struck for the United States of America was the 1795 Small Eagle half eagle, 8,707 examples of which were delivered that year. Based on the number of coins extant, it is highly likely that additional examples of this issue were struck in 1796. Indeed, John W. Dannreuther (*Early U.S. Gold Coin*

Varieties: A Study of Die States, 1795-1834, 2006) estimates that the mintage for the 1795 Small Eagle may be as high as 12,106 pieces. The most plentiful of the 12 known die marriages is BD-3, offered here, with an estimated mintage of 2,000 to 3,000 coins. However, like all pre-1834 quarter eagles, half eagles and eagles, the 1795 Small Eagle \$5 suffered a high rate of attrition through commercial use and melting. It is an indication of the rarity of both the type and issue that the BD-3 variety, with only 175 to 225 coins believed extant (again per Dannreuther) is the most readily obtainable die marriage of the date. Scarce from a condition standpoint and especially desirable as one of the nation's first gold coins, this appealing Mint State coin is bound to attract spirited bidding when it crosses the auction block in December. Plan your strategy accordingly.

PCGS# 8066. NGC ID: 25ND.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Incredible Gem Mint State 1803/2 Half Eagle Old Generation PCGS Holder With CAC Approval



1122

1803/2 BD-1. Rarity-4. Imperfect T, 3 Free Of Bust. MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. The offered 1803/2 half eagle is sole MS-65 for the issue certified by PCGS, and one of only three Gem Mint State examples known to that service. This is an important coin and an exciting offering for advanced early gold enthusiasts. It is also a beautiful coin, with both sides featuring a blend of vivid golden-yellow patina and soft satin luster. The strike is ideally centered on both sides and otherwise full; just a touch of trivial softness is seen on the eagle's left talon on the reverse. Exceptionally smooth with outstanding eye appeal, only the strongest bids will be competitive when this premium quality example appears at auction. BD Die State *c/e*.

This issue provides a fantastic example of die reuse, as all known half eagles struck with the 1803 date are actually an 1803/2 overdate. As with the 1802/1, the repunching failed to obliterate the underlying digit on both known obverse dies of

the 1803/2, making it plainly visible to the unaided eye. There are four known varieties of the half eagles struck in 1803, all of which show the 3/2 feature clearly. This is one of the more available issues of this early type thanks to its moderate mintage of 33,506 coins. Noted expert John W. Dannreuther (2006) believes between 150 and 200 examples of the present BD-1 variety exist today in all grades. Numismatists are fortunate that a decent number of Mint State specimens are known, in spite of the half eagle serving as the workhorse gold coin for the early nation. Even so, most of these are in grades of MS-63 and lower, stressing the significance of the present Gem. Approval by CAC adds additional appeal for this high Condition Census offering.

PCGS# 8084. NGC ID: 25NY.

PCGS Population (all die marriages of the issue): 1; 2 finer (MS-66+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex Heritage's sale of the Essex Palm Collection, January 2007 FUN Signature Coin Auction, lot 3502.



Vivid Choice Mint State 1808 Half Eagle



1123

1808 BD-3. Rarity-4. Normal 5D. MS-64 (NGC). CAC. This appealing early half eagle exhibits blushes of iridescent reddish-rose on dominant deep gold patina. Smartly impressed with razor sharp detail throughout the design, the dies also imparted a pleasing satin to softly frosted texture. Preserved with great care, this Choice Mint State half eagle will be just right for another advanced type set or early gold cabinet. BD Die State b/e.

Four different marriages combining three obverse dies and two reverse dies were employed to coin at least 55,578 half eagles in 1808. Two of these marriages bear overdates and two have normal dates. These are roughly divided evenly in terms of

overall market availability, with the edge given to the normal date varieties. The key characteristic between the two reverse dies is the spacing between the 5 and D in the denomination. The BD-3 reverse has a well balanced, even spacing particular to this die, which was first used in 1807. Several hundred examples are known of all die varieties combined, with only 100 to 125 of the BD-3 die pair believed extant (per John W. Dannreuther, 2006). No early gold half eagles can be considered common, especially in the finer Mint State grades, and an aggressive bidding will be required to secure the Larry H. Miller specimen.

PCGS# 8102. NGC ID: 25PA.

NGC Census (all die marriages of the issue): 6; with a single MS-66 finer.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Highly Desirable Near-Gem 1813 Half Eagle



1124

1813 BD-1. Rarity-2. MS-64 (NGC). CAC. An impressive scarcity from this popular first year of the challenging Capped Head Left half eagle series. Soft satin luster mingles with vivid deep gold patina, the technical quality and eye appeal are equally strong. Sharply struck throughout the design, with carefully preserved surfaces that fully deserve the near-Gem grade. A thoroughly appealing coin earmarked for inclusion in another high grade gold type set.

As a series, the Capped Head Left half eagles struck from 1813 to 1834 are among the most challenging in all of U.S. numismatics. Most examples are from the first year, 1813, as they were set aside

by the contemporary public due to the novelty of the design. Most other issues and varieties are rare, if not non-collectable, since rising gold prices resulted in the wholesale destruction of pre-1834 U.S. gold coins through the mid 1830s. The present example represents the BD-1 die pairing, identifiable by the reverse die, since both varieties share the same obverse. For BD-1, the first letter S in STATES is over the right side of the letter E in the Latin motto E PLURIBUS UNUM.

PCGS# 8116. NGC ID: 25PM.

NGC Census: 23; 6 finer (MS-65 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Lot 1125

1834 Capped Head Left. BD-2. Rarity-5. Crosslet 4. MS-65 (NGC).



Glorious Gem Uncirculated 1834 Capped Head Left Half Eagle BD-2 Crosslet 4 Variety One of Only Two MS-65s Certified for the Issue



1125

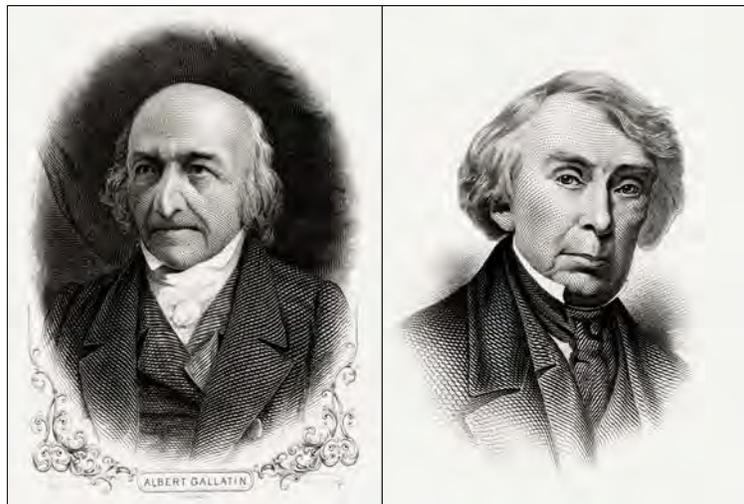
1834 Capped Head Left. BD-2. Rarity-5. Crosslet 4. MS-65 (NGC). This is an incredibly beautiful Gem that really should be seen to be fully appreciated. Both sides have nearly pristine fields and equally meticulous design elements that display the richest, fullest golden-yellow luster. The strike is well executed with most features sharply to fully defined. Expertly preserved and fully deserving of the Gem MS-65 grade, advanced type collectors and early gold enthusiasts are sure to compete vigorously to secure this phenomenal condition rarity from the final year of this design type. BD Die State c/b.

As a series, the Capped Head Left half eagles struck from 1813 to 1834 are among the most elusive in all of U.S. numismatics. Most examples are from the first year, 1813, having been set aside by the contemporary public due to the novelty of the design. Most other dates and varieties are rare, if not non-collectable, since rising gold prices resulted in the wholesale exportation and destruction through melting of pre-1834 U.S. gold coins during the early decades of

the 19th century. Indeed, by 1834 the spoils of American mines had been regularly exported for years, usually after being assayed and coined in Philadelphia at the expense of the American people. The complaints of bankers, newspapermen and politicians about the lack of reliable gold coinage had become a chorus. Paper money was essentially unregulated, costing merchants dearly, as most banknotes were sold at steep discounts outside of the sphere of the issuing institution. "Silver is too heavy to

be transported from place to place without inconvenience,"

Secretary of the Treasury Roger B. Taney wrote in 1834, and even the millions of half dollars produced annually were no substitute for large denomination gold coins. A group of New York bankers, led by former Treasury Secretary Albert Gallatin, wrote to their senators to complain that "the gold coins of the United States...have become mere articles of merchandise, and are no longer to be



*Treasury Secretaries Albert Gallatin and Roger B. Taney.
(Bureau of Engraving and Printing)*



considered as forming any portion of the metallic currency.” Once coined, half eagles like this one were never spent as five dollars in gold, merely sold at their bullion value of \$5.33. In time, they were almost always used in overseas payments, as gold remained the most convenient way to conduct international trade.

The half eagles delivered to the treasurer of the Mint on June 30, 1834, were the last gold coins issued to the original standards defined by the Mint Act of 1792. After August 1, 1834, a depositor who brought \$500 face value of these coins to the Mint would receive \$533 worth of freshly minted gold coins. Most 1834 Capped Head Left half eagles were thus converted to new coins, ones that actually saw use in commerce. While 50,141 half eagles of this type were coined in 1834, the combined population estimates in the Bass-Dannreuther text (2006) place the number of survivors in all grades today at fewer than 100 pieces. The BD-2 variety offered here accounts for 45 to 55 of those coins. The only other Crosslet 4 die marriage of the issue, BD-4, is unique and wears the crown of the “King of the Fat Head Fives” (as described in the Bass-Dannreuther reference). The other two die marriages correspond to the Plain 4 *Guide Book* variety and include the scarce, but obtainable BD-1 (30 to 40 known), and the non-collectable BD-3 (three to five known).

The supreme challenge that the Capped Head Left half eagle series represents for gold type collectors is perhaps best described by John W. Dannreuther when writing about the 1834 BD-2 example in the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Core Collection:

The single example in the core collection is the only example Bass obtained, although this is the other available variety of this date and

one of the most commonly seen ones for this type. There are probably 45 to more than 50 different specimens of this variety; this is still a scarce and popular coin, but the type is rare, so this is one of its available varieties.

On the other hand, few examples of this historic punctuation mark in the history of United States gold coins have survived in such fine condition. Mint State coins as a group are notable condition rarities for, while this issue did not circulate in the modern sense of the term, most received enough handling to qualify as About Uncirculated by today’s grading standards. The lovely 1834 BD-2 Capped Head Left half eagle in our Pogue IV sale of May 2016 numbers among the finest known for the die pairing and, in PCGS MS-63+, is tied for highest graded at that service for the Crosslet 4 *Guide Book* variety. The Larry H. Miller specimen is even finer, in fact *the* finest certified Crosslet 4 half eagle of the Capped Head Left design type, and undoubtedly the finest known. Its only rival for CC#1 for the issue as whole is the 1834 Plain 4 example in MS-65 listed in the *NGC Census* that appeared as lot 7544 in Heritage’s August 2011 Chicago Signature Auction.

Coins that combine the amazing rarity and outstanding eye appeal that define this Gem early half eagle usually come along only once in a long while, if not once in a lifetime. We anticipate fierce competition when this lot opens for auction.

PCGS# 8161. NGC ID: 25RP.

NGC Census (all die marriages of the issue): just 2 in MS-65, one example each of the Plain 4 and Crosslet 4 varieties; 0 finer. PCGS has not certified a single example of this issue finer than MS-64.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex our (Stack’s) Americana Sale of January 2005, lot 3361; our (Stack’s) 70th Anniversary Sale, October 2005, lot 1237.



Lovely 1834 Classic Head Half Eagle Among the Finest Certified



1126

1834 Classic Head. HM-7. Rarity-3. Plain 4. MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. The Miller Collection 1834 Classic Head half eagle offers rare and highly desirable Gem Mint State quality for this perennially popular first year type issue. Softly frosted luster gives way to pronounced semi-reflectivity in the open fields around the central design elements. The strike is full in virtually all areas, the patina visually stunning in vivid medium golden-orange. High Condition Census for the issue, and sure to please even the most discerning gold enthusiast.

After the New Tenor half eagles went into production on August 1, 1834, they remained a consistent news item for much of the summer and fall. Editorials against the Bank of the United States in pro-Jackson newspapers railed against the bank's monopoly power and latched upon the new half eagle as a symbol of it, complaining that the bank stockpiled the gold rather than paid it out, though the political polemics of this era were not often an accurate reflection of reality. "The rapid circulation of the Jackson currency, the gold eagles and half eagles...is annoying the friends of monopoly and the Bank beyond all conception," the *New York Evening Post* published just two weeks after the new coins were introduced. The Bank of the United States, located nine blocks down Chestnut Street from the Philadelphia Mint, was the largest depositor of gold at the Mint in this era. The followers of President Jackson's populist anti-bank rhetoric didn't understand or care about banking reserves or the importance of gold in international banking, preferring to shake their fist at the clouds in anger for the control the bank wielded over the national economy. Jackson's veto of the bank's recharter is widely seen as causing the Panic of 1837, the first long national depression. Some scholars place greater importance upon other issues, including the bursting of the Western land bubble in 1836.

The new "Jackson coinage" or "Jackson currency" also inspired a new invention that was widely advertised in the newspapers of major cities on the East Coast. Though "guinea rockers" were common in England from the Georgian period, small countertop coin balance scales were not often seen in the United States in the early 19th century. Pan scales, also known as equal arm balances, were standard equipment for many merchants and bankers in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, but they required an extensive set of properly calibrated weights for proper use. A coin rocker was a simple lever and fulcrum system that balanced a coin of proper weight against a pre-installed counterweight. Moore's Patent Eagle Balance advertisements began appearing in September 1834: "As 'Jackson Money' is getting plentifully into use, and will before many months constitute almost the sole circulating medium, every tradesman would do well to provide himself with one of these patent eagle balances." Many did, and the balances remain collectible today.

More than 650,000 1834 Classic Head half eagles were coined between August 1 and the end of the year, the largest mintage of any issue of the Classic Head type. Most were the Plain 4 variety, as here. Though plenty of these survived, even in Mint State, Gems are significant rarities. PCGS has graded examples finer than MS-64 on only eight occasions. This beautiful example is of exceptional quality and sure to sell for a strong premium.

PCGS# 8171. NGC ID: 25RR.

PCGS Population: 5; 3 finer (MS-66 finest).

CAC Population: 1; 1 (MS-66).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex Heritage's FUN Signature Coin Auction of January 2007, lot 3543.



Significant First Year 1839 Liberty Head Half Eagle



1127

1839 MS-64 (NGC). CAC. Here is a phenomenal high Condition Census half eagle from the first year of the Liberty Head series. Satiny and predominantly smooth, both sides exhibit a delightful blend of vivid golden-orange patina and lively mint luster. Striking detail is impressively sharp for an early date half eagle of this design type, trivial softness confined to star 2 and the tip of the eagle's right wing, which are opposite one another in the dies. Otherwise all design elements are smartly impressed with razor sharp to full definition. As beautiful and close to perfection as one is ever likely to encounter in an 1839 half eagle, here is a significant offering for advanced gold enthusiasts.

Christian Gobrecht's redesign of the half eagle in 1839 introduced one of the longest running series in United States coinage. His modified portrait of Liberty is smaller than that of previous half eagle types, with braided hair along the forehead and a bun at the back of the head. The reverse design is similar to the outgoing type, although Gobrecht reworked the eagle to give it a more robust appearance.

The 1839 Philadelphia Mint half eagle is the most realistic type candidate from the first year of the series. The 1839 circulated extensively, however, and is one of the few first year issues in U.S. coinage history that was not saved in significant numbers. The vast majority of survivors are well worn with VF and EF being typical. Scarce in AU, this issue is very rare in Mint State with Jeff Garrett and Ron Guth (2008) accounting for only about a dozen Uncirculated survivors. The finest certified by PCGS and NGC are at the MS-64 level, the Larry H. Miller specimen one of only two in this grade to have received a CAC sticker. Here, indeed, is a highly significant condition rarity, a coin that will appeal to advanced gold type collectors as well as specialists in the Liberty Head half eagle series.

PCGS# 8191. NGC ID: 25S7.

Combined PCGS and NGC Population: 10; 0 finer at either service.

CAC Population: 2; 0.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1128

1884-CC Winter 1-A, the only known dies. AU-55 (NGC). CAC. OH. This minimally circulated, nicely preserved example retains nearly full striking detail and ample semi-prooflike finish in the fields. It features vivid golden-yellow patina as well as strong technical quality and superior eye appeal for the assigned grade level. The 1884-CC is the final Carson City Mint half eagle struck prior to 1890,

and it is scarce, with only 16,402 pieces produced. Survivors number only 250 to 300 coins in all grades (per Rusty Goe, August 2012), and with only a handful of Mint State pieces extant, this premium Choice AU from the Miller cabinet is sure to appeal to advanced bidders.

PCGS# 8365. NGC ID: 25XP.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Virtually Pristine 1892 Half Eagle



1129

1892 MS-67 (NGC). Simply put, it is difficult for us to imagine a more attractive example of either the type or issue than this lovely Superb Gem. Both sides are vividly patinated in reddish-rose, and the surfaces display intense satin luster. Sharply struck and so well preserved as to border on pristine, this example will please even the most discerning numismatist.

The circulation strike 1892 half eagle has a mintage of 753,480 pieces, the typical survivor of which grades no finer than MS-62. Given that this issue is relatively scarce even in Choice Mint State, the significance of this Condition Census MS-67 can hardly be overstated. Outstanding!

PCGS# 8379. NGC ID: 25Y6.

NGC Census: 8; with a single MS-67+ finer. The corresponding PCGS population is 1/0.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1130

1909 MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. This vivid and beautiful example offers a blend of reddish-gold patina and appealing mint luster. The strike is razor sharp down to the lowermost feathers in the Native American's headdress, and the surfaces are predominantly smooth with truly memorable eye appeal. With a respectable mintage of 627,060 circulation strikes and an above average rate of survival, the 1909 is one of the more readily obtainable Indian half eagles. Quite

a few Gems exist, the issue actually ranks third, after only the 1908 and 1909-D as the most plentiful Indian five in MS-65 and finer. In an absolute sense MS-65s are scarce, and premium quality examples such as the Larry H. Miller specimen are rare when one considers the demand for them from gold enthusiasts.

PCGS# 8513. NGC ID: 28DH.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



EAGLES

Noteworthy Mint State 1796 Small Eagle \$10



1131

1796 BD-1, Taraszka-6, the only known dies. Rarity-4. MS-61 (NGC). Vivid golden-yellow patina is seen on both sides of this beautiful early eagle. The finish is modestly prooflike with the fields revealing plenty of reflectivity under a light. Wispy handling marks are noted here and there, none of which are worthy of individual mention. The strike is impressive by the standards of the early United States Mint, the impression nicely centered on both sides within boldly and uniformly denticulated borders. The stars, branch and wreath are sharp, and Liberty's portrait and the eagle's plumage are full apart from trivial softness to the high points of Liberty's cap and bust, as well as the eagle's head, breast and legs. BD Die State c/b.

The Small Eagle reverse was used on the \$10 gold piece for only three years and was not produced in any large quantity. The 1796 eagle is no exception; the mintage according to Mint records is 4,146 pieces delivered during that calendar year, though this almost certainly includes a number of 1795-dated eagles.

Precisely how many were actually dated 1796 is unknown; John W. Dannreuther in his 2006 study, *Early U.S. Gold Coin Varieties: A Study of Die States, 1795-1834*, has estimated the mintage of the 1796-dated issue at 3,500 to 4,146 pieces, all struck from a single die pair. One distinguishing feature of this issue is the use of 16 stars on the obverse signifying the admission of Tennessee into the Union on June 1, 1796 (indicating that these coins were all struck after that date). The 1796 eagle is also the first of two issues with only 11 leaves on the branch in the eagle's claw; the earlier 1795-dated varieties all display either nine or 13 leaves on the branch. Just 125 to 175 examples of the 1796 are believed extant in all grades, of which fewer than three dozen certification events have been recorded at Mint State levels. A delight to behold and a classic early gold rarity.

PCGS# 8554. NGC ID: BFYM.

NGC Census: 8; 6 finer in this category (MS-63 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Richly Original 1801 Capped Bust Right Eagle



1132

1801 BD-2, Taraszka-25. Rarity-2. MS-63 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. This lovely Choice Mint State example possesses the attractive originality that is becoming so rare in early U.S. Mint gold coins in today's market. Warm medium gold patina blankets satiny surfaces, the original "skin" of which is fully intact and highly appealing. The appearance is very smooth for both the type and the assigned grade, and there is not much separating this coin from a MS-64 rating. Expertly centered in strike with razor sharp detail throughout, it is difficult for us to imagine a more desirable Capped Bust Right eagle of any date, or at any Mint State grade level. BD Die State b/b.

The reported mintage of eagles for calendar year 1801 is 44,344 pieces. Through the study of die states, however, numismatic

scholars have determined that some 1800-dated coins were struck after those of the 1801 BD-1 variety (both share the same reverse). As such, the reported mintage for calendar year 1801 likely includes some coins dated 1800, and possibly also some dated 1799. Six to eight hundred BD-2 coins are believed extant from an estimated mintage of 30,000 to 40,000, making it the most available early eagle die marriage. Mint State survivors are scarce, and the demand for them is great among high quality type collectors and early gold enthusiasts. Strong bids are encouraged for bidders seeking to add this premium quality CAC-approved example to their holdings.

PCGS# 8564. NGC ID: 2627.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Lot 1133
1839/8 Type of 1838, Large Letters. MS-64 (PCGS).



Lovely Prooflike Mint State 1839/8 Eagle Among the Finest Known



1133

1839/8 Type of 1838, Large Letters. MS-64 (PCGS). Offered is an exceedingly rare coin, one of the finest known Liberty Head eagles of the brief and challenging Type of 1838 design. Appreciably reflective in the fields, the design elements are set apart with a satiny texture. The entire coin displays vivid reddish-gold patina, with wisps of pale silver evident here and there. The design elements in the centers are fully rendered, and the surfaces are very nice for the assigned grade. Faint die polish lines in the fields are as made, as are several interesting die cracks around the reverse periphery, leaving it to a couple of light grazes in the lower left obverse field to identify this coin in future market appearances. A beautiful and very rare \$10 gold coin that will appeal to both advanced gold type collectors and Liberty Head eagle enthusiasts.

The longest-running \$10 gold eagle series produced in the United States Mint, the Liberty Head eagle was struck without interruption from 1838 through early 1907. It is the first eagle produced since 1804, President Thomas Jefferson having halted production of both this denomination and the silver dollar that year as rising bullion prices made the coins highly susceptible to melting by speculators. From 1805 through 1837, the largest gold denomination that the United States Mint produced was the \$5 half eagle. By 1838, however, two laws had been passed that made it possible for the Mint to resume eagle coinage. The first was the Act of June 28, 1834, which reduced the weight of standard U.S. gold coins and, in so doing, placed the nation's monetary system on a gold standard. The second was the Act of January 18, 1837, a general overhaul of the nation's coinage laws that, among other things, standardized the fineness of gold and silver coins at 900 thousandths.

When eagle production finally resumed in 1838, the Mint settled upon the Liberty Head design of Christian Gobrecht, featuring a portrait of Liberty facing left, her hair tied in a bun at the back of her head and wearing a coronet inscribed LIBERTY. 13 stars encircle the border, and the date is below the portrait. The initial portrait utilized in 1838 and early 1839 had deeper curvature to the truncation of the bust with Liberty's hair pulled back over

her ear. The design was modified slightly in 1839 to create the Liberty Head motif that would remain in use through 1907.

The basic reverse design also remained unchanged from 1838 to 1907, featuring an eagle with outstretched wings and a shield on its breast. The eagle clutches a group of three arrows in its left talon and an olive branch in its right talon. The legend UNITED STATES OF AMERICA is around the border and the denomination TEN D. is below the eagle. The reverse was modified in 1866, however, with the addition of the motto IN GOD WE TRUST on a scroll above the eagle. To distinguish them from their No Motto predecessors, the Motto eagles of 1866 to 1907 are known as the Type II Liberty Head design.

As above, the first iteration of Christian Gobrecht's new Liberty Head eagle bore a distinctive obverse featuring a sweep of hair completely covering Liberty's ear and a peculiarly deep curve to the bust's truncation. Benjamin West's painting *Omnia Vincit Amor* ("Love Conquers All") served as Gobrecht's model, even down to the beaded cord and coronet style. The first eagles using this design were struck at the end of 1838, with 7,200 pieces intended for circulation on top of four "specimen" coins presented to Secretary of the Treasury Levi Woodbury. In 1839, the same obverse design was employed for the first 2,801 eagles struck bearing that date before the design was modified.

The 1839 Type of 1838 eagle is a very scarce coin in all grades, with perhaps just under 250 examples known, with the vast majority well circulated. While just a hair more available than the first year of issue, there is quite a bit of competition when an example appears at sale, regardless of condition. In Mint State this issue is a formidable rarity and, as with so many dates in the Liberty Head eagle series, it is also an underrated one. Solidly in the Condition Census, the Larry H. Miller specimen was once owned by Ed Milas, a name synonymous with finest known and Condition Census Liberty Head *half* eagles.

PCGS# 8576. NGC ID: 262E.

PCGS Population: 1; 2 finer (MS-66 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex Ed Milas; Heritage's Long Beach Sale of October 1995, lot 6233.



Lot 1134
1839 Small Letters (a.k.a. Type of 1840). MS-64 (NGC).



Finest Certified 1839 Small Letters Eagle
One of Just Two Mint State Coins Graded
Rare and Underrated Issue
First Mint State Offering at Auction Since 1998



1134

1839 Small Letters (a.k.a. Type of 1840), MS-64 (NGC). Among the rarest and most significant gold coin offerings from the Larry H. Miller cabinet — a bold statement, to be sure, but also an accurate one — this is the finest of only two Mint State examples certified for this extremely underrated early Liberty Head eagle. Fully Choice, the surfaces display vivid reddish-gold patina with tinges of pale pinkish-rose evident. The luster is original with a predominantly satin to softly frosted texture, although there are halos of semi-prooflike reflectivity in the fields around the central design elements on both sides. Liberty's portrait and the eagle are fully rendered throughout, the remaining design features boldly to sharply defined. A couple of prominent obverse die cracks (as made) meander through stars 2 to 9. There are only a few wispy handling marks, as befits the assigned grade, the most useful provenance markers a tiny reeding mark in the reverse field above the eagle's right wing and an equally small spot in the field below the same wing.

The second type of Liberty Head eagle produced in 1839, the Small Letters is distinguished from its Large Letters counterpart not only by the difference in size for the reverse lettering, but also by significant modifications to Liberty's portrait. The 1839 Small Letters was produced to the extent of just 12,447 pieces, as opposed to the slightly more generous mintage of 25,801 coins for the 1839 Large Letters. The former is by far the rarer of the two issues, although it is often overlooked (and, consequently, underrated) by collectors focused on the brevity of the Large Letters design type of 1838 and early 1839. In fact, *PCGS CoinFacts* provides an estimate of only 50 to 60 coins extant

in all grades for the 1839 Small Letters. The vast majority of these coins are circulated to one degree or another, and even the primary specimen in the National Numismatic Collection at the Smithsonian Institution is an AU-55 (per Garrett and Guth, 2008).

In Mint State the 1839 Small Letters is a landmark rarity and true numismatic treasure. In his cataloging for Part II of the John Jay Pittman Collection, David W. Akers stated that he knew of only three Uncirculated examples. These are listed here, with grades and provenances updated to 2020, where possible:

1. NGC MS-64. Ex William Woodin; Virgil Brand; King Farouk of Egypt; Sotheby's sale of the Palace Collections of Egypt, March 1954, lot 188; John Jay Pittman; David W. Akers sale of the John Jay Pittman Collection, Part II, May 1998, lot 1912; Larry H. Miller Collection. **The present example.**
2. Ex our (Stack's) sale of the Charles Jay Collection, October 1967, lot 316.
3. Ex our (Stack's) ANA 85th Annual Convention Sale, August 1976, lot 3057.

Two things will strike the astute reader even after a quick perusal of this listing: the present offering is the first for a Mint State 1839 Small Letters eagle since 1998; and the other two coins are untraced in the market of the 21st century. Perhaps either the Charles Jay or 1976 ANA Sale coin are the MS-62 currently listed in the *PCGS Population Report* — the only other Mint State coin certified between the two services — although



that could be unlikely given Akers' assessment that all three of the coins in his list "are at least Choice Uncirculated quality." Neither Jeff Garrett and Ron Guth (2008), nor *PCGS CoinFacts* provide any clue as to the provenance of the PCGS MS-62. Both sources also provide no auction appearances for any Mint State 1839 Small Letters eagle apart from Akers' sale of the present example in his May 1998 Pittman II Sale.

For the collector assembling a top flight collection of the extremely challenging Liberty Head eagle series, this is a must have coin. Larry H. Miller selected it to represent the Small Letters, No Motto eagle in his type set — a bold move that is one of many examples of how advanced and discerning a collector

he was. Interested parties are urged to enter very strong bids for this offering. Once this coin sells, it could be many years, if not decades, before another Mint State 1839 Small Letters eagle is offered for sale.

PCGS# 8580. NGC ID: 262E.

Combined PCGS and NGC Population: just 2 in all Mint States grades, PCGS MS-62 and the present example in NGC MS-64.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex William Woodin; Virgil Brand; King Farouk of Egypt; Sotheby's sale of the Palace Collections of Egypt, March 1954, lot 188; John Jay Pittman; David W. Akers sale of the John Jay Pittman Collection, Part II, May 1998, lot 1912.



1135

1901-S MS-66 (PCGS). CAC. An exceptional example that will be just right for another high quality type set. Both sides of this lovely coin are fully struck with razor sharp detail from the rims to the centers. Frosty mint luster and vivid golden-rose patina enhance the advanced technical quality and outstanding eye appeal. Among a relatively tiny group of premium Gem survivors from a sizable

mintage of more than 2.8 million coins, this upper end 1901-S eagle is absolutely worthy of the assigned grade. A find for the discerning gold enthusiast, and worthy of the strongest bids.

PCGS# 8749. NGC ID: 267S.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Condition Census 1907 Wire Rim Eagle

The Original Concept for the Saint-Gaudens \$10 Design



1136

1907 Indian. Wire Rim, Periods. Judd-1901, Pollock-1995. Rarity-3. Raised Stars on Edge. MS-66 ★ (NGC). Offered is an exceptional example of a classic 20th century U.S. Mint gold rarity. Delightful golden-yellow surfaces are satiny to softly frosted with a pristine appearance. The strike is full with razor sharp detail throughout the design. This is easily one of the most beautiful examples of this important Indian eagle design type that we have had the privilege of bringing to auction.

The Saint-Gaudens gold eagle is widely considered one of the high water marks of American numismatic design. President Theodore Roosevelt was a fierce critic of the then-current coin designs and to improve them he conspired with Cornish, New Hampshire artist Augustus Saint-Gaudens to redesign the entire series. Saint-Gaudens produced several designs including an obverse he originally intended for the cent. When Roosevelt saw this design, he recommended — ordered, really — that the left facing bust of Liberty should wear a war bonnet instead of a laurel wreath. Saint-Gaudens made the change in February 1907, but thought it should be used for the double eagle rather than the cent. Again Roosevelt objected as he preferred a representation of Liberty walking forward for the largest denomination. Instead the bust of Liberty wearing a feathered headdress would go onto the eagle. The reverse design for the eagle was a modified version of the “defiant eagle” Saint-Gaudens had used on Roosevelt’s inaugural medal of 1905.

Plaster models were prepared in Saint-Gaudens’ studios in Cornish and were sent to Philadelphia on June 1 to be converted into working dies. They encountered immediate opposition from Chief Engraver Charles E. Barber (no fan of non-Mint personnel designing coins), who felt there were design deficiencies, especially the high relief nature of the design and

the lack of a proper coin rim. He was focused more on mass production than coin aesthetics and felt “the models now sent are not coin relief,” as he told Mint Superintendent John Landis on June 7. By now, Saint-Gaudens was seriously ill with cancer and did not travel. Instead he worked with the Mint through his assistant, Henry Hering. Hering reworked the models to reduce the relief somewhat and change the date from Roman numerals. The new models were provided to the Mint on June 24 and dies were prepared. By July 19, the dies were ready to strike experimental versions of the new design.

The first coins struck were in high relief despite Barber’s requirements to the contrary, with the portrait of Liberty set within a concave field similar to how a medal might look. The features were also more sculptural with a distinctive soft texture. In addition, because of the high relief, the coins required several strikes to bring up the design. As a result, a “fin” or “slight burr” on the edge caused the coin to not rest flat, especially since the eagle tended to rise up above the border. Now gravely ill, Saint-Gaudens continued to work through the design difficulties along with his staff. Roosevelt realized that the dream of a very high relief eagle was not feasible, and on July 29 he relented and directed the Mint to work on a lower relief version for mass production. Furthermore, in the same letter he advised that:

As for the high relief coins, have several hundred struck and allow the collectors of the country to obtain specimens as you suggested, none to be issued until the new issue is out. They should be preserved as the work of a great American artist.

Saint-Gaudens never saw his creation as a coin; he died of cancer on August 3 before any could be struck. Barber prepared a version while the artist’s studio prepared their own revisions, coordinating with the his widow, Augusta. Barber’s Rounded Rim



version began production on September 13 with the intention of going into circulation. Ultimately neither Saint-Gaudens' original Wire Rim concept nor Barber's Rounded Rim version ended up as a circulating coin. The revision from the Saint-Gaudens studio in lower relief and with no triangular periods was adopted and was struck until 1933. In the meantime, to comply with Roosevelt's July 29 order for several hundred Wire Rim coins, an initial production run of 500 coins took place in late August on the high-pressure medal press, followed by a delivery of 42 coins struck between September and December of that year. The Treasury Department in Washington, D.C. took delivery of the Wire Rim coins and distributed them to government officials, as well as to some of the biggest coin

dealers of the day. Seventy examples remained unsold and were sent back to the Mint in 1915 to be melted down, leaving a final net production of 472 pieces.

In keeping with the Mr. Miller's attention to outstanding quality, the present specimen is among the finest known of this historic issue, the one that most closely represents Saint-Gaudens' and Roosevelt's vision for the \$10 gold coin.

PCGS# 8850. NGC ID: 268B.

NGC Census: 18, just one of which has received a ★ designation for superior eye appeal; 9 finer (MS-69 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex Heritage's sale of the Freedom Collection, January 2007 FUN Signature Coin Auction, lot 3672.



1137

1907 Indian. No Periods. MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. The gorgeous rose-gold surfaces are highly lustrous with a satin to softly frosted finish. Both sides are as nice as would be expected at the Gem Mint State grade level. The strike is sharp for the issue; the central obverse high point is always more or less soft on these, but the eagle's plumage is generally full and crisp, as on this coin. The Philadelphia Mint produced 239,406 examples of the modified No Periods Indian eagle design in 1907. As the first examples of the new eagle to reach the general public, many 1907 No Periods coins were saved and Mint State

pieces are plentiful in an absolute sense. On the other hand, many of these coins suffer from excessively soft striking detail in the centers as well as general mishandling. For specialists seeking exceptional coins for their collections, this issue can be challenging at the finest levels of Mint State preservation. This is a significant opportunity to acquire a superior-quality example of the first circulating coin of the Saint-Gaudens \$10 Indian eagle type.

PCGS# 8852. NGC ID: 28GE.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



DOUBLE EAGLES



1138

1876-S MS-63 (PCGS). Handsome deep honey-rose patina mingles with frosty mint luster on both sides of this desirable double eagle. Both the striking quality and surface preservation are well above average for the issue as well as the type. The mintage for this plentiful San Francisco Mint issue is 1,597,000 pieces, up more than 250,000 pieces from the previous year's total at the West Coast facility. Many were exported, beginning in a significant way in 1879. We estimate a Mint State population for the 1876-S of 2,000 to 3,000 pieces or

more. Most of these are at MS-60 to MS-61, though MS-62 pieces can be found. Beginning at the MS-63 level, offered here, your chances of obtaining a specimen thin dramatically despite the certified population reports. A scarce coin in an absolute sense, and even rarer from a market availability standpoint, this impressive piece represents a significant find for the quality conscious gold enthusiast.

PCGS# 8978. NGC ID: 26AX.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

Gem Mint State 1895-S Double Eagle



1139

1895-S MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. The Miller Collection 1895-S double eagle offers exceptional quality and eye appeal for this Type III issue. Bathed in a blend of frosty mint luster and vivid rose-gold patina, the surfaces are as smooth as would be expected at the Gem level. It is fully struck and exhibits outstanding eye appeal. Mintage for this issue was 1,143,500 pieces, up some 94,000+ coins from the previous year's double eagle production at the San Francisco Mint. Much of the mintage went overseas in business and banking transactions, and many of these coins have been repatriated in the past few decades. Most grade no

finer than MS-63 and the present Gem MS-65 example is rare from a condition standpoint. Among the finest certified, in fact, this beautiful coin would do justice to the finest type set or specialized double eagle collection.

PCGS# 9028. NGC ID: 26CE.

PCGS Population: 9; with a single MS-65+ finer.

CAC Population: 2; 0.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex Heritage's CSNS Signature Coin Auction of May 2007, lot 2376.



Iconic MCMVII High Relief Double Eagle Inspired Design by Saint-Gaudens



1140

MCMVII (1907) Saint-Gaudens. High Relief. Wire Rim. MS-64 (NGC). CAC. OH. Here is a premium Choice Mint State example of one of the most legendary issues in U.S. numismatics. The Miller Collection example offers dense satiny luster and richly original patina. The strike is expertly rendered with Liberty's portrait and the eagle fully pronounced and intricately detailed. Fine swirling die polish lines (as made) impart a bold matte-like texture to the surfaces, complemented by a smooth and virtually undisturbed complexion throughout. Carefully preserved and highly attractive, this upper end MS-64 example will hold great appeal for connoisseurs of these numismatic treasures of the 20th century.

The 1907 High Relief Saint-Gaudens double eagle is widely considered to be the high water mark in American numismatic artistry. Never a man to shrink from a challenge or get bogged down in bureaucratic red tape, President Theodore Roosevelt engaged sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens to replace what Roosevelt referred to as the "atrocious hideousness" of the coin designs then in use. He and Saint-Gaudens bypassed Chief Engraver Charles E. Barber, numerous committees, and Congress to create some of the most inspired coin designs in America's history. The obverse was modeled after Saint-Gaudens' Winged Nike figure on the General William Tecumseh Sherman Memorial in New York City's Central Park and is paired with an elegant, if not entirely realistic rendition of a flying eagle on the reverse.

In order to bring up the three dimensional nature of the design,

each coin required at a minimum three to five strikes as well as inspection after each impression. As a result, only 12,367 coins were struck for circulation in the High Relief format. Of those, at least two-thirds are of the Wire Rim variety. The Wire Rim was actually not intended as part of the overall design but rather was an artifact of the striking process. During striking, if the collar was not sufficiently tightened, metal would be pushed to where the coin's edge and collar meet. Even the slightest misalignment of the obverse and reverse dies would force metal into the gap, forming the fin (as the Mint referred to this feature). A second collar was employed that largely eliminated the Wire Rim, but the slow nature of the minting process eventually necessitated a reworking of the entire design to reduce the relief.

Fortunately for numismatists today, the MCMVII was a sensation when examples were first released into circulation in December 1907. Bank tellers and others saved all they could find, and soon they sold at a premium, \$25 and then \$30. Years later, as the passion faded, many were turned in and spent, including in the 1930s when the government called in all gold coins. We estimate that perhaps 6,000 are known, or about half the mintage. Over a long period of years various surveys in the numismatic field have ranked this as the most beautiful of all circulating coinage designs, and high quality survivors such as this never fail to attract attention when they appear at auction.

PCGS# 9135. NGC ID: 26F2.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1141
1908 No Motto. MS-66 (NGC). Blended honey and rose-gold patina is seen on both sides of this handsome and well struck Gem. Superior quality and eye appeal for this perennially popular type issue from the early Saint-Gaudens double eagle series.

PCGS# 9142. NGC ID: 26F6.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Views of Augustus Saint-Gaudens' home and studio in Cornish, New Hampshire. (Library of Congress)



Portrait of Saint-Gaudens in his studio. (Kenyon Cox, Library of Congress)





Lot 1142

1912 JD-1, the only known dies. Rarity-5. Proof-67 (NGC).



Exquisite Sand Blast Proof 1912 Double Eagle



1142

1912 JD-1, the only known dies. Rarity-5. Proof-67 (NGC). Offered is a fascinating Superb Gem example of a Proof double eagle type that Walter Breen once described as the caviar of numismatics. The particular sand blast technique that the Mint used to produce this coin imparted a soft golden-honey color, with a tinge of pale rose evident under a light. Close inspection with a loupe reveals a fine grain texture, characteristic of Sand Blast Proofs with lighter color, as here. Fully struck without so much as a single imperfection, even the most discerning numismatist will be impressed by this stunning rarity.

Mintage of Proof double eagles in 1912 amounted to just 74 coins. This is the first issue in the Saint-Gaudens series with a slightly modified obverse design that includes two additional stars around the obverse periphery, in recognition of two more states (New Mexico and Arizona) joining the Union. Some of these coins likely failed to sell, while a few others may have suffered

other ill effects associated with the contemporary public's disenchantment with the Sand Blast style of Proof production (much preferred were the Brilliant and Cameo Proofs struck as part of the earlier Liberty Head double eagle series). Even so, enough Proof 1912 coins were distributed, and subsequently preserved, that John W. Dannreuther (2018) considers this to be one of the more readily obtainable issues in the Saint-Gaudens double eagle series. The term "readily obtainable" is relative, of course, since in an absolute sense all Sand Blast Proof gold coins are rare. The Larry H. Miller specimen is among the finest of only 40 to 50 coins believed extant (per Dannreuther), and it is an outstanding representative of both the Saint-Gaudens double eagle type and Sand Blast Proof coinage in general.

PCGS# 9209. NGC ID: 26GZ.

NGC Census: 12; with a single Proof-68 ★ finer at this service.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Condition Rarity 1924 Double Eagle



1143

1924 MS-67 (NGC). CAC. Simply outstanding quality and eye appeal for this otherwise readily obtainable double eagle issue. The surfaces are highly lustrous with a smooth, satiny texture that borders on pristine. Handsome golden-orange patina throughout, both sides are completely original and very attractive. Full striking detail with razor sharp design elements adds to the appeal of this Superb Gem.

The 1924 is one of several post-1916 issues in the Saint-Gaudens double eagle series that was exported in quantity. This is fortunate for today's collectors since the coins that were shipped

overseas escaped the fate of the gold coins that remained in federal vaults — mass destruction through melting in 1937. Widely represented in repatriations beginning in the mid to late 20th century, the 1924 has become one of the most plentiful Saint-Gaudens double eagles. Mint State examples abound, although we caution bidders that at the Superb Gem level even this otherwise common issue develops into a significant condition rarity. A significant bidding opportunity that will appeal to advanced collectors.

PCGS# 9177. NGC ID: 26G7.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



SMALL CENTS

Classic 1856 Flying Eagle Cent



1144

1856 Flying Eagle. Snow-9. MS-64 (PCGS). OGH. This is a beautiful example of the historic and perennially popular 1856 Flying Eagle cent. Warmly toned in deep golden-bronze patina, both sides also reveal flashes of pinkish-rose iridescence. The fields are subtly semi-reflective with the finish otherwise satiny in texture. The strike is universally sharp, and the surfaces are pleasingly smooth. A handsome coin that will be just perfect for a high end collection.

The 1856 Flying Eagle cent was first prepared as a pattern in late 1856 and early 1857 to illustrate the new small size cent in copper-nickel composition. These coins were envisioned as replacements for the costly large copper cents first struck in 1793. Later in 1857, and continuing through at least early 1860, the Mint struck additional examples. The earlier strikings were meant for distribution to Congressional leaders, Mint personnel and others in government posts, but by 1859, if not late 1858, Mint Director Colonel James Ross Snowden was striking 1856 Flying Eagle cents expressly for distribution to contemporary collectors. According to Rick Snow, the 1856 Flying Eagle cent had become so popular during the late 1850s that prices soon

reached \$2 per coin, sparking the nation's first coin collecting boom.

Snow-9 is the most frequently encountered die marriage of this classic issue, accounting for the vast majority of Proofs struck for collectors from 1856-dated dies circa 1859. The exact striking period for these coins is unknown, and production may have begun as early as 1858 and likely continued into 1860. We also do not know how many 1856 Flying Eagle cents were prepared during this later striking period. The coins were not part of a regular issue and the mintage was not reported by Mint personnel. Most of the coins that Director Snowden began selling to collectors in 1859 were struck in Proof format and the number extant suggests a mintage on the order of 1,500 pieces.

This coin is housed in a old style PCGS holder with a grade of MS-64 that classifies it as a circulation strike. In more recent years, however, PCGS has been certifying 1856 Flying Eagle cents from the Snow-9 die pairing as Proofs.

PCGS# 2013. NGC ID: B2CX.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1145

1857 Flying Eagle. Type of 1857. MS-64 (PCGS). OGH. Beautiful tan-apricot patina blankets both sides of this satiny, generally sharply struck example. The first examples of this issue were released to the public on May 25, 1857, amid much excitement. At the Philadelphia Mint two facilities were set up in the yard to exchange old large cents and half cents as well as the recently demonetized foreign silver coins, mostly in the form of Spanish colonial reales in various denominations. The changeover from the old large cents of days past to the new smaller Flying Eagle cents was a resounding success; lines of people went around the block waiting to exchange their coins. Soon the old large cents, familiar since childhood, were driven from daily use, along with the foreign silver coinage. High grade Mint State 1857 Flying Eagle cents such as this are perennially popular with type collectors as well as cent enthusiasts.

PCGS# 2016. NGC ID: 2276.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1146

1858 Large Letters, Low Leaves (Style of 1858), Type III. MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. A delightful Gem, with satin to softly frosted surfaces that display vivid pinkish-apricot and warmer golden-tan patina. The striking detail is razor sharp overall, and the surfaces are very nice for the assigned grade. Production of the smaller cents was stepped up in 1858, using dies prepared from two slightly but distinctly different obverse hubs. The first of these hubs — the Large Letters obverse — was originally used in 1857 and is most easily distinguishable by the fact that the letters AM in AMERICA are joined at their bases, while the second Small Letters hub has these two letters clearly separated. The Large Letters variety seems to have been produced in marginally larger quantities. Longacre's graceful interpretation of the Peale-Gobrecht eagle design from 20 years earlier proved to have some fundamental deficiencies that caused problems in production as well as in circulation. Because of the way the eagle was situated in relation to the cereal wreath on the reverse combined with the relatively high relief of the design, caused the coins to typically be softly struck, causing an overall lack of details even in Mint State. Attempts to rectify the problem proved inconsistent, prompting Mint officials to quickly replace the entire design for 1859.

PCGS# 2019. NGC ID: 2277.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1147

1858 Small Letters, Low Leaves (Style of 1858), Type II. MS-66 (NGC). CAC. Here is an exceptional condition rarity that will nicely represent this brief and challenging small cent design type. Fully struck with razor sharp detail throughout the design, this lovely Gem also displays full mint luster in a satin to softly frosted texture. It is attractively toned with blended medium tan and pale rose. Although the two obverse hub varieties of the 1858 Flying Eagle cent are most easily distinguished by the size of the letters in the legend, in reality the design of the Small Letters has been reworked in its entirety. In addition to spacing between the letters AM in AMERICA, this variety is distinguished from its Large Letters predecessor by shallower relief to the eagle with flatter feathers and the tail raised only minimally above the surrounding field area. Most circulation strikes of this variety are paired with the Type II Low Leaves Reverse hub, as here, which is identifiable by bold relief to the denomination ONE CENT and a nearly closed letter E in ONE. Of course, all hub varieties and combinations of the 1858 Flying Eagle cent are rare in the finest Mint State grades. The Larry H. Miller specimen of the 1858 Small Letters is tied for finest certified at NGC and in even more select company among MS-66s that have been approved by CAC.

PCGS# 2020. NGC ID: 2279.

NGC Census: 16; 0 finer.

CAC Population: 7; 0.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1148

1859 MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. This fully struck, highly lustrous example exhibits modest, semi-reflectivity in the fields that provides exceptional eye appeal. Otherwise softly frosted, vivid reddish-rose and tan-apricot patina enhances the desirability of this gorgeous example. More sharply struck, more attractive, and nearly as well preserved as many certified MS-65s that we have handled for this popular one year Indian cent design, this premium quality 1859 will be just right for a top flight type or date set.

PCGS# 2052. NGC ID: 227E.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1149

1860 Rounded Bust. MS-66 (NGC). CAC. This impressive premium Gem is fully struck with smooth, satin to softly frosted luster throughout. Both sides display original toning, wisps of pale pinkish-apricot enhancing a base of warmer medium tan. The supply of newer small cents in circulation had reached a point in the summer of 1860 at which the exchange program set up three years earlier to remove the old copper coins and foreign silver coins ceased. As a result, cent production was lower than it had been the previous year. Most of the 20,566,000 circulation strike Indian cents produced in 1860 were coined from dies prepared from the newly introduced Rounded Bust obverse hub. Thanks to widespread hoarding during the Civil War, this issue is readily obtainable in lower Mint State grades. Connoisseurs will take keen notice when this exceptional MS-66 example crosses the block, for it is a significant condition rarity that numbers among the finest graded by NGC.

PCGS# 2058. NGC ID: 227F.

NGC Census: 37; 4 finer (all MS-67).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1150

1861 MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. A handsome piece displaying warm tan-rose patina and softly frosted luster. With only 10,100,000 circulation strikes produced, the 1861 has the lowest mintage among copper-nickel Indian cents. This is the scarcest date of its type, not only because of the mintage, but also due to the wholesale redemption and melting of examples during the 1870s. Even so, Mint State survivors are fairly available due to hoarding of copper-nickel cents during the Civil War. On the other hand, premium quality Gems such as this are scarce relative to the demand for them among advanced Indian cent enthusiasts.

PCGS# 2061. NGC ID: 227G.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1151

1862 MS-65 (NGC). CAC. OH. Subtle pinkish-rose highlights blend with dominant medium tan patina on both sides of this wonderfully original example. The strike is full, the luster intense, and the surfaces evoke thoughts of an even higher grade. With 28,075,000 pieces struck, the 1862 cent is readily available in most Mint State grades, but few Gems can compare with the Larry H. Miller specimen in terms of either striking quality or eye appeal.

PCGS# 2064. NGC ID: 227H.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1152

1863 MS-65 (NGC). CAC. OH. This lovely Gem exhibits deep tan-apricot patina on the reverse. The obverse is even more vividly toned with an overlay of reddish-apricot iridescence throughout accented by rose and powder blue highlights. Sharply struck overall with a smooth and attractive appearance. With 49,840,000 pieces produced, the circulation strike 1863 Indian cent is readily available in most Mint State grades but becomes critically scarce above MS-65. The present example, challenging MS-65+ quality, is one of the nicest Gem Mint State examples of both the type and issue that we have offered in recent sales. Worthy of the strongest bids.

PCGS# 2067. NGC ID: 227J.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1153

1864 Copper-Nickel. MS-65 (NGC). Here is a lustrous and satiny Gem Mint State example of this challenging copper-nickel cent issue. Otherwise bright tan surfaces exhibit subtle pale rose highlights. A transitional year in the early Indian series, 1864 saw the production of the final copper-nickel coins as well as the first bronze examples. Mint State examples of the copper-nickel 1864 cent exist in large numbers thanks to hoarding during the later Civil War era. Most are in lower grades due to poor striking quality and/or surface preservation, however, the present MS-65 representing a significant find for the astute Indian cent enthusiast.

PCGS# 2070. NGC ID: 227K.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1154

1864 Bronze. MS-66 RD (NGC). Wisps of pretty pinkish-rose iridescence accent warmer golden-apricot color. This is a boldly struck and satiny Gem with much that will appeal to collectors of high grade Indian cents. Due to the economic uncertainty of the Civil War, gold, silver and, eventually, copper-nickel coins disappeared from circulation in the East and Midwest. Hoarding led to a coinage shortage in those regions that the federal government was slow to address. To fill the void, private merchants issued copper tokens on cent-size planchets, which became quite popular. The federal government finally issued its own bronze cent; the authorizing Act of April 22, 1864 also declared the merchants' tokens illegal. (Legislation that was widely ignored.)

Most 1864 bronze cents were struck from dies that do not display the designer's initial L on the obverse, many of which were leftover from the copper-nickel coinage of that year. The use of worn dies explains why most 1864 bronze cents are poorly defined. The present example does show evidence of die erosion on both sides, although the strike is still quite bold. Certainly an upper end example of the issue that is worthy of serious bidder consideration.

PCGS# 2078. NGC ID: 227L.

NGC Census: 29; 5 finer in this category (MS-67+ RD finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1155

1864 Bronze. L on Ribbon. Snow-3, FS-2302. Repunched Date. MS-65 RB (PCGS). CAC. OGH. A handsome Gem, with both sides exhibiting minimal iridescent olive-brown toning on dominant medium orange surfaces. Sharply struck overall with just a few minor carbon spots on the reverse precluding an even higher numeric grade. The popular L on Ribbon 1864 cent is the result of James Barton Longacre's redesign of his basic Indian Head design in anticipation of a change in alloy from copper-nickel to bronze. In addition to the placement of the designer's initial on the ribbon, the With L type exhibits a narrower bust point and sharper feathers in the headdress than its No L predecessor. Several times scarcer in an absolute sense than the bronze No L variety, the 1864 L on Ribbon is particularly desirable in the finer Mint State grades, as here.

One of several prominent Repunched Date varieties of the issue, Snow-3 exhibits bold repunching to the digits 1, 8 and, to a lesser extent, 6 in the date. Popular with specialists.

PCGS# 2080. NGC ID: 227M.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1156

1865 Fancy 5. MS-66 RB (NGC). CAC. This wonderfully original example features a blend of deep mint orange color and iridescent glossy-brown patina. The surfaces are frosty and smooth and the strike is razor sharp throughout the design. This second year bronze Indian cent issue has a mintage of 35,429,286 circulation strikes, a generous total that suggests that there was still a great need for new cents to rectify the coinage shortage that began early in the Civil War. As an issue the 1865 is readily obtainable in Mint State, although with the quality and eye appeal offered here it is a condition rarity. As one of the finest examples known to both NGC and CAC, in fact, this lovely coin is sure to find its way into another impressive Indian cent set.

Rick Snow (2014) estimates that 20 million of the circulation strike 1865 cents produced are of the Fancy 5 variety.

PCGS# 2083. NGC ID: 227N.

NGC Census: 18; with a single MS-67 RB finer in this category.

CAC Population: 9; 0.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1157

1866 MS-65 RB (NGC). CAC. Iridescent lilac-rose and olive-brown toning mingles with golden-orange mint color on both sides of this wonderfully original example. The luster is full and frosty, and the strike is sharp over all features. Early bronze Indian cents such as the 1866 are scarce to rare in the finest Mint State grades, especially with the superior eye appeal offered here.

PCGS# 2086. NGC ID: 227P.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1160

1869 MS-66 RB (PCGS). This handsome and fully original piece exhibits blended iridescent rose-brown toning and warm medium orange mint color. Highly lustrous and frosty with a razor sharp strike. One of the more challenging early date bronze cents to locate in high grades, the 1869 is more elusive than the 1866, 1867 and 1868. This is a superior quality survivor from a mintage of 6,420,000 circulation strikes.

PCGS# 2095. NGC ID: 227T.

NGC Census: 34; 0 finer in this category.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1158

1867 MS-63 BN (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Sharply struck with richly original antique copper-brown patina, both sides retain blushes of faded rose-red color around the peripheries.

PCGS# 2088. NGC ID: 227R.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1161

1869/69 Snow-3a, FS-301. Repunched Date. MS-64 RB (PCGS). OGH. Here is a handsome Choice Mint State example of this perennially popular variety in the early bronze Indian cent series. Plenty of deep rose mint color remains, and both sides also show light toning in iridescent steel-brown. Boldly struck with a satin to softly frosted finish. Once believed to be an 1869/8 overdate, the variety now cataloged as Snow-3 is one of the most pronounced repunched dates in the Indian cent series. The obverse proved to be a workhorse die paired with at least eight different reverses. Although Snow-3 as a whole is obtainable with patience in most grades, near-Gems such as this are scarce, especially with considerable mint red luster remaining. Neither the 1869/69 overdate nor the Snow-3, FS-301 attribution are not noted on the old style PCGS insert.

PCGS# 2095. NGC ID: 227T.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1159

1868 MS-65 RD (PCGS). CAC. OGH. A particularly vivid bronze Indian cent, the obverse exhibits splashes of salmon pink on dominant deep rose color. For the reverse we note even golden-apricot mint color. The texture is satin to softly frosted, the strike is razor sharp, and the eye appeal is outstanding. The 1868 is a lower mintage issue among circulation strike Indian cents with 10,266,500 coins struck. Many Mint State examples were destroyed during the recoinage of the 1870s, which saw the Mint redeem and melt large quantities of bronze cents dated 1864 to 1873. Among the survivors, problem free examples with superior technical quality and strong eye appeal are challenging to find, regardless of grade. This is one of the loveliest examples that we have handled in recent sales and will be just right for another advanced Indian cent set.

PCGS# 2093. NGC ID: 227S.

PCGS Population: 50; 8 finer in this category (MS-66+ RD finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1162

1870 Bold N. Snow-6. Repunched Date, Doubled Die Reverse. MS-63 RB (PCGS). OGH—Doily. A handsome and richly original example with light steel-brown toning on dominant autumn-orange mint color. Repunching is evident on the digits 18 in the date, while reverse doubling is most pronounced on the left upright of the letter N in ONE.

PCGS# 2098. NGC ID: 227U.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1163

1871 Bold N. MS-66 RB (NGC). CAC. This premium quality early date Indian cent is fully struck and displays mostly vivid autumn-orange color. It is lightly toned in iridescent olive-copper, and the surfaces are smooth and appealing with a softly frosted finish. The 1871 has a mintage of just 3,929,500 pieces. The Mint Act of 1871 authorized the Mint to redeem earlier dated copper, bronze and copper-nickel cents that had begun accumulating in bank reserves since the end of the Civil War. These excess coins, unwanted in circulation, were melted and the metal obtained used to mint new cents to meet current public demand. In 1874, the Mint improved this seemingly wasteful practice by simply reissuing the redeemed coins alongside newly minted pieces. That was in the future, however, and it is entirely likely that much of the mintage of the 1871, 1872 and 1873 issues never saw actual circulation. According to Rick Snow (2014), most examples of these issues “had [a] short round-trip from the Mint, to the banks and back to the Mint again, where they were melted.” The 1871 is a scarce to rare issue in all grades and is seldom offered as a premium quality Gem. Here is a significant bidding opportunity for the advanced Indian cent enthusiast.

PCGS# 2101. NGC ID: 227V.

NGC Census: 7; with a single MS-66+ RB finer in this category.

CAC Population: 2; 0.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1164

1872 Bold N. MS-66 BN (NGC). CAC. OH. This 1872 cent offers exceptional surface preservation for this well known and highly regarded key date early bronze Indian cents. Rich antique copper patina dominates the appearance, although there is also plenty of deep orange and, on the reverse, pinkish-rose colors. Lustrous and satiny surfaces are sharply struck, silky smooth and very pleasing.

One of the leading condition rarities in the Indian cent series, the 1872 has a mintage of 4,042,000 circulation strikes. This figure can be explained by limited commercial demand for cents during the Reconstruction era. Pursuant to the Act of March 3, 1871, the Treasury redeemed and melted 5,635,999 bronze cents in 1872 (along with 5,751,073 copper-nickel cents), thereby reducing banks' stocks of coins that were not needed in circulation. This redemption policy continued through 1881, many of the circulation strikes produced in 1872 meeting a similar fate in subsequent years. Since bank reserves were a primary source for Mint State examples of many classic U.S. Mint issues, relatively few Uncirculated 1872 cents survived. When offered in Mint State, the 1872 is apt to be poorly struck with little to no original color. As a sharply defined Gem with appreciable mint color remaining, the present example is truly significant.

PCGS# 2103. NGC ID: 227W.

NGC Census: 4; 0 finer in this category.

CAC Population: 2; 0.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1165

1873 Close 3. MS-65 RB (PCGS). CAC. OGH. A beautiful upper end Gem Mint State coin, both sides are sharply struck and have a smooth, lustrous appearance on both sides. Plenty of vivid rose-orange color remains, and the surfaces are attractively toned in iridescent steel and glossy-brown. The mintage of 11,676,500 pieces for the circulation strike 1873 is divided between Close 3 and Open 3 examples. The former were struck from dies prepared before Chief Coiner Archibald Lowden Snowden's letter of January 18, 1873, to Mint Director Henry R. Linderman in which the chief coiner asserted that the close 3 date logotype was easily mistaken for 1878. Although no official record exists on the exact number of each variety produced, the 1873 Close 3 is scarcer and has an estimated mintage of 2,500,000 pieces (per Q. David Bowers, 2006 and Rick Snow, 2014). Premium quality Gems such as this are in the distinct minority among survivors and represent a significant find when offered.

PCGS# 2110. NGC ID: 227X.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1166

1873 Open 3. MS-65 RD (PCGS). CAC. OGH. This rare Gem full Red 1873 Open 3 cent features vivid reddish-orange mint color that provides outstanding eye appeal. It is satiny to softly frosted, with razor sharp striking detail and silky smooth surfaces. A find for the discerning Indian cent enthusiast, and sure to sell for a strong premium. The Open 3 is the more frequently encountered date logotype of the circulation strike 1873 Indian cent. These coins were struck from dies prepared after Chief Coiner Archibald Loudon Snowden lobbied successfully to replace its Close 3 predecessor in a letter to Mint Director Henry R. Linderman on January 18 of that year. Rick Snow (2014) estimates that 9,000,000 of the 11,676,500 circulation strike cents produced in 1873 are of the Open 3 variety. Even so, this issue is scarce by the standards of the type, most examples were redeemed and melted without seeing active circulation pursuant to the terms of the Mint Act of 1871. This is a particularly fortunate survivor whose premium quality surfaces place it among the finer certified available to today's Indian cent collectors.

PCGS# 2108. NGC ID: 227Y.

PCGS Population: 32; 20 finer in this category (MS-66 RD finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1167

1874 MS-65 RD (PCGS). OGH. Blended deep orange and more vivid reddish-rose colors are seen on both sides of this beautiful Gem Mint State example. It is frosty and smooth with bold to sharp striking detail enhancing its appeal. While there may be more than a thousand Mint State 1874 cents remaining from the mintage of 14,187,500 pieces, most are at the Choice levels of preservation, and most of those qualify as Red Brown. Gem Mint State specimens with full original mint red color are true condition rarities and eagerly sought after by small cent specialists. An opportunity not to be missed.

PCGS# 2120. NGC ID: 227Z.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1168

1875 Snow-16, FS-801. Intentional Die Alteration. MS-65 RB (NGC). CAC. Here is a beautiful example of this interesting variety, with both sides exhibiting a rich blend of deep rose-orange mint color and lighter steely-olive patina. Sharply struck with expertly preserved surfaces, there is not much separating this premium quality example from an even higher grade. Fivaz and Stanton in their *Cherrypickers' Guide* conjecture that this variety was produced as part of a "sting operation" to catch a long-time Mint employee suspected of theft. The Mint's theft investigation is well documented, and an altered 1875 Indian cent die was part of the "sting." Rick Snow features it in his new (2014) two-volume study of the series. It is also listed in *A Guide Book of United States Coins* (as 1875, Dot Reverse, where it is not priced in any grade). The example offered here is one of the very finest known.

PCGS# 2122. NGC ID: 2282.

NGC Census (FS-801 attribution only): 1; 0 finer. There are no RD examples of this variety reported by that service.

Although attributed as FS-901 by NGC, this variety is listed as FS-801 in the *Cherrypicker's Guide*.*From the Larry H. Miller Collection.*

1169

1876 MS-65 RD (PCGS). CAC. OGH. A frosty and sharply struck example with fully original color on both sides. The obverse features warm deep rose, while the reverse exhibits a more vivid reddish-orange hue. The Mint redeemed 5,932,723 bronze cents in 1876, reissuing 5,599,500 examples to meet much of the commercial demand that year. As a result, only 7,944,000 new coins were produced from 1876-dated dies, this being one of the lower mintage circulation strike issues of its era. A superior quality survivor, the present example is a highlight of the fabulous Larry H. Miller Indian cent set.

PCGS# 2126. NGC ID: 2283.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Landmark Full Red Gem 1877 Indian Cent Famous Key Date Issue



1170

1877 Snow-2. MS-65 RD (PCGS). OGH. Offered is a rare and highly desirable Gem Mint State example of the key date 1877 Indian cent. Highly lustrous with a frosty texture, both sides retain full mint color in deep rose. Sharply to fully struck throughout, both sides are nice for the assigned grade and offer extraordinary eye appeal. Worthy of a premium bid.

With just 852,500 pieces produced, the 1877 has the lowest mintage among circulation strike Indian cents after only the final year 1909-S (309,000 struck). The 1877 is rarer than the 1909-S in all grades, however, because it was made during an era in which most collectors were content to obtain a Proof. As a result, circulation strike 1877 cents were generally overlooked in their day, and most found their way into commerce, which generally meant several years of recycling between the Mint and banks.

Although popular during the Civil War and early Reconstruction eras when silver and gold coins had disappeared from circulation in the East and Midwest, by the 1870s large quantities of bronze cents had begun to accumulate in banks as public demand

for them waned. Through the Act of March 3, 1871, Congress authorized the Mint to redeem these bronze cents (along with copper and nickel coins), melt them, and use the metal retrieved to strike new coins. In 1874 the Mint modified this practice by simply reissuing the redeemed coins alongside whatever newly struck examples were required to meet demand. In 1877, a depression year, the Philadelphia Mint redeemed an unusually large number of bronze cents — 9,908,148 coins (per Rick Snow, 2014) — and reissued 9,821,500 coins, largely meeting demand. Relatively few new coins were required, explaining the small mintage for the circulation strike 1877 Indian cent.

This issue is eagerly sought in all grades, both circulated and Mint State. The present Gem is a significant condition rarity that numbers among the leading Indian cent highlights in the Larry H. Miller Collection.

PCGS# 2129. NGC ID: 2284.

PCGS Population: 25; 11 finer in this category (MS-66+ RD finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1171

1878 MS-65 RD (NGC). OGH. Handsome deep rose mint color blankets both sides of this frosty and smartly impressed example. Continuing a trend begun in 1876, the Mint reissued an unusually large number of earlier-dated bronze cents in 1878, resulting in little need for new coins. New coinage amounted to just 5,797,500

circulation strikes in 1878, and survivors are scarce to rare in all but the lowest circulated grades. This is one of the finer certified examples, and it is sure to sell for a strong premium.

PCGS# 2132. NGC ID: 2285.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1172

1879 MS-63 RD (NGC). CAC. OH. A lovely, premium quality coin for the assigned grade, both sides exhibit vivid pinkish-orange color to satiny surfaces. Sharply struck with superior quality and eye appeal at the MS-63 level.

PCGS# 2135. NGC ID: 2286.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1175

1882 MS-64 RB (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Original mint orange surfaces are toned with slightly mottled steely-brown and golden-bronze patina.

PCGS# 2143. NGC ID: 2289.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1173

1880 MS-64 RB (PCGS). CAC. OGH. This handsome Choice Mint State Indian cent exhibits blended copper-brown iridescence and deep autumn-orange mint color.

PCGS# 2137. NGC ID: 2287.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1176

1883 MS-64 RB (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Attractive deep rose surfaces are minimally toned and nice enough to evoke thoughts of an even higher grade. Razor sharp to full striking detail enhances the appeal of this premium quality example.

PCGS# 2146. NGC ID: 228A.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1174

1881 MS-64 RB (PCGS). OGH—Doily. This gorgeous near-Gem is highly lustrous with a blend of reddish-orange, salmon pink and steel-brown on both sides. Sharp to full striking detail adds to the appeal.

PCGS# 2140. NGC ID: 2288.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1177

1884 MS-64 RB (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Far more Red than Brown, vivid mint color in deep rose-orange dominates both sides. A lustrous, sharply struck, smooth-looking example that seems conservatively graded by PCGS.

PCGS# 2149. NGC ID: 228B.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



THE LARRY H. MILLER COLLECTION • PART TWO



1178

1885 MS-64 RB (PCGS). A richly original example with vivid golden-orange mint color and overlay of mottled, iridescent steel-brown patina.

PCGS# 2152. NGC ID: 228C.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1181

1887 MS-64 RB (NGC). CAC. OH. Iridescent golden-brown patina mingles with autumn-orange mint color on both sides of this wonderfully original, visually appealing example.

PCGS# 2158. NGC ID: 228F.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1179

1886 Type I Obverse. MS-63 BN (PCGS). CAC. OGH. While remnants of reddish-orange mint color can be seen, rich antique copper-brown patina dominates this handsome Indian cent. The Type I attribution is not noted on the old style PCGS insert.

PCGS# 2154. NGC ID: 272Y.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1182

1888 MS-64 RB (NGC). CAC. OH. Minimally toned surfaces retain nearly complete mint color in vivid reddish-orange. A premium quality coin for the assigned grade that is sure to appeal to discerning bidders.

PCGS# 2167. NGC ID: 228G.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1180

1886 Type II Obverse. MS-64 RB (NGC). CAC. Smartly impressed and satiny with plenty of vivid rose-orange mint color. Chief Engraver Charles E. Barber (or another engraver on staff) slightly modified the obverse of the Indian cent in 1886, lowering the relief and reducing the width of Liberty's portrait. The Type II Obverse is further distinguished by the removal of the extra outlines to the letters in the legend UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and the lack of a gap between the lower hair curl and the bottom of the ribbon. The most widely known feature, however, is the lowermost feather in Liberty's headdress pointing between the letters CA in AMERICA. The Type II Obverse received its first notice in 1954 when Michigan dealer Jim Reynolds wrote of it in the *Numismatic Scrapbook* magazine. It has since been recognized as scarcer than its Type I Obverse, with Rick Snow (2014) estimating that of the 17,654,290 circulation strike cents produced in 1886 only 7,650,000 were of the Type II Obverse.

PCGS# 92155. NGC ID: 228E.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1183

1889 MS-64 RB (PCGS). CAC. OGH. A handsome, fully original example with blushes of salmon pink and steel-brown iridescence on dominant golden-orange mint color. Softly frosted with most design elements boldly to sharply rendered.

PCGS# 2173. NGC ID: 228H.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1184

1890 MS-64 RB (NGC). CAC. OH. Deep rose color dominates the appearance, and both sides also display original steely-brown iridescence that is a bit bolder on the obverse. A boldly struck and nicely preserved example.

PCGS# 2176. NGC ID: 228J.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1187

1893 MS-64 RB (PCGS). CAC. OGH. An attractive Choice Mint State quality cent with a bold strike and much of the original rose-red color remaining.

PCGS# 2185. NGC ID: 228M.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1185

1891 MS-63 RD (PCGS). OGH. Vivid rose-red color provides superior eye appeal at the assigned grade level.

PCGS# 2180. NGC ID: 228K.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1188

1894 MS-64 RD (NGC). CAC. This lovely Choice Mint State Indian cent is sharply struck, frosty, and features vivid deep rose-red color. Light clash marks (as made) in the upper left obverse field add interest.

PCGS# 2189. NGC ID: 228N.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1186

1892 MS-64 RB (PCGS). OGH. Richly toned in medium brown, both sides retain plenty of original deep orange mint color that is most vivid around the peripheries.

PCGS# 2182. NGC ID: 228L.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1189

1895 MS-66 RD (PCGS). OGH. A gorgeous upper end Gem with intense reddish-rose color on frosty, pristine-looking surfaces. From a mintage of 38,341,574 circulation strikes, this coin is equally well suited for inclusion in a high grade type set or an advanced Indian cent collection.

PCGS# 2192. NGC ID: 228P.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



THE LARRY H. MILLER COLLECTION • PART TWO



1190

1896 MS-66 RD (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Frosty in finish and exceptionally well preserved, this beautiful premium Gem offers a vivid blend of reddish-rose and golden-orange. Obtainable with ease in lower grades, high quality Mint State survivors from the 39,055,431-piece mintage are scarcer than those of most other circulation strike Indian cents from the late 1890s. A find for the astute collector.

PCGS# 2195. NGC ID: 228R.

PCGS Population: 27; 14 finer in this category (MS-67 RD finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1191

1897 MS-64 RB (PCGS). OGH. Light to medium salmon pink color on the obverse gives way to softer pale rose on the reverse. Both sides are frosty in texture with a bold to sharp strike.

PCGS# 2197. NGC ID: 228S.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1192

1898 MS-64 RB (NGC). CAC. OH. Vivid deep orange mint color is enhanced by iridescent highlights of salmon pink, steel-brown and blue-gray. A premium quality example that is at the uppermost reaches of the assigned grade.

PCGS# 2200. NGC ID: 228T.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1193

1899 MS-64 RB (PCGS). OGH. Mottled flint gray and rose-brown patina with mint orange color that is more pronounced on the reverse.

PCGS# 2203. NGC ID: 228U.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1194

1900 MS-65 RD (PCGS). CAC. OGH. This frosty and vivid light orange example is expertly preserved and very close to an even higher Gem Mint State grade.

PCGS# 2207. NGC ID: 228V.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1195

1901 MS-65 RB (NGC). CAC. OH. Minimally toned in iridescent golden-brown, bold medium orange mint color dominates the in hand appearance of this premium quality Gem.

PCGS# 2209. NGC ID: 228W.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1196

1902 MS-65 RD (PCGS). CAC. OGH. With vivid rose-orange color, smooth surfaces and a universally sharp strike, this gorgeous Indian cent will please even the most discerning bidders.

PCGS# 2213. NGC ID: 228X.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1199

1905 MS-65 RD (NGC). CAC. OH. Beautiful golden-rose surfaces are sharply struck with a smooth frosty texture throughout.

PCGS# 2222. NGC ID: 2292.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1197

1903 MS-64 RB (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Iridescent rose-brown toning mingles with deep orange mint color on both sides of this richly original, premium quality example.

PCGS# 2215. NGC ID: 228Y.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1200

1906 MS-65 RB (NGC). CAC. OH. This minimally toned, visually appealing example retains much of the original mint color.

PCGS# 2224. NGC ID: 2293.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1198

1904 MS-65 RD (PCGS). CAC. OGH. A frosty and vivid Gem Indian cent with reddish-orange color on the obverse, warmer rose-red on the reverse.

PCGS# 2219. NGC ID: 228Z.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1201

1907 MS-65 RD (NGC). OH. Frosty surfaces exhibit a bold blend of vivid rose-red and pale orange colors. Sharply to fully struck with a pleasingly smooth appearance.

PCGS# 2228. NGC ID: 2294.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



THE LARRY H. MILLER COLLECTION • PART TWO



1202

1908 MS-65 RD (PCGS). Mottled pale rose and reddish-brown colors are seen on both sides of this handsome Gem Mint State cent. A speck of verdigris and associated toning spot at the left reverse border are noted.

PCGS# 2231. NGC ID: 2295.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1203

1908-S MS-64 BN (NGC). CAC. OH. Rich steely-bronze patina dominates the appearance of this handsome piece, although there is plenty of original rose-orange color as well. The first mintmarked cent in U.S. coinage, striking of the 1908-S began on November 27 of that year on presses that were normally used in the production of silver coins. With only a few weeks to go before year's end, the 1908-S turned out to be a low mintage issue with 1,115,000 pieces delivered. Survivors have always been popular with numismatists, be they mintmarked type collectors or Indian cent specialists.

PCGS# 2232. NGC ID: 2296.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1204

1909 Indian. MS-65 RD (PCGS). CAC. OGH. From the final year of Indian cent production comes this sharply struck and vivid Gem Mint State coin featuring beautiful colors of rose and orange-red.

PCGS# 2237. NGC ID: 2297.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1205

1909-S Indian. MS-64 RB (PCGS). CAC. OGH. A predominantly golden-orange cent with light toning in iridescent brown on both sides. The strike is superior by the standards of this challenging issue, and surface preservation is at the uppermost reaches of Choice Mint State quality. The second mintmarked cent in U.S. coinage, the 1909-S has the lowest mintage in the Indian series with 309,000 pieces produced. These coins were struck in January and February of that year, after which production was halted as the San Francisco Mint prepared to receive the first of the new Lincoln cent dies from Philadelphia. With contemporary numismatic and other interest focused on the new cent design, and especially the controversy surrounding the designer's initials V.D.B., the 1909-S Indian cent was largely overlooked by speculators. Even so, enough Mint State examples were set aside to meet current demand in lower grades. We are pleased to offer this premium quality MS-64 from the Larry H. Miller Collection, a coin that will have no difficulty finding its way into another advanced cabinet.

PCGS# 2239. NGC ID: 2298.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



TWO-CENT PIECES

Gem Mint State 1864 Small Motto Two-Cent Piece
Full Red
Impressive Condition Rarity



1206

1864 FS-401. Small Motto. MS-65 RD (PCGS). OGH. This coin offers amazing quality and eye appeal for this key hub type from the first year of two-cent coinage. The surfaces are exceptionally vivid deep rose-red and lighter golden-orange, with tinges of pale salmon-pink. Richly frosted and razor sharp, the reverse impression is ideally centered, although that on the obverse is drawn trivially to 2 o'clock, affecting only the border. A few faint carbon spots on the obverse are all that seem to preclude an even higher Gem Mint State grade.

The two-cent piece made its debut in 1864 at a time when gold and silver coinage had long since been absent from circulation in the Eastern and Midwestern states due to the economic turmoil and uncertainty of the Civil War. Struck in bronze, the new denomination was not subject to hoarding and, as such, initially proved popular in commerce. After the War, however, production rapidly dropped off until the two-cent piece was ultimately consigned to the history books in 1873.

While plans for the new denomination were being finalized, Secretary of the Treasury Salmon P. Chase had heard the appeals of Reverend Mark R. Watkinson of Pennsylvania and decided that the new two-cent coin would include a statement of faith, ultimately settling on *IN GOD WE TRUST*. The new coin was ready by 1864 and the first versions introduced bore the motto on the obverse in small letters on a ribbon above the shield, flanked by laurel sprays. Not long after its debut, the obverse hub was modified to render the letters somewhat larger, and this hub became the standard for the rest of the short-lived series.

The 1864 is the most plentiful date in this series, and as a first year issue it is popular for type purposes. The Small Motto variety, however, is an important rarity. Scarce in circulated grades, the 1864 Small Motto is very scarce in Mint State with either a BN or RB color designation. Full Red coins are very rare, particularly in the finest Mint State grades, as here.

PCGS# 3581. NGC ID: 22N8.

PCGS Population: 21; 8 finer in this category (MS-66 RD finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1207

1864 Large Motto. MS-65 RD (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Frosty deep orange surfaces are as nice as the day the coin emerged from the dies. The final letter S in STATES is partially obscured by a shallow strike through (as made). Otherwise we note razor sharp detail throughout the design. The lion's share of the 19,847,500 two-cent pieces coined in the first year of the denomination are of the Large Motto variety, making it popular for type sets. Examples are reasonably available in the middle range of Mint State up to MS-65, however most are Red and Brown. Only a comparative few attain the full Red designation, and fewer of these grade MS-65 or finer. This is a significant Gem example that will certainly appeal to advanced collectors.

PCGS# 3578. NGC ID: 22N9.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1208

1865 Fancy 5. MS-65 RD (PCGS). OGH. Handsome deep rose mint color mingles with frosty luster on both sides of this Gem Mint State two-cent piece. The upper right obverse border exhibits an interesting retained cud break (as made) through the final letter T in TRUST, the right arrow head, and the right ribbon end. Mint State examples of the 1865 two-cent piece are popular for type purposes, and attractive coins are available in grades up to and including MS-65 Red and Brown. Full Red examples are also obtainable, but they are scarce to rare beginning at the MS-65 RD level. Among our finer offerings for the issue in recent years, the premium Gem Larry H. Miller specimen would make an impressive addition to another advanced cabinet.

PCGS# 3584. NGC ID: 22NA.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1209

1866 MS-65 RD (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Fully struck with bountiful rose-orange mint color, this handsome coin is also lustrous and frosty. A much rarer issue in all grades than the 1864 Large Motto and 1865, the 1866 can be a challenging two-cent piece to locate even at the lower reaches of Mint State. Premium-quality Gems are rare, especially if they also feature full Red color. Superior quality and eye appeal for the assigned grade, and worthy of the strongest bids.

PCGS# 3590. NGC ID: 274R.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1210

1867 MS-65 RD (PCGS). CAC. OGH. This beautiful premium Gem exhibits a smooth, satiny finish with full mint color of vivid deep rose-orange. While the 1867 is one of the more readily obtainable two-cent issues, it is considerably rarer than the 1864 Large Motto, 1865 and 1866 in the finest Mint State grades, as here. Few coins certified MS-65 RD by PCGS or NGC are as technically solid and visually appealing as the Larry H. Miller specimen offered here.

PCGS# 3593. NGC ID: 22NB.

PCGS Population: 26; 8 finer in this category (MS-66+ RD finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1211

1868 MS-66 RD (NGC). OH. This handsome two-cent piece exhibits dominant deep rose mint color, with some intermingled blushes of antique gold and pale steel-blue on both sides. It is satiny and smooth and features a razor sharp strike. The 1868 is the final circulation strike two-cent piece has a mintage of 2,938,750 pieces, and it is one of the more readily obtainable issues of the type in today's market. With the phenomenal surface preservation offered here, however, the 1868 is very challenging to locate. Attractive through and through, and worthy of the strongest bid.

PCGS# 3599. NGC ID: 22NC.

NGC Census: 3; 0 finer in either this service or PCGS.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1213

1870 MS-65 RD (PCGS). OGH. Vivid rose-orange mint color is seen on both sides of this attractive Gem. Sharply to fully struck throughout with soft satin to frosty luster. The first two-cent issue with a circulation strike delivery of fewer than 1 million coins, the 1870 is a scarce-to-rare offering in all Mint State grades. Most such pieces exhibit either BN or RB surfaces, with full Red examples seldom encountered at even the largest numismatic gatherings. Once again, an important bidding opportunity from the Larry H. Miller Collection.

PCGS# 3608. NGC ID: 22NE.

PCGS Population: 17; 3 finer in this category (MS-66 RD finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1212

1869 MS-65 RD (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Subtle rose highlights mingle with dominant autumn-orange mint color on both sides of this wonderfully original example. A smartly impressed, smooth and attractive coin that is not far from an even higher Gem Mint State rating. While much scarcer than the 1864 Large Motto and 1865, the 1869 (1,546,500 circulation strikes produced) is still readily obtainable in grades through Choice Mint State. In Gem, however, this issue becomes a severe condition rarity, especially with full Red color, as here.

PCGS# 3605. NGC ID: 22ND.

PCGS Population: 32; 8 finer in this category (MS-67 RD finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1214

1871 MS-65 RD (PCGS). OGH. A satiny and vivid coin that offers full pinkish-orange mint color. The penultimate circulation strike in the two-cent series, the 1871 is one of the scarcer issues of its type with a mintage of 721,250 pieces. It can be readily found in lower Mint State grades, but is a considerable rarity with original Red surfaces. Gem Red examples, like the present piece, are truly significant finds.

PCGS# 3611. NGC ID: 22NF.

PCGS Population: 19; 10 finer in this category (MS-66+ RD finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Exceptional Full Red Gem 1872 Two-Cent Piece

Key Date Issue



1215

1872 MS-65 RD (PCGS). OGH. The 1872 is an elusive and conditionally challenging date among circulation strike two-cent pieces. The Miller Collection example is an impressive Red Gem that displays dominant light orange color, and subtle steel-olive undertones. The finish is remarkably prooflike with noticeable semi-reflectivity in the fields and satiny, smartly impressed design elements. Expertly preserved with abundant visual appeal, this coin will be just right for another advanced collection of this curious 19th century denomination.

Although Congress did not abolish the two-cent piece until early 1873 (through the Mint Act of February 12, 1873), 1872 is the

last year in which the Mint actually produced circulation strike coins of this type. Why it did so is a mystery since by the early 1870s the two-cent piece was no longer a popular denomination in circulation. In keeping with this fact, the Philadelphia Mint struck only 65,000 two-cent pieces for circulation in 1872. This date is by far the rarest in the circulation strike two-cent series both in terms of total number of coins known and number of coins extant in Mint State. In full Red Gem Mint State, as here, the 1872 is a significant condition rarity.

PCGS# 3614. NGC ID: 22NG.

PCGS Population: 7; 6 finer in this category (MS-66 RD finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1216

1873 Close 3. Proof-65 RD (PCGS). OGH. This is a particularly vivid specimen bathed in deep reddish-rose and autumn-orange. The texture is satiny and generally smooth, and the strike is fully executed throughout. The 1873 two-cent piece is a Proof-only issue and examples are known with both the Close 3 and Open 3 date logotypes. Per traditional numismatic wisdom, the Close 3 is the original that represents the final delivery in the regular issue two-cent series. Since the Mint of the early 1870s did not keep records on the number of Proof minor coins struck, we can only estimate the mintage for the 1873 Close 3. At least 600 specimens were delivered as part of the year's silver and minor coin Proof sets, but the number of coins extant suggests that a couple of hundred additional pieces may have been struck. One of the finest certified survivors that we have offered in recent years, this full Red Gem example is worthy of strong bids.

PCGS# 3653. NGC ID: 2753.

PCGS Population: 20; 14 finer in this category (Proof-67 RD finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1217

1873 Open 3. Proof-65 RB (PCGS). CAC. OGH—First Generation. Lovely steel-brown and pinkish-lilac iridescence mingles with original medium orange mint color on both sides of this exceptional Gem Proof specimen. Fully struck and expertly preserved. This is the more elusive of the two date logotypes of the final year Proof-only 1873 two-cent piece; survivors are approximately two and a half times rarer than their Close 3 counterparts. Traditional numismatic wisdom has it that the Close 3 examples are originals and the Open 3 specimens restrikes, although there is no documentary evidence to support this theory. The Open 3 is a significant condition rarity above the Proof-64 level of preservation, and the premium Gem offered here is of further desirability given the amount of original mint color that it retains. A fitting conclusion to the impressive two-cent set in the Larry H. Miller Collection.

PCGS# 3655. NGC ID: 2754.

PCGS Population: 24; 20 finer in this category (Proof-66+ RB finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



DIMES



1218

1892 MS-66 (NGC). CAC. An outstanding way to open the Barber dime set in the Larry H. Miller Collection, this first year 1892 is a sharply struck, fully frosted Gem. Wisps of iridescent champagne-gold toning is seen at the peripheries and enhances the eye appeal. Bold clash marks (as made) in the fields around the central design elements add interest.

PCGS# 4796. NGC ID: 23DK.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1220

1892-S MS-64 (NGC). CAC. Intensely lustrous, frosty-textured surfaces are fully toned on both sides. Razor sharp striking detail and impressive surface preservation are also worthy of mention. The scarcest of the three 1892-dated circulated strike issues in the Barber dime series, the 1892-S has a mintage of 990,710 coins and was not saved in significant numbers despite its first year status.

PCGS# 4798. NGC ID: 23DM.

NGC Census: 42; 5 finer (MS-66 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1219

1892-O MS-64 (NGC). CAC. This first year of issue Barber dime from the New Orleans Mint is frosty and sharply struck. The surfaces are brilliant apart from a whisper of pale silver iridescence. Equally well suited for a mintmarked type set or a specialized collection of New Orleans Mint or Barber coinage.

PCGS# 4797. NGC ID: 23DL.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1221

1893/2 MS-64 (NGC). CAC. This bright frosty-white example displays razor sharp striking detail throughout the design. A popular if enigmatic variety, the status of the circulation strike 1893/2 Barber dime as a true overdate has been called into question in recent years. According to John W. Dannreuther, who conducted extensive research on a *Proof* of this variety, the so-called 1893/2 overdate is actually an 1893/3 repunched date. This conclusion has not yet extended to the associated circulation strike, however, and PCGS continues to attribute it as an overdate. On the other hand, NGC no longer recognizes this variety as an overdate, and both the *Proof* and circulation strike 1893/2 have been delisted from the firm's *Census*. Regardless, the 1893/2 continues to fascinate Barber dime enthusiasts and variety specialists. The present near-Gem exhibits superior technical quality and a pleasing appearance.

PCGS# 4799. NGC ID: 23DP.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



THE LARRY H. MILLER COLLECTION • PART TWO



1222

1893 MS-66 (NGC). This brilliant and beautiful premium Gem example would do equally well in a high grade type or variety set. Satin to softly frosted in finish with razor sharp striking detail.

PCGS# 4800. NGC ID: 23DN.

NGC Census: 17; 6 finer (MS-67 ★ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1224

1893-S MS-65 (NGC). Brilliant surfaces allow full appreciation of intense satin to softly frosted luster. Here is a fully struck, expertly preserved coin that will please even the most discerning numismatist. A heavily circulated issue from the second year of the Barber dime series, the 1893-S (2,491,401 pieces produced) is actually much rarer in Mint State than the low mintage 1913-S and 1915-S. Conditionally rare at the premium Gem grade level, the Larry H. Miller specimen represents an important bidding opportunity for the astute collector.

PCGS# 4802. NGC ID: 23DS.

NGC Census: 16; with a single MS-65+ finer.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1223

1893-O MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Frosty and mostly brilliant with attractive blushes of reddish-gold iridescence around the peripheries on both sides. The striking detail is razor sharp to full throughout, certainly well above average for a Barber coin from the New Orleans Mint. After a generous output of 3,841,700 pieces in 1892, the New Orleans Mint produced only 1,760,000 dimes in 1893. Yearly mintages from this coinage facility remained lower through 1897, and all O-Mint dimes of the 1893 to 1897 era are scarce key dates. This premium quality Choice Uncirculated example will be just right for another advanced collection of Barber coinage.

PCGS# 4801. NGC ID: 23DR.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1225

1894 MS-65 (NGC). Softly frosted and smooth surfaces are lightly toned in pretty champagne-pink iridescence.

PCGS# 4803. NGC ID: 23DT.

NGC Census: 21; 13 finer (MS-67 ★ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Seldom Offered Premium Gem 1894-O Dime



1226

1894-O MS-66 (PCGS). CAC. This impressive condition rarity from the early Barber dime series is very well produced for a New Orleans Mint coin of this type. The striking detail on both sides is actually very close to full. The surfaces are fully lustrous with a smooth, softly frosted finish. Original toning features a blend of rich olive-gray, powder blue, salmon pink and champagne-gold and adds to the appeal of this highly desirable coin.

The 1894-O has a low mintage (720,000) that, like most New Orleans Mint Barber coins, suffered a high rate of attrition

through circulation. It is the second rarest Barber dime from this mint in terms of total number of Mint State examples known, and it is actually the rarest in MS-65 and higher grades, surpassing even the more highly regarded 1895-O. (These rankings are per Jeff Ambio in his 2009 book *Collecting & Investing Strategies for Barber Dimes*.) A highlight of the Larry H. Miller Barber dime set, and a perfect choice for another highly regarded cabinet.

PCGS# 4804. NGC ID: 23DU.

PCGS Population: 7; 5 finer (MS-67+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Lot 1227
1894-S Proof-65 (NGC). CAC.



Legendary 1894-S Barber Dime

One of Just 24 Coins Struck

Only Nine Examples Known

The Eliasberg Specimen



1227

1894-S Proof-65 (NGC). CAC. “The 1894-S Barber dime.” “The 1894-S dime.” “The ‘94-S.” The mere mention of this coin, is enough to attract the attention of even casual collectors of United States coinage. It is one of the classic rarities in all of numismatics, a legendary coin in the same league as the 1804 silver dollar and 1913 Liberty Head nickel. Indeed, legend has long surrounded the 1894-S dime; the yarns that have been spun to explain its production, distribution and the discovery of individual examples are as captivating as its rarity. Modern scholarship has shed much light on this issue, but while the true story of its creation is not as dramatic as the various theories and myths that have cropped up over the years, the issue has lost none of its mystique. The stories that kindled excitement in the minds of earlier generations of numismatists researching or discussing the 1894-S dime, are the same stories that will continue to fascinate today’s collectors as well as future generations.

There are many reasons why the 1894-S Barber dime is ranked No. 4 in the popular reference *100 Greatest U.S. Coins* by Jeff Garrett and Ron Guth (third edition published 2008). It is likely that any collector could name the coins found in the top three rankings: the 1913 Liberty Head nickel, of which only five are known; the MCMVII Ultra High Relief Saint-Gaudens double eagle, widely regarded as the most beautiful coin ever struck in the United States Mint; and the mysterious 1933 Saint-Gaudens double eagle, the only example considered legal to own once being the central player in a U.S. government sting operation.

Rounding out the list of the top five of the 100 greatest U.S. coins in this list is, of course, the “King of American Coins,” the 1804 silver dollar. The 1894-S dime is clearly in very select company at the apex of U.S. numismatics.

First and foremost among the reasons for the 1894-S dime’s enduring fame is its rarity. For most numismatists, “dreaming about,” “casually discussing,” or “researching” are as close as they will get to an 1894-S dime. Only 24 examples were struck with a net mintage of just 21 coins after three were assayed. As of this writing, only nine specimens are positively confirmed to exist. Market appearances are usually few and far between, for 1894-S dimes have traditionally spent years, if not decades, in tightly held collections. The fact that three have been offered in the 16-month period beginning with our August 2019 ANA Auction is far from the norm. Even collectors with sufficient funds to acquire an 1894-S dime are often delayed in, if not denied, realizing their dream for lack of a buying opportunity. The specimen offered here is making its first auction appearance in 20 years -- illustrating the important bidding opportunity that this offering represents.

Also crucial to the fame of the 1894-S dime are the theories, stories and myths that have been passed down over the years since it was discovered. So entrenched is the legend of this dime, that we begin our discussion with the more popular theories surrounding its creation and the existence of a few of the survivors.



Creation of a Rarity: The Theories

Over the years a number of theories have been advanced to explain the striking of just 24 dimes at the San Francisco Mint in 1894. Four of these theories have proved particularly popular with numismatic researchers.

Theory No. 1 - - Closing out a Bullion Account

One of the earliest theories advanced to explain the striking of just 24 dimes at the San Francisco Mint in 1894 originated with Farran Zerbe (former president of the American Numismatic Association), and was published in the April 1928 issue of *The Numismatist*, Volume XLI. In an article titled "Two Extreme Rarities in Recent U.S. Coinage," Zerbe is quoted as follows:

To close a bullion account at the San Francisco Mint at the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 1894, it was found necessary to show 40 cents, odd in the year's coinage. The mint not having coined any dimes during the year, the dime dies were put to work, and to produce the needed 40 cents, 24 pieces were struck, any reasonable amount of even dollars over the 40 cents being readily absorbed in the account. It has been stated that at the time no thought was given by the mint people that a rarity has been produced, it being supposed that they would, as always in the past, be ordered to coin dimes before the close of the year. It so happened that no dime coinage was ordered and the unintentional error was not realized until the year's coinage record was closed. It is said that two or three of the pieces were obtained by mint people at the time of coinage, "just to have a new dime," and following the disclosure of rarity these were sold to collectors for \$25 or more a piece. Except these two or three pieces, the coinage is said to have gone into a bag with other dimes and is supposed to have passed from the mint for circulation. I do not know of prices. One of the stories I have heard is of a barber in Olean, N.Y., who for years had been kidded by his friends for scrutinizing every dime that came his way for 1894 and the S mint mark, was eventually rewarded for discovering one, which was sold for \$100. My information about the limited coinage was obtained at the San Francisco mint in 1905.

Zerbe's source at the San Francisco Mint in 1905 was almost certainly Charles Gorham, the facility's melter and refiner at that time, who had held the position of chief coiner in 1894 when the dimes were struck. Gorham is certainly a reputable source in this context, which has helped make this theory popular.

Theory No. 2 - Assay

This theory first gained widespread exposure in the early 20th century, when Edgar H. Adams wrote a column on numismatics titled "Few Finds of Rare Coins" that appeared in the March 29, 1908 issue of the *New York Sun*. An excerpt from this column is included in Q. David Bowers' 2019 edition of *A Guide Book of Barber Silver Coins*:

There are right now in active circulation several issues of United States coins which if found by the average citizen would make the time he spends in glancing through his change profitable.

One of these is the United States dime dated 1894 that were was struck at the branch mint in San Francisco. The coin bears on the reverse the little mint letter 'S' to distinguish it from all the other ten cent pieces of the year. Yet while the rest of the dimes exist in considerable numbers and are worth but their face value, the San Francisco dime would easily bring \$50.

The available information regarding the coin shows that but twenty-four of the denomination were made in 1894. This figure is only an estimate, for the actual number does not appear in the records. That so few were coined was due to a peculiar circumstance.

"eigher [Frank C.] Berdan, now in the coiner's department of the San Francisco Mint, says that in July 1894 an order for \$100,000 worth of silver coins had been completed and was ready for delivery. In order to provide specimens for assay purposes, the law requiring that a certain number of pieces from each melt, or order, be forwarded to the Mint headquarters for the purposes of annual assay, Mr. Berdan had the coining department strike a number of pieces from the dime dies.

He says there may have been twenty-four of these and there may have been less, probably not over twenty, as the matter of counting them was not deemed to be of importance. Two or three pieces in fact, he said, would have answered the requirements just well.

He took a couple of ordinary dimes from his pocket and exchanged them for two of the new ten cent pieces merely from a desire to possess the first specimens that had come from the dies of this denomination for the year. He said that the idea of the dimes ever becoming scarce never entered his mind, for an order for 100,000 pieces might be expected any day, and no one would have imagined that the entire year would pass without the dies again being brought into requisition.

Yet 1894 did pass without any more coins of the denomination being struck there, and the only dimes dated 1894 and showing the 'S' mint mark were the two pieces referred to, which afterward fell into the hands of a well-known mint mark collector. The remainder of the pieces are right at the present moment passing from hand to hand, their temporary owners not being aware of their value to a coin collector.

The above would seem to indicate that no other San Francisco Mint officials obtained any at the time.

As with Zerbe's source for Theory No. 1 outlined above, Adams' source for Theory No. 2 is also reputable: Frank C. Berdan, who was employed as weigher at the San Francisco Mint when the 1894-S dimes were produced. A number of points in Berdan's account, as related by Adams, are certainly true, and his position at the San Francisco Mint in 1894 has also helped to give the assay theory traction. However, the assay of coins struck in the mints was a normal part of the coinage process during the 1890s. Coins were struck, and then certain ones were set aside for assay. No one at the San Francisco Mint in 1894 would have struck any coins expressly for assay, not three coins, 24, or any other quantity. To do so, in a sense, would have been putting the cart before the horse and would have been contrary to mint practice at the time.

It is also worth noting in connection with this theory that it was once thought that five 1894-S dimes had been reserved for assay, the two additional coins supposedly collected from the cashier at the San Francisco Mint on June 25, 1894, as part of the monthly assay. Thanks to recent research done by Nancy Oliver and Richard Kelly, however, we now know that those coins referred to two of the three examples sent to the East Coast. Additional coins were not reserved on a monthly basis for assay at the San Francisco Mint in 1894.

Theory No. 3 - Sale to Collectors for a Profit

Such a practice is certainly not without precedent in the history of the United States Mint in the years leading up to 1894. During the tenures as Mint director of James Ross Snowden (1853 to 1861) and Henry R. Linderman (1867 to 1869 and 1873 to 1878), in particular, many famous restrikes, mulings, and fantasy pieces were produced expressly for sale to collectors for profit (to say nothing of the host of so-called patterns made during the late 1860s and 1870s that were also sold to collectors in pattern Proof sets). In addition to the mintage of just 24 coins, the fact that tradition regards all 1894-S dimes as Proofs would seem



to support the theory that these coins were specially prepared for sale to collectors. There is, however, a significant difference between the 1894-S dime and these other coins: the 24-coin mintage, paltry as it is, was duly recorded in Mint records and listed in the *Report of the Director of the Mint for 1895* in the table on pages 212 to 213. This means that the 1894-S is a regular issue United States Mint coin, which is further confirmed by the fact that most of the 24 examples produced were forwarded to Chief Coiner Charles Gorham for distribution into circulation.

Theory No. 4 - John and Hallie Daggett and the "Ice Cream Story"

This is the most famous story about the 1894-S dime, the one with which most collectors of U.S. coins are familiar. This theory traces its origins to an article that James Johnson wrote for the September 1972 issue of *Coin World* in which he attempted to compile all information about the 1894-S dime and present a roster of examples known at that time. In response, Johnson received a letter from a Guy Chapman that prompted him to update his story on the 1894-S dime in the June 27, 1973 issue of *Coin World*:

Guy L. Chapman of California wrote that one evening in 1954, the late Earl Parker came into the Redwood Empire Coin Club and put two dimes in Chapman's hand. They were the two 1894-S dimes Parker had just acquired from Hallie Daggett, daughter of the San Francisco Mint superintendent in 1894.

Parker offered them to Chapman, but Chapman said he had to check with his wife before spending that kind of money! When he got home, he and his wife agreed that he should buy them, but it was very late and he didn't want to call Parker at that time of night. He would call at 9 o'clock the next day. Chapman's birth year was 1894, one reason for the interest.

*He did call, and Parker told him he had sold the coins before breakfast. Presumably they were Nos. 5 and 9 in my earlier *Coin World* listing.*

Here's the important part: at the Redwood Empire Coin Club Parker repeated what Hallie Daggett had told him when he bought the coins from her. She said this:

"In 1894 a banker friend of Daggett's found there would be no dimes struck that year. So he asked Daggett to make some pieces especially for a small group of friends. There were 24 struck, and eight of eight people got three including Daggett. Daggett gave three to his daughter Hallie who was around and told her to put them away until she was as old as he was, and then she could sell them for a good price. On the way home she spent one for a dish of ice cream. The other two she put away until she sold them to Earl Parker in 1954. What is not known is who the other seven people were or whether they were connected with the mint in any way."

There is no reason to disbelieve Hallie Daggett's story. There is every reason to believe that later the Mint would say anything rather than admit what was done, hence the conflicting reports given out in the later years.

Walter Breen picked up this story and published it in his numismatic works. The version in his 1988 *Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins* reads:

However, the most famous of all Barber dimes is beyond doubt the 1894-S. Of only 24 minted (all as proofs), reported June 30, 1894, only a dozen are traced. These were special strikings made by Mint Superintendent J. Daggett for a group of banker friends. Each of eight persons received three; Daggett gave his three to daughter Hallie, telling her to put them away until she was as old as he was, at which time she

would be able to sell them for a good price. On the way home, the child supposedly spent one for a dish of ice cream, but kept the other two until 1954, when she sold them to the coin dealer Earl Parker. As Parker had three, someone's memory is evidently at fault.

Breen's writings have helped to make this one of the most widely disseminated stories about the 1894-S dime, aided greatly by the fact that it is a wonderful tale.

What Really Happened: Inadvertent Creation of a Rarity

The true story of the 1894-S Barber dime begins as it does for most regular issue United States Mint coins. After producing 2,491,401 dimes during calendar year 1893, the staff at the San Francisco Mint had every reason to believe that they would produce a generous number of dimes the following year. Indeed, the West Coast facility received five pairs of 1894-dated dime dies from the Philadelphia Mint in November 1893, followed by another five pairs in January 1894. As it turned out, however, 1894 was the second year in the serious economic depression known as the Panic of 1893, that would last until 1897 and affect every sector of the United States economy. By 1894 the economy had already shrunk to the point where there was little need for new circulating coinage and nearly half of the year passed with the dime presses in the San Francisco Mint remaining idle.

On April 7, 1894, the sub-treasury in San Francisco delivered to the Mint nearly \$1 million in uncurrent and/or damaged coins. This was normal procedure for all United States mints at the time and these coins were eventually melted and struck into new coins. According to Richard G. Kelly and Nancy Y. Oliver in *Gold In His Veins: The story of John Daggett, Early California Mine Owner, Mint Master, Lieutenant Governor & More*:

The uncurrent coinage included: \$524,000 in half dollars, \$273,000 in quarters, \$40 in twenty cent pieces, \$201,230 in dimes, \$1,225 in half dimes, and \$5.00 in three cent pieces. Later, the transfer amount in coin was found to be slightly more than previously noted, as \$23.50 more of half dollars, and \$6.50 in quarters were added. Beginning some time in May or early June, this mass of 'unacceptable' silver coin was melted, made into silver bars, which were eventually made into new silver coin of most denominations. It is assumed that at least dollars, halves, and quarters were made from the reprocessed silver, but after all was said and done, there was still a small portion of silver bullion left.

This "small portion" is the silver from which the rare 1894-S dimes were eventually struck.

Confirmation of both the recoinage process and the 24-coin mintage of the 1894-S dime is provided by San Francisco Mint Chief Clerk Robert Barnett, who provided the following information to a reporter for the *San Francisco Bulletin* in October of 1895:

All undercurrent subsidiary coins, viz., those containing other than the design now being used when received at the sub-treasury, are not again allowed to go into circulation, but are sent to the mint to be recoined with the current design. In the course of the year 1894 we received a large sum in these coins, but having an ample supply of dimes on hand, it was not intended to coin any of that denomination in 1894.

However, when nearly all of this subsidiary coin bullion had been utilized, we found on our hands a quantity that would coin to advantage only into dimes and into dimes it was coined, making just twenty-four of them.

Despite his official title of chief clerk, Barnett was actually serving as the acting superintendent of the San Francisco Mint in 1894. The actual superintendent, John Daggett, was



kept from fulfilling his duties for much of the year for various reasons, including frequent bouts of sciatica and trips to check on mines in which he had financial interests. Barnett, therefore, was the one person at the San Francisco Mint in 1894 who would know better than anyone how many 1894-S dimes were struck and the circumstances under which they were produced.

Two pieces of official correspondence from Acting Superintendent Barnett to other Mint officials on the East Coast confirm that the staff in San Francisco followed the normal procedure at the time regarding the assay of coins struck in the various United States mints. The first letter, dated June 9, 1894, is from Barnett to Director of the Mint Robert Preston in Washington, D.C. As presented in Kevin Flynn's 2005 reference *The 1894-S Dime: A Mystery Unraveled*:

June 9th 1894.

Hon. R.E. Preston
Director of the Mint
Washington, D.C

Sir:-

I forward to your address to-day per registered mail one dollar and seventy cents, in coins reserved for Special Assay, taken from deliveries of this date, as follows, viz:-

Del. No.77. Two (2) Half Dollars = \$1.00
[Del. No.]78 Two (2) Quarter .50
[Del. No.]79 Two (2) Dimes .20
\$1.70

Respectfully yours,
Robt. Barnett
Acting Superintendent

The second letter is dated June 28, 1894, again from Barnett, but this time to the superintendent of the Philadelphia Mint. A copy of this letter is also presented in Flynn's reference:

June 28th 1894.

Supt. U.S. Mint.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

I forward to your address to-day per Wells Fargo [illegible] Express a box containing the following gold and silver coins reserved for annual assay from the coinage executed by this Mint during the quarter ending June 30th 1894 - viz:-

265 Double Eagles value \$5300.00
460 Half Dollars [value] 230.00
789 Quarter [Dollars value] 197.25
1 Dimes [value] .10
\$5727.35

Respectfully yours,
Robt. Barnett
Acting Superintendent



The first letter confirms that the 1894-S dimes were struck on June 9, 1894, and both letters confirm that three specimens were taken for assay and shipped to the East Coast for that purpose. As related above in Edgar H. Adam's column for the *New York Sun*, Weigher Frank C. Berdan obtained two of the 1894-S dimes in exchange for two older dimes "merely from a desire to possess the first

specimens that had come from the dies of this denomination for the year." The remaining 19 coins were forwarded to Chief Coiner Charles Gorham who, according to Farran Zerbe, may also have acquired a couple of examples for himself. The additional pieces were unceremoniously placed into a bag of earlier dated dimes and released into circulation, the entire 24-coin mintage having been recorded in Mint records and eventually listed in the Report of the *Director of the Mint for 1895* in the table on pages 212 to 213.

As June 1894 passed into July, Mint personnel in San Francisco had no idea that they had inadvertently created a rarity, having struck the coins with the belief that additional dime coinage would be required during the second half of 1894. As it turned out, however, this never happened, leaving a mintage of just 24 coins for the 1894-S (with a net mintage of 21 coins after three examples were forwarded to the East Coast for assay). A small number (at least the two coins acquired by Weigher Frank C. Berdan) were obtained by San Francisco Mint employees, while the remaining examples were released into circulation.

Although all well preserved 1894-S dimes exhibit some qualities of traditional Proof coins -- namely reflective surfaces and sharply struck design elements -- there is no evidence that San Francisco Mint employees polished either the dies or planchets used to produce them. On the other hand, only a single die pair was used to strike all known examples, and the fresh state of those dies did impart a *prooflike* surface. In the end the facts speak for themselves: the reason that Acting Superintendent Robert Barnett gives for the production of these coins, and the eventual release of most examples into circulation, would not have required anything other than circulation strikes. Historically, however, the 1894-S has always been regarded as a Proof issue and, as confirmed below in our roster of known examples, PCGS and NGC certify all well preserved specimens as Proofs or Branch Mint Proofs.

Early Numismatic Interest in the 1894-S Dime

Although Augustus G. Heaton's now famous treatise *Mint Marks* had been published the year before, in 1894 very few numismatists collected coins from the branch mints. Most who did acquired coins from circulation rather than obtaining Mint State examples directly from the mints. A notable exception was Pennsylvania oil man and Washington, D.C., financier John M. Clapp, who began ordering coins directly from each mint in 1893. According to Q. David Bowers:



On November 2, 1894, [Clapp] wrote to San Francisco to order one example of each coin. Acting Superintendent Robert Barnett replied on November 9, stating, 'We have no coinage dimes 1894.'

Others also requested dimes directly from the San Francisco Mint in 1894, including George Eavenson of Colorado, Eugene B. Stevens of Kansas, H.M. Enslinger of Pennsylvania, Peter Mougey of Cincinnati, and even Augustus G. Heaton. The final listed received Barnett's reply to his October 30, 1894 request: "We have no 10 cent pieces coinage 1894."

Heaton published the earliest numismatic reference to the 1894-S dime and its rarity when he updated his 1893 *Mint Marks* with an article titled "Late Coinage of the United States Mint" that appeared in the March 1900 issue of *The Numismatist*:

The San Francisco Mint takes proudly to itself the sensation of later U.S. coinage in striking but \$2.40 worth of dimes, or 24 pieces in all, in the year 1894. Of these, the writer possesses the only one known to the numismatic world.

How Heaton acquired his 1894-S dime is unknown, the later provenance of that specimen also unknown since none of the examples currently accounted for can be traced back to him.

John M. Clapp also eventually succeeded in acquiring an 1894-S dime. By 1900, in fact, the Clapp cabinet included two examples of this famous rarity, at least one of which was acquired from a source in San Francisco, although not directly from the mint as Clapp had originally intended. Current numismatic thought is that one or both of the 1894-S dimes once owned by Clapp were the coins that Weight Frank C. Berdan obtained through exchange shortly after striking.

What May Have Happened: Earl Parker and the "Ice Cream Story"

The theory about John and Hallie Daggett and the "Ice Cream Story" requires closer examination, if for no other reason than it is the most famous theory about the 1894-S dime. There are a number of problems with this story and, in short, most (although perhaps not all of it!) is untrue. For starters Hallie Daggett was 15 years old in 1894, thereby older than the little girl she is portrayed as in the account. She was also one of three surviving children of John Daggett in 1894, so why the father would chose to give all three 1894-S dimes to one child instead of giving one to each of his children is curious.

More significantly, and as related above, modern numismatic scholarship has confirmed that three of the 24 1894-S dimes struck were forwarded to the East Coast for assay. The 21 remaining coins cannot be divided equitably into three coins each for eight persons. Additionally, this account does not allow for the two specimens acquired by Weigher Frank C. Berdan.

The final nail in the coffin of the theory that the 1894-S dimes were specially struck by Mint Superintendent John Daggett for banker friends is the fact that Daggett was absent from his post for most of 1894. As previously confirmed, it was actually Chief Clerk Robert Barnett who, as acting superintendent, oversaw the striking of the 24 1894-S dimes. It was Barnett, and not Daggett, who signed the letters that accompanied the assay specimens to Washington, D.C., and Philadelphia, answered most of the inquiries from contemporary collectors seeking an examples for their collections, and gave the first public interview about the coins to the *San Francisco Bulletin* in 1895.

While it is obvious that Superintendent Daggett did not order a special striking of 24 1894-S dimes, there remains the fact

that San Francisco dealer Earl Parker owned two of these coins during the 1950s. Parker clearly did not acquire the coins from Hallie Daggett as per the legend. There is, however, another account of Earl Parker's acquisition of and presentation of two 1894-S dimes at a California numismatic gathering during the 1950s that lends credibility to a different version of the famous "ice cream story." Kevin Flynn writes:

The author spoke with Ken Jordan from California. Mr. Jordan was the President of the Rosemont Coin Club starting in 1959. Mr. Jordan was with Guy Chapman when Earl Parker came to the coin show and offered the two 1894-S dimes for sale for \$500 per dime. Mr. Parker said he remembered the date Earl Parker stopped in was in 1957...Mr. Jordan said that he remembered holding both coins. He remembered the story that Earl Parker had told him, that he, Mr. Parker, had purchased the coins from a daughter of a banker who lived in Ukiah, CA. She had told Mr. Parker that her father had given her three coins and that she had spent one on ice cream on the way home. She was told by her father to hold the coins until she was old when they would be valuable. Mr. Jordan said that the other individual who was present was Henry Reed.

There so many similarities between the Chapman and Jordan accounts that they obviously refer to the same interaction with Earl Parker, during which Parker clearly told the well known story about Hallie Daggett.

The missing piece of the puzzle was actually printed in the February 1951 edition of the *Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, in other words 22 years before the John and Hallie Daggett theory was put forth. Flynn again:

In the February 1951 issue of the Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine, an article stated that Wm. F. Bailey of San Francisco forwarded a newspaper clipping telling of the sale, by a non-collector, of two specimens of the 1894-S dime. According to the story, back in 1894, a banker in Ukiah gave three dimes to his little daughter and told her to save them as they would some day be valuable. Then the Ukiah woman sold two of them for \$2,750.00 each. The woman stated that she looked high and low for the third specimen, but finally remembered that it was a hot day in 1894 when her father gave her those dimes and she visited an ice cream parlor on the way home. Ukiah is a town in California, which is 115 miles north of San Francisco.

This story did not mention Hallie Daggett as the source of the coins and this story did not mention the banker's friend theory that a banker friend of John Daggett asked Mr. Daggett to strike 1894-S dimes. The source of this story had to be Earl Parker as he is the only individual who purchased two specimens.

Although Parker's acquisition of these two 1894-S dimes was not disclosed until 1951, the purchase from the Ukiah woman had to take place before April 1949. Parker was a member of the California State Numismatic Association (CSNA). In researching the association's history, Ruth Phillips (as related in Flynn) found an entry for the April 1949 CSNA show in San Jose that Earl Parker had an exhibit there that included an 1894-S dime. He also exhibited an 1894-S dime at the CSNA show in Oakland the following year.

It is clear that Earl Parker acquired two 1894-S dimes from an elderly woman, showing them to Guy Chapman, Ken Jordan, Henry Reed and perhaps others at one or more numismatic gatherings in the 1950s. The source of the dimes was not Hallie Daggett, however, but rather the daughter of a banker from Ukiah, California. Either through faulty memory, the desire to enhance the story of the 1894-S dime by linking the issue directly to Superintendent John Daggett, or both, the "ice cream story" was embellished by the substitution of Hallie Daggett as



the young girl. Since there is no way to confirm it, of course, the "ice cream story" itself remains just that -- a story. Yet even without Superintendent John Daggett and his daughter Hallie as the chief players, the possibility remains that at least the basic plot of this most famous of numismatic legends concerning the 1894-S dime could be true.

Roster of 1894-S Dimes

The foundation of this roster is credited to David Lawrence's sale of the Richmond Collection, March 2005, lot 1295, Stack's 72nd Anniversary Sale of October 2007, lot 4921, and Heritage's FUN Signature Auction of January 2016, lot 5317, as well as work done by James G. Johnson, Walter Breen, William A. Burd, David Lawrence, Mark Borckardt, Kevin Flynn, Q. David Bowers, Saul Teichman, Wayne Burt, Doug Trentman, and your cataloger (JLA) in his 2009 reference *Collecting & Investing Strategies for Barber Dimes*.

The rosters and rankings listed after each specimen under the "Cross Reference" header refer to the following sources:

-James G. (Jim) Johnson, writings published in *Coin World*, 1972 and 1973

-James G. (Jim) Johnson, N.L.G., "How rare is it?," Bowers and Merena *Rare Coin Review*, No. 64, 1987

-Walter Breen, *Walter Breen's Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins*, 1988

-Walter Breen, *Walter Breen's Encyclopedia of United States and Colonial Proof Coins: 1722-1989*

-Stack's sale of the James A. Stack, Sr. Collection, January 1990, lot 206

-David Lawrence, *The Complete Guide to Barber Dimes*, 1991

-William A. Burd, "The Inscrutable 1894-S Dime," *The Numismatist*, February 1994

1. PCGS Branch Mint Proof-66. CAC. The James A. Stack Specimen. Ex San Francisco source circa 1894, possibly Frank C. Berdan, weigher at the San Francisco Mint; J.M. Clapp, before 1900; John H. Clapp; Clapp estate; Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr., 1942, via Stack's; our (Stack's) sale of the H.R. Lee Collection (Eliasberg duplicates), October 1947, lot 348, where it realized \$2,150; James A. Stack, Sr.; our (Stack's) sale of the James A. Stack, Sr. Collection, January 1990, lot 206, where it realized \$275,000; Armen Vartian, agent for David "D."; Jay Parrino, sold to the following for \$450,000; David Lawrence Rare Coins, sold to the following for \$825,000; Bradley Hirst, owner of the Richmond Collection, December 1998; David Lawrence's sale of the Richmond Collection, Part III, March 2005, lot 1295, where it realized \$1,322,500; Dan Rosenthal, owner of the "Just Having Fun" Collection; David Lawrence Rare Coins, acquired from Dan Rosenthal and his agent, Mitchell Spivack, sold to the following for \$1,900,000; John Albanese, July 2007; private collector; Heritage's sale of the Smoke Rise Collection, January 2016 FUN Signature Auction, lot 5317, where it realized \$1,997,500. The plate coin for the 2008 edition of the book *100 Greatest U.S. Coins* by Jeff Garrett and Ron Guth, and pictured on the front covers of the books *The 1894-S Dime: A Mystery Unraveled* (2005) by Kevin Flynn and *Collecting & Investing Strategies for Barber Dimes* (2009) by Jeff Ambio. Previously certified Proof-66 by NGC.

Cross Reference: Johnson-6 and 8; Breen-3 and 4; Stack's-3; Lawrence-3; Burd-3

Provenance Marker(s): There is a swath of lighter toning on Liberty's cheek below the eye and behind the nose, as well as two circular variations in the toning on the reverse, the first within the top of the wreath above the right upright of the letter N in DIME and also within the wreath below the letter E in DIME.

Discussion: For many years, this coin was listed as two different specimens in the roster of known 1894-S Barber dimes. (See, for example, the provenance listings in the 1989 book *Walter Breen's Encyclopedia of United States and Colonial Proof Coins: 1722-1989*, where this coin is listed as both the #3 and #4 specimens.) We believe that the confusion surrounding this coin's provenance first arose in Stack's cataloging of the 1947 H.R. Lee Collection sale, which included duplicates from the collection of Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. This catalog strongly implies that the coin in the H.R. Lee Collection sale is different from the two specimens from the Clapp estate that had since been acquired by Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.

In cataloging for the 1957 Empire Collection sale, Stack's also asserts that the H.R. Lee specimen is different from the Clapp/Eliasberg duplicate that eventually went to James A. Stack Sr. In the 1990 sale of the James A. Stack, Sr. Collection, however, Stack's corrected this error and stated unequivocally that the buyer of the Eliasberg duplicate out of the H.R. Lee Collection sale was indeed James A. Stack. Plate matching between the H.R. Lee specimen and the James A. Stack specimen confirms that they are indeed the same coin.

2. PCGS Branch Mint Proof-66. The Lawrence-Simpson Specimen. Possibly discovered in a bag of change by a banker in Ukiah, California, 1894; elderly woman, presumably the banker's daughter, sold to the following for \$2,750, along with one other example (the Dr. Jerry Buss Specimen, see below); Earl Parker, prior to April 1949, the purchase was not disclosed until 1951, sold at an unknown time; unknown intermediaries; W.R. Johnson; Abner Kreisberg; World-Wide Coin Co.; Bowers and Ruddy Galleries, listed in *Rare Coin Review*, No. 21, 1974, at \$97,500; John Deland; Superior's Orlando Sale of August 1992, lot 104, where it realized \$165,000; Spectrum Numismatics; Kevin Lipton; David Lawrence Rare Coins and David Schweitz, October 2002, at which time it was named the (Daggett-)Lawrence Specimen in memory of David Lawrence Feigenbaum; Heritage's FUN Signature Sale of January 2005, lot 30164, where it realized \$1,035,000; Legend Numismatics; Bob R. Simpson Collection; Heritage's sale of the Bob R. Simpson Collection, Part I, September 2020, lot 10055. The plate coin in *Walter Breen's Encyclopedia of United States and Colonial Proof Coins* (1977, 1989) and *Walter Breen's Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins* (1988). Previously certified Proof-65 by PCGS and Proof-66 by NGC.

Cross Reference: Johnson-9; Breen-6; Stack's-5; Lawrence-5; Burd-4

Provenance Marker(s): There is a prominent planchet flaw in the observe field between the letter D in UNITED and the back of Liberty's head and another planchet flaw is evident at the lower reverse rim below the left side of the S mintmark.

While there is also a prominent lint mark in the obverse field above Liberty's portrait, that feature cannot be used for identification purposes because the Gillespie Specimen (see below) also exhibits a prominent lint mark in the same area.

Discussion: This coin has traditionally been attributed to Superintendent of the San Francisco Mint John Daggett, and his daughter Hallie, although recent research suggests that it was



the daughter of a Ukiah, California banker who obtained this coin from her father in 1894 and sold it to Earl Parker sometime prior to April 1949.

3. NGC Proof-65. CAC. The Eliasberg Specimen. Ex John M. Clapp, acquired before 1900; John H. Clapp; Clapp estate; Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr., 1942, via Stack's; our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, May 1996, lot 1250, where it realized \$451,000; Harvey Stack; Holecek Family Trust; our (Stack's) 65th Anniversary Sale, October 2000, lot 565, where it realized \$431,250; Larry H. Miller Collection. **The present example.**

Cross Reference: Johnson-3; Breen-2; Stack's-2; Lawrence-2; Burd-2

Provenance Marker(s): A lint mark is present in the obverse field between Liberty's chin and neck.

Discussion: The pedigree for this coin has long been agreed upon by most numismatic researchers.

4. PCGS Proof-64+. CAC. The Gillespie Specimen. Ex Charles M. Williams; Numismatic Gallery; Numismatic Gallery's Adolphe Menjou Collection sale, June 1950, lot 311; Art Kagin's sale of the Dr. Samuel Joseph Gillespie Collection, October 1984, lot 4176; Kagin's; private collector, 1985; our (Stack's) 72nd Anniversary Sale, October 2007, lot 4921, where it realized \$1,552,500; John Albanese; private collector; David Lawrence Rare Coins and an anonymous partner, April 2013; Legend Numismatics, July 2013, for more than \$2,000,000. The plate coin in Q. David Bowers' Guide Book of Barber Silver Coins, first published by Whitman in 2015.

Cross Reference: Johnson-Unlisted; Breen-Unlisted; Stack's-Unlisted; Lawrence-4; Burd-10

Provenance Marker(s): A tiny carbon spot is present in the obverse field at the bottom rear of Liberty's neck and what appears to be either a planchet flaw or a toning spot protrudes into the obverse field from the left side of the I in UNITED just below the midpoint of that letter.

Discussion: This coin was previously thought to be the same as the Lawrence-Simpson Specimen, #2 in our listing above. We believe that this mistake occurred because both coins share a few similar as struck features, most noticeably a lint mark in the obverse field above Liberty's portrait. Plate matching of other provenance markers shows that the two coins are different examples, but the lint mark suggests that both coins were struck sequentially or near-sequentially during the press run. A small piece of lint adhered to the die and imparted the same lint mark to at least two examples of the 1894-S Barber dime.

5. PCGS Branch Mint Proof-63. CAC. The Dr. Jerry Buss Specimen. Possibly discovered in a bag of change by a banker in Ukiah, California, 1894; elderly woman, presumably the banker's daughter, sold to the following for \$2,750, along with one other example (the Lawrence-Simpson Specimen, see above); Earl Parker, prior to April 1949, the purchase was not disclosed until 1951, sold at an unknown time; James F. Kelly; Malcolm O.E. Chell-Frost; our (Stack's) F.S. Guggenheimer Collection sale, January 1953, lot 772, where it realized \$2,100; Abner Kreisberg; Empire Coin Company; Abraham J. Kaufman; Joyce M. Kaufman; Kagin's Middle Atlantic Numismatic Association Sale/Sale of the '70s, November 1973, lot 1114, where it realized \$52,000; offered by Montrose Coin Gallery, Montrose, California, for \$75,000; Superior Galleries, 1978; Superior's sale of the Dr. Jerry Buss Collection, January 1985, lot 617, where it realized

\$50,600; Michelle Johnson, acting as agent for Robert Beamont; Superior's H.W. Blevins Estate and George Bodway Collection Sale, June 1988, lot 4510, where it realized \$70,400; our sale of the E. Horatio Morgan Collection, August 2019 ANA Auction, lot 5178, where it realized \$1,320,000.

Cross Reference: Johnson-12; Breen-7 and Unlisted; Stack's-6; Lawrence-6; Burd-5

Provenance Marker(s): A shallow planchet void slants up to the right from the lower border to the ribbon to the right of the S mintmark. There is also a strikethrough, likely from a sliver of metal, that extends to the right from the planchet void along the lower reverse border. These two features, both as made, interfered with the flow of metal during striking and resulted in an incomplete mintmark with the upper half of the S soft and the bottom half virtually absent. There are also a few wispy handling marks in the center of the wreath around the denomination ONE DIME.

Discussion: This coin has traditionally been attributed to Superintendent of the San Francisco Mint John Daggett, and his daughter Hallie, although recent research suggests that it was the daughter of a Ukiah, California banker who obtained this coin from her father in 1894 and sold it to Earl Parker sometime prior to April 1949. This coin is missing from some of the earliest rosters of the 1894-S dime.

6. NGC Proof-63. The Newcomer Specimen. Ex Waldo C. Newcomer; B. Max Mehl, early 1930s, sold in 1933 for \$1,000; F.C.C. Boyd; Numismatic Gallery's sale of the World's Greatest Collection, May 1945, lot 756, where it realized \$2,350; B. Max Mehl's sale of the Will W. Neil Collection, June 1947, lot 1433, where it realized \$2,325; Abe Kosoff's sale of the Edwin M. Hydeman Collection, March 1961, lot 387, where it realized \$13,000; Empire Coin Company; Hazen B. and Buol Hinman; Paramount's sale of the Century Collection, April 1965, lot 724, where it realized \$12,250; Leo A. Young; RARCOA's session of Auction '80, July 1980, lot 1578, where it realized \$145,000; Gary L. Young; Ron Gillio; Pacific Coast Auction's Northern California Numismatic Association Convention Sale, September 1986, lot 110, where it realized \$91,300; private collector; reported stolen in Durango, Colorado by Numismatic Crime Information Center, on behalf of the LaPlata County Sheriff's Department, March 30, 2019.

Cross Reference: Johnson-2; Breen-1; Stack's-1; Lawrence-1; Burd-1

Provenance Marker(s): What appear to be planchet flaws, toning streaks or lint marks are present on the reverse at the rim above the top of the wreath, as well as near the lower left side of the letter O in ONE. There is also a prominent obverse toning spot at the rear of Liberty's jaw, although this feature is not present in the images in some of the earlier auction catalogs in which this coin appeared, including the World's Greatest Collection and Will W. Neil Collection catalogs.

Also, the image in the Edwin M. Hydeman Collection catalog cannot be used for confirming the provenance of this specimen. The image that Abe Kosoff used in that catalog is the same that he used earlier in the catalog for the 1950 Adolphe Menjou Collection sale, even though he clearly states in his cataloging that the two coins are different examples.

Discussion: The provenance of this coin has long been agreed upon by most numismatic researchers. As noted above, the Newcomer Specimen of the 1894-S was reported stolen in



Durango, Colorado by Numismatic Crime Information Center on March 30, 2019. The coin has not been recovered as of this writing.

7. NGC Proof-62. The Norweb Specimen. *Ex Dr. Charles Anderson Cass; our (Stack's) Empire Collection sale, November 1957, lot 881, where it realized \$4,750; Empire Coin Company (James Ruddy and Q. David Bowers), sold to the following for \$6,000; Ambassador R. Henry Norweb, 1958; our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Norweb Collection, Part I, October 1987, lot 584, where it realized \$77,000; Allen F. Lovejoy; our (Stack's) sale of the Allen F. Lovejoy Reference Collection of United States Dimes: 1792-1945, 55th Anniversary Sale of October 1990, lot 504, where it realized \$93,500; Jeffrey Bernberg; RARCOA, sold to the following; Charles Litman of Coin Exchange in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 1991.*

Cross Reference: Johnson-4; Breen-8 and 7; Stack's-7; Lawrence-7; Burd-6

Provenance Marker(s): There is a horizontal scratch across Liberty's cheek and the large leaf in the lower left of the wreath on the reverse is bluntly struck.

Discussion: The provenance for this coin has long been agreed upon by most numismatic researchers.

8. Good-4. The "Ice Cream" Specimen. *Ex Robert Friedberg, taken over the counter at Gimbels Department Store, New York, 1957; Art Kagin; New Netherlands Coin Co.'s 51st Sale, June 1958, lot 581, where it realized \$3,200; Art Kagin; Hollinbeck-Kagin's Quarter Millennium Sale, Part II, August 1963, lot 553, where it realized \$10,500; Harmer Rooke's Million Dollar Sale, November 1969, where it realized \$7,400; James G. Johnson; Steve Ivy's ANA Sale of August 1980, lot 1804, where it realized \$31,000; our (Bowers and Merena's) William R. Sieck Collection sale, July-August 1981, lot 2921, where it realized \$25,500; our (Bowers and Merena's) Four Landmark Collections sale, March 1989, lot 191, where it realized \$33,000; private collector.*

Cross Reference: Johnson-7; Breen-11; Stack's-10; Lawrence-9; Burd-8

Provenance Marker(s): There is a scratch on the reverse above and through the denomination ONE DIME.

Discussion: This coin has traditionally been attributed to Superintendent of the San Francisco Mint John Daggett, and his daughter Hallie. It is the example that according to numismatic legend Hallie Daggett used to buy ice cream. Recent research suggests that the ice cream story could still be true but, if it is,

the woman who spent the coin was the daughter of a Ukiah, California banker who obtained three 1894-S dimes from her father in 1894. (See the Lawrence-Simpson and Dr. Jerry Buss Specimens above). Although the ice cream story is neither positively confirmed nor definitively linked to this piece, and it is entirely possible that this particular 1894-S dime was placed into circulation through normal channels at the San Francisco Mint, numismatists continue to refer to this coin as Hallie Daggett's "Ice Cream" Specimen.

9. NGC AG-3. The Romito Specimen *Ex a collector named Romito, 1911; another collector named Montesano; consigned to two Stack's sales in 1942, withdrawn; unknown intermediaries; John Hipps; Laura Sperber, 1990; private collector. This coin is not listed in the online version of the NGC Census.*

Cross Reference: Johnson-10; Breen-12; Stack's-11; Lawrence-10; Burd-9

Provenance Marker(s): A circular cut is present in the center of the obverse.

Discussion: The pedigree for this coin has long been agreed upon by most numismatic researchers.

The Eliasberg Specimen of the 1894-S Dime

The 1894-S dime offered here as part of the Miller Collection is a beautiful Gem-quality coin. Both sides are generally brilliant in the centers with delicate iridescent gold toning toward the borders. Striking detail is razor sharp to full throughout the design, and the fields exhibit a semi-reflective finish. Carefully preserved, there are no marks of consequence on either side, the most useful provenance marker the aforementioned lint mark (as made) on the obverse. When he learned of our sale of this coin as part of the Larry H. Miller Collection, CAC founder John Albanese stated: "Of the 1894-S dimes that I have seen or handled over the years, the Miller specimen is my favorite. Although not the highest graded example of this famous rarity, it has the strongest, most collector-friendly eye appeal." A fitting tribute to the outstanding eye appeal of this coin and its significance as one of the finest known examples of a landmark numismatic rarity.

PCGS# 4805. NGC ID: 23G7.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex John M. Clapp, acquired before 1900; John H. Clapp; Clapp estate; Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr., 1942, via Stack's; our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, May 1996, lot 1250, where it realized \$451,000; Harvey Stack; Holecek Family Trust; our (Stack's) 65th Anniversary Sale, October 2000, lot 565, where it realized \$431,250.



1228

1895 MS-64 (NGC). A few speckles of russet iridescence along the right obverse border are all that keep this satiny and smartly impressed example from complete brilliance. The 1895 is the lowest mintage Philadelphia Mint issue in the Barber dime series, and the only one with a mintage of fewer than 1 million circulation strikes

(690,000 pieces). Not surprisingly, this is the rarest Philadelphia Mint issue of the type in all Mint State grades.

PCGS# 4806. NGC ID: 23DV.

NGC Census: 27; 14 finer (MS-68 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

Key Date 1895-O Barber Dime Rare Gem Uncirculated Preservation



1229

1895-O MS-65 (NGC). This Gem Barber dime is brilliant, satiny and smartly impressed. With a mintage of 440,000 pieces, and discounting only the legendary 1894-S, the 1895-O is the rarest Barber dime in terms of total number of Mint State coins believed extant. We suspect that no more than 50 or so Uncirculated coins are in numismatic hands. Focusing exclusively on Gem MS-65 and higher grades, Q. David Bowers (*A Guide Book of Barber Silver Coins*, 2019) confirms that the

1895-O is the leading condition rarity in this series, again after only the 1894-S. The Larry H. Miller specimen is a significant absolute and condition rarity that is sure to find its way into another impressive Barber dime set.

PCGS# 4807. NGC ID: 23DW.

NGC Census: 6; 1 finer (MS-66).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1230

1895-S MS-64 (NGC). This delightful Choice Mint State example exhibits brilliant satin surfaces on both sides. The 1895-S is one of the scarcest Barber dimes from any mint in Mint State grades. Here is a significant offering for the advanced collector.

PCGS# 4808. NGC ID: 23DX.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1231

1896 MS-64 (NGC). Satiny, predominantly brilliant surfaces exhibit a few blushes of pale champagne-pink iridescence around the peripheries. In terms of total number of Mint State coins known, the 1896 is ranked immediately behind the 1895 as the second rarest circulation strike Barber dime from the Philadelphia Mint.

PCGS# 4809. NGC ID: 23DY.

NGC Census: 26; 27 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

Noteworthy Condition Rarity 1896-O Dime



1232

1896-O MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. This is an exceptionally well preserved example of an issue that is typically seen well worn. Not only is this coin fully Mint State, but it is a beautiful Gem with smooth, satin luster and a bold to sharp strike. Brilliant apart from the lightest iridescent gold highlights, this impressive condition rarity will have great appeal for advanced Barber dime enthusiasts.

The 1896-O is a popular semi-key date issue in the Barber dime series that saw a production run of just 610,000 pieces, the sixth

lowest mintage figure for the design type. It is the third rarest New Orleans Mint Barber dime after the 1894-O and 1895-O, and is scarce even in lower Mint State grades. Gems are highly elusive, and the present example is not far from Condition Census.

PCGS# 4810. NGC ID: 23DZ.

PCGS Population: 7; 9 finer (MS-66+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1233

1896-S MS-65 (PCGS). This highly lustrous Gem Mint State example offers razor sharp to full striking detail. Otherwise brilliant, the lightest iridescent gold toning is reserved for the obverse. With just 575,056 pieces produced, the 1896-S has the lowest mintage among San Francisco Mint dimes of this type after only the 1913-S. This date and mint was saved in far fewer numbers, however, and it is rarer in Mint State than the 1913-S and more akin to the 1893-S, 1902-S and 1903-S in the finest grades. A significant piece that is sure to see spirited bidding at auction.

PCGS# 4811. NGC ID: 23E2.

PCGS Population: 15; 10 finer (MS-66+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1236

1897-S MS-65 (PCGS). Satin to modestly semi-reflective surfaces are brilliant apart from the lightest iridescent gold tinting. Here is a sharply struck and very well preserved survivor from a mintage of 1,342,844 pieces. One of many underrated condition rarities in the early Barber dime series, the 1897-S is nearly as elusive in Mint State as the lower mintage 1896-S. In Gem MS-65 and higher grades, in fact, the 1897-S is the ninth rarest of 74 circulation strikes in this series. This highlight among the Barber dime offerings from the Larry H. Miller Collection would serve as a focal point in a specialized cabinet.

PCGS# 4814. NGC ID: 23E5.

PCGS Population: 14; 10 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1234

1897 MS-65 (PCGS). OGH. Sharp striking detail, lovely mint frost and delicate champagne-pink iridescence will appeal to both type collectors and Barber dime enthusiasts.

PCGS# 4812. NGC ID: 23E3.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1237

1898 MS-65 (NGC). Lightly toned with champagne-apricot iridescence, both sides of this lustrous and satiny Gem also display areas of silvery mint brilliance.

PCGS# 4815. NGC ID: 23E6.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1235

1897-O MS-66 (PCGS). CAC. The lovely premium Gem quality surfaces of this Barber dime exhibit subtle champagne-pink highlights and full mint luster. It is sharply to fully struck throughout, a feature that is seldom noted for products of this Southern coinage facility. The 1897-O is the most readily obtainable of the four key date New Orleans Mint Barber dimes of 1894 to 1897. With just 666,000 coins struck, however, it is scarce in its own right and conditionally rare above the Choice Mint State grade level. It is an issue that is always in demand among specialists in both New Orleans Mint and Barber coinage.

PCGS# 4813. NGC ID: 23E4.

PCGS Population: 10; 6 finer (MS-67+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Finest Certified 1898-O Barber Dime



1238

1898-O MS-68 (NGC). This extraordinary, virtually pristine example is the sole finest 1898-O Barber dime known to the major certification services. Intense satin to softly frosted luster blankets surfaces that are brilliant apart from crescents of iridescent reddish-gold along the right obverse and reverse borders. Fully struck, expertly preserved, and a delight to behold.

Barber dime production at the New Orleans Mint ratcheted up considerably in 1898 with a total of 2,130,000 coins struck. Even so, this is a challenging issue to collect that is quite underrated

in Mint State. The 1898-O is actually rarer in high grades than the lower mintage 1897-O, 1903-S, 1904-S, 1913-S and 1915-S. A leading highlight of the Larry H. Miller Barber dime set, this amazing Superb Gem is sure to see spirited bidding among advanced collectors.

PCGS# 4816. NGC ID: 23E7.

Combined PCGS and NGC Population: 1; 0 finer.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1239

1898-S MS-66 (NGC). Lightly toned in iridescent champagne-apricot, this lovely premium Gem Mint State dime also offers razor sharp striking detail and lovely mint luster. The 1898-S was widely exported (see below), with Uncirculated survivors far scarcer than the mintage of 1,702,507 pieces might imply. Discounting only the famous 1894-S, this is actually the rarest San Francisco Mint Barber dime in terms of total number of Mint State coins believed extant; in the finest grades only the 1895-S and 1907-S are more challenging to collect. Elusive within the United States even in their own day, the federal government shipped many or most 1898-S dimes to the Philippine Islands after the Spanish-American War ended that year.

PCGS# 4817. NGC ID: 23E8.

NGC Census: 3; 0 finer at this service.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1240

1899 MS-66 (PCGS). CAC. A very nice premium Gem example with appealing mint frost and smooth, minimally toned surfaces. Sharply struck.

PCGS# 4818. NGC ID: 23E9.

PCGS Population: 14; 11 finer (MS-68 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1241

1899-O MS-65 (NGC). Dusted with iridescent pinkish-silver toning, both sides also have razor sharp to full striking detail and soft, satiny mint luster. Although produced to the extent of 2,650,000 pieces — a respectable total for a New Orleans Mint Barber dime — the 1899-O suffered a high rate of attrition through circulation and is rare in all Mint State grades. We anticipate strong competition for this very well preserved Gem among specialists.

PCGS# 4819. NGC ID: 23EA.

NGC Census: 8; 4 finer (MS-67 ★ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1244

1900-O MS-66 (NGC). This impressive premium Gem exhibits delicate champagne-gold iridescence on smooth, lustrous surfaces. The razor sharp striking detail is notable, especially for a New Orleans Mint issue of this design type. The sixth rarest O-Mint Barber dime in Mint State, the 1900-O is more challenging to locate at this level than the lower mintage 1895, 1896-S, 1904-S, 1909-S, 1913-S and 1915-S. Here is a noteworthy example that will be just right for another top flight collection of Barber dimes.

PCGS# 4822. NGC ID: 23ED.

NGC Census: 5; 1 finer (MS-67).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1242

1899-S MS-65 (NGC). Lustrous frosty surfaces are mostly brilliant with a few blushes of pale champagne-pink iridescence. The strike is full, and the eye appeal is exceptional. After only the 1893-S, the 1899-S is the most available San Francisco Mint Barber dime from the 1890s. This may seem odd for an issue that saw much of the mintage shipped to the Philippine Islands for commercial use. Obviously a greater number of coins were preserved stateside than for, say, the 1898-S, another of the so-called “Philippine dates” in the Barber dime series. The 1899-S is still conditionally challenging and Gems such as this are rare.

PCGS# 4820. NGC ID: 23EB.

NGC Census: 4; 3 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1245

1900-S MS-66 (NGC). Beautiful satin surfaces display semi-prooflike reflectivity in the fields. Blushes of iridescent reddish-gold toning are scattered around the peripheries, where they frame a smartly impressed design offering razor sharp to full detail. The most readily obtainable San Francisco Mint Barber dime produced up to that point, the 1900-S is still rarer in Mint State than such later date issues as the 1905-S, 1911-S, 1912-S, 1914-S and 1916-S. In the finest Mint State grades (MS-66 and higher) this issue is a significant rarity by any measure. The present example is tied for finest certified at NGC.

PCGS# 4823. NGC ID: 23EE.

NGC Census: 4; 0 finer at this service.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1243

1900 MS-64 (PCGS). A lustrous, smartly impressed, lightly toned example of this popular turn-of-the-century Barber dime. Close inspection with a loupe reveals an interesting strike through (as made) at the lower reverse border.

PCGS# 4821. NGC ID: 23EC.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1246

1901 MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. This lovely Gem Mint State example exhibits wisps of champagne-apricot iridescence to highly lustrous, frosty-textured surfaces. A sharp and attractive coin with much to offer the high grade type or date collector.

PCGS# 4824. NGC ID: 23EF.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1247

1901-O MS-65 (NGC). A satiny and smooth example with surfaces that are brilliant apart from subtle iridescent highlights here and there around the peripheries. A median rarity in this mintmarked dime series, the 1901-O is more challenging to locate in Mint State than the 1905-O, 1906-O, 1907-O, 1908-O and 1909-O. Gems such as this are in the distinct minority among Mint State survivors, which are surprisingly elusive even in lower grades. Clearly the 1901-O suffered a high rate of attrition through commercial use, typical of so many New Orleans Mint issues in the Barber dime, quarter and half dollar series. An important bidding opportunity for the astute collector.

PCGS# 4825. NGC ID: 23EG.

NGC Census: 8; 6 finer (MS-66+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1250

1902-O MS-65 (PCGS). Pretty silver-rose patina adorns both sides of this fully lustrous and frosty Barber dime. Sharply struck and nicely preserved. Despite a substantial mintage of 4,500,000 pieces, the 1902-O numbers among the key date Barber dime issues in Gem Mint State. It compares favorably with the more highly regarded 1895-O in the finest grades, in fact, and is surely one of the more underrated condition rarities of the type. In fact, your cataloger (JLA) rates the 1902-O as the rarest 20th century New Orleans Mint Barber dime in Mint State. As with so many offerings from the fabulous Larry H. Miller cabinet, this handsome Gem represents a great bidding opportunity for the astute collector.

PCGS# 4828. NGC ID: 23EK.

PCGS Population: 12; 2 finer (MS-66+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1248

1901-S MS-66 (NGC). Warm reddish-apricot iridescence is seen toward the borders. Both sides have a smooth and satiny texture throughout and the strike is razor sharp to full. After only the 1898-S (and, of course, the famous 1894-S), the low mintage (593,022 pieces) 1901-S is the rarest San Francisco Mint Barber dime in Mint State. This Condition Census Gem is sure to appeal to advanced collectors.

PCGS# 4826. NGC ID: 23EH.

NGC Census: 4; with a single MS-68 finer.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1251

1902-S MS-66 (NGC). A glorious premium Gem Mint State dime with delicate champagne-gold iridescence enhancing frosty mint luster. A relatively generous mintage of 2,070,000 pieces conceals the rarity of the 1902-S in high grades. This is the fourth rarest San Francisco Mint Barber dime in Mint State (per your cataloger, JLA, 2009), and it handily outdistances the lower mintage 1904-S, 1909-S, 1913-S and 1915-S, as well as the 1895, 1896, 1897-O, 1907-D and 1909-D. In grades of MS-65 and higher, Q. David Bowers (2019) describes the 1902-S as, "One of the rarer issues of the era, yet another numismatic surprise."

PCGS# 4829. NGC ID: 23EL.

NGC Census: 3; 3 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex Heritage's Long Beach Signature Sale of June 2000, lot 7156.



1249

1902 MS-66 (PCGS). CAC. An ideal candidate for inclusion in a high grade type set, this frosty and smartly impressed premium Gem will also appeal to advanced Barber dime enthusiasts. The surfaces are smooth with an overlay of delicate iridescent champagne-gold toning.

PCGS# 4827. NGC ID: 23EJ.

PCGS Population: 23; 28 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1252

1903 MS-66 (NGC). CAC. Wisps of lovely powder blue and pinkish-apricot iridescence drift over satiny Gem surfaces, the toning boldest and most vivid at the borders. A beautiful and conditionally scarce survivor from the early 20th century Barber dime series.

PCGS# 4830. NGC ID: 23EM.

NGC Census: 6; with a single MS-67 finer.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1254

1903-S MS-65 (NGC). Both sides of this appealing Barber dime are nearly brilliant with subtle iridescent gold peripheral highlights. Frosty in finish with razor sharp to full striking detail. One of only 14 circulation strike Barber dimes with a mintage of fewer than one million coins, the 1903-S was produced to the extent of just 613,300 pieces. It is a key date issue in all grades that vies with the 1901-S as the third rarest San Francisco Mint Barber dime in Mint State. Another noteworthy bidding opportunity from the Larry H. Miller Barber dime set.

PCGS# 4832. NGC ID: 23EP.

NGC Census: 1; 8 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1253

1903-O MS-64 (NGC). Decidedly semi-prooflike in finish, this Choice Mint State dime displays full striking detail over even the most intricate design elements. Generally brilliant, with just the lightest silver and gold iridescence. The 1903-O is relatively plentiful in lower Mint State grades, due in no small to a mintage of 8,180,000 pieces. On the other hand, your cataloger (JLA) ranks it as the fourth rarest New Orleans Mint Barber dime at the Gem Uncirculated level (sixth rarest in the Barber dime series in its entirety). The NGC MS-64 from the Larry H. Miller Collection represents excellent value for the astute bidder.

PCGS# 4831. NGC ID: 23EN.

NGC Census: 29; 4 finer (all MS-65).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1255

1904 MS-66 (NGC). Brilliant and sharply struck with full satin to softly frosted mint luster.

PCGS# 4833. NGC ID: 23ER.

NGC Census: 6; 0 finer at this service.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1256

1904-S MS-64 (NGC). Crescents of golden-apricot iridescence enliven the peripheries of this otherwise brilliant and frosty example. A full Gem Mint State coin were it not for a thin, shallow graze to Liberty's cheek. The 1904-S is the only mintmarked dime issue of its date, and it has a mintage of just 800,000 pieces. With Gems "not often seen in the marketplace," per Q. David Bowers (2019), this generally smooth, highly lustrous MS-64 represents an excellent value.

PCGS# 4834. NGC ID: 23ES.

NGC Census: 15; 6 finer (MS-66 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



THE LARRY H. MILLER COLLECTION • PART TWO



1257

1905 MS-65 (NGC). Soft golden-apricot iridescence is largely confined to the obverse of this frosty and smartly impressed example.

PCGS# 4835. NGC ID: 23ET.

NGC Census: 22; 4 finer (MS-67 ★ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1260

1906 MS-65 (NGC). Brilliant and lustrous.

PCGS# 4838. NGC ID: 23EX.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1258

1905-O MS-65 (NGC). This frosty and sharply struck Gem is enhanced by wisps of iridescent champagne-gold toning. With a mintage of 3.4 million pieces and an above average rate of survival in Mint State, the 1905-O is among the more readily obtainable New Orleans Mint Barber dimes in high grades. This is an ideal candidate for inclusion in a mintmarked type set.

PCGS# 4836. NGC ID: 23EU.

NGC Census: 11; 10 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1261

1906-D MS-64 (NGC). CAC. An untoned, satiny to softly frosted example of this historic issue that represents the first dime coinage from the Denver Mint.

PCGS# 4839. NGC ID: 23EY.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1259

1905-S MS-66 (PCGS). Swaths of rich copper-rose patina over the lower obverse and upper left reverse enhance this otherwise brilliant Barber dime. A fully struck and intensely lustrous premium Gem that will please even the most discerning enthusiast.

PCGS# 4837. NGC ID: 23EW.

PCGS Population: 13; 8 finer (MS-67+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1262

1906-O MS-66 (PCGS). Lovely mint frost mingles with iridescent golden-rose toning on both sides of this highly appealing Gem 1906-O Barber dime. Sharply to fully struck. Although the 1906-O is easily available in lower grades, it can be challenging to locate in the finest Mint State grades, as here.

PCGS# 4840. NGC ID: 23EZ.

PCGS Population: 22; 18 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1263

1906-S MS-65 (NGC). Handsome peripheral toning in champagne-apricot, olive-blue and reddish-gold rings the obverse. The reverse is brilliant apart from a blush of similar colors at the upper right border. Smooth and lustrous throughout with a delightful satin to softly frosted finish. This 1906-S from the Miller Collection is exceptionally nice and will hold great appeal for advanced specialists.

PCGS# 4841. NGC ID: 23F2.

NGC Census: 13; 10 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1264

1907 MS-65 (NGC). CAC. Satin-white surfaces are brilliant and highly attractive.

PCGS# 4842. NGC ID: 23F3.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

Condition Census 1907-D Dime



1265

1907-D MS-67 (NGC). The loveliest iridescent toning in reddish-apricot, pinkish-silver and powder blue adorns both sides of this smooth and intensely lustrous Superb Gem. Sharply struck, as well, and simply a delight to behold.

With the inaugural 1906-D issue satisfying much of the public's fascination with the new Denver Mint coinage, the 1907-D dime mintage was largely released into circulation at the time of delivery. This issue is rarer in all Mint State grades than the 1906-D, as a result, and is particularly elusive in grades above MS-64. At the threshold of numismatic perfection, this gorgeous Superb

Gem ranks high in the Condition Census. In fact, we are aware of only two other 1907-D dimes that have been graded higher by the major certification services, an NGC MS-68 offered as lot 437 in our (Bowers and Merena's) February 2008 Baltimore Auction, and the Simpson specimen in PCGS MS-67+. Clearly, the present example will be a focal point in the finest Barber dime set, as it is in the Larry H. Miller cabinet.

PCGS# 4843. NGC ID: 23F4.

NGC Census: 1; 2 finer (both MS-68).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



THE LARRY H. MILLER COLLECTION • PART TWO



1266

1907-O MS-65 (PCGS). OGH. Lovely golden-rose iridescence covers lustrous and overall smooth surfaces. The mintage for the 1907-O dime was 5,058,000 pieces, curiously generous for a late date New Orleans Mint issue. With the Denver Mint assuming more responsibility for providing circulating coinage in the Western United States, we suspect that many examples of the 1907-O were not needed in commerce, contributing to the relatively large number of Mint State survivors known. The present Gem example would be particularly well suited for a mintmarked type set.

PCGS# 4844. NGC ID: 23F5.

PCGS Population: 22; 22 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1269

1908-D MS-66 (NGC). Fully lustrous silver-white surfaces are bright and beautiful. The highest mintage Denver Mint dime up to that point, the 1908-D was produced to the extent of 7,490,000 pieces. Despite this, it is not the most available Denver Mint Barber dime in Mint State, however, for examples are scarcer than those of the 1911-D, 1912-D and 1914-D. With an impressive provenance, this premium quality Gem example is sure to sell for a strong bid.

PCGS# 4847. NGC ID: 23F8.

NGC Census: 8; 6 finer (all MS-67).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, May 1996, lot 1293.



1267

1907-S MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Razor sharp striking and appealing mint luster are seen on both sides of this Gem Barber dime. Lightly toned with attractive iridescent champagne-pink overtones. The 1907-S is underrated in Mint State, especially for a Barber dime with a mintage of 3,178,470 pieces. It is a median rarity among San Francisco Mint issues of this type, outranking the 1892-S, 1893-S, 1895-S, 1899-S, 1906-S, 1908-S and even the low mintage 1913-S.

PCGS# 4845. NGC ID: 23F6.

PCGS Population: 6; 9 finer (MS-66+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1270

1908-O MS-66 (NGC). Brilliant apart from a wisps of pale golden iridescence on the reverse, both sides are sharply struck with abundant mint luster. With 1,789,000 pieces produced, this is one of the lower mintage issues among New Orleans Mint Barber dimes. Indeed, the 1908-O is scarce in all Mint State grades, and the premium Gem example offered here should attract strong bids when it crosses the auction block.

PCGS# 4848. NGC ID: 23F9.

NGC Census: 13; 3 finer (all MS-67).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1268

1908 MS-65 (NGC). Lustrous throughout with wisps of pale champagne-gold iridescence to otherwise brilliant surfaces.

PCGS# 4846. NGC ID: 23F7.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1271

1908-S MS-65 (NGC). Satiny brilliant surfaces support a bold to sharp strike overall. A median rarity in the Mint State Barber dime series, the 1908-S is scarce in all grades from MS-60 to MS-65.

PCGS# 4849. NGC ID: 23FA.

NGC Census: 6; 9 finer (MS-66+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1272

1909 MS-65 (NGC). CAC. Lustrous satin surfaces are brilliant overall with razor sharp striking detail throughout the design.

PCGS# 4850. NGC ID: 23FB.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1275

1909-S MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. Iridescent reddish-apricot toning is seen at the right borders of both sides of this otherwise golden-tinged example. Fully lustrous with a smooth and attractive appearance. Among the scarcer 20th century Barber dimes in Mint State, the 1909-S has a low mintage of just one million pieces, and attrition through circulation is high for the era. In terms of total number of Uncirculated survivors believed extant, the 1909-S is rarer even than the highly regarded 1895-S, 1897-O and 1909-D, as well as the lower mintage 1904-S, 1913-S and 1915-S. This Gem MS-65 coin is finer than most and will fit right into another advanced Barber dime set.

PCGS# 4853. NGC ID: 23FE.

PCGS Population: 10; 9 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1273

1909-D MS-64 (PCGS). Dusted with soft pinkish-silver patina, this attractive example is fully lustrous with a bold to sharp strike. A scarce Barber dime in all Mint State grades, the 1909-D has a mintage of 954,000 pieces. This is a handsome Choice Uncirculated survivor that is sure to appeal to specialists.

PCGS# 4851. NGC ID: 23FC.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1276

1910 MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Pretty champagne-gold iridescence enhances softly frosted mint luster.

PCGS# 4854. NGC ID: 23FF.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1274

1909-O MS-66 (NGC). A brilliant satiny Gem representative of the final New Orleans Mint dime. Despite a mintage of 2,287,000 pieces, the 1909-O is more challenging to locate than the 1892-O, 1893-O, 1905-O, 1906-O and 1907-O. Always eagerly sought by specialists, the premium Gem Miller Collection example should attract attention as it crosses the auction block.

PCGS# 4852. NGC ID: 23FD.

NGC Census: 4; 2 finer (both MS-67).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1277

1910-D MS-65 (NGC). Lightly toned around the peripheries in pale champagne-pink, this otherwise brilliant example has full mint luster in a soft satin texture. Q. David Bowers (2019) describes the 1910-D as, "Another example of late-date rarity in gem Mint State" within the Barber dime series. In the 2009 reference *Collecting & Investing Strategies for Barber Dimes*, your cataloger (JLA) ranks the 1910-D as the rarest Denver Mint issue of the type in the finest Mint State grades.

PCGS# 4855. NGC ID: 23FG.

NGC Census: 3; 3 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



THE LARRY H. MILLER COLLECTION • PART TWO



1278

1910-S MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Pretty iridescent gold toning mingles with satiny mint luster, and both sides exhibit bold to sharp striking detail throughout. A leading condition rarity in the series, the 1910-S is the eighth rarest S-Mint Barber dime in Mint State. Attrition through circulation was high for this 1,240,000-piece mintage, and even examples in MS-63 and MS-64 are elusive. Gems are even more so, and this premium quality example is among the finest currently available in today's market.

PCGS# 4856. NGC ID: 23FH.

PCGS Population: 24; 20 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1279

1911 MS-65 (NGC). The lightest golden iridescence is seen on the mostly brilliant surfaces of this bright and flashy dime.

PCGS# 4857. NGC ID: 23FJ.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1280

1911-D MS-66 (PCGS). CAC. A frosty and brilliant example that will appeal to Barber dime enthusiasts and high grade mintmarked type collectors.

PCGS# 4858. NGC ID: 23FK.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1281

1911-S MS-66 (NGC). CAC. Lovely satin surfaces are brilliant apart from subtle pinkish-gold and powder blue highlights.

PCGS# 4859. NGC ID: 23FL.

NGC Census: 23; 8 finer (MS-68 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1282

1912 MS-65 (NGC). Moderately toned, lustrous and satiny, with mottled blushes of iridescent powder blue, reddish-apricot and pale gold around the peripheries.

PCGS# 4860. NGC ID: 23FM.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1283

1912-D MS-65 (NGC). A sharp, satiny and attractive Gem Mint State example with brilliant surfaces on both obverse and reverse.

PCGS# 4861. NGC ID: 23FN.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1284

1912-S MS-65 (NGC). Bright and brilliant surfaces are enhanced by a satin to modestly semi-reflective finish. Fully struck and with superior eye appeal even at the Gem Mint State grade level.

PCGS# 4862. NGC ID: 23FP.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1287

1914 MS-65 (PCGS). A generally brilliant example with full, smooth, satiny mint luster.

PCGS# 4865. NGC ID: 23FT.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1285

1913 MS-66 (NGC). Brilliant satin-white surfaces are smooth, lustrous and fully struck.

PCGS# 4863. NGC ID: 23FR.

NGC Census: 15; 5 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1288

1914-D MS-65 (NGC). Popular for mintmarked type purposes, the 1914-D is the final Denver Mint issue in the Barber dime series. The Larry H. Miller Collection offers a bright, brilliant Gem with attractive mint luster.

PCGS# 4866. NGC ID: 23FU.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1286

1913-S MS-66 (NGC). Here is a lovely example of this eagerly sought issue. Both sides exhibit iridescent champagne-apricot toning on smooth, highly lustrous surfaces. From a mintage of just 510,000 pieces, one of the lowest in the circulation strike Barber dime series, this rare premium Gem 1913-S will appeal to advanced specialists.

PCGS# 4864. NGC ID: 23FS.

NGC Census: 7; 2 finer (both MS-67).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1289

1914-S MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. Boldly to sharply struck with brilliant mint luster.

PCGS# 4867. NGC ID: 23FV.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



THE LARRY H. MILLER COLLECTION • PART TWO



1290

1915 MS-66 (NGC). Brilliant and frosty surfaces are as nice as one should demand at the premium Gem Mint State grade level.

PCGS# 4868. NGC ID: 23FW.

NGC Census: 14; 2 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1292

1916 Barber. MS-66 (NGC). CAC. With brilliant surfaces, full mint luster and razor sharp striking detail, this final year Barber dime would do particularly well in a high grade Mint State type set.

PCGS# 4870. NGC ID: 23FY.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1291

1915-S MS-65 (NGC). CAC. This gorgeous Gem exhibits delicate golden iridescence on satiny, highly lustrous surfaces. The key date 1915-S has a mintage of just 960,000 pieces, and it is one of the more elusive Barber dimes in Mint State. The present offering represents a significant bidding opportunity for advanced collectors.

PCGS# 4869. NGC ID: 23FX.

NGC Census: 13; 11 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1293

1916-S Barber. MS-66 (NGC). Delicate champagne-pink iridescence adorns lustrous, satiny surfaces. Last of the San Francisco Mint Barber dimes, the 1916-S is a perennial favorite among mintmarked type collectors.

PCGS# 4871. NGC ID: 23FZ.

NGC Census: 26; with a single MS-67 finer.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



QUARTER DOLLARS



1294

1892 Type I Reverse. MS-64 (NGC). CAC. Lovely peripheral toning in cobalt blue, reddish-gold, champagne-apricot and smoky-gray is bolder and more vivid on the reverse. The Type I Reverse is the scarcer hub variety of this circulation strike issue.

PCGS# 5601. NGC ID: 23XT.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1295

1892-O Type II Reverse. MS-64 (NGC). Splashes of copper-russet iridescence are seen on satiny, smartly impressed surfaces. A perennially popular issue for mintmarked type purposes, the 1892-O is the first Barber quarter from the New Orleans facility.

PCGS# 5602. NGC ID: 23XU.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

Remarkable 1892-S Quarter The Eliasberg-Miller Specimen Among the Finest Known



1296

1892-S Type II Reverse. MS-67 (PCGS). OGH. Sharply struck and well defined in all areas, this is a remarkable example from a technical viewpoint and also for its aesthetic appeal. Both sides exhibit handsome toning with iridescent champagne-apricot enhancing dominant mauve and olive-gray patina. A memorable find for the connoisseur and specialist.

In 1892 the new quarter designed by Chief Engraver Charles Edward Barber was produced at three United States mints — Philadelphia, New Orleans and San Francisco. At 964,079 coins, the San Francisco Mint had the lowest mintage of the year and pieces from that facility are scarcer than the 1892 and 1892-O in all grades. This San Francisco Mint quarter is particularly

elusive in Mint State, so much so that even a solidly graded and aesthetically pleasing MS-63 or MS-64 represents a significant find. The 1892-S is rare as a Gem, and exceedingly so in Superb Gem Mint State. The Larry H. Miller specimen joins two other Superb Gems at the top of the PCGS Condition Census for this issue. (The other two examples are the Eugene H. Gardner specimen now certified PCGS MS-67+, and the D. Brent Pogue specimen in PCGS MS-67.) This is a highlight of the Barber quarter set in the Miller cabinet, and a simply outstanding coin.

PCGS# 5603. NGC ID: 23XV.

PCGS Population: 2 with a single MS-67+ finer.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex our (Bowers and Merena's sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, April 1997, lot 1548.



THE LARRY H. MILLER COLLECTION • PART TWO



1297

1893 MS-65 (NGC). From the second year of the Barber quarter series comes this fully struck and lustrous Gem Mint State example. Brilliant on the obverse, the reverse is lightly toned in iridescent champagne-pink.

PCGS# 5604. NGC ID: 23XW.

NGC Census: 26; 9 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1300

1894 MS-65 (NGC). CAC. Outstanding satin to softly frosted luster is seen on both sides of this bright and brilliant Gem. A sharply struck and very well preserved example of an otherwise readily obtainable issue from the early Barber quarter series.

PCGS# 5607. NGC ID: 23XZ.

NGC Census: 21; 10 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1298

1893-O MS-66 (NGC). This 1893-O quarter displays lovely mint luster and soft iridescent silver patina. It is well struck by the standards of the New Orleans Mint with full definition to virtually all design elements. Smooth, appealing, and solidly graded at the premium Gem level. The second New Orleans Barber quarter, the 1893-O has an above average survival rate in Mint State due to the fact that a fair number of examples were kept from entering circulation. Even so, it is far scarcer than the first year 1892-O, and Gems such as this are rare.

PCGS# 5605. NGC ID: 23XX.

NGC Census: 5; 2 finer (MS-67 finest at this service).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1301

1894-O MS-64 (NGC). CAC. Delicate champagne-pink iridescence adorns the peripheries of this otherwise satin-white example.

PCGS# 5608. NGC ID: 23Y2.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1299

1893-S MS-64 (PCGS). OGH. Lightly toned in golden iridescence, this lovely example also has intense satin luster on both sides. Fully struck, and very nice for the Choice Mint State grade level. This early San Francisco Mint Barber quarter issue saw extensive commercial use and the typical survivor is well worn. Fortunate is the collector who locates a premium quality example that approaches the Gem grade level.

PCGS# 5606. NGC ID: 23XY.

PCGS Population: 20; 19 finer (MS-67+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1302

1894-S MS-64 (NGC). Modest semi-prooflike qualities in the fields blend with dominant satin luster on both sides of this brilliant Choice Mint State quarter. Fully struck and highly appealing.

PCGS# 5609. NGC ID: 23Y3.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1303

1895 MS-64 (PCGS). Dusted with pale gold and silver iridescence, this handsome piece is smartly impressed with attractive mint luster.

PCGS# 5610. NGC ID: 23Y4.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1306

1896 MS-66 (PCGS). Lovely iridescent reddish-apricot toning enhances surfaces that are decidedly semi-reflective in the fields. Otherwise satiny in texture with razor sharp striking detail throughout. Although over 3.8 million circulation strike 1896 quarter dollars were struck, David Lawrence (1994) observes, "All these early dates are much tougher in F through AU than the later dates of similar mintage." Regarding Mint Sate coins, the author makes an even more remarkable comment: "Proofs are almost twice as common as Mint State business strikes." Indeed, our offerings for coins grading MS-65 and finer have generally been few and far between over the years. For the Barber quarter enthusiast, this is a significant bidding opportunity.

PCGS# 5613. NGC ID: 23Y7.

PCGS Population: 9; 9 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1304

1895-O MS-65 (PCGS). This satiny to modestly semi-prooflike example is lightly toned in iridescent gold. Sharply struck in most areas with a pleasingly smooth appearance. The New Orleans Mint struck 2,816,000 quarters in 1895, a smaller total for the era in light of commercial demand for coinage. Indeed, heavy circulation claimed most 1895-O quarters and the typical survivor grades AG, Good or VG. Gems and Superb Gems are so rare as to be beyond the reach of most collectors. Indeed, this is one of the finest 1895-O quarters that we can ever recall handling.

PCGS# 5611. NGC ID: 23Y5.

PCGS Population: 11; 6 finer (MS-68 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1307

1896-O MS-66 (NGC). Vivid peripheral toning in iridescent rose-apricot frames essentially brilliant centers. A lustrous and attractive example with a pleasing, smooth appearance overall. Years ago the 1896-O was considered to be a great key date issue in the Barber quarter series, but in more recent times it has dropped from view somewhat, especially among casual collectors who mostly think of the 1896-S/1901-S/1913-S trio. Among specialists, however, the scarcity of the 1896-O is well known. Only a few coins have been certified in grades of MS-65 and higher, and market appearances for such pieces are usually few and far between. A highlight of the Larry H. Miller Barber quarter set.

PCGS# 5614. NGC ID: 23Y8.

NGC Census: 4; 0 finer at this service.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1305

1895-S MS-64 (NGC). CAC. A brilliant and sharply struck example with bountiful mint luster. The 1895-S was produced to the extent of 1,764,681 coins, a much higher mintage than for the 1896-S the following year. However, it is still a significant condition rarity, underappreciated in all Mint State grades, especially those at or near the Gem level. A significant find for astute collectors of Barber coinage.

PCGS# 5612. NGC ID: 23Y6.

NGC Census: 20; 9 finer (MS-68 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Key Date 1896-S Quarter Exceptional Gem Preservation



1308

1896-S MS-65 (PCGS). Here is an outstanding example of this well known and eagerly sought key date in the Barber quarter series. Both sides exhibit full satiny mint luster and the fields are noticeably semi-reflective. Essentially brilliant, a tiny spot on the reverse that is well concealed between the letters AM in AMERICA appears to be the result of a minor impurity in the planchet. The strike was delivered with pin point accuracy, calling forth full detail to all design elements. Expertly preserved and pristine in most areas, this lovely Gem stands tall among the highlights in the Barber quarters from the Larry H. Miller cabinet.

The 1896-S is the first of three key date issues in the Barber quarter series, with a mintage of just 188,039 pieces. Produced in an era when collecting mintmarked coinage was just beginning

to gain momentum (Augustus G. Heaton's *Treatise on Coinage of the United States Branch Mints* was published in 1893), most 1896-S quarters slipped quietly into circulation and remained there until worn out or lost. While low grade examples appear fairly regularly, problem free VF, EF and AU coins are highly elusive. Even rarer are Mint State survivors. The present Gem offers high grade and outstanding eye appeal and will be just right for an advanced collection of Barber coinage.

Numismatists have identified two reverse dies for this issue. This coin was struck from the first reverse with the mintmark centered between the letters R in QUARTER and D in DOLLAR.

PCGS# 5615. NGC ID: 23Y9.

PCGS Population: 7; 6 finer (MS-66 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1309

1897 MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Dusted with pale champagne-gold iridescence, this handsome piece also offers full mint frost and razor sharp striking detail.

PCGS# 5616. NGC ID: 23YA.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1311

1897-S MS-65 (NGC). Brilliant satin-white surfaces support a razor sharp strike. The 1897-S has a mintage of 542,229 coins, and most examples entered circulation without fanfare, where they were lost or heavily worn. David Lawrence (1994) described the 1897-S as his "favorite date" in the Barber quarter series and put forth the intriguing question, "Where have they all gone?" Indeed, only in the lowest circulated grades through VG will most collectors succeed in acquiring an 1897-S. Even mid grade circulated coins are elusive, while anything better than VF is rare. Gems are exceedingly so, and the Miller specimen is among the finest certified survivors that we have handled in recent years.

PCGS# 5618. NGC ID: 23YC.

NGC Census: 9; 4 finer (MS-68 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1310

1897-O MS-66 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. A brilliant and lustrous example with a softly frosted texture on both sides. It is generally well struck by New Orleans Mint standards, although we do note a touch of softness to a few of the stars on the obverse and the eagle's left talon on the reverse. The 1897-O is one in a long line up of scarce, challenging Barber quarters from the Louisiana coinage facility. The mintage of 1,414,800 pieces saw heavy commercial use and Uncirculated survivors are elusive. This premium quality MS-66 ranks among the finer certified at PCGS. It would serve as a highlight in any advanced collection.

PCGS# 5617. NGC ID: 23YB.

PCGS Population: 9; 5 finer (MS-67+ finest).

CAC Population: 5; 1 (MS-67).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1312

1898 MS-64 (PCGS). Light sandy-gold patina blends with softly frosted luster on both sides of this sharply struck quarter.

PCGS# 5619. NGC ID: 23YD.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1313

1898-O MS-64 (NGC). CAC. Appealing satin luster adorns surfaces that are lightly toned in champagne-pink iridescence. Boldly to sharply struck with a pleasant appearance. Only a small percentage of the 1,868,000 piece mintage for the 1898-O was set aside, with most coins seeing heavy, if not terminal circulation. An very well preserved example, the Miller specimen will delight advanced specialists in the Barber quarter series.

PCGS# 5620. NGC ID: 23YE.

NGC Census: 9; 5 finer (MS-66 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



High Condition Census 1898-S Quarter



1314

1898-S MS-67 (NGC). Here is an amazing Superb Gem example of this scarce and conditionally challenging Barber quarter. Attractively toned in light champagne-gold iridescence, both sides exhibit full mint luster in a lively satin texture. The fields are modestly semi-reflective, and the design elements are fully struck throughout.

One of the scarcer early San Francisco Mint Barber quarters, the 1898-S is particularly elusive in Choice AU and Mint State grades. During preparation of our (Bowers and Merena's) April 1997 Eliasberg Collection sale, David Lawrence wrote

to Q. David Bowers and commented that the 1898-S is "truly scarce in Mint State as most, if not all, of the mintage went to the Philippines, and coins were not saved in high grades." Lawrence went on to state that, while relatively obtainable in cleaned EF and AU grades (generally coins repatriated from the Philippines), "in Mint State [the 1898-S] is very underrated." The present example is a Condition Census survivor. Remarkable!

PCGS# 5621. NGC ID: 23YF.

NGC Census: 3; 0 finer at this service.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1315

1899 MS-64 (NGC). CAC. Pretty reddish-apricot peripheral toning frames brilliant centers. A fully lustrous and sharply struck Choice Mint State quarter that is sure to please.

PCGS# 5622. NGC ID: 23YG.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1316

1899-O MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Appreciably reflective in the fields, this highly lustrous Gem is otherwise satiny in texture. Brilliant surfaces nicely display the outstanding luster and razor sharp to full striking detail. One of many highlights in the fabulous Larry H. Miller Collection of Barber Quarters, this premium quality Gem ranks among the finer 1899-O quarters known to PCGS. It is actually scarcer than a mintage of 2,644,000 pieces might imply, and we believe that most examples were lost to heavy commercial use. The offered quarter will be a find for collectors assembling advanced collections of this classic silver series.

PCGS# 5623. NGC ID: 23YH.

PCGS Population: 10; 15 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1317

1899-S MS-65 (NGC). CAC. OH. A simply beautiful example that is very close to an even higher Mint State grade. The obverse is brilliant apart from a thin crescent of powder blue and pinkish-apricot iridescence along the upper border. The reverse is peripherally toned in delightful pinkish-apricot and cobalt blue iridescence that frame a brilliant center. Both sides are sharply struck with bountiful mint luster in a softly frosted texture. Only 708,000 1899-S quarters were struck and, according to David Lawrence, most were shipped to the Philippines for use in commerce there after the Spanish-American War. Many of the coins that remained stateside circulated heavily in the bustling West Coast economy of the time. That Gems of most of these early date S-Mint Barber quarter issues exist is more a matter of chance than of intention. Rare.

PCGS# 5624. NGC ID: 23YJ.

NGC Census: 8; 7 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1318

1900 MS-64 (NGC). Otherwise silver-tinged surfaces are enhanced by mottled blushes of multicolored iridescent toning here and there at the borders.

PCGS# 5625. NGC ID: 23YK.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1319

1900-O MS-65 (NGC). Brilliant satin surfaces are highly lustrous with a bold to sharp strike. With a generous mintage of 3,416,000 pieces and an above average rate of survival, the 1900-O is among the more readily obtainable New Orleans Mint Barber quarters in lower Mint State grades. Gems such as this are scarce, however, and represent an important bidding opportunity for the specialist whenever an example appears at auction.

PCGS# 5626. NGC ID: 23YL.

NGC Census: 8; 2 finer (both MS-66).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1320

1900-S MS-66 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Dusted with delicate champagne-pink iridescence, this beautiful example also offers full mint luster in a softly frosted texture. The strike is impressively full throughout the design, and the surfaces are as nice as would be expected for the assigned grade. Along with the 1898-S and 1899-S before it, the 1900-S is one of three San Francisco Mint Barber quarter issues that were sent in quantity to the Philippine Islands in the aftermath of the Spanish-American War. A fair number of those coins have returned to the United States after acquiring minimal wear, and the 1900-S is readily available in EF and lower AU grades. However, attractive Choice AU and Mint State examples are elusive and undervalued. Approaching the pinnacle of the numismatic grading scale, this premium quality Gem is an important condition rarity.

PCGS# 5627. NGC ID: 23YM.

PCGS Population: 8; 5 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1321

1901 MS-65 (PCGS). OGH. A lustrous and frosty Gem with blushes of pretty champagne-apricot toning that add to the eye appeal.

PCGS# 5628. NGC ID: 23YN.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1322

1901-O MS-64 (PCGS). Lustrous satin surfaces are lightly toned in iridescent pinkish-silver. The strike is impressive by the standards of the issuing Mint with razor sharp detail to virtually all design elements. Although overshadowed by the 1901-S, the New Orleans Mint's 1901 issue is scarce in its own right. The mintage of 1,612,000 pieces circulated heavily and Mint State survivors are elusive in all grades.

PCGS# 5629. NGC ID: 23YP.

PCGS Population: 14; 12 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

Key Date 1901-S Barber Quarter Rare and Desirable Choice Mint State



1323

1901-S MS-64 (NGC). This is the undisputed “King of Barber Coinage,” the rare 1901-S quarter. While even circulated coins are eagerly sought, the Larry H. Miller Collection brings to market a significant Choice Mint State condition rarity. It is a lovely coin, with the surfaces lustrous, satiny and untuned apart from the lightest champagne-pink iridescence. The striking detail is virtually full, and the eye appeal is strong.

The San Francisco Mint produced only 72,664 quarters in 1901, which would remain the lowest mintage in the series until 1913, when the San Francisco Mint delivered only 40,000 quarters. The 1901-S is much rarer than the 1913-S in all grades, however, as it was saved in far fewer numbers by the contemporary public.

Indeed, little interest seems to have been paid to the 1901-S quarter at the time of its production. What interest there was in the 1901-S seems to have been focused entirely on the issue's

usefulness in circulation. And circulate these coins did, with many being lost in the process and most survivors displaying heavy wear. As with most Barber coins, in fact, the only 1901-S quarters that are seen on a fairly regular basis are low grade pieces in AG, Good and VG.

Even in lower grades, however, the low mintage guaranteed that the 1901-S would be scarce in an absolute sense. Rarity increases exponentially through the Fine, VF, EF and AU grade levels. In Mint State the 1901-S is very rare, as the small number of such pieces known survived almost purely as a matter of chance. Among the finest available to today's advanced collectors, this lovely MS-64 from the Miller Collection should find its way into another significant Barber quarter collection.

PCGS# 5630. NGC ID: 23YR.

NGC Census: 4; 6 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1324

1902 MS-66 (PCGS). An appealing premium Gem Mint State example with pale champagne-apricot iridescence on the obverse. Otherwise brilliant, and very well preserved for this popular Barber quarter issue from the Philadelphia Mint.

PCGS# 5631. NGC ID: 23YS.

PCGS Population: 27; 5 finer (MS-67+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1327

1903 MS-65 (NGC). CAC. A bright and brilliant example with abundant satin luster. Despite its generous mintage of 9,759,309 circulation strikes, the 1903 is actually an underrated condition rarity, with Gem Mint State survivors such as this remarkably elusive. A find for the astute Barber quarter specialist.

PCGS# 5634. NGC ID: 23YV.

NGC Census: 3; 4 finer (all MS-66).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1325

1902-O MS-64 (NGC). CAC. Generally brilliant surfaces are dusted with iridescent reddish-apricot around the peripheries. Despite a relatively generous mintage of 4,748,000 pieces the 1902-O is actually scarce even in middle circulated grades such as Fine and VF. Rare in EF and AU, Mint State survivors are elusive at all levels.

PCGS# 5632. NGC ID: 23YT.

NGC Census: 18; 4 finer (MS-68 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1328

1903-O MS-65 (NGC). A dusting of iridescent champagne-pink toning appears to drift toward the borders. Well struck with full satin luster, modest semi-reflectivity in the fields adds further appeal. The New Orleans Mint struck 3,500,000 quarters in 1903, but the issue is still scarce to rare throughout the Mint State grade range. As a solidly graded Gem, the Larry H. Miller specimen should attract strong bids when it crosses the auction block.

PCGS# 5635. NGC ID: 23YW.

NGC Census: 5; 2 finer (MS-66+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1326

1902-S MS-64 (NGC). This exceptionally vivid example offers slightly mottled steel-blue and deep rose patina. The toning has an iridescent quality that nicely displays the full satin to softly frosted luster. Sharply struck in most areas with a pleasing, smooth appearance. From a mintage of 1,524,612 pieces, the vast majority of which are well worn.

PCGS# 5633. NGC ID: 23YU.

NGC Census: 14; 12 finer (MS-68 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1329

1903-S MS-66 (PCGS). Lightly toned in iridescent pinkish-silver, both sides are fully lustrous with a soft satin texture. The 1903-S tells a familiar story for a San Francisco Mint Barber quarter: a smaller mintage combined with heavy commercial use resulted in an issue that is scarce to rare in all but the lowest circulated grades. While Mint State coins do survive, few grade finer than MS-64. The Miller specimen in MS-66 is among the finest certified and will likely become part of another highly regarded Barber quarter set.

PCGS# 5636. NGC ID: 23YX.

PCGS Population: 7; 6 finer (MS-67+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



THE LARRY H. MILLER COLLECTION • PART TWO



1330

1904 MS-65 (NGC). Satin-white surfaces are brilliant, lustrous, and perfect for the assigned Gem grade.

PCGS# 5637. NGC ID: 23YY.

NGC Census: 16; 5 finer (MS-67 ★ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1333

1905-O MS-64 (NGC). Soft satin luster is seen over brilliant, smooth-looking surfaces. The strike is impressively sharp, notably lacking the extreme softness so often associated with New Orleans Mint quarters of this design type. A mintage of 1,230,000 coins and extensive commercial use conspired to make the 1905-O scarce to rare in the finer circulated and all Mint State grades. The Miller specimen is sure to find its way into another advanced collection.

PCGS# 5640. NGC ID: 23Z3.

NGC Census: 15; 5 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1331

1904-O MS-64 (NGC). CAC. This Choice example is attractively toned in silver-lilac and champagne-apricot iridescence that is bolder on the obverse. The 1904-O was produced to the extent of 2,456,000 pieces, and the vast majority of survivors are well worn. Even problem free EF and AU examples are few and far between. As related by Q. David Bowers (2019), "David Lawrence called [the 1904-O] one of 17 Barber quarter issues considered to be 'very scarce' in any Mint State category."

PCGS# 5638. NGC ID: 23YZ.

NGC Census: 20; 12 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1334

1905-S MS-64 (NGC). CAC. OH. A peripherally toned beauty with halos of vivid cobalt blue and reddish-gold patina framing brilliant centers. The strike is virtually full, and the luster is outstanding with a lively satin texture. A semi-key date Barber quarter, the 1905-S is scarce in Mint State despite being a 20th century issue with a mintage of 1.8 million coins.

PCGS# 5641. NGC ID: 23ZA.

NGC Census: 16; 14 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1332

1905 MS-64 (NGC). Lightly and attractively toned in champagne-pink iridescence.

PCGS# 5639. NGC ID: 23Z2.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1335

1906 MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Brilliant with sharply struck and softly frosted surfaces.

PCGS# 5642. NGC ID: 23Z5.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1336

1906-D MS-65 (NGC). Wisps of reddish-gold toning are seen on this otherwise brilliant, satiny and generally sharp example. Enough of the more than three million coins struck for the 1906-D were saved that Mint State examples can usually be found. This is good news for collectors, since this issue is popular as the first quarter from the Denver Mint.

PCGS# 5643. NGC ID: 23Z6.

NGC Census: 17; with a single MS-66 finer.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1339

1907-D MS-65 (PCGS). This frosty and sharply struck example also offers brilliant Gem-quality surfaces. The 1907-D is obtainable enough in lower Mint State grades through MS-64. As Q. David Bowers (2019) observes, however, "By all logic the 1907-D with its high mintage should be readily available in gem Mint State, but the reality is otherwise." Obviously this issue was saved in fewer numbers than the Denver Mint's inaugural quarter delivery of 1906. The attractive Gem offered here represents an important bidding opportunity.

PCGS# 5646. NGC ID: 23Z9.

PCGS Population: 13; 7 finer (MS-66+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1337

1906-O MS-65 (NGC). Brilliant satin-white surfaces are fully lustrous with an impressively sharp strike for a New Orleans Mint Barber quarter. Light swelling (a.k.a. "mumps") on Liberty's neck and jaw are typical of the issue, but all design elements are sharply to fully rendered. The commencement of coinage operations at the Denver Mint in 1906 may have resulted in a slight decrease in commercial need for the 1906-O coins. For whatever reason, a greater number of Mint State coins survived, although the vast majority of coins saw extensive commercial use.

PCGS# 5644. NGC ID: 23Z7.

NGC Census: 22; 15 finer (MS-68 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1340

1907-O MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. A frosty and brilliant example with superior striking detail for this often poorly produced issue. The 1907-O is one of most popular New Orleans Mint type candidates in the Barber quarter series, and this premium quality Choice Mint State coin has much to offer the discerning collector.

PCGS# 5647. NGC ID: 23ZA.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1338

1907 MS-64 (NGC). CAC. Delicate iridescent gold toning overall, with the peripheries having some speckled reddish-russet highlights that add visual appeal.

PCGS# 5645. NGC ID: 23Z8.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1341

1907-S MS-64 (NGC). An otherwise satiny finish yields to semi-prooflike reflectivity in the fields. Lightly toned in iridescent golden-gray, the reverse is soft on the high points of the eagle, but the obverse is sharply struck throughout. The 1907-S is similar to many mintmarked issues in the Barber quarter series, as it has a lower mintage that saw extensive commercial use. The typical survivor is well worn and grades no finer than VF, with even EF and AU examples scarce. Mint State coins are very scarce to rare in all grades.

PCGS# 5648. NGC ID: 23ZB.

NGC Census: 22; 16 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



THE LARRY H. MILLER COLLECTION • PART TWO



1342

1908 MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Appealing mint luster and razor sharp striking detail are seen both sides of this essentially brilliant example.

PCGS# 5649. NGC ID: 23ZC.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1345

1908-S MS-65 (NGC). Sharply to fully struck with intense satin luster to brilliant surfaces. In a series replete with challenging mintmarked issues, the 1908-S stands out due to its mintage of 784,000 pieces. Like most San Francisco Mint issues of this type, the 1908-S saw extensive circulation that resulted in most examples being lost or becoming well worn from decades of commercial use. David Lawrence (1994) describes the 1908-S as, "One of my favorite dates.... Never stays in stock - trouble-free coins of any grade sell immediately. Undervalued in most Mint State grades. Even though Gems are no bargain compared with some other dates, you should not let one go." For the astute collector, our offering of the Larry H. Miller specimen represents a bidding opportunity not to be missed.

PCGS# 5652. NGC ID: 23ZF.

NGC Census: 12; 11 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1343

1908-D MS-65 (NGC). CAC. OH. Crescents and halos of rich midnight-blue and pinkish-rose iridescence engage the peripheries of this beautiful Gem. The centers are brilliant, and the surfaces are highly lustrous throughout. Although the mintage was 5,788,000 coins, Q. David Bowers (2019) notes that Gem Mint State survivors of the 1908-D are "rare in relation to the generous mintage." The Larry H. Miller specimen is a gorgeous coin worthy of strong bids.

PCGS# 5650. NGC ID: 23ZD.

NGC Census: 19; 8 finer (MS-68 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1346

1909 MS-65 (NGC). A predominantly brilliant example with a sharp strike and full satin luster.

PCGS# 5653. NGC ID: 23ZG.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1344

1908-O MS-64 (NGC). CAC. Mottled cobalt blue and reddish-rose peripheral toning adorns satiny surfaces. A vivid and attractive Choice Mint State example of this popular mintmarked type issue in the Barber quarter series.

PCGS# 5651. NGC ID: 23ZE.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1347

1909-D MS-64 (PCGS). OGH. Wisps of pale silver iridescence are seen on this this lustrous, satiny and otherwise brilliant example.

PCGS# 5654. NGC ID: 23ZH.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1348

1909-O MS-64 (NGC). Delicate champagne-pink peripheral iridescence interrupts otherwise satin-white brilliance on both sides of this lustrous and sharply struck example. The 1909-O is quite scarce in all grades with a mintage of 712,000 coins. Even Extremely Fine and About Uncirculated examples are elusive, and in the latter grade this is one of the most challenging Barber quarters to locate. According to David Lawrence, in a letter to our own Q. David Bowers in 1997:

The 1909-O is the scarcest of all the New Orleans Mint Barber quarters in most grades, especially if with a decent strike. It is on the want list of just about everyone who wants to build a Mint State set.

This issue is significant as the last year of New Orleans Mint coinage. The presses in that city were stopped in this year, never to resume production. Many coins, primarily silver dollars, continued to be stored at the New Orleans Mint until 1929, when they were moved to a vault in Philadelphia. Meanwhile, quarter dollars were not accumulated and most were paid out into commerce. In addition, they were not often saved by contemporary numismatists. Bowers was unable to locate records of any quantities of New Orleans Mint Barber quarters existing while doing research for his book *American Coin Treasures and Hoards* (published 1997). The present example not only escaped circulation, but possesses an uncommonly full strike and solid Choice Mint State preservation. Sure to appeal to advanced collectors.

PCGS# 5655. NGC ID: 23ZJ.

NGC Census: 17; 6 finer (MS-66 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1349

1909-S MS-65 (PCGS). Boldly struck and brilliant with lovely mint luster throughout. This is a scarce issue in all but the lowest circulated grades as the mintage was just 1,348,000 coins and attrition through circulation was high.

PCGS# 5656. NGC ID: 23ZK.

PCGS Population: 25; 17 finer (MS-67+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1350

1910 MS-64 (NGC). Brilliant apart from delicate reddish-gold rim highlights. Both sides are semi-prooflike.

PCGS# 5657. NGC ID: 23ZL.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1351

1910-D MS-64 (NGC). Brilliant in the centers, both sides are ringed in rich peripheral toning of reddish-apricot and/or cobalt blue.

PCGS# 5658. NGC ID: 23ZM.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1352

1911 MS-64 (PCGS). OGH. This frosty and sharply struck Barber quarter is further enhanced by wisps of iridescent champagne-pink toning.

PCGS# 5659. NGC ID: 23ZN.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



THE LARRY H. MILLER COLLECTION • PART TWO



1353

1911-D MS-64 (NGC). Soft satin luster is seen over brilliant surfaces. The strike is well executed for the type with all but a few isolated design elements fully defined. On the one hand the 1911-D is a semi-key date due to a mintage of fewer than one million coins (933,600 pieces). On the other hand, just how elusive this issue is in Mint State is not widely appreciated. A find for the astute Barber quarter enthusiast, and sure to see spirited bidding.

PCGS# 5660. NGC ID: 23ZP.

NGC Census: 16; 4 finer (all MS-65).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1354

1911-S MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Brilliant satin surfaces present full luster and strong eye appeal. As attractive as one is likely to find for this semi-key date issue at the MS-65 grade level, and a conditionally scarce survivor from a mintage of 988,000 coins.

PCGS# 5661. NGC ID: 23ZR.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1355

1912 MS-65 (NGC). CAC. This sharply struck and otherwise satin-white example exhibits blushes of golden iridescence along the upper obverse and reverse borders.

PCGS# 5662. NGC ID: 23ZS.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1356

1912-S MS-64 (PCGS). OGH. Lightly toned in golden-gray iridescence, both sides are boldly struck with full, softly frosted luster. The 1912-S is a semi-key date Barber quarter from the 20th century with a mintage of 708,000 pieces.

PCGS# 5663. NGC ID: 23ZT.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1357

1913 MS-64 (NGC). CAC. Pale golden iridescence mingles with attractive luster on both sides of this sharp and appealing example.

PCGS# 5664. NGC ID: 23ZU.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1358

1913-D MS-65 (NGC). Satiny and sharply struck surfaces are enhanced by pretty iridescent toning in pinkish-rose and champagne-gold.

PCGS# 5665. NGC ID: 23ZV.

NGC Census: 16; 12 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Low Mintage 1913-S Barber Quarter Rarity Exceptional Gem Mint State Preservation



1359

1913-S MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. The 1913-S is a key issue in the Barber quarter series and this is a rare, premium quality Gem Mint State example. Frosty surfaces are exceptionally smooth and highly attractive. Mostly brilliant, although we do note blushes of pale champagne-pink iridescence on both sides. Boldly to sharply struck and a delight to behold.

The 1913-S with a mintage of 40,000 pieces is one of the trio of key date rarities in the Barber quarter series, with the other two being the 1896-S and 1901-S. By the second decade of the 20th century numismatics and the desirability of mintmarked

coins had advanced to the point where contemporary collectors were paying closer attention to branch mint coinage. While more Uncirculated examples of the 1913-S were set aside at the time of issue than for either the 1896-S or 1901-S, such coins are still rare in the context of the Barber quarter series. This offering of a solidly graded and attractive MS-65 is a highly significant bidding opportunity for advanced Barber quarter enthusiasts.

PCGS# 5666. NGC ID: 23ZW.

PCGS Population: 16; 20 finer (MS-68 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1360

1914 MS-64 (NGC). CAC. Lightly toned in pinkish-silver iridescence, this lovely example also offers sharp striking detail and soft satin to frosty luster.

PCGS# 5667. NGC ID: 23ZX.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1361

1914-D MS-65 (NGC). Satiny surfaces are minimally toned and the strike is sharp to full throughout the design.

PCGS# 5668. NGC ID: 23ZY.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1362

1914-S MS-65 (PCGS). OGH. Pretty golden iridescence blankets satiny design elements and semi-reflective fields. The 1914-S is among the semi-key date issues in the Barber quarter series, with only the 1896-S, 1901-S, 1913-S trio having lower mintages. However, by the early 20th century, collecting U.S. coins by mintmark had started to take off so more Mint State examples of this issue have survived than for many earlier dated Barber quarters. Even so, the 1914-S remains scarce to rare in all Uncirculated grades, with Gems such as the Larry H. Miller specimen decidedly in the latter category.

PCGS# 5669. NGC ID: 23ZZ.

PCGS Population: 16; 10 finer (MS-67+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1365

1915-S MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Brilliant, highly lustrous surfaces are modestly semi-prooflike on an otherwise satiny finish.

PCGS# 5672. NGC ID: 2424.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1363

1915 MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. A fully lustrous and sharply struck coin with minimal toning in iridescent gold.

PCGS# 5670. NGC ID: 2422.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1366

1916 Barber. MS-65 (NGC). Pretty champagne-pink iridescence mingles with mint luster on both sides of this appealing Gem Mint State example.

PCGS# 5673. NGC ID: 2425.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1364

1915-D MS-65 (PCGS). OGH. This is a predominantly brilliant Gem with a blush of golden-rose iridescence over the lower right reverse and full satin to softly frosted mint luster.

PCGS# 5671. NGC ID: 2423.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1367

1916-D MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. This satiny to modestly semi-prooflike example is brilliant apart from delicate golden-rose iridescence around the obverse periphery. Here is a thoroughly premium quality Choice Mint State example of this popular type issue from the final year of the Barber quarter.

PCGS# 5674. NGC ID: 2426.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



HALF DOLLARS



1368

1892 MS-64 (NGC). CAC. An attractive example with superior eye appeal even for a coin at the upper reaches of the MS-64 grade level. Intensely lustrous surfaces exhibit a delightful frosty texture with swirling cartwheel effects evident under a light. Both sides are predominantly brilliant, but there are blushes of iridescent reddish-gold toning at the borders. Razor sharp striking detail is also of note on this premium quality example.

Though it has a relatively low mintage figure of 934,000 coins, many 1892 half dollars were saved as souvenirs by the public as the first year of the new design from Chief Engraver Charles E. Barber. This proved to be a short-lived phenomenon, however, for as a series the circulation strike Barber half dollar was a workhorse of commerce with little numismatic attention paid to most individual issues until decades after they were produced. The typical example is well worn and grades AG, Good or VG. Assembling a complete set of this series even in marginal Mint State quality would be a significant accomplishment for any numismatist. The Larry H. Miller Collection includes one of the finest Barber half dollar sets that your cataloger (JLA) has ever had the privilege of describing for auction. Without exception it comprises coins grading MS-64 and higher, including many examples that are tied for finest certified or otherwise qualify as Condition Census for their issue. This lovely 1892 in premium quality MS-64 is an outstanding way to open the Barber half dollar offerings from the Larry H. Miller cabinet. As a first year issue from the Philadelphia Mint with an uncommonly high rate of survival, the 1892 is the quintessential Mint State type coin in this challenging series, and this coin would also serve well in that regard.

PCGS# 6461. NGC ID: 24LE

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1369

1892-O MS-64 (NGC). CAC. Softly frosted surfaces exhibits wisps of iridescent reddish-gold toning that are boldest at and near the borders. The New Orleans Mint frequently encountered difficulty producing fully struck coins throughout the Barber half dollar series and, indeed, the present example is blunt at several of the obverse stars and the eagle's neck, left wing and left talon on the reverse. Many of the Mint State 1892-O half dollars that we have handled over the years have been softly defined over one or more of these features. In his 1992 book *The Complete Guide to Barber Halves*, David Lawrence goes so far as to estimate that "perhaps 30-50%" of Uncirculated examples are poorly struck. On the other hand, the Larry H. Miller specimen has universally full detail throughout Liberty's portrait, and many other design elements on both sides are bold to sharp. With expertly preserved surfaces that evoke thoughts of an even higher grade, this is certainly a superior quality coin in an 1892-O half dollar.

At just 390,000 coins produced, the 1892-O has the lowest mintage in the circulation strike Barber half dollar series prior to 1913. Indeed, only the trio of key date Philadelphia Mint issues from 1913 through 1915 have lower mintages. The 1892-O benefited from its first year status, however, and Mint State survivors are more plentiful than one would otherwise expect. However, Gem Mint State examples are rare by any measure, and this premium quality MS-64 represents the finest realistically obtainable for most collectors.

PCGS# 6462. NGC ID: 24LG.

NGC Census: 27; 21 finer (MS-68 ★ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Lot 1370

1892-O Lawrence-101, FS-501. Micro O. MS-67 (PCGS). CAC.



Exceedingly Rare Superb Gem 1892-O Micro O Half Dollar The Atwater-Stack-Queller-Miller Specimen Condition Census #2



1370

1892-O Lawrence-101, FS-501. Micro O. MS-67 (PCGS). CAC. This is the fourth time that we have had the honor of presenting this extraordinary coin at auction, a landmark rarity in the Barber half dollar series. Exceptionally well produced, both the obverse and reverse show needle sharp striking detail over all design elements, including the stars on the obverse and the eagle's left wing and talon on the reverse. Both sides are highly lustrous with an otherwise frosty texture that yields to a modestly prooflike finish in the fields. Iridescent champagne-apricot and powder blue peripheral toning frames pinkish-silver centers — as pretty as a picture. Expertly preserved with virtually pristine surfaces, there are few circulation strike Barber half dollars, even from the Philadelphia Mint, that come up to this standard in quality. As a New Orleans Mint coin this is an incredible strike and condition rarity, while as an example of the 1892-O Micro O variety it is nearly unique in Superb Gem Mint State.

There are few major varieties in the Barber half dollar series of 1892 to 1915, and by far the most significant and eagerly sought is the 1892-O Micro O. Most numismatic scholars accept that this variety was created when a Mint employee inadvertently used an O mintmark punch for a quarter dollar in preparation of a half dollar die. In his groundbreaking work *Mint Marks*, Augustus G. Heaton commented on this variety:

After a long interval the half dollar was struck in 1892 with new bust and Heraldic Eagle dies. The date is small, and a small O [the regular 1892-O] is directly under the middle of the eagle's tail and over the D. There is one rare variety of this piece with an exceedingly small o, hardly larger than a period.

As Heaton's book was published in 1893, the year after this variety was produced, and the 1892-O as an issue was saved in relatively large numbers as a first year issue, one might think that a fair number of Mint State Micro O examples have survived. Nothing could be further from the truth. Given Heaton's description of this variety as "rare" even in 1893, it is likely that very few examples were produced in the first place. And, with very few exceptions, this variety was overlooked by collectors for many decades. Indeed, the numismatic disinterest in this variety is a microcosm of the circulation strike Barber half dollar series as a whole. Even the *Guide Book* proved to be a fickle patron of the 1892-O Micro O over the years. While it received a separate listing in early editions, subsequent years saw the Micro O relegated to a footnote, only for it to be recently restored as a separate listing. While the popularity of this variety is firmly entrenched today, decades of indifference have resulted in few survivors. *PCGS CoinFacts* estimates that fewer than 100 are known, and most are well worn in AG, Good and VG, typical grades for Barber half dollars given that this series circulated extensively.

Yet even so, a few numismatists from earlier generations followed Heaton in recognizing and appreciating the rarity of this variety. Edouard Frossard's June 1894 sale of the William M. Friesner Collection included an 1892-O half dollar cataloged as "Microscopic o, Sharp Uncirculated," and Q. David Bowers (2019) also notes that Howard R. Newcomb displayed an example at the 1914 ANS Exhibition. While the Friesner specimen is now untraced, or at very least its provenance chain has been broken, the two finest 1892-O Micro O half dollars known to PCGS made their first auction appearances during



the early 20th century. The PCGS/CAC MS-68 Eliasberg-Friend specimen was acquired by John M. Clapp from Lyman Low's July 1903 sale. CC#2 is the Larry H. Miller specimen in PCGS/CAC MS-67 offered here, which traces its provenance back to B. Max Mehl's June 1946 sale of the William Cutler Atwater Collection.

The rarity of this incredible Superb Gem is perhaps best illustrated by looking at recent appearances for this variety in our sales. Over the last 15 years we have offered the 1892-O Micro O variety at auction only 18 times, with Mint State coins accounting for just four of those appearances. One was an earlier appearance of this Larry H. Miller specimen, another was an impaired coin in NGC Unc Details—Cleaned, while a PCGS MS-63 and NGC MS-62 round out the list. Another standout among our recent offerings was a PCGS AU-55; otherwise, every other 1892-O Micro O that we've offered since 2005 has graded Fair through VG.

Clearly the offering of even a low grade 1892-O Micro O in today's market represents a significant bidding opportunity for Barber half dollar variety enthusiasts. Mint State examples of even marginal quality are exceedingly rare. As with so many offerings from the Larry H. Miller Collection, this Condition Census Superb Gem represents what could very well be a once in a lifetime chance for the advanced collector. We expect spirited competition and very strong bids for this phenomenal rarity.

PCGS# 6463. NGC ID: 24LH.

PCGS Population: 1; 1 finer (MS-68).

CAC Population: 1; 1.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex B. Max Mehl's sale of the William Cutler Atwater Collection, June 1946, lot 581; our (Stack's) sale of the James A. Stack Collection, March 1975, lot 572; our (Stack's) sale of the Queller Family Collection of United States Half Dollars, October 2002 67th Anniversary Sale, lot 723; our (American Numismatic Rarities) William H. LaBelle, Sr. Collection sale, July 2005, lot 1186.



1371

1892-S MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. This attractive Gem Mint State example is brilliant apart from the lightest iridescent gold toning that is a bit bolder on the reverse. The strike is impressively sharp for an early date San Francisco Mint Barber half dollar, both sides with virtually full definition throughout the design. Full, smooth, satin to softly frosted luster enhances the appeal of this impressive strike and condition rarity.

Although it has the highest mintage of the three 1892-dated issues in the Barber half dollar series, the 1892-S is the rarest in Mint State. Obviously less attention was paid to this West Coast half dollar by contemporary Americans than to the 1892 and 1892-O. The 1892-S still benefited from its first year status, however, and it has a slightly more generous Mint State population than most other San Francisco Mint half dollars from the 1890s. Yet even so, commercial use claimed the vast majority of the 1,029,028 coins struck for the 1892-S, David Lawrence (1991) estimates that "perhaps 95% of this date exist in G/AG." Among Uncirculated survivors few grade finer than Choice, this being only our second offering for a Gem Mint State 1892-S over the 15 years. As with so many offerings from the fabulous Larry H. Miller Collection, the word "opportunity" comes to the fore.

PCGS# 6464. NGC ID: 24LJ.

PCGS Population: 14; 7 finer (MS-67+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1372

1893 MS-65 (NGC). CAC. This brilliant and beautiful example exhibits subtle semi-prooflike reflectivity in the fields. The finish is otherwise frosty in texture, with both sides revealing delightful cartwheel visual effects under a light. Striking detail is razor sharp to full throughout, rare in an early date circulation strike Barber half dollar. Superior surface preservation further sets this coin apart from the typical survivor of this 1,826,000-piece issue. While the 1893 is one of the more frequently encountered early date Barber half dollars in Mint State, few have been certified finer than MS-64. This is an impressive coin that will be just right for another highly regarded cabinet.

PCGS# 6465. NGC ID: 24LK.

NGC Census: 10; 6 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1373

1893-O MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. This lovely Gem exhibits peripheral toning in vivid reddish-apricot and softer powder blue. The centers are close to brilliant with a subtle pearl gray hue, and all areas are fully frosted with razor sharp to full striking detail. As with virtually all New Orleans Mint issues of the type, the 1893-O is a conditionally challenging Barber half dollar that is usually available in only the lowest circulated grades. Mint State survivors are scarce and usually found in the MS-62 to MS-64 range. In Gem Uncirculated MS-65 and MS-66 this is a rare date. This is the second time that we have brought this Condition Census Gem to auction. The first was in our (Bowers and Merena's) April 1997 sale of the renowned Eliasberg Collection, where we described this coin, in part, as "one

of the nicest we have seen and one of the finest to ever be auctioned as part of a specialized collection of the series." Now part of the equally fabulous Larry H. Miller cabinet, the same words still hold true. Whether competing for top ranking on the PCGS Set Registry or simply assembling a world class collection of this challenging and underrated series, the advanced Barber half dollar specialist would be wise to pursue this offering with vigor.

PCGS# 6466. NGC ID: 24LL.

PCGS Population: 4; 6 finer (all MS-66).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, April 1997, lot 2068.

Rarely Offered Gem Uncirculated 1893-S Half Dollar



1374

1893-S MS-65 (NGC). A leading condition rarity among the Barber half dollars in the Larry H. Miller collection, this amazing Gem offers superior technical quality and outstanding visual appeal. Full striking detail is of note, even the most intricate design elements have razor sharp definition. Lustrous with a predominantly satin to softly frosted finish, both sides are modestly semi-prooflike in the fields, more pronounced on the reverse. Bright and brilliant with an overall pristine appearance, this coin will be perfect for another world class collection of Barber coinage.

The San Francisco Mint produced 740,000 half dollars in 1893, the second year of the Barber series, representing a reduction of nearly 300,000 coins from the mintage for the 1892-S. Throughout the Barber series yearly half dollar production was a response to the needs of commerce, and examples were released into circulation on a routine basis in proportion to the

call for them. The early San Francisco Mint issues in this series saw particularly heavy commercial use, which combined with the limited mintage explains why the 1893-S qualifies as a key date even in the lowest circulated grades. In Mint State this issue is one of the rarest of its type from the 1890s. Writing in the 2019 edition of his *Guide Book of Barber Silver Coins*, Q. David Bowers' comment about high grade half dollars from this era is brief and to the point: "With only a few exceptions, Barber half dollars of the 1890s are very difficult to find in gem preservation." The 1893-S is one of the leading rarities in this group at the certified MS-65 level, and the Larry H. Miller specimen is the kind of coin that would serve as a highlight in any advanced cabinet.

PCGS# 6467. NGC ID: 24LM.

NGC Census: 4; 0 finer at this service.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1375

1894 MS-66 (PCGS). Wisps of pale champagne-apricot iridescence are noted on this bright, beautiful, nearly brilliant premium Gem. A full strike and intensely lustrous surfaces will enhance the appeal of this expertly preserved coin for the quality conscious type or date collector. Despite its status as one of the more readily obtainable 1890s Barber half dollar issues in Mint State, the 1894 is scarce at

this level of preservation. In the finest Mint State grades, as here, this issue is an undeniable condition rarity that is seldom offered.

PCGS# 6468. NGC ID: 24LN.

PCGS Population: 7; 5 finer (MS-67+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

Finest Known 1894-O Half Dollar The Clapp-Eliasberg-Miller Specimen Acquired Directly from the New Orleans Mint in November 1894



1376

1894-O MS-68 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. We first offered this incredible Superb Gem in our (Bowers and Merena's) April 1997 sale of the Eliasberg Collection, where it was cataloged as:

Lustrous, frosty surfaces with delicate champagne toning at the center changing to splashes of gold and blue at the rims. A simply elegant example of an issue which is a major condition rarity at this grade level. The superb aesthetic quality makes it even more so. We are not aware of its equal anywhere. A very exciting piece that will no doubt be constantly admired by its new owner.

Today, 23 years later, we still have not seen this coin's equal among 1894-O half dollars. It owes its existence at such an extraordinary level of preservation to John M. Clapp, one of the earliest proponents of collecting United States coinage

by mintmark. Soon after publication of Augustus G. Heaton's seminal work *Mint Marks* in 1893, Clapp began acquiring Mint State examples of yearly coinage by writing directly to the mints. He obtained this half dollar from the New Orleans facility in November 1894. Preserved with the utmost care ever since, this 1894-O is a centerpiece in the Larry H. Miller Collection, and it will serve as such in the cabinet of its next fortunate owner.

PCGS# 6469. NGC ID: 24LP.

PCGS Population: 1; 0 finer.

CAC Population: 1; 0.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex John M. Clapp, acquired directly from the New Orleans Mint in November 1894; John H. Clapp; Clapp estate, 1942; Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.; our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, April 1997, lot 2071.



1377

1894-S MS-64 (NGC). CAC. This semi-prooflike beauty reveals glassy reflectivity in the fields, while the design elements are frosty with razor sharp to full striking detail. Otherwise brilliant, we note blushes of champagne-gold iridescence around the peripheries. After producing only 740,000 coins in 1893, half dollar production at the San Francisco Mint soared to more than 4 million pieces in 1894. With one of the highest mintages in the series, 1894-S numbers among the most frequently encountered Barber half dollars from the 1890s. Most survivors are circulated, of course, in which grades Q.

David Bowers (2019) provides an estimate of 8,000 to 10,000 coins extant. The generous mintage also helped make the 1894-S one of the more readily obtainable San Francisco Mint half dollars of its era in Mint State. The present example is well suited for another advanced Barber set or a high grade mintmarked type set.

PCGS# 6470. NGC ID: 24LR.

NGC Census: 23; 4 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1378

1895 MS-65 (PCGS). In the words of David Lawrence (1991), the 1895 is an issue that “comes well struck with nice luster as evidenced by the high number of gems certified.” This is just such a coin, with both sides offering a razor sharp to full strike and abundant mint luster. Lightly toned in iridescent gold, the surfaces are silky smooth and worthy of the MS-65 grade from PCGS. Due to the generally good quality of the coins, the 1895 is one of the more popular circulation strike Barber half dollars for high grade type purposes.

We would modify the David Lawrence’s statement in one way, however, and that is by insertion of the word “relatively” so as to read,

“...as evidenced by the [relatively] high number of gems certified.” For while the 1895 has one of the more generous certified populations in MS-65 among early date Barber half dollars, the Mint State population as defined by PCGS and NGC is composed largely of coins in the MS-62 to MS-64 range. Additionally, the 1895 is far rarer in Gem MS-65 than many later date Barber half dollars, such as the 1908-D, 1909 and 1911. This example will appeal to both advanced type collectors and quality conscious Barber half dollar enthusiasts.

PCGS# 6471. NGC ID: 24LS.

PCGS Population: 21; 13 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Incredible Superb Gem 1895-O Half Dollar



1379

1895-O MS-67 (NGC). Tied for finest certified 1895-O half dollars known to PCGS and NGC, this remarkable condition rarity is as lustrous and smooth as the day it emerged from the dies 125 years ago. The finish is frosty, and the surfaces are brilliant apart from mottled swirls of russet patina around the peripheries. The toning is most prominent on the obverse, including a toning spot on the rim outside the letter O in GOD that serves as a useful provenance marker. The 1895-O is an anomaly among 1890s Barber half dollars from the New Orleans Mint in that, per Q. David Bowers (2019), most Mint State examples are overall sharply struck. The present example is no exception, the strike is razor sharp to full apart from a touch of trivial softness to stars 11 to 13 on the obverse and the eagle's left talon on the reverse. Opinions differ, however, with David Lawrence (1991) writing that the 1895-O as an issue shows a

“typical O-mint strike” and that “well struck coins are worth a premium.” Regardless, we have handled few other 1895-O half dollars whose overall quality even approaches this Condition Census Superb Gem.

This impressive coin is from a mintage of 1,766,000 pieces, most survivors of which are in heavily circulated grades such as Good and VG. Even lower quality Mint State examples are scarce, while regarding coins grading MS-65 and finer Dave Bowers writes: “Rare at this level and seldom seen in auctions or otherwise.” Clearly this offering from the remarkable Larry H. Miller Collection represents an important bidding opportunity for advanced collectors.

PCGS# 6472. NGC ID: 24LT.

NGC Census: 2; 0 finer. The corresponding PCGS Population is also 2/0.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1380

1895-S MS-64 (NGC). This dazzling near-Gem is prooflike, with fields that are noticeably reflective and serve as a splendid backdrop to satiny, fully impressed design elements. Otherwise brilliant, a few blushes of reddish-gold iridescence are noted for the reverse. The 1895-S is among the more elusive Barber half dollars in Mint State and, in keeping with the history of the series as a whole, it is probable that most of the 1,108,086-piece mintage entered circulation shortly

after striking. This beautiful and desirable survivor from the Larry H. Miller cabinet would serve with distinction in any advanced collection.

PCGS# 6473. NGC ID: 24LU.

NGC Census: 31; 19 finer in this category (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1381

1896 MS-64 (PCGS). Lightly toned surfaces are dusted with delicate sandy-silver iridescence. The finish is semi-prooflike, with both sides noticeably reflective in the fields. The design elements are set apart with a satin to softly frosted texture. Full striking detail and solid Choice Mint State preservation enhance the appeal

of this lovely high grade type candidate from the early Barber half dollar series.

PCGS# 6474. NGC ID: 24LV.

PCGS Population: 34; 24 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

Condition Rarity 1896-O Half Dollar



1382

1896-O MS-65 (NGC). Here is a remarkably well preserved example of a key date Barber half dollar. It is a solidly graded Gem with smooth, attractive surfaces. Softly frosted and otherwise brilliant, delicate champagne-pink iridescence is evident around the peripheries. Sharply to fully struck throughout the design, rare for a New Orleans Mint example of this design type.

For the connoisseur of high quality coins, the Barber half dollar series of 1892 to 1915 is among the more challenging to collect. Mintages are universally small for the era, the highest single output attributed to the 1908-O with 5,360,000 pieces produced. Most other issues in this series saw fewer than 2 million coins struck, often fewer than 1.5 million. Attrition through circulation was high for the type as a whole, and the vast majority of survivors are in the lowest circulated grades. Only limited numbers of Mint State coins were preserved, and this is particularly true for many of the early mintmarked issues from the 1890s. Indeed, the 1896-O is among the more elusive Barber halves in Mint State. In a letter to Q. David Bowers written during preparation of our (Bowers and Merena's) April 1997 Eliasberg Collection sale, David Lawrence actually ranked the 1896-O as the second rarest Barber half dollar issue in Mint State behind the 1904-S. We reprint here an observation that

Dave Bowers included in his cataloging of the Eliasberg 1896-O that further illustrates the significance of this coin:

Years ago when Barber half dollars in high grades were more available than they are now, the 1896 and 1897 mintmark issues were regraded as great classics in the field. We recall circa 1953-1954 when Art and Paul Kagin were very proud of examples they owned, one each of the 1896-O, 1896-S, 1897-O, and 1897-S halves. In the intervening years little attention has been paid to these and other high-grade rarities in the Barber series, simply because specimens are infrequently offered, and when they are, the aesthetic appeal is apt to fall short.

Little has changed since Dave wrote those words 23 years ago, during which time our offerings for Mint State examples of this issue can be counted on two hands. Most were in the MS-60 to MS-64 grade range, with noticeable surface marks and/or indifferent luster. Among the finest and most aesthetically appealing examples of this challenging issue that we have ever handled, this Gem MS-65 example from the Larry H. Miller Collection will be a highlight in another advanced cabinet.

atPCGS# 6475. NGC ID: 24LW.

NGC Census: 5; 2 finer (both MS-66).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



THE LARRY H. MILLER COLLECTION • PART TWO



1383

1896-S MS-64 (NGC). The 1896-S Barber half dollar is seldom offered in Choice Mint State quality as here. Highly lustrous with a satin to softly frosted finish from the dies, both sides also display full striking detail throughout the design. Predominantly brilliant, with some delicate champagne-pink and powder blue peripheral highlights. Q. David Bowers (2019) describes the 1896-S as “another famous old-time rarity” in Mint State, a status it shares with the equally highly regarded 1896-O, 1897-O and 1897-S. Uncirculated survivors number in the dozens rather than the hundreds. Evidently few examples of this issue were kept from entering circulation and, as a consequence, high quality survivors such as this always command strong premiums.

PCGS# 6476. NGC ID: 24LX.

NGC Census: 15; 10 finer (MS-66 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1385

1897-O MS-66 (PCGS). OGH. From our (Bowers and Merena’s) January 1996 sale of the fabulous James Bennett Pryor Collection, where this remarkable condition rarity was described as:

“**Strike:** Sharp, far above average.

“**Surfaces:** Brilliant and lustrous.

“**Narrative:** James Bennett Pryor was indeed fortunate to find this beauty early in his search for high quality Barber half dollars; normally, a search of many years would be necessary. 1897-O is a prominent key date to begin with, is rarely seen in Mint State, and when seen is usually lightly struck. A truly marvelous specimen of one of the landmarks of the series.”

The mintage figure of 632,000 coins, one of the lowest in the series, is a significant factor in the key date status of the 1897-O even in middle circulated grades such as Fine and Very Fine. David Lawrence (1991) describes this issue as, “The scarcest date in the set from AU to MS-62.” Gems are rare, the finest examples of this issue having graced some of the most famous Barber half dollar collections ever formed, including those of Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr., Dale Friend, Steven L. Duckor, John C. Hugon, James Bennett Pryor, and Larry H. Miller. The winning bidder will be acquiring one of the most highly regarded survivors of this challenging key date.

PCGS# 6478. NGC ID: 24LZ.

PCGS Population: 6; 4 finer (MS-68 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex Harold April, December 30, 1965; James Bennett Pryor; our (Bowers and Merena’s) sale of the James Bennett Pryor Collection, January 1996, lot 270.



1384

1897 MS-65 (PCGS). OGH. Here is a delightful example that offers very well preserved surfaces for this underrated issue. Both sides are predominantly smooth, dusted with iridescent toning in pale sandy-silver. Equally as well produced as it is preserved, the strike is sharp to full throughout the design. The coin is semi-prooflike, with the fields appreciably mirrored and contrasting modestly with satiny devices. The 1897 numbers among the more obtainable Barber half dollars of its era in Mint State. On the other hand, David Lawrence (1991) states that this is, “Not really a common date. Definitely scarcer than the later dates, especially in F to MS.” Conditionally scarcer by any measure, this Gem will fit right into an advanced type or date set.

PCGS# 6477. NGC ID: 24LY.

PCGS Population: 24; 15 finer (MS-67+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1386

1897-SMS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. This lovely Gem is predominantly brilliant with full frosty mint luster. A few wisps of pale iridescent gold toning are present on both sides. Virtually all design elements are sharply struck, both sides as smooth and appealing as one should demand at the assigned grade level. The 1897-S tells a familiar story for a mintmarked Barber half dollar from the 1890s, one that begins with extensive commercial use from the year of issue. The typical survivors from New Orleans and San Francisco are well worn in AG, Good or VG. With a mintage of 933,900 pieces, the 1897-S is scarcer than most issues in this group, even in worn condition. In Mint State the 1897-S is rare. Exceptionally well preserved with eye appeal to spare, this premium quality MS-65 example is among the finer certified and would do justice to any advanced collection or Registry Set.

PCGS# 6479. NGC ID: 24M2.

PCGS Population: 12; 12 finer (MS-67+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1387

1898 MS-66 (NGC). This is a richly original example with handsome toning on both sides. The obverse exhibits intermingled reddish-apricot and pale blue iridescence to dominant golden-olive patina. For the reverse there is a target-like distribution of powder blue, salmon pink and golden-apricot. Both sides are fully struck with smooth, lustrous surfaces. A conditionally challenging Philadelphia Mint Barber half dollar issue despite a mintage of 2,956,000 pieces, Q.

David Bowers (2019) describes the 1898 in MS-65 and higher grades as, "Not easy to find." Tied for finest certified at NGC, this vivid premium Gem represents a significant find for the astute collector.

PCGS# 6480. NGC ID: 24M3.

NGC Census: 3; 0 finer in this category.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

Finest PCGS-Certified 1898-O Half Dollar The Clapp-Eliasberg-Miller Specimen Acquired Directly from the New Orleans Mint



1388

1898-O MS-67 (PCGS). OGH. On this extraordinary example, both sides are beautifully toned around the peripheries, where iridescent reddish-gold and champagne-apricot frame essentially brilliant centers. The luster is full and frosty, and the strike is razor sharp over virtually all design elements. As is true of nearly all of the Clapp-Eliasberg coins purchased directly from the mints, both the striking quality and surface preservation are exceptional.

In a letter to Q. David Bowers written during preparation of our (Bowers and Merena's) April 1997 Eliasberg Collection sale, David Lawrence commented: "Barber specialists recognize the 1898-O as one of the keys to the set, a coin that is generally underestimated and underrated." It has enjoyed this status

since the middle of the last century, for as Dave Bowers himself observes in his 2019 Barber coin *Guide Book*, "In the mid-1950s the 1898-O is Mint State was considered to be among the top rarities in the series." This is the single finest example known to PCGS, its superior technical quality, strong visual appeal and impressive provenance are sure to result in strong competition between advanced collectors of this challenging series.

PCGS# 6481. NGC ID: 24M4.

PCGS Population: 1; 0 finer.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex John M. Clapp, acquired directly from the New Orleans Mint, November 1898; John H. Clapp; Clapp estate, 1942; Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.; our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, April 1997, lot 2083.



Condition Rarity 1898-S Half Dollar Acquired Directly from the San Francisco Mint



1389

1898-S MS-66 (PCGS). OGH. This coin is an exceptionally attractive example of an issue that when seen is apt to be in significantly lower grades. Light champagne-apricot and reddish-rose iridescence mingles nicely with softly frosted luster. Tinges of pale powder blue are evident here and there at the borders. The strike is full over even the most intricate design elements, and the surfaces are as nice as would be expected for the impressive premium Gem Mint State grade assigned by PCGS. This is a splendid coin from both technical and aesthetic viewpoints, one that will certainly please the connoisseur.

The 1898-S has a below average rate of survival for a San Francisco Mint Barber half dollar from the 1890s, especially given its mintage of 2,358,550 coins. In addition to domestic circulation, which was extensive, many examples were shipped to the Philippine Islands after the Spanish-American War

ended in the summer of that year. Such use further diminished the number of coins that could be preserved in Mint State. Additional half dollars from the 1899-S and 1900-S issues were also sent to the Philippines, David Lawrence (1991) noting that the 1898-S is the scarcest of these three issues.

This particularly impressive survivor is one of the several Clapp-Eliasberg-Miller Barber half dollars in this sale that John M. Clapp acquired directly from the mint in the year of issue. It is a Condition Census example of a challenging key date issue that will be just right for another world class cabinet.

PCGS# 6482. NGC ID: 24M5.

PCGS Population: 4; 2 finer (both MS-66+).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex John M. Clapp, acquired directly from the San Francisco Mint, November 1898; John H. Clapp; Clapp estate, 1942; Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.; our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, April 1997, lot 2084.



1390

1899 MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. A frosty, sharply to fully struck coin that serves as a lovely high grade representative of both the type and issue. Nearly brilliant, with a dusting of pale silver and wisps of iridescent golden toning.

PCGS# 6483. NGC ID: 24M6.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1391

1899-O MS-64 (NGC). This bright and brilliant example combines a satin to softly frosted obverse with a modestly semi-prooflike reverse. A touch of softness to the eagle's head, left wing and talon is not at all atypical for a New Orleans Mint half dollar of this design type; the strike is otherwise sharply executed. Smooth overall with superior eye appeal. One in a long line of workhorse issues among New Orleans Mint Barber half dollars, the 1899-O has a modest mintage (1,724,000), yet saw extensive commercial use. With the typical

survivor heavily worn in grades such as Good and VG, attractive and problem free EF-AU coins are highly elusive. Perhaps surprisingly, low end Mint State coins are obtainable, but in the finer Uncirculated grades it is challenging to find. With Gems seldom offered, this lovely MS-64 — scarce in its own right — represents excellent value.

PCGS# 6484. NGC ID: 24M7.

NGC Census: 12; 11 finer (MS-66 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1392

1899-S MS-66 (NGC). This 1899-S Barber half dollar displays full, satin to softly frosted luster and virtually complete striking detail on both the obverse and reverse. Bright and brilliant, the surfaces are very nice for the assigned grade and border on pristine. The 1899-S is one of the so-called "Philippine hoard dates" in the Barber half dollar series, as described by David Lawrence (1991). The other two are the 1898-S and 1900-S. Much of the mintage of 1,686,411 pieces for the 1899-S was sent to the Philippine Islands to be used in commerce in the aftermath of the Spanish-American War. Some of these coins were hoarded after seeing limited circulation, explaining why the 1899-S is among the more obtainable mintmarked half dollars from the 1890s in EF and AU grades. On the other hand, many of these

repatriated examples are impaired due to cleaning.

Due to its distribution, the 1899-S is one of the more elusive Barber half dollar issues from its era in Uncirculated condition. Q. David Bowers (2019) describes Mint State survivors as, "Very difficult to locate despite [the issue's] high mintage." The present lot represents only our third offering for an example grading finer than MS-65 in more than 15 years. An impressive condition rarity, this lovely coin will be just right for another advanced collection of Barber coinage.

PCGS# 6485. NGC ID: 24M8.

NGC Census: 8; 3 finer (all MS-67).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex Heritage's Dallas Signature Auction of December 2005, lot 859.



1393

1900 MS-65 (NGC). Razor sharp to full striking detail touches virtually all elements of the design. Lively softly frosted mint luster and wisps of pale reddish-gold iridescence enhance the appeal of this lovely Gem. With a generous mintage of 4,762,00 pieces — one of the highest in the circulation strike Barber half dollar series — the 1900 numbers among the more available issues of this type. Well worn examples are very common, pointing to long term domestic circulation beginning in the year of issue. As a product of the

Philadelphia Mint, the 1900 was also saved to a greater extent than most mintmarked issues in this series. When combined with its status as a turn-of-the-century issue, it is easy to understand why the 1900 numbers among the more popular Mint State type candidates in the Barber half dollar series.

PCGS# 6486. NGC ID: 24M9.

NGC Census: 13; 8 finer (all MS-66).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Rare Premium Gem 1900-O Half Dollar Finest Certified at NGC



1394

1900-O MS-66 (NGC). With silky smooth surfaces that border on pristine, it is little wonder that this remarkable coin is the single finest 1900-O half dollar certified by NGC. Both sides are intensely lustrous with a brilliant satin to softly frosted finish. The strike is virtually full on both sides and far superior to that seen in many other Mint State survivors, including even the Clapp-Eliasberg-Gardner specimen in PCGS MS-67, which is quite blunt over the lower right reverse.

This New Orleans Mint issue has a mintage of 2,744,000 coins. Once again heavy commercial use claimed much of the production. Q. David Bowers (2019) comments that, “in worn

grades (especially lower-level worn grades) [the 1900-O] is not at all remarkable.” On the other hand, the author states, “The 1900-O half dollar is rare in choice or gem Mint State,” which confirms David Lawrence’s earlier (1991) observation that this issue is, “Much scarcer than mintage indicates, especially in higher grades.” By far the finest example that we have offered in recent years, this Condition Census Gem is sure to see spirited bidding among advanced collectors.

PCGS# 6487. NGC ID: 24MA.

NGC Census: 1; 0 finer at this service.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1395

1900-S MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. Smooth and frosty surfaces are dusted with delicate, iridescent toning of pinkish-apricot and pale silver-lilac. The strike is virtually full and far superior to that seen in many mintmarked early Barber half dollars. The 1900-S is the last of three consecutive San Francisco Mint issues of this type that the United States government sent overseas for use in the Philippine Islands after the Spanish-American War. It is the most obtainable of the so-called “Philippine hoard dates” in EF and AU grades, per David Lawrence (1991), although the author also states that this issue is, “Very underrated in MS as of this writing.” Writing in his 2019 *Guide Book of Barber Silver Coins*, our own Q. David Bowers shines the spotlight on the rarity of this issue in the finest Uncirculated grades:

“By all logic this high-mintage issue should be readily available in gem Mint State. The opposite is true, as interest in mintmarked half dollars was minimal

at the time. It is not known how many collectors ordered coins directly from the branch mints at the turn of the century, but I would estimate that for the half dollar denomination there were fewer than 10. The Louis E. Eliasberg Collection sales of Barber dimes (1996), quarters (1997), and half dollars (1997) offered coins bought directly from the mints by John M. Clapp.”

While its provenance is unrecorded, this Gem 1900-S clearly benefited from superior preservation from the time of striking. Now ranking among the finest certified for this conditionally challenging issue, this is another rare Barber half dollar offering from the Miller cabinet that is sure to appeal to astute bidders.

PCGS# 6488. NGC ID: 24MB.

PCGS Population: 7; 6 finer in this category (MS-67+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1396

1901 MS-64 (PCGS). This highly lustrous example exhibits a lovely satin to softly frosted finish to both sides. Dusted with iridescent champagne-gold toning, sharp to full striking detail and pleasingly smooth surfaces add to the desirability of this lovely Choice Mint State Barber half dollar.

PCGS# 6489. NGC ID: 24MC.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1397

1901-O MS-64 (NGC). CAC. Another hand-picked Barber half dollar from the Larry H. Miller cabinet, the collector obviously selected this coin for both its superior striking quality and surface preservation. David Lawrence (1991) describes this issue as, "Poorly struck as a rule," and, among others, the 2019 Bowers plate coin is noticeably blunt in and around the central reverse. It is remarkable, therefore, that the present example is fully struck apart from a touch of trivial softness at the junction of the eagle's left wing and the shield. The luster is also outstanding with a lively frosty texture to both sides. Well preserved, overall smooth surfaces are brilliant on the reverse, lightly and attractively toned in iridescent golden-apricot on the obverse. Given that the 1901-O "is among the top handful of Barber half dollar rarities" in Gem Mint State, this premium quality MS-64 is a significant opportunity.

PCGS# 6490. NGC ID: 24MD.

NGC Census: 14; 9 finer in this category (MS-66 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

Key Date 1901-S Half Dollar

Rare Gem Mint State Quality



1398

1901-S MS-65 (NGC). Here is an exceptional Gem example of a Barber half dollar issue that is elusive even in the lowest Mint State grades. Brilliant and highly lustrous, both sides exhibit satiny design elements set against a backdrop of modest semi-reflectivity in the fields. Full striking detail joins expert surface preservation to define this coin as one of the finest and most desirable 1901-S half dollars extant.

Among Barber half dollars minted from 1892 to 1915 the 1901-S is front row, center in terms of its elusive quality, especially in high grades. The mintage is modest with just 847,044 pieces produced. The 1901-S has long enjoyed key date status among Barber half dollar enthusiasts, David Lawrence (1991) writing,

"Historically, considered the scarcest date in the set in MS," and, "By far the most valuable date in the set in 1947." The 1901-S is still highly regarded today. Q. David Bowers (2019) describes it as "rare in any Mint State level," and, in MS-65 and higher grades, as "one of the keys to the series." Among the numerous highlights of the Larry H. Miller Barber half dollar set, this impressive rarity is sure to see spirited bidding among advanced collectors.

PCGS# 6491. NGC ID: 24ME.

NGC Census: 2; with a single MS-65+ finer at this service.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1399

1902 MS-64 (NGC). CAC. A lovely Choice example that would do equally well in a Mint State type set or another advanced Barber half dollar collection. Minimally toned in pale pinkish-silver iridescence, both sides are fully lustrous with a bold to sharp strike.

PCGS# 6492. NGC ID: 24MF.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

Sharply Struck Gem Mint State 1902-O Half Dollar Rarity



1400

1902-O MS-66 (NGC). A noteworthy strike and condition rarity among New Orleans Mint Barber half dollars, this 1902-O stands tall among the highlights in the Larry H. Miller set. Striking detail is razor sharp to full throughout the design, a particularly significant attribute given David Lawrence's (1991) observation: "[The 1902-O is] consistently one of the poorest struck coins in the series. Well struck coins are worth a premium and very few, if any, exist in MS." The author also notes that, "Luster seems to be below average as a rule," yet once again we note the premium quality nature of this coin, this time due to the full, lively mint frost that blankets both sides. Essentially brilliant and free of blemishes, one would be hard pressed to find a more attractive and desirable example in today's market.

As with nearly all Barber half dollar issues from the Louisiana branch mint, the 1902-O is scarce to rare in the finer circulated and all Mint State grades. Heavy attrition through circulation claimed most of the 2,526,000 pieces produced and, indeed, the vast majority of survivors are in the lowest circulated grades. Among Uncirculated examples Gems are in the distinct minority and, as above, hardly any are as sharply struck as the present example. Another impressive coin that shows the uncompromising standards for quality and eye appeal that went into assembling the Larry H. Miller Collection of Barber half dollars.

PCGS# 6493. NGC ID: 24MG.

NGC Census: 5; 2 finer (both MS-67).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



The Clapp-Eliasberg-Miller 1902-S Half Dollar A Numismatic Treasure



1401

1902-S MS-66 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. This superb half dollar is toned in a blend of soft pearl gray patina and more vivid rose-apricot iridescence. The surfaces are lustrous and a joy to behold, a treasure for its next owner. Among mintmarked Barber half dollars from the 20th century, few are as rare as the 1902-S. A mintage of 1,460,670 pieces only tells part of the story, for this issue seems to have suffered a higher rate of attrition through circulation than many of its contemporaries from the West Coast facility. Dave Bowers (2019) notes that, “This is among the scarcer issues in circulated grades, especially in F-12 or above.” Writing for *PCGS CoinFacts*, Ron Guth echoes this sentiment when he observes: “The 1902-S Half Dollar is one of the most underrated dates in the series. Based on the PCGS Population Report alone, the 1902-S has the smallest total population of any date except for the 1892-O [Micro O].”

Narrowing the focus to the finest Mint State grades, Dave Bowers describes the 1902-S as, “Another rare 20th-century half dollar at the gem level — another of many challenges.” We are pleased to once again offer this Condition Census Gem for the consideration of advanced Barber half dollar enthusiasts. It is a sharply struck, exceptionally well preserved coin with an impressive provenance, one that extends all the way back to the San Francisco Mint in the year of issue.

PCGS# 6494. NGC ID: 24MH.

PCGS Population: 7; 5 finer (MS-67+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex John M. Clapp, acquired directly from the San Francisco Mint, March 1902; John H. Clapp; Clapp estate, 1942; Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr.; our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, April 1997, lot 2096.



1402

1903 MS-65 (NGC). Lustrous satin to softly frosted surfaces are brilliant apart from a few blushes of pale champagne-gold toning. The striking detail is sharp to full throughout the design, and the surfaces live up to the impressive Gem Mint State grade assigned by NGC. Writing in his 1991 reference on Barber half dollars, David Lawrence sums up the significance of this offering when he describes the 1903 as: “One of the real ‘sleepers’ in the series. Much tougher than its mintage indicates in all grades...Where have they all gone? Nice, original lustrous specimens are extremely hard to find.” Dave Bowers agrees, the comment in his 2019 *Guide Book on Barber Silver Coins* also providing one clue to the mystery of this issue's rarity in the finest grades: “Another high-mintage Barber half dollar of which gem-Mint State coins are rare. Interested collectors at the time ordered Proofs.” A surprise condition rarity from a relatively generous mintage of 2,278,000 circulation strikes, here is an important bidding opportunity for the sharp-eyed bidder.

PCGS# 6495. NGC ID: 24MJ.

NGC Census: 5; with a single MS-66+ finer at this service.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1403

1903-O MS-65 (NGC). A near-fully struck coin, this impressive Gem is far better produced than the typical Mint State survivor of this challenging New Orleans Mint issue. Intense mint luster, brilliant surfaces and a virtually pristine appearance will appeal to even the most discerning collectors of Barber coinage. As with so many mintmarked issues in this series, a relatively generous mintage (in this case 2,100,000 pieces) conceals the rarity of the 1903-O in Mint State. Most examples were worn out or lost in commercial use, and the issue is scarce in the MS-60 to MS-64 grade range and rare any finer. Given that most Uncirculated survivors exhibit what David Lawrence (1991) describes as a, “Typical O-mint strike,” this smartly impressed and exceptionally well preserved example would serve as a highlight in any cabinet.

PCGS# 6496. NGC ID: 24MK.

NGC Census: 9; 2 finer (both MS-66).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



THE LARRY H. MILLER COLLECTION • PART TWO



1404

1903-S MS-64 (NGC). Lovely mint frost blankets both sides, with the mostly brilliant surfaces enhanced by blushes of iridescent champagne-gold toning. The eye appeal is strong in all regards. Otherwise sharply defined, the strike came up a bit short in the center of the reverse, where close inspection with a loupe reveals light planchet roller marks (as made) within the eagle's plumage and shield. Free of significant marks, this is a scarce and appealing Choice Mint State example of an issue that ranks among the rarer 20th century Barber half dollars in high grades.

PCGS# 6497. NGC ID: 24ML.

NGC Census: 26; 6 finer (MS-66 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1406

1904-O MS-64 (NGC). CAC. An essentially brilliant, highly attractive New Orleans Mint half dollar that also displays lively mint luster. Striking detail is razor sharp over virtually all design elements, and the surfaces are smooth enough to suggest Gem Mint State quality. The New Orleans Mint produced 1,117,600 half dollars in 1904, the vast majority of which entered circulation unceremoniously where they saw use for decades. Thanks to the mintage, the 1904-O is readily obtainable in the lowest circulated grades. This issue increases markedly in scarcity as one approaches the middle circulated grade levels, however, and it is rare in EF and AU. The 1904-O is elusive in Mint State, even in lower grades such as MS-62 and MS-63. With Gems seldom offered, this scarce upper end MS-64 represents a significant bidding opportunity for the astute Barber half dollar enthusiast.

PCGS# 6499. NGC ID: 24MN.

NGC Census: 11; 6 finer (MS-66+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1405

1904 MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Fully struck surfaces are enhanced by an intense satin to semi-prooflike finish. Brilliant apart from the lightest iridescent gold toning, this attractive Choice example would make an impressive addition to any Mint State type or date set.

PCGS# 6498. NGC ID: 24MM.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1407

1904-S MS-65 (NGC). A lustrous and frosty example, with both sides presenting sharp striking detail over all but a few isolated design elements. Brilliant apart from the lightest gold and silver iridescence, this impressive rarity is sure to see spirited bidding among advanced collectors. The 1904-S is a curious issue among key date Barber half dollars. With a mintage of just 553,038 pieces, it is certainly scarce to rare in all grades. On the other hand, well worn survivors are not as elusive as those of higher mintage mintmarked issues in this series such as the 1896-S, 1897-O and 1897-S. Perhaps the low mintage prevented many coins in grades such as Good and VG from being melted over the years? Above the Choice VF level, however, the significant rarity of the 1904-S comes readily to fore. David Lawrence has described this issue as the rarest Barber half dollar in EF and AU grades. In Mint State it is a landmark rarity. At and above the MS-65 level, Dave Bowers (2019) states: "This is the key to the Barber half dollar series. In the gem category, this joins the very slightly more available 1896-O half dollar as the rarest two coins in the entire Barber silver series except the 1894-S dime." This statement confirms that this Gem is one of the most significant Barber coin offerings from the Larry H. Miller cabinet.

PCGS# 6500. NGC ID: 24MP.

NGC Census: 1; 2 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex Heritage's FUN Signature Sale of January 1998, lot 6941.



1408

1905 MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. A splendid, premium quality example of one of the more eagerly sought circulation strike Barber half dollars from the Philadelphia Mint. Dusted with iridescent golden toning, both sides display full, softly frosted luster. A razor sharp strike and generally smooth, nearly Gem quality appearance add to the appeal. Popular with collectors in all grades due to a mintage of just 662,000 coins. As a 20th century issue from the Philadelphia Mint, the 1905 was saved to an above average extent by Barber half dollar standards, with the result that Mint State coins are only moderately scarce. On the other hand, the popularity of this issue means that high quality examples can be challenging to locate, most of which are tightly held in collections. This upper end MS-64 returns to the market after years spent in the Larry H. Miller cabinet, and its offering in this sale represents an important bidding opportunity for advanced numismatists.

PCGS# 6501. NGC ID: 24MR.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1409

1905-O MS-65 (PCGS). OGH. Seldom do Mint State survivors of this challenging New Orleans Mint issue possess the above average striking quality and superior surface preservation of this notable condition rarity. Detail on the obverse is universally full, that on the reverse is also complete apart from a touch of trivial softness within the eagle's plumage immediately surrounding the shield. Highly lustrous and otherwise brilliant, with a blush of golden iridescence on the obverse. The 1905-O is among the more readily identifiable key date issues in the Barber half dollar series due to a mintage of 505,000 coins. As with so many O-Mint issues in this series, the coiners in the Crescent City did a poor job with the 1905-O. In addition, few contemporary Americans were interested in preserving mintmarked Barber coinage. As Q. David Bowers (2019) remarks concerning Gem Uncirculated coins: "Most of these survived as a matter of chance, not intent. At the time, probably no more than a dozen or so numismatists were assembling collections of Uncirculated coins." It has been a decade since we last offered a Gem Mint State example of this challenging issue, and just as long since we have offered an Uncirculated coin in any grade that is as sharply struck and lustrous as the Larry H. Miller specimen.

PCGS# 6502. NGC ID: 24MS.

PCGS Population: 11; 15 finer (MS-68 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1410

1905-S MS-65 (PCGS). Both sides of this beautiful Gem are fully brilliant with a bright semi-prooflike finish. The strike is impressive, with razor sharp to full striking detail throughout the design. Careful inspection reveals faint die polish lines (as made) in the fields, imparted by the lapping that also accounts for the aforementioned semi-prooflike finish. This coin is sure to please even the most discerning Barber half dollar enthusiast.

The 1905-S is one of the surprise condition rarities in this challenging series, an issue that David Lawrence (1991) describes as, "A sleeper in MS (like the 1910-S) and underrated." While mintmarked half dollar issues of this type were generally overlooked by contemporary numismatists, the 1905-S suffered an especially high rate of attrition and is far rarer in Gem Mint State than a mintage of 2,494,000 pieces might imply. This is the first high grade Uncirculated example that we have offered in nearly a decade. Once again, as so often with our offerings from the Larry H. Miller Collection, the word "opportunity" comes to the fore.

PCGS# 6503. NGC ID: 24MT.

PCGS Population: 6; 6 finer (MS-68 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1411

1906 MS-66 (PCGS). CAC. Soft pinkish-silver iridescence blends with mint frost on both sides of this attractive Barber half dollar. Silky smooth surfaces border on pristine, the strike is razor sharp to full in virtually all areas. A mintage of 2.6 million coins and an above average rate of survival have made the 1906 one of the more available Barber half dollars in Mint State. Most certified examples grade no finer than MS-64, however, with MS-65 coins scarce and anything finer a noteworthy condition rarity. Indeed, the Larry H. Miller specimen is solidly in the Condition Census for the issue and would be an excellent addition to any collection.

PCGS# 6504. NGC ID: 24MU.

PCGS Population: 2; 2 finer (both MS-67).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1412

1906-D MS-64 (PCGS). A sharply struck example with brilliant surfaces and a modestly semi-prooflike finish in the fields. The year 1906 saw the first half dollar coinage from the Denver Mint, with a mintage of 4,028,000 pieces. The extant Mint State population is also generous by the standards of the Barber series, making this a desirable issue for mintmarked type purposes.

PCGS# 6505. NGC ID: 24MV.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1413

1906-O MS-65 (NGC). An impressively sharp, remarkably well preserved example of one of the more underrated condition rarities in the Barber half dollar series. Striking detail is essentially full; in fact, the surfaces are highly lustrous with an intense frosty finish. A dusting of light champagne-pink iridescence enhances the appeal of this delightful Gem. Despite a much higher mintage (2,446,000 vs. 505,000 pieces), the 1906-O is scarcer than the 1905-O in Mint State. Q. David Bowers (2019) describes it as, "a major rarity in high-Mint State levels. One of the key issues among the later dates." For the astute Barber half dollar enthusiast, our offering of the Larry H. Miller specimen is an opportunity not to be missed.

PCGS# 6506. NGC ID: 24MW.

NGC Census: 6; 6 finer (MS-66 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

The Eliasberg-Miller 1906-S Half Dollar Condition Census PCGS/CAC MS-67 Quality



1414

1906-S MS-67 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. We first had the privilege of offering this remarkable condition rarity in our (Bowers and Merena's) April 1997 sale of the famous Eliasberg Collection, where it was cataloged as:

A splendid piece but with some die striation marks [as made] on the cheek (this being characteristic of certain issues, especially of 1906-S, and is specifically noted by David Lawrence) and with some die flakes on Miss Liberty's chin. Lustrous, frosty surfaces with light gold toning on obverse and reverse. A very pleasing coin from a visual and

aesthetic viewpoint, certainly one of the finest remaining from this date and mint.

From a mintage of 1,740,154 pieces, only a few other survivors of which rival the Eliasberg-Miller specimen in terms of both technical quality and eye appeal.

PCGS# 6507. NGC ID: 24MX.

PCGS Population: 3; 2 finer (MS-68 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex our (Bowers and Merena's) sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, April 1997, lot 2109.



1415

1907 MS-65 (NGC). CAC. OH. This handsome, fully original example exhibits speckled russet peripheral highlights around both sides. The obverse is otherwise brilliant, the reverse has light sandy-gold tinting toward the border. Richly frosted in finish with an overall sharp strike and impressively smooth appearance. Conditionally

scarce for this otherwise readily obtainable Philadelphia Mint Barber half dollar issue, and ideal for inclusion in a Gem Mint State type set.

PCGS# 6508. NGC ID: 24MY.

NGC Census: 17; 4 finer (all MS-66).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1416

1907-D MS-64 (PCGS). OGH. From the second year of coinage operations at the Denver Mint comes this lustrous and frosty Barber half dollar. Fully struck over virtually all design elements with solid Choice Mint State quality that will appeal to discerning bidders.

PCGS# 6509. NGC ID: 24MZ.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1417

1907-O MS-65 (NGC). CAC. A mottling of pinkish-rose, champagne-apricot and cobalt blue toning is seen on both sides of this richly original Gem. The luster is fully frosted and visually appealing, and the surfaces are as smooth as should be expected at the assigned grade level. David Lawrence (1991) considers the 1907-O to be the worst struck issue in the entire Barber half dollar series of 1892 to 1915, and he further states, "Mumps' specimens are fairly common and most exaggerated in this date." These curious features

are raised areas on Liberty's neck, evident here, along with areas of striking softness on the reverse at the eagle's neck and where its left wing meets the shield. Otherwise the strike is above average for the issue with most features boldly to sharply rendered.

PCGS# 6510. NGC ID: 24N2.

NGC Census: 16; 8 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Superb Gem 1907-S Half Dollar Lawrence: “Scarcest late date in Mint State” Among the Finest Known



1418

1907-S MS-67 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Nicely struck and very beautiful, here is another Barber half dollar of award-winning quality from the Larry H. Miller Collection. Delicate champagne-gold toning at the centers changes to reddish-apricot at the borders, and then powder blue near the rims. A highly attractive example, among the finest in existence for its combination of technical grade and visual appeal.

Among Barber half dollar specialists the 1907-S has long been known as a formidable condition rarity. Although the mintage isn't high, it is not low either — 1,250,000 pieces. Apparently this issue was virtually completely overlooked at the time it was released, and, today, the term *rarity* could be applied to a piece

even at the AU level. David Lawrence (1991) says that the 1907-S “is the scarcest late date of the series in MS.” The James Bennett Pryor coin, lot 304 in our (Bowers and Merena’s) January 1996 sale, was a PCGS MS-65 with some planchet striae and was one of the landmarks of that portion of the Pryor sale. The Eliasberg-Miller specimen is even finer and looms large among the highlights of the Miller Barber half dollar set.

PCGS# 6511. NGC ID: 24N3.

PCGS Population: 2; with a single MS-67+ finer.

CAC Population: 2; 0.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex our (Bowers and Merena’s) sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, April 1997, lot 2113.



1419

1908 MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. A beautiful Gem Mint State example of both the type and issue, this coin is brilliant with full, frosty mint luster. Sharply struck, carefully preserved, and sure to sell for a strong premium.

PCGS# 6512. NGC ID: 24N4.

PCGS Population: 12; 13 finer (MS-67+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1420

1908-D MS-64 (NGC). CAC. Satiny to softly frosted in finish. Predominantly brilliant, with mottled reddish-apricot peripheral highlights on the obverse and faint golden toning toward the border on the reverse. Smartly impressed with razor sharp striking detail in all areas.

PCGS# 6513. NGC ID: 24N5.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1421

1908-O MS-65 (NGC). CAC. This is a superior quality 1908-O half dollar in all regards. The strike is essentially full with just a touch of softness on the reverse near the upper right corner of the shield and a only faint trace of the curious “mumps” feature on Liberty’s neck. Frosty in finish with delicate pearly toning, the surfaces are smooth and very close to an even higher Mint State rating.

Given the cessation of coinage operations at the New Orleans Mint the following year, it may seem odd with hindsight that the facility posted the second highest mintage in the Barber half dollar series

with the 1908-O at 5,360,000 pieces. The 1908-O is among the more frequently encountered mintmarked issues of its type in Mint State, although production at the Denver facility probably satisfied much of the demand for new half dollars that would normally have been met by the New Orleans Mint’s output. Despite its relatively plentiful status in Mint State, however, the 1908-O is still a conditionally challenging issue. This scarce premium quality Gem Mint State coin would do equally well in a high grade type or date set.

PCGS# 6514. NGC ID: 24N6.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

Underrated 1908-S Half Dollar Among the Finest Known Extraordinary Quality



1422

1908-S MS-67 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Beautiful champagne-pink and reddish-apricot toning is seen over frosty surfaces, with subtle hints of powder blue at the peripheries. Both sides also display a superior strike and expert preservation — everything one could hope for in a Condition Census survivor of this key date issue.

The 1908-S has a mintage of 1,764,000 pieces and, as a 20th century Barber half dollar issue, ostensibly should be easy to find in most Mint State grades. Yet, as David Lawrence (1991) notes, it is “underrated because of fairly high mintage.” In other

words, its true scarcity is overlooked. The 1908-S, in fact, is a close second to the 1907-S in terms of Mint State rarity among late date Barber half dollars. Far finer than normally seen, even in the most exceptional cabinets, the Eliasberg-Miller specimen will attract much attention in this and future market appearances.

PCGS# 6515. NGC ID: 24N7.

PCGS Population: 2; 0 finer.

CAC Population: 1; 0.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex our (Bowers and Merena’s sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, April 1997, lot 2117.



THE LARRY H. MILLER COLLECTION • PART TWO



1423

1909 MS-64 (NGC). CAC. OH. Otherwise dominant champagne-gold iridescence gives way to blushes of reddish-gold and powder blue at the borders. A fully struck, highly lustrous example that seems conservatively graded even at the MS-64 level.

PCGS# 6516. NGC ID: 24N8.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1425

1909-S MS-64 (NGC). A blush or two of reddish-gold iridescence around the obverse periphery is the only toning of note for this otherwise light silver example. Lustrous satin surfaces are fully struck and nicely preserved. This is a superior Choice Mint State example of a semi-key date issue among late date Barber half dollars.

PCGS# 6518. NGC ID: 24NA.

NGC Census: 7; 16 finer (MS-67 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1424

1909-O MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Offering exceptional quality and eye appeal for a New Orleans Mint Barber half dollar, this coin displays universally sharp striking detail and full mint luster. Otherwise brilliant, there are some subtle iridescent gold highlights. With this year the curtain rings down on New Orleans Mint coinage. The facility was used as a storage depot for many years afterward, then shuttered. Its final contribution to the half dollar series amounted to a mintage of 925,400 pieces and the limited mintage explains why the 1909-O is challenging to locate in the finer circulated grades. In Mint State it numbers among the scarcer late date issues of its type. One would be hard pressed to find a more appealing Choice Mint State example than the Larry H. Miller specimen.

PCGS# 6517. NGC ID: 24N9.

PCGS Population: 27; 14 finer (MS-67+ finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1426

1910 MS-65 (NGC). CAC. Lovely frosty-white surfaces are fully lustrous with a sharply executed strike. The year 1910 begins an era of reduced demand for new circulation strike half dollar coinage that would continue through the end of the Barber series in 1915. With the sole exception of the 1912-D, all issues from these years have a mintage of fewer than 2 million coins, and many are far fewer than 1 million. Additionally, the Denver Mint was not called upon to strike half dollars at all in 1910 or 1914. (The New Orleans Mint had ceased coinage operations the preceding year.) In 1910 the Philadelphia Mint produced only 418,000 circulation strikes of this denomination, the fifth lowest mintage for the type. Readily obtainable in lower Mint State grades, nonetheless, the 1910 is scarce as a Gem with demand particularly strong for such coins among advanced collectors.

PCGS# 6519. NGC ID: 24NB.

NGC Census: 8; with a single MS-66 finer at this service.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1427

1910-S MS-66 (PCGS). CAC. This brilliant and frosty Gem that also features razor sharp to full striking detail throughout the design. The only mintmarked half dollar issue of the year, the 1910-S has one of the most generous mintages among late date Barber issues with 1,948,000 produced. Despite this fact, the 1910-S is scarcer than the lower mintage 1910 in most Mint State grades, typical for a series where Philadelphia Mint issues tended to be saved in greater numbers than their mintmarked counterparts. Just shy of Condition Census, the Larry H. Miller specimen is an upper end MS-66 that will be just right for another advanced collection of this challenging Barber silver coin series.

PCGS# 6520. NGC ID: 24NC.

PCGS Population: 12; 7 finer (MS-68 finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1428

1911 MS-64 (NGC). CAC. A brilliant and highly lustrous example of one of the more popular late date Barber half dollar issues for those building Mint State type sets.

PCGS# 6521. NGC ID: 24ND.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1429

1911-D MS-65 (PCGS). OGH. Lightly toned in a blend of pearlescent gray and champagne-gold, this handsome Gem also displays full, softly frosted luster. Well struck overall, only a few of the usual features are a bit soft. The 1911-D is the first Denver Mint half dollar issue since the 1908-D, and just 695,080 pieces were produced. Enough were saved by chance, however, that this issue is readily obtainable in grades through MS-64. The Larry H. Miller Collection features a conditionally scarce Gem, however, a coin that is sure to see spirited bidding.

PCGS# 6522. NGC ID: 24NE.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1430

1911-S MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Blushes of pale champagne-apricot iridescence are all that keep this lustrous and frosty example from full brilliance. Conservatively graded at the MS-64 level, in our opinion, the surfaces are silky smooth and not far from a full Gem Mint State rating. One of numerous underrated Barber half dollars in Mint State, the 1911-S has a mintage of 1,272,000 pieces and is seldom offered finer than the lowest reaches of Choice Uncirculated. The premium quality Larry H. Miller specimen is sure to sell for a strong bid to a Barber half dollar enthusiast.

PCGS# 6523. NGC ID: 24NF.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1431

1912 MS-64 (NGC). A frosty and sharply struck example attractively toned in dominant golden-apricot iridescence. Blushes of steely-rose and powder blue iridescence are intermingled around the peripheries and enhance this coin's visual appeal.

PCGS# 6524. NGC ID: 24NG.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



THE LARRY H. MILLER COLLECTION • PART TWO



1432

1912-D MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Brilliant and frosty surfaces offer premium Choice Mint State quality. Positioned near the end of the Barber half dollar series and benefiting from the highest mintage (2,300,800 pieces) of its era, the 1912-D is an excellent choice to represent this challenging series in a high grade mintmarked type set.

PCGS# 6525. NGC ID: 24NH.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1433

1912-S MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Premium Choice surfaces are very smooth for the assigned grade. Lustrous and frosty throughout with a predominantly sharp strike. The scarcity of this issue in Gem MS-65 and finer grades confirms the excellent value offered in this upper end MS-64.

PCGS# 6526. NGC ID: 24NJ.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1434

1913 MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Here is a highly desirable Choice Mint State example of this key date in the later Barber half dollar series. Frosty surfaces are enhanced by light iridescent champagne-gold. Striking detail is razor sharp in virtually all areas, and the appearance is smooth throughout. The 1913 is a desirable low mintage issue (just 188,000 circulation strikes), ranking third in the Barber half dollar series after the 1914 (124,230) and 1915 (138,000). By contrast, the celebrated 1921-D (lowest mintage Walking Liberty half dollar) was produced in greater numbers — 208,000 coins. A popular issue with collectors at all levels of preservation, represented here by an upper end MS-64 that is sure to sell for a strong premium.

PCGS# 6527. NGC ID: 24NK.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1435

1913-D MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Delicate champagne-gold iridescence mingles with lovely mint frost on both sides of this smooth and appealing Choice Mint State half dollar.

PCGS# 6528. NGC ID: 24NL.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1436

1913-S MS-65 (NGC). CAC. Here is a smartly impressed, highly lustrous San Francisco Mint half dollar that is brilliant save for some subtle champagne-pink highlights. It is a scarce Gem Mint State example of this lower mintage Barber issue with just 604,000 coins struck.

PCGS# 6529. NGC ID: 24NM.

NGC Census: 16; 3 finer (all MS-66).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1437

1914 MS-64 (NGC). Intensely lustrous with a satin to softly frosted finish, this otherwise brilliant example exhibits blushes of iridescent golden-apricot that are more extensive on the obverse. The strike is impressive for the type with virtually all design elements fully rendered. The 1914 is the lowest mintage issue in the circulation strike Barber half dollar series with 124,230 produced. Survivors are eagerly sought at all levels of preservation and, while Mint State coins are more available than the mintage might imply, they are particularly scarce from a market availability standpoint. This attractive Choice example is sure to see spirited bidding.

PCGS# 6530. NGC ID: 24NN.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1438

1914-S MS-66 (NGC). A generally sharply struck, fully lustrous example with the lightest golden iridescence to otherwise brilliant surfaces. Despite a considerably higher mintage (992,000 vs. 604,000 pieces), the 1914-S is just as scarce as the 1913-S in Gem Mint State preservation and almost equal in high grade scarcity to the more renowned 1915. A highlight of the late date Barber half dollar offerings from the Larry H. Miller cabinet.

PCGS# 6531. NGC ID: 24NP.

NGC Census: 4; 0 finer at this service.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1439

1915 MS-65 (NGC). Delicate iridescent toning in pink and gold blends with mint luster on both sides of this lovely coin. The strike is razor sharp to full throughout. At just 138,000 pieces produced, the 1915 has the second lowest mintage in the circulation strike Barber half dollar series. Mint State coins exist in greater numbers than the mintage might imply, but few are Gems, as here. A noteworthy condition rarity that will appeal to even the most advanced Barber half dollar enthusiast.

PCGS# 6532. NGC ID: 24NR.

NGC Census: 5; with a single MS-66 finer at this service.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1440

1915-D MS-64 (NGC). CAC. From the final year of the Barber half dollar series comes this lustrous, boldly to sharply struck Choice Uncirculated example. Mottled pale gold and reddish-rose iridescence enhances both sides.

PCGS# 6533. NGC ID: 24NS.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1441

1915-S MS-64 (PCGS). OGH. Nearly brilliant, especially on the reverse, both sides are fully frosted with a bold to sharp strike. The Barber half dollar series passed into coinage history in 1915 with mintages from all three operating mints. While the 1915 Philadelphia Mint is a key date issue due to its smaller mintage, the 1915-D and 1915-S were produced in greater numbers and enjoy particularly strong demand among final year type collectors.

PCGS# 6534. NGC ID: 24NT.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1906 GOLD PROOF SET



1442

1906 JD-1, the only known dies. Rarity-4. Proof-64 (PCGS). CAC. A beautiful specimen, with deep golden-orange surfaces that exhibit wisps of pale rose. Both sides are fully struck with a modest cameo contrast to the finish. More than 176,000 circulation strike quarter eagles were made in 1906, but just 160 coins were struck as Proofs. Survivors in the latter format number only 100 to 120 coins (per John W. Dannreuther, 2018), a total that attracts extreme numismatic

pressure from both high quality type collectors and specialists in classic Proof gold coinage. The Larry H. Miller specimen is a premium quality Choice Proof with much to recommend it to discerning bidders.

PCGS# 7932. NGC ID: 288W.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

Lovely Proof 1906 Half Eagle



1443

1906 JD-1, the only known dies. Rarity-5. Proof-64 (PCGS). CAC. A beautiful Choice Proof example of the Motto Liberty Head half eagle design type. Dating to an era in which the Mint prepared Proof gold coinage with a universally brilliant finish, this piece was struck from dies that were obviously polished both in the field areas and in the recesses of the design elements. The result is a delightful reflective finish overall with minimal contrast between the fields and devices. Fully struck, as expected for a Proof, with vivid deep gold patina throughout.

The Philadelphia Mint struck 85 Proof half eagles in 1906, the penultimate Proof issue in this long-running series. John W. Dannreuther (2018) has identified only a single die pairing for this issue, and he estimates that 50 to 65 coins are extant in all grades. The Larry H. Miller specimen is a pleasing and scarce Choice example that would do equally well in a Proof gold type or date set.

PCGS# 8501. NGC ID: 28DC.

PCGS Population: 9; 8 finer in this category (Proof-66 finest).

CAC Population: 4; 1 (Proof-66).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Stellar Gem Proof 1906 Eagle



1444

1906 JD-1, the only known dies. Rarity-5. Proof-65 (PCGS). CAC. Here is a wonderfully original, expertly preserved Proof example of the Motto Liberty Head eagle design type. The finish is in keeping with the method of manufacture that the United States Mint used for these special coins from 1902 through 1907, with both sides universally reflective. The surfaces offer deep, vivid reddish-gold patina, with a few blushes of pale silvery tinting also evident on the obverse. Fully struck with razor sharp detail to even the most intricate design elements, this incredible example will please any advanced gold enthusiast.

The Philadelphia Mint struck 77 Proof eagles in 1906, John W. Dannreuther (*United States Proof Coins, Volume IV: Gold*, 2018) reporting the deliveries as:

- March 28: 34 coins
- June 30: 25 coins

-September 25: 4 coins

-December 29: 14 coins

Not all of these specimens sold to contemporary collectors, however, and after the Mint's melting of undistributed examples and other sources of attrition, Dannreuther accounts for an extant population of only 45 to 55 coins. This is actually one of the more generous totals in the Proof Liberty Head eagle series, testament to the great rarity of these coins are a group. Finer than most, this upper end Gem was Larry H. Miller's choice to represent the Liberty Head eagle with Motto in his type set, and will be perfect for another advanced cabinet.

PCGS# 8846. NGC ID: 28GD.

PCGS Population: 4; 2 finer in this category (Proof-66+ finest).

CAC Population: 1; 1 (Proof-66).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Gorgeous Proof 1906 Double Eagle



1445

1906 JD-1, the only known dies. Rarity-4+. Proof-64 (PCGS). CAC. This gorgeous Choice Proof double eagle exhibits warm, even patina in dominant golden-orange with subtle rose undertones. There is enough of a satin texture to the design elements to suggest a Cameo designation, although the deeply mirrored finish in the fields dominates the appearance. Fully struck in virtually all areas, and carefully preserved enough to border on full Gem quality.

The penultimate Proof in the popular Liberty Head double eagle series, the 1906 has a mintage of 94 pieces. David W. Akers' estimate of only 40 to 50 survivors proved accurate despite being put forth in the years prior to third party certification.

Even with current PCGS and NGC population data, numismatic scholars are still pretty much in agreement with Akers' original estimate. Jeff Garrett and Ron Guth (2008) account for 45 to 50 coins, *PCGS CoinFacts* suggests 50 to 60 survivors, while John W. Dannreuther (2018) estimates 50 to 65. Regardless of the estimate, this issue is obviously rare in an absolute sense, as are all classic U.S. Mint Proof gold coins. Premium quality for the assigned grade, this upper end Proof-64 is worthy of the strongest bids.

PCGS# 9122. NGC ID: 26EU.

PCGS Population: 11; 3 finer in this category (all Proof-65).

CAC Population: 2; 2 (Proof-65).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



THE LARRY H. MILLER COLLECTION OF MORMON GOLD COINAGE

The gold coins issued by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, or the Mormons, are among the most prized and elusive relics of the Western Gold Rush era. Produced at the Deseret Assay Office in Salt Lake City, these coins were struck periodically from 1848 through 1861 using gold sourced from California and Colorado. Variances in weight and fineness drove many of these to be melted in the decades following their production, leaving few survivors to be cherished by collectors today.

The Larry H. Miller Collection of Mormon Gold is among the most significant such cabinets ever assembled. While a single Mormon gold piece represents a significant achievement, a comprehensive suite has only been assembled in a handful of instances in the more than century and a half since these pieces left the Deseret Assay Office.

The Green-Carter 1849 \$10 in the Miller Collection is among the best preserved of only about 10 known, and joins the historic Jenks-Nygren 1849 \$20 as the sole finest approved by CAC for their respective issues. In addition, the \$2.50 and \$5 denominations are represented by some of the most desirable survivors, including a glorious Mint State 1860 "Beehive" \$5 that also sits alone at the pinnacle of the CAC Population Report.

Individually, these rarities from Salt Lake City are impressive, but together they represent an historic milestone in the field of Private and Territorial coinage. With its virtually unprecedented quality, the Larry H. Miller Collection will surely be remembered among the greatest presentations of Mormon gold ever offered at auction.



(Tinted lithograph by James Ackerman. Library of Congress)



Lot 1446

1849 Mormon \$2.50. K-1. Rarity-5+. MS-61 (PCGS).



Condition Rarity 1849 Mormon \$2.50 Extraordinary Mint State Preservation



1446

1849 Mormon \$2.50. K-1. Rarity-5+. MS-61 (PCGS). The Miller Collection 1849 Mormon \$2.50 is one of the very finest examples of this scarce, conditionally challenging issue available to advanced Territorial gold enthusiasts. It is lovely, with a soft satin texture to the finish. Both sides also exhibit handsome patina with iridescent pinkish-rose highlights to dominant honey-olive. The detail is exceptional for these crudely produced issues, most survivors of which are lightly struck in the centers due to bulged dies, and also well circulated with considerable wear. Not so here. Both sides are boldly impressed with all design elements nicely rendered and fully appreciable. We note particularly impressive detail in the centers, where the finer features of the all-seeing eye and the clasped hands are very crisp despite a trace of the aforementioned die bulge on the obverse. Pleasingly smooth for both the type and the assigned grade; there are only wispy handling marks and no sizable or singularly distracting blemishes. One of the nicest and most appealing examples of the type that we have ever offered, this beautiful Mint State coin is an excellent way to open the remarkable Larry H. Miller Collection of Mormon gold.

The smallest denomination coin produced at the “Deseret Mint,” the \$2.50 was actually not the first Mormon gold piece produced. That honor goes to the exceedingly rare 1849-dated \$10, of which 46 examples were struck during the waning days of 1848. Mintages of \$2.50, \$5 and \$20 coins followed in 1849, but only the \$5 would see additional production in 1850 and 1860. Like its 1849 \$5 and \$20 counterparts, the Mormon \$2.50 incorporates the abbreviation G.S.L.C.P.G., for Great Salt Lake City Pure Gold, as part of the obverse design. Due to the limitations of the Mormons’ coinage operation, however, the

content of these pieces were far from “pure.” Indeed, when the coins of Deseret began to creep into commerce in areas other than the State of Deseret, the weight and face value of the pieces, all denominations, were low and called into question. The \$2.50 coins, for instance, were often valued at around \$2.25 for gold content, and the larger denominations showed even larger disparities in value. Needless to say, the vast majority of the pieces that left the Great Salt Lake Valley for parts unknown were sent to crucibles and melted. Of course, surviving specimens today are greeted with far more enthusiasm than they were in 1849. Numismatists have long appreciated them for what they are — an important link to the California Gold Rush as the gold used to strike the Mormon issues of 1849 to 1850 came not from the Great Salt Lake Valley, but rather from the rich fields of California.

Due to the fact that these coins were devalued in contemporary commerce, the 1849 Mormon \$2.50 is scarce to rare all levels of preservation. Even pleasing circulated examples can be extremely challenging to locate, as many are impaired due to damage or cleaning. In Mint State this issue, like all the Mormon coins, is a formidable condition rarity. In fact, PCGS has awarded a Mint State grade to 1849 Mormon \$2.50 coins only three times; the Larry H. Miller specimen is tied for CC#2 behind a single MS-63 known to this service. A noteworthy exception to the norm for this challenging issue, the present piece will be a highlight in another advanced Gold Rush-era collection.

PCGS# 10259. NGC ID: 2BCD.

PCGS Population: 2; with a single MS-63 finer. These are the only Mint State grading events for the issue listed by PCGS.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Lot 1447

1849 Mormon \$5. K-2. Rarity-5. AU-55 (PCGS). CAC.



Premium Choice AU 1849 Mormon \$5



1447

1849 Mormon \$5. K-2. Rarity-5. AU-55 (PCGS). CAC. This truly exceptional example ranks among the finest 1849 Mormon \$5 gold coins available to today's collectors. Handsome honey-gold patina is seen on both sides, accented by more vivid medium gold. Remnants of a satiny to modestly semi-reflective finish are also worthy of note. Universally sharp in striking detail, a trace of rub and a few wispy handling marks are all that remain from this impressive condition rarity's short stint in commerce.

The first of what would eventually be three Mormon \$5 gold issues, the 1849 is scarce as most examples that made their way beyond the borders of the Great Salt Lake Valley were melted. Writing in the important reference *Private Gold Coins and Patterns of the United States* (1981), Don Kagin describes this

issue as, "Very rare above Very Fine." Based on today's grading standards, the typical example known to Kagin at that time is what the market would now include within the VF to Choice EF grade range. The 1849 Mormon \$5 remains a formidable condition rarity in strictly graded About Uncirculated, however, and few examples at that level possess the choice surfaces and attractive originality of the Larry H. Miller specimen. Among the finest seen by CAC, in fact, and sure to sell for a strong premium.

PCGS# 10262. NGC ID: 2BCE.

PCGS Population: 11; 7 finer, just one of which is Mint State (MS-60).

CAC Population: 2; 2 (both AU-58).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Legendary 1849 Mormon \$10 Gold



Lot 1448 Obverse
1849 Mormon \$10. K-3. Rarity-7. AU-53 (PCGS). CAC.



Legendary Rarity 1849 Mormon \$10 Among the Finest of Approximately 10 Known The Col. Green-Kern-Carter-Miller Specimen



1448

1849 Mormon \$10. K-3. Rarity-7. AU-53 (PCGS). CAC. The 1849 Mormon \$10 from the Miller Collection is one of the finest known survivors of this exceedingly rare and seldom offered issue, and among the most significant territorial gold coins that we have ever had the privilege of bringing to auction. Our firm's first offering of this magnificent rarity was in Stack's January 1984 sale of the Amon G. Carter, Jr. Family Collection, where it was cataloged, in part, as:

Obverse: Bishop mitre or hat above all-seeing eye; HOLINESS TO THE LORD around. Reverse: Two clasped hands with 1849 below; PURE GOLD TEN DOLLARS around. About Uncirculated and choice. A lustrous coin with delicate orange toning. There is even the possibility that this coin never reached circulation but just has the faintest friction. Its rarity is legendary. It goes without saying that this coin is far and away the finest in existence.

The cataloger was echoing B. Max Mehl's sentiment, for the famous Fort Worth, Texas dealer unhesitatingly declared this the "FINEST KNOWN SPECIMEN of the EXCEEDINGLY RARE MORMON TEN-DOLLAR COIN!" in his Jerome David Kern Collection (Gold Jubilee) Sale of May 1950). In the market of the 21st century only two other 1849 Mormon \$10s of similar quality to the Kern-Carter-Miller specimen have been confirmed. The example in the National Numismatic Collection at the Smithsonian Institution has an estimated grade of AU-55 and was retrieved from gold sent to the Mint for melt. That coin is permanently unavailable for private ownership. The other is the PCGS AU-58 with a provenance that includes, among other famous numismatists, Captain Andrew C. Zabriskie, H.O. Granberg, Virgil Brand, Waldo C. Newcomer and Charles M. Williams. Its most recent auction appearance (as NGC AU-58)

was as lot 5455 in Heritage's April 2014 sale of the Riverboat Collection (CSNS Signature Auction).

In January 2014 P. Scott Rubin reported on the *PCGS CoinFacts* website that only 10 or so examples of the Mormon \$10 are known in all grades. The Heritage catalogers provided a list of 11 specimens in grades from AU-58 through "VG details" in their cataloging of the Riverboat Collection. In addition to the aforementioned About Uncirculated example, a second Mormon \$10 in lower grade is impounded in the Smithsonian, and two are owned by the Mormon Temple. This leaves at most seven confirmed examples available for private ownership, of which the Larry H. Miller specimen is the second finest certified. Our most significant offering for a Mormon gold coin in nearly 40 years, this famous rarity is destined for another world class numismatic cabinet.

The Mormon Exodus from Nauvoo, Illinois in the 1840s proved to be a pivotal moment in the story of the California Gold Rush. Many of the early members of what would eventually develop into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints fled conflicts with their neighbors and headed westward, eventually settling in the Great Salt Lake Valley and naming their new home the State of Deseret. Once established, the State of Deseret served as a launching point for further migrations toward California where numerous groups settled in and around the San Francisco area. Among these groups were veterans of the Mormon Battalion who had served during the Mexican-American War, and were employed by James W. Marshall at John Sutter's mill in Coloma, California. It was there on January 24, 1848, that Marshall discovered gold in the channel below the mill.



THE LARRY H. MILLER COLLECTION • PART TWO

The early Mormon presence in the region allowed them to take advantage of the newly found riches. The local community sent back a large quantity of gold to Salt Lake City that was used to pay the Church's tithes and alleviate economic hardships in Deseret. The gold influx was primarily in raw form, including large quantities of gold dust, which was soon employed as a medium of exchange. As with their brethren back in San Francisco, the Mormons living in the Great Salt Lake Valley soon discovered that the use of gold dust in commerce was problematic as it could be very easily adulterated.

By the end of 1848, Brigham Young and John Kay announced plans to set up a small mint in Salt Lake City to process the gold dust into coin. The coins were designed by Young and the dies cut by Kay. The first coins, 25 \$10 pieces, were struck on December 12, 1848, followed shortly thereafter by \$2.50, \$5, and \$20 coins. As the first Mormon gold coins produced, the \$10 pieces display simpler inscription on the reverse. Rather than the abbreviation G.S.L.C.P.G., for "Great Salt Lake City Pure Gold," the inscription states only PURE GOLD. Both expressions would prove to be inaccurate. There was no local source for the gold, so all bullion came from the shipments from California. In addition, because of the rather primitive minting and assay equipment, the purity and weight of the coins were consistently below face value, a situation that the coiners and assayers did not take into account.

In 1850, Jacob Eckfeldt and William DuBois performed an assay of some of the Mormon coins at the Philadelphia Mint and recorded their findings in their work *New Varieties of Gold and Silver Coins*. They found that the coins were wanting in terms of valuation: "The weights are more irregular, and the values very deficient...The 5-dollar about 111 grains, \$4.30." This huge discrepancy between face value and intrinsic value irreparably damaged the coins' reputation and, outside of the Great Salt Lake Valley at least, Mormon pieces would only be accepted in trade at steep discounts. In the end, the assay report doomed the Mormon coinage enterprise and by late 1850 the mint had shut down after producing approximately \$70,000 in gold coins. Despite an attempt in 1860 to resume production, in which year additional \$5 coins were produced, Mormon gold coins played

no significant role in the economy of the region that what would become Utah.

The 1849 \$10 is the rarest issue in this brief series. It was rare from the start, in fact, with a mintage of 46 coins. In addition to the aforementioned 25 examples struck on December 12, 1848 — the first Mormon gold coins — an additional 21 coins were delivered the following week. According to records referenced by P. Scott Rubin, five examples from the initial 25-coin delivery were paid out on the day of striking, even though the coins were dated 1849. As with all Mormon gold issues, most examples of the 1849 \$10 quickly ended up in melting pots. This, combined with the small mintage, explains the incredible rarity of this historic issue.

PCGS# 10271. NGC ID: 2BCH.

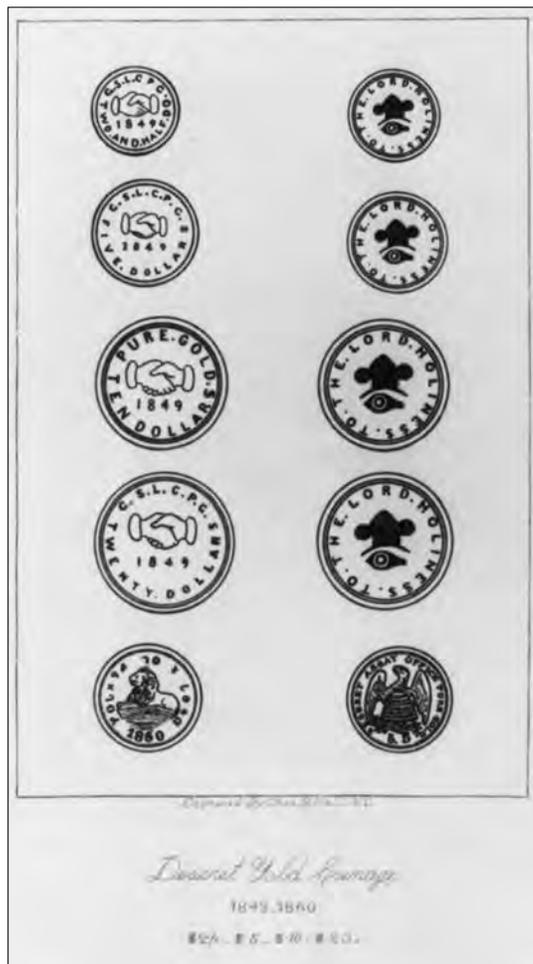
Combined PCGS and NGC Population: 1; 1 finer (AU-58 finest). Both of these coins have been certified by PCGS.

CAC Population: 1; 0.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex "Colonel" E.H.R. Green; Jerome David Kern; B. Max Mehl's Golden Jubilee Sale, May 1950, lot 728; Amon G. Carter, Sr.; Amon G. Carter, Jr.; our (Stack's) sale of the Amon G. Carter, Jr. Family Collection, January 1984, lot 1163; Heritage's ANA Sale of July 1988, lot 2691; Dwight Berger; Robert L. Hughes; Heritage's ANA Sale of August 1992, lot 2592; Heritage Auctions; Don Kagin.



"Great Salt Lake, Utah. (Currier and Ives)



(Engraving by Charles Bryan Hall, Library of Congress)



Lot 1448 Reverse
1849 Mormon \$10. K-3. Rarity-7. AU-53 (PCGS). CAC.



Lot 1449

1849 Mormon \$20. K-4. Rarity-6. EF-45 (PCGS). CAC.



Historic 1849 Mormon \$20 Gold Rarity

Finest Seen by CAC

Ex John Story Jenks; A.C. Nygren



1449

1849 Mormon \$20. K-4. Rarity-6. EF-45 (PCGS). CAC. Offering premium quality for both the issue and the assigned grade, this is one of the finest examples of this rare and historic issue available to territorial gold enthusiasts. Light honey-gold patina blankets surfaces that are remarkably smooth for a such a large Mormon coin that saw light use in commerce. A pair of tiny marks in the lower obverse field above the letter N in HOLINESS and a shallow planchet flaw (as made) in the reverse field below the initial P in the abbreviation G.S.L.C.P.G. are the most useful identifiers. All major design elements are bold, and we note considerable sharpness to the all-seeing eye. Faint, yet appreciable remnants of satiny luster are discernible and enhance the appeal of this outstanding Mormon \$20.

Coined beginning in September 1849 from unrefined California gold dust brought overland, the Mormon \$20 coins were the first of that denomination ever struck in the United States, preceding even the unique federal 1849 double eagle by three months and beating the regular issue 1850 double eagles by an even longer margin. Perhaps if they were more common they would be avidly collected as the beginning of a double eagle

set, but common they are not — only 25 or so examples survive today, mostly “in low grades, scraped, or otherwise impaired,” as Walter Breen noted in his 1988 *Encyclopedia*. Most of the 1,000 or so minted were undoubtedly destroyed early on, since their low value (assayed at \$16.90 to \$17.53 by Eckfeldt and Dubois at the Philadelphia Mint) condemned them to being useless in trade. Further, it is believed that many of the survivors are now permanently off the market, with appearances few and far between. Indeed, the Larry H. Miller specimen is the first example that we have handled in nearly 15 years. With an impressive provenance that goes back to the famous John Story Jenks and A.C. Nygren sales of the early 20th century, this is an extraordinary example of one of the rarest and most significant Mormon gold issues.

PCGS# 10274. NGC ID: 2BCJ.

PCGS Population: 3; finer, just two of which are Mint State (MS-62 finest).

CAC Population: 1; 0.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection. Earlier ex Henry Chapman's sale of the John Story Jenks Collection, December 1921, lot 6414; Henry Chapman's sale of the A.C. Nygren Collection, April 1924, lot 402.



Lot 1450

1850 Mormon \$5. K-5. Rarity-5+. AU-55 (PCGS). CAC—Gold Label. OGH.



Premium Choice AU 1850 Mormon \$5 Gold Label CAC Approval



1450

1850 Mormon \$5. K-5. Rarity-5+. AU-55 (PCGS). CAC—Gold Label. OGH. Bordering on Mint State, this is an outstanding example of the Mormon \$5 from the second year, 1850. Attractively original, both sides exhibit iridescent pinkish-rose highlights to a base of warm honey-olive patina. The overall detail is exceptional, with the strike very well executed for a territorial gold coin produced under the rustic conditions that prevailed at the Mormon's Deseret facility. Even the most intricate design elements are at least bold, and most features are razor sharp to full. Rarely do Mormon gold coins of any denomination or date retain even faint traces of original luster, yet here there is ample evidence of a satiny finish. Wispy handling marks are not out of place on a lightly circulated Mormon gold coin. The appearance is remarkably smooth. As lustrous, sharp and attractive as one could expect in any Mormon gold coin, this is an incredible example of the issue that is sure to sell for a strong premium to a discerning collector.

The Kagin-5 variety is the only 1850-dated issue in the Mormon gold series, and the last produced using California gold. This issue uses a similar design to that seen on the 1849-dated Mormon coins, although the miter above the all-seeing eye has been replaced by a crown and halo, and the clasped hands are shaped differently and feature more intricate detail. Rarer than the 1849 Mormon \$5, and typically offered no finer than the lowest reaches of AU (when available at all), the 1850 Mormon \$5 is a tremendous condition rarity when found with the superior quality and strong eye appeal that define the Larry H. Miller specimen.

PCGS# 10265. NGC ID: 2BCF.

PCGS Population: 12; 6 finer, just two of which are Mint State (MS-62 finest).

CAC Population: 3; 2 (AU-58).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



Lot 1451

1860 Mormon \$5. K-6. Rarity-5+. MS-61 (PCGS). CAC. OGH.



Final Year 1860 Mormon \$5 Gold Exceedingly Rare Mint State Preservation



1451

1860 Mormon \$5. K-6. Rarity-5+. MS-61 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Here is an absolute and condition rarity par excellence that caps off the complete set of Mormon gold coinage from the Larry H. Miller cabinet. This is a phenomenal Mormon gold coin of any denomination or date, with both sides retaining full mint luster in a lively satin finish. The fields are subtly semi-reflective and highly attractive. Fully struck for the issue with beautiful vivid medium gold patina, this is a Condition Census example of the 1860 Mormon \$5 and one of the finest that we have ever had the privilege of bringing to auction.

By 1860 the Mormon pioneers of Utah were no strangers to coining gold, having run a small minting operation in Salt Lake City in 1849 and 1850 where \$5, \$10, and \$20 pieces were struck from gold dust sent back from California. The coins were produced using equipment that could not adequately assay and refine the gold. Unfortunately, the mint masters failed to adjust the weights upward to compensate for these irregularities. As a consequence, when Jacob Eckfeldt and William DuBois at the Philadelphia Mint performed their assays of Mormon gold in 1850, they found that “the weights are more irregular, and the values very deficient.” The result, as related by Don Kagin in his 1981 reference on private and territorial gold coins, was the appearance of “many newspaper accounts vilifying the Mormon coins and labeling them as ‘spurious,’ ‘debased,’ and ‘vile falsehoods.’” The coins’ reputation was severely affected and they would only be accepted in commerce at a steep discount. By late 1850, the mint had ceased operations after striking \$70,000 face value in gold coin.

In 1860, however, another Western gold rush was on, this time in Colorado, giving the Mormons one final chance at coinage. Large quantities of the precious metal had been found, bringing gold dust and nuggets to Utah Territory. Led by Brigham Young, the minting operation reopened, but with an entirely different design. The obverse depicts a lion in repose in a field of grass with the legend HOLINESS TO THE LORD written using the new Desert alphabet and the date 1860. The reverse

depicts a spread-wing eagle with the Mormon beehive on its chest, the legend DESERET ASSAY OFFICE PURE GOLD around the border and the denomination 5. D. below. Unlike the earlier Mormon gold pieces, the 1860 \$5 coins were struck from Colorado gold of considerably higher purity — said to be .917 fine and alloyed with silver. While they were successful within the Mormon community and accepted at face value, the reputation of the 1849- and 1850-dated coins could not be overcome and the 1860 pieces were once again accepted only at a steep discount outside the Great Salt Lake Valley, restricting the coins’ usefulness in commerce.

Walter Breen in his 1988 *Encyclopedia* reported that the 1860 Mormon \$5 gold coins were struck in several intermittent batches beginning in July 1859 and lasting through 1861. Don Kagin, however, quotes from “the notes of Mormon mining engineer and historian Colonel Joseph M. Lock: ‘From February 28, 1861, to March 9, 1861, [J.M.] Barlow coined from these dies 472 five-dollar pieces.’” The two authors also disagree on exactly who made the dies, with Kagin crediting Barlow and Breen reporting that some numismatists have attributed them to Albert Kuner. Both agree, however, that the coins were struck in Barlow’s jewelry shop, which served as the “Desert Assay Office.” Regardless of the exact striking period for the 1860 Mormon \$5, the coins were eventually made non-current in March 1862, thus ending the last Mormon experiment in private gold coinage.

As with their earlier-dated counterparts, the vast majority of 1860 Mormon \$5s ended up in the melting pot after only a brief stint in circulation. Survivors are challenging to locate in all circulated grades, especially when problem free and attractive. In Mint State this issue is a formidable condition rarity. The Larry H. Miller example is a particularly significant example and will attract a great deal of attention when it crosses the auction block.

PCGS# 10268. NGC ID: 2BCG.

PCGS Population: 4; 2 finer (both MS-62).

CAC Population: 1; 0.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



ADDITIONAL UNITED STATES COINS FROM THE LARRY H. MILLER COLLECTION

SMALL CENTS



1452

1871 Bold N. MS-65 RB (NGC). CAC. OH. Richly original surfaces exhibit gray-brown and medium rose patina with ample sunset-orange color remaining. The 1871 is a scarce semi-key date Indian cent in the finer Mint State grades. Most examples from the mintage of 3,929,500 pieces were destroyed through melting when the Mint Act of 1871 authorized the Mint to redeem earlier dated copper, bronze and copper-nickel cents that had begun accumulating in bank reserves since the end of the Civil War.

PCGS# 2101. NGC ID: 227V.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1454

1874 MS-65 RB (NGC). CAC. A beautiful Gem Uncirculated example with light toning in lilac-brown to otherwise rose-red surfaces.

PCGS# 2119. NGC ID: 227Z.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1453

1873 Open 3. MS-66 RB (NGC). CAC. We are pleased to be offering multiple high grade examples of the conditionally challenging 1873 Open 3 Indian cent in our current sale of the Larry H. Miller Collection. A gorgeous coin, vivid reddish-orange mint color dominates surfaces that are also lightly toned in iridescent gray-brown. Sharply to fully struck throughout with smooth and lustrous features.

PCGS# 2107. NGC ID: 227Y.

NGC Census: 8; 0 finer in this category. Two of these coins are not designated as to Close 3 or Open 3 variety on the insert, including the present example.

CAC Population: 5; 0.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1455

1877 Good-6 (PCGS). CAC. Originally toned in deep copper-brown with all major design elements well outlined and readily appreciable. The famous key date 1877 Indian cent is eagerly sought in all grades, and this solidly graded and problem free Good will please many collectors.

PCGS# 2127. NGC ID: 2284.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1456

Lot of (3) Indian Cents. (NGC). Included are: 1864 Bronze, L on Ribbon, AU-58 BN; 1883 AU-55 BN; and 1888 MS-62 BN.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1457

Lot of (6) Mint State Indian and Lincoln Cents. (NGC). Included are: **Indian:** 1900 MS-63 RB; 1901 MS-63 BN; 1905 Unc Details—Altered Color; 1906 MS-62 RB; 1908 MS-62 RB; and **Lincoln:** 1913 Unc Details—Cleaned.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1458

1909-S Lincoln. V.D.B. VF-30 (PCGS). A boldly and originally toned mid grade example of this ever-popular key date Lincoln cent.

PCGS# 2426. NGC ID: 22B2.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1461

1922 No D. FS-401, Die Pair II. Strong Reverse. VG-8 BN (NGC). CAC. Richly toned in even deep copper-brown patina, the surfaces are smooth and very nice for the assigned grade level.

PCGS# 3285. NGC ID: 22C9.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1459

1914-D VF-25 BN (NGC), CAC. A richly toned, antique copper example with all major design elements boldly struck. The key date 1914-D Lincoln cent is eagerly sought at all levels of preservation, and this is certainly a premium quality coin for the assigned grade.

PCGS# 2471. NGC ID: 22BH.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1462

Lot of (5) Mint State Lincoln Cents. (PCGS). Included are: 1938-D MS-65 RD; 1943-D MS-64, CAC; 1944-S MS-67 RD; 1945-D MS-67 RD, CAC; and 1945-S MS-67, CAC, OGH.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

SILVER THREE-CENT PIECES



1460

1922 No D. FS-401. Strong Reverse. Fine-12 (PCGS). CAC. Boldly and evenly toned in deep autumn-brown, this is a handsome Fine example of the most desirable die pairing of the 1922 No D cent.

PCGS# 3285. NGC ID: 22C9.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1463

1856 MS-62 (PCGS). CAC. Wisps of iridescent champagne-gold toning enhance both sides of this satiny and attractive coin. Superior quality and eye appeal for the assigned grade, and sure to see spirited bidding among collectors who recognize the Type II design of 1854 to 1858 as the scarcest in the silver three-cent series.

PCGS# 3672. NGC ID: 22Z5.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



NICKEL FIVE-CENT PIECES



1464

1907 MS-64 (NGC). CAC. A fully lustrous coin, mostly brilliant with the lightest pale rose iridescence.

PCGS# 3868. NGC ID: 2771.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1467

1916-D MS-64 (NGC). Predominantly brilliant with full mint luster.

PCGS# 3932. NGC ID: 22RB.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1465

1913-S Type II. Fine-15 (PCGS). CAC. An attractively original Choice Fine example of this semi-key issue from the first year of Buffalo nickel production.

PCGS# 3923. NGC ID: 22R3.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1468

1919-S MS-61 (NGC). A lustrous and overall boldly struck Mint State quality example of this conditionally challenging San Francisco Mint Buffalo nickel issue. Both sides are lightly toned in iridescent silver-gray.

PCGS# 3943. NGC ID: 22RN.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1466

1915-S AU-58 (NGC). Sharply defined with pleasing pearl gray surfaces, this is an attractive near-Mint example of a challenging early date Buffalo nickel issue.

PCGS# 3929. NGC ID: 22R9.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1469

1925-S VF-35 (PCGS). An original and attractive mid-grade example of this challenging San Francisco Mint nickel.

PCGS# 3956. NGC ID: 22S4.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1470

1926-S VF-35 (PCGS). Here is an appealing and overall boldly defined Choice VF example of this key date Buffalo nickel.

PCGS# 3959. NGC ID: 22S7.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1471

1937-D FS-901. 3-Legged. VF-30 (PCGS). Original silver-gray surfaces.

PCGS# 3982. NGC ID: 22SX.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1472

1938-D Buffalo. MS-67 (NGC). CAC. OH. This exquisite Superb Gem is intensely lustrous with vivid iridescent reddish-apricot, salmon pink and ice-blue toning. An outstanding type candidate from the final year of the Buffalo nickel series.

PCGS# 3984. NGC ID: 22SZ.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1473

Lot of (2) Roaring Twenties Buffalo Nickels. (NGC). Included are: 1924 EF-45; and 1925 AU Details—Obverse Damage.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

DIMES



1474

1807 JR-1, the only known dies. Rarity-1. Fine-15 (PCGS). The reverse is more boldly toned and features rich charcoal-blue and golden-apricot toward the border. The obverse is predominantly silver-gray, with blushes of steel-blue and golden-apricot around the periphery. A desirable circulated type candidate from the final year of the challenging Draped Bust dime series.

PCGS# 4480. NGC ID: 236T.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1475

1920-S MS-62 FB (NGC). A brilliant and smartly impressed example with superior eye appeal for the assigned grade.

PCGS# 4933. NGC ID: 23HD.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1476

1924 DS Set. (NGC). Both examples are individually graded and encapsulated by NGC. Included are: 1924-D MS-62; and 1924-S Unc Details—Cleaned. (Total: 2 coins)

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1477

1927-D MS-62 FB (NGC). Lustrous surfaces are dusted with the lightest silver and gold iridescence.

PCGS# 4963. NGC ID: 23HV.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1478

Partial Set of Mercury Dimes, 1929-1939 (NGC). All examples are individually graded and encapsulated by NGC. Included are: 1929 MS-64; 1930-S MS-62; 1934 MS-63 FB; 1935-D MS-63; 1935-S MS-65; 1936-S MS-65; 1937-D MS-65 FB; 1937-S MS-66; 1939 MS-66+; and 1939-S Unc Details—Cleaned. Also included in this lot is an 1892 Barber dime, Unc Details—Cleaned (NGC). (Total: 11 coins)

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1479

Partial “Short Set” of Mercury Dimes, 1940-1945 (NGC). All examples are individually graded and encapsulated by NGC. Included are: 1940 MS-64; 1940-D MS-66; 1940-S MS-66; 1941 MS-64 FB; 1941-D MS-65; 1942-D MS-64 FB; 1942-S MS-66 FB; 1944-D MS-64 FB; 1945-D MS-64; and 1945-S MS-64. (Total: 10 coins)

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

QUARTER DOLLARS



1482

1920 MS-64 (NGC). A frosty and attractive example adorned with iridescent champagne-pink toning.

PCGS# 5734. NGC ID: 243E.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1483

1920-S MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Lovely mint luster flows over predominantly brilliant surfaces. With a relatively modest mintage of 6,380,000 coins, the 1920-S is one of the semi-key date Standing Liberty quarters and is difficult to find in the finer Mint State grades.

PCGS# 5738. NGC ID: 243G.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1480

1918-S MS-64 (PCGS). Pretty sandy-gold iridescence is seen toward the borders on both sides of this lustrous and attractive example.

PCGS# 5724. NGC ID: 2439.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1484

1923 MS-64 (PCGS). OGH. Intensely lustrous with a frosty finish, this lovely example is brilliant overall and highly appealing.

PCGS# 5742. NGC ID: 243J.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1481

1919-D MS-64 (PCGS). OGH. This lustrous and frosty near-Gem is dusted with pretty toning in iridescent champagne-gold and pale pink. The 1919-D is one of the most challenging quarters of this design type to locate in the attractive Mint State preservation. The mintage is only 1,944,000 coins, and contemporary collectors seem to have preferred the identically dated San Francisco Mint quarter. When offered in today's market, this Denver Mint issue is apt to be worn to one degree or another. Here, then, is an important bidding opportunity.

PCGS# 5730. NGC ID: 243C.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.





1485

1924-D MS-64 FH (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Lightly toned in iridescent gold, this frosty and smartly impressed example is sure to appeal to discerning Standing Liberty quarter collectors. The 1924-D is a scarce and conditionally challenging issue for the type with a mintage of 3,112,000 pieces. Few Mint State survivors qualify for the coveted Full Head designation, as here.

PCGS# 5749. NGC ID: 243M.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1487

1929-S MS-63 FH (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Ideal for anyone building a Choice Mint State type set, this lovely Standing Liberty quarter is sharply struck, lustrous and near-fully brilliant.

PCGS# 5777. NGC ID: 2444.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1486

1925 MS-64 (PCGS). OGH. Soft silver-gray patina is bolder on the obverse of this lustrous and frosty near-Gem. The striking detail is sharp overall and not far from a Full Head designation.

PCGS# 5752. NGC ID: 243P.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1488

1930 MS-64 (PCGS). Iridescent champagne-gold toning mingles with appealing mint frost on both sides of this Choice Mint State quarter dollar.

PCGS# 5778. NGC ID: 2445.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1489

Lot of (2) About Uncirculated Standing Liberty Quarters. (NGC). Included are: 1918-S AU Details—Cleaned; and 1920 AU-58.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1490

Lot of (10) 1964 Proof-67 (PCGS).

PCGS# 5996. NGC ID: 27J7.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



HALF DOLLARS



1491

1839 Liberty Seated. No Drapery. WB-3. Rarity-5. AU Details—Cleaned (NGC). Boldly to sharply defined with a few swirls of golden-russet patina on the reverse, the surfaces otherwise light pewter gray.

PCGS# 6230. NGC ID: 24GK.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1494

1873 Arrows. WB-108. Small Arrows, Repunched Date. AU Details—Cleaned (NGC). This variety of the issue, with repunching within the lower loop of the digit 3 in the date, has a Rarity-5- rating from Wiley and Bugert in their 1993 reference on Liberty Seated half dollars.

PCGS# 6343. NGC ID: 24L7.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1492

1870-CC WB-2. Rarity-5. VF Details—Cleaned (NGC). There is plenty of bold striking detail remaining. Generally light pewter gray in appearance, with a glossy texture, although the peripheries have retoned in steel and reddish-gray. A shallow scrape at the lower right corner of the digit 8 in the date is noted. The first half dollar from the Carson City Mint, the 1870-CC is also the rarest. The vast majority of pieces were eventually lost in commerce, and only 145 to 165 coins are believed extant (per Carson City Mint specialist Rusty Goe, 2012).

PCGS# 6328. NGC ID: 24K2.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1495

1873-CC Arrows. WB-7. Rarity-4. Repunched Date, Large CC. EF Details—Cleaned (NGC). Although the 1873-CC is the more available Carson City Mint issue of the Liberty Seated, Arrows half dollar of 1873 to 1874, survivors are still scarce, becoming quite rare when in the finer circulated grades.

PCGS# 6344. NGC ID: 24L8.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1493

1873-CC No Arrows. WB-1. Rarity-3. EF-40 (NGC). Warmly toned in golden-gray, glints of brighter reddish-apricot around the peripheries are associated with remaining luster. All 1873-CC No Arrows halves show a Close 3 in the date; conversely, all 1873-CC With Arrows halves are of the Open 3 type. Carson City Mint No Arrows halves always command respect from series collectors and type enthusiasts alike.

PCGS# 6338. NGC ID: 24KC.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1496

1874-CC Arrows. WB-3. Rarity-4. EF Details—Cleaned (NGC). Plenty of bold detail remains to silver-gray surfaces. This reverse die is readily identified by a sharp raised die gouge behind the eagle's head above the eye, called a "cowlick" by Bill Bugert. Very scarce, and rarer than the 1873-CC Arrows, the 1874-CC is a heavily circulated Liberty Seated half dollar issue with just 59,000 pieces produced. Most examples are heavily worn, confirming the significance of this more affordable EF example.

PCGS# 6347. NGC ID: 24LB.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1497

Lot of (2) New Orleans Mint Liberty Seated Half Dollars. EF-45 (NGC). Included are: 1844-O; and 1846-O Medium Date.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1498

Lot of (2) New Orleans Mint Liberty Seated Half Dollars. (NGC). Included are: 1855-O Arrows, AU-58; and 1858-O AU-53.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1499

Lot of (2) 1868-Dated Liberty Seated Half Dollars. AU Details—Cleaned (NGC). Included are: 1868; and 1868-S.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1500

Lot of (2) Carson City Mint Liberty Seated Half Dollars. AU Details—Cleaned (NGC). Included are: 1875-CC; and 1876-CC.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1501

Lot of (2) Late Date Liberty Seated Half Dollars. Cleaned (NGC). Included are: 1881 AU Details; and 1889 EF Details.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1502

Lot of (3) Liberty Seated Half Dollars. (NGC). Included are: 1846 Medium Date, AU-53; 1867-S AU-55; and 1870 EF-45.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1503

Lot of (3) 1861-Dated Liberty Seated Half Dollars. Cleaned (NGC). Included are: 1861 EF Details; 1861-O AU Details; and 1861-S AU Details.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1504

Lot of (3) Civil War Era Liberty Seated Half Dollars. AU Details—Cleaned (NGC). Included are: 1862; 1864; and 1865.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1505

Lot of (4) 1840s Liberty Seated Half Dollars. (NGC). Included are: 1847 EF Details—Cleaned; 1847-O AU Details—Obverse Cleaned; 1848 AU Details—Cleaned; and 1849-O AU Details—Cleaned.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1506

Lot of (4) 1850s Liberty Seated Half Dollars. AU Details—Cleaned (NGC). Included are: 1854 Arrows; 1854-O Arrows; 1858; and 1859-O.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1507

Lot of (5) 1870s Liberty Seated Half Dollars. Cleaned (NGC). Included are: 1871 AU Details; 1871-S AU Details; 1874 Arrows, EF Details; 1877 AU Details; and 1878 Unc Details.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1508

1916-D MS-63 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. A sharply to fully struck, frosty and brilliant example of this perennially popular mintmarked type issue from the first year of the Walking Liberty half dollar series.

PCGS# 6567. NGC ID: 24PM.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1509

1921-D Good-6 (PCGS). CAC. Here is a boldly toned circulated example of this eagerly sought key date in the Walking Liberty half dollar series.

PCGS# 6584. NGC ID: 24R7.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1510

Partial "Short Set" of Walking Liberty Half Dollars, 1941-1946. (NGC). All examples are individually graded and encapsulated by NGC. Included are: 1941-D MS-64; 1942 Unc Details—Cleaned; 1943 MS-64; 1944 MS-64; 1945 MS-65; 1945-D MS-63; 1946 MS-65; and 1946-S MS-65. Also included in this lot is an 1882-S Morgan silver dollar, MS-64 (NGC). (Total: 9 coins)

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

1511

Lot of (10) 1963 Proof-67 (PCGS).

PCGS# 6704. NGC ID: 27VL.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



SILVER DOLLARS



1512
1882-O/S VAM-4. Top 100 Variety. Strong, O/S Recessed. MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. The 1882-O/S is a popular Morgan dollar overmintmark variety in all Mint State grades. This is a premium Choice example with a bold strike, full mint luster, and wisps of pale silver-rose iridescence.

PCGS# 7138. NGC ID: 254D.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1515
1885 MS-65 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. A fully frosted Gem whose otherwise brilliant surfaces exhibit wisps of iridescent golden-apricot toning at the upper left obverse and lower left reverse borders.

PCGS# 7158. NGC ID: 254R.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1513
1883 MS-64 PL (PCGS). CAC. OGH. This brilliant and attractive example shows nice contrast between semi-reflective fields and satiny, smartly impressed design elements.

PCGS# 7143. NGC ID: 254G.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1516
1886-S MS-65 (PCGS). OGH. Appealing brilliant surfaces are highly lustrous and feature a razor sharp strike. A popular key date issue, the 1886-S was produced to extent of just 750,000 pieces, the lowest mintage for a San Francisco Mint Morgan dollar up to that point. With most survivors grading no finer than MS-64, this scarce MS-65 represents a significant find for quality conscious bidders.

PCGS# 7170. NGC ID: 254X.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1514
1883-CC MS-64 DPL (NGC). CAC. OH. Gorgeous cameo surfaces are ringed in delightful peripheral toning of reddish-rose and cobalt blue iridescence.

PCGS# 97145. NGC ID: 254H.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1517
1891 MS-63 DPL (NGC). OH. Ringed in iridescent cobalt blue and reddish-rose peripheral toning, this otherwise brilliant example also offers a well mirrored finish in the fields. The design elements are well frosted and boldly to sharply defined. As Wayne Miller observed in his *Morgan and Peace Dollar Textbook* in the early 1980s, "The 1891-P [sic] is rare in fully prooflike condition." Indeed, this is one of the few such pieces that we have offered in the last decade, a significant bidding opportunity for collectors of DMPL/DPL Morgan dollars.

PCGS# 97205. NGC ID: 255G.

NGC Census: 14; 10 finer in this category (MS-66 DPL finest).

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1518

1891-CC VAM-3. Top 100 Variety. Spitting Eagle. MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. Brilliant frosty-white surfaces feature a sharp strike and outstanding visual appeal. The 1891-CC VAM-3 is the popular Spitting Eagle variety, so named for the tiny die gouge on the reverse in front of the eagle's beak.

PCGS# 7206. NGC ID: 255H.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1521

1904 MS-64 (PCGS). Lustrous silver-white surfaces with a sharply executed strike.

PCGS# 7290. NGC ID: 256U.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1519

1897 MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. Sharply struck with brilliant, frosty mint luster.

PCGS# 7246. NGC ID: 2565.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1522

1921 Morgan. MS-64 (PCGS). CAC. OGH. A brilliant and beautiful near-Gem with razor sharp striking detail to even the most intricate design elements.

PCGS# 7296. NGC ID: 256X.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1520

1900-O/CC Top 100 Variety. MS-65 (PCGS). A generally brilliant example that is sharply struck with full, frosty mint luster. This popular variety was created when several leftover dies that had originally been earmarked for the Carson City Mint were retasked for use at the New Orleans Mint. These dies were returned to the Philadelphia Mint after July 1, 1899, when it became clear that coinage would not resume at Carson City. Once back in the hands of the engraving department, the CC mintmark was partially effaced from each die and overpunched with an O mintmark. Upon their arrival at the New Orleans Mint, these overmintmark dies were used to strike some of the 12,590,000-piece mintage for the 1900-O. Eagerly sought in all grades, the 1900-O/CC is scarce in Gem Mint State and always in demand among advanced specialists.

PCGS# 7268. NGC ID: 256G.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

EAGLES



1523

1847-O Winter-3. EF-45 (NGC). OH. Light golden-yellow patina is accented by a few glints of reddish-russet around the reverse periphery. The 1847-O is a perennially popular mintmarked type issue from the No Motto portion of the Liberty Head eagle series.

PCGS# 8598. NGC ID: 2632.

From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



ROLLS



1524
BU Roll of 1943 Lincoln Cents. A plastic tube roll. (Total: 50 coins)
From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1527
BU Roll of 1937 Buffalo Nickels. A plastic tube roll. (40 coins)
From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1525
BU Roll of 1943-D Lincoln Cents. Housed in a plastic tube. (Total: 50 coins)
From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1528
BU Roll of 1937-S Buffalo Nickels. Housed in a plastic tube. (Total: 40 coins)
From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1526
Mixed BU Roll of 1943-D and 1943-S Lincoln Cents. A plastic tube roll. Included are: (1) 1943-D; and (49) 1943-S. (Total: 50 coins)
From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1529
BU Roll of 1937-S Buffalo Nickels. A plastic tube roll. (Total: 40 coins)
From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1530
BU Roll of 1937-S Buffalo Nickels. Housed in a plastic tube. (Total: 40 coins)
From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1532
BU Roll of 1938-D Buffalo Nickels. Housed in a plastic tube. (Total: 40 coins)
From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1531
BU Roll of 1938-D Buffalo Nickels. A plastic tube roll. (Total: 40 coins)
From the Larry H. Miller Collection.



1533
BU Roll of 1941 Walking Liberty Half Dollars. Housed in a plastic tube. (Total: 20 coins)
From the Larry H. Miller Collection.

END OF SESSION ONE

Bid	Bid Increment
\$0-\$99	\$5.00
\$100-\$199	\$10.00
\$200-\$499	\$20.00
\$500-\$999	\$50.00
\$1,000-\$1,999	\$100.00
\$2,000-\$4,999	\$200.00
\$5,000-\$9,999	\$500.00
\$10,000-\$19,999	\$1,000.00
\$20,000-\$49,999	\$2,000.00
\$50,000-\$99,999	\$5,000.00
\$100,000-\$199,999	\$10,000.00
\$200,000-\$499,999	\$20,000.00
\$500,000-\$999,999	\$50,000.00
\$1,000,000-\$1,999,999	\$100,000.00
\$2,000,000+	\$200,000.00

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4. Bidder Registration Required. All persons seeking to bid must complete and sign a registration card either at the auction or online, or otherwise qualify to bid, as determined in the sole discretion of the Auctioneer. By submitting a bid, the Bidder acknowledges that Bidder has read the Terms and Conditions of Auction Sale, the descriptions for the lot(s) on which they have bid, and that they agree to be bound by these Terms of Sale. This agreement shall be deemed to have been made and entered in California. The Bidder acknowledges that the invoice describing a lot by number incorporates the catalog and Terms of Sale. Person appearing on the OFAC list are not eligible to bid.

5. Buyer’s Premiums. A premium of twenty percent (20%) based upon the total amount of the hammer (minimum of \$20), will be added to all purchases of individual lots, regardless of affiliation with any group or organization (the “Buyer’s Premium”). A reacquisition charge may apply to Consignors pursuant to a separate agreement, which may be higher or lower than the Buyer’s Premium.

6. Payment. Payment is due immediately upon the fall of the auctioneer’s hammer. Payment is delinquent and in default if not received in full, in good funds, within fourteen (14) calendar days of the Auction Sale (the “Default Date”), without exception, time being of the essence. Unless otherwise agreed in writing prior to the Auction Sale, all auction sales are payable strictly in U.S. Dollars or Hong Kong Dollars. All invoices will be made in United States Dollars. If paying in Hong Kong Dollars, Buyer’s invoices will be credited with the amount of U.S. Dollars received from Auctioneer’s bank. Payments may be made by credit card, Paypal, Union Pay, check, wire transfer, money order and cashier’s check. Cash transactions will be accepted in the sole discretion of Stack’s Bowers, and if accepted, for any cash transaction or series of transactions exceeding \$10,000, a Treasury Form 8300 will be filed. Contact Stack’s Bowers for wiring instructions before sending a wire. Bank wires sent from a foreign bank are subject to an international bank wire fee of \$35. We accept payment by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover or Paypal for invoices up to \$2,500, with a maximum of \$10,000 in any 30 day period. All payments are subject to a clearing period. Checks drawn on U.S. banks will be subject to up to a 10 business day hold, and checks drawn on foreign banks will be subject to a 30 day hold. Stack’s Bowers reserves the right not to release lots for which good funds have not yet been received. On any past due accounts, Stack’s Bowers reserves the right, without notice, to extend credit and impose carrying charges (as described below). Buyers agree to pay reasonable attorney’s fees and cost incurred to collect past due accounts. Any invoice not paid by the Default Date will bear a five percent (5%) late fee on the invoice amount. Buyers personally and uncon-

Terms & Conditions – Showcase and Collectors Choice Auctions (cont.)

ditionally guarantee payment in full of all amounts owed to Stack's Bowers. Any person submitting bids on behalf of a corporation or other entity, by making such bid, agrees to be personally jointly and severally liable for the payment of the purchase price and any related charges and the performance of all Buyer obligations under these Terms of Sale and Stack's Bowers reserves the right to require a written guarantee of such payments and obligations. Bidders who have not established credit with Stack's Bowers must furnish satisfactory information and credit references and/or deposit at least twenty-five percent (25%) of their total bids for that Auction Sale session(s) or such other amount as Stack's Bowers may, in its sole and absolute discretion require before any bids from such Bidder will be accepted. Deposits submitted will be applied to purchases. Any remaining deposits will be promptly refunded, upon clearance of funds.

7. Sales Tax. Buyers will be charged all applicable sales tax unless a valid Resale Certificate has been provided to the Auctioneer prior to the auction. Should state sales tax become applicable in the delivery state prior to delivery of the property on the invoice, the Buyer agrees to pay all applicable state sales tax as required by the delivery state as of the shipping date. In the event any applicable sales tax is not paid by Buyer that should have been paid, even if not such tax was not charged or collected by Stack's Bowers by mistake, error, negligence or gross negligence, Buyer nonetheless acknowledges responsibility to pay such sales tax and remains fully liable for and agrees to promptly pay such taxes on demand, together with any interest or penalty that may be assessed by the taxing authority and agrees to indemnify and hold Auctioneer harmless from any applicable sales tax, interest or penalties due. Lots from different Auctions may not be aggregated for sales tax purposes.

8. Financial Responsibility. In the event any applicable conditions of these Terms of Sale herein are not complied with by a Buyer or if the Buyer fails to make payment in full by the Default Date, Stack's Bowers reserves the right, in its sole discretion, in addition to all other remedies which it may have at law or in equity to rescind the sale of that lot or any other lot or lots sold to the defaulting Buyer, retaining all payments made by Buyer as liquidated damages, it being recognized that actual damages may be speculative or difficult to compute, and resell a portion or all of the lots held by Stack's Bowers, in a commercially reasonable manner, which may include a public or private sale, in a quantity sufficient in the opinion of Stack's Bowers to satisfy the indebtedness, plus all accrued charges, and Stack's Bowers may charge a seller's commission that is commercially reasonable. More than one such sale may take place at the option of Stack's Bowers. If Stack's Bowers resells the lots, Buyer agrees to pay for the reasonable cost of such sale, together with any incidental costs of sale, including reasonable attorney's fees and costs, cataloging and any other reasonable charges. Notice of the sale shall be by U.S.P.S. Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested to the address utilized on the Bid Sheet, Auction Consignment and Security Agreement or other last known address by Stack's Bowers. The proceeds shall be applied first to the satisfaction of any damages occasioned by Buyer's breach, then to any other indebtedness owed to Stack's Bowers, including without limitation, commissions, handling charges, carrying charges, the expenses of both sales, seller's fees, reasonable attorneys' fees, costs, collection agency fees and costs and any other costs or expenses incurred. Buyer shall also be liable to Stack's Bowers for any deficiency if the proceeds of such sale or sales are insufficient to cover such amounts.

Buyer grants to Stack's Bowers, its affiliates and assignees, the right to offset any sums due, or found to be due to Stack's Bowers, and to make such offset from any past, current, or future consignment, or purchases that are in the possession or control of Stack's Bowers; or from any sums due to Buyer by Stack's Bowers, its affiliates and assignees. In addition, defaulting Buyers will be deemed to have granted to Stack's Bowers, its affiliates and assignees, a security interest in: (x) the purchased lots and their proceeds, and (y) such sums or other items and their proceeds, in the possession of Stack's Bowers, its affiliates or assignees, to secure all indebtedness due to Stack's Bowers and its affiliated companies, plus all accrued expenses, carrying charges, seller's fees, attorney fees, and costs, until the indebtedness is paid in full. Buyer grants Stack's Bowers the right to file a UCC-1 financing statement for such items, and to assign such interest to any affiliated or related company or any third party deemed appropriate by Stack's Bowers. If the auction invoice is not paid for in full by the Default Date, a carrying charge of one-and-one-half percent (1-1/2%) per month may be imposed on the unpaid amount until it is paid in full. In the event this interest rate exceeds the interest permitted by law, the same shall be adjusted to the maximum rate permitted by law, and any amount paid in excess thereof shall be allocated to principal. Buyer agrees to pay all reasonable attorney's fees, court costs and other collection costs incurred by Stack's Bowers or any

affiliated or related company to collect past due invoices or to interpret or enforce the terms hereof or in any action or proceeding arising out of or related to the Auction Sale. Stack's Bowers reserves the right to assign its interest to any third party. To the extent that the Buyer for any lot consists of more than one person or entity, each such person or entity is jointly and severally liable for all obligations of the Buyer, regardless of the title or capacity of such person or entity. Stack's Bowers shall have all the rights of a secured creditor under Article 9 of the California Commercial Code and all rights of the consignor to collect amounts due from the Buyer, whether at law or equity.

9. Shipping. It is the Buyer's responsibility to contact Stack's Bowers after the sale to make shipping and packaging arrangements. Due to the fragile nature of some lots, Stack's Bowers may elect not to assume responsibility for shipping or packing, or may charge additional shipping and handling. Stack's Bowers, in its sole discretion, may not ship to select countries. Lots indicated as being "framed" or that are specifically identified in the catalog are shipped at Buyer's risk. All taxes, postage, shipping, if applicable, handling, insurance costs, the Buyer's Premium, and any other fees required by law to be charged or collected will be added to the invoice for any lots invoiced to Buyer. All lots shipped to foreign countries will be billed an additional one-half percent (1/2%) for insurance (minimum of \$10). For any lots delivered outside the country where the auction is hosted, the declaration value shall be the item's hammer price plus its buyer's premium. Auctioneer shall not be liable for any loss caused or resulting from seizure or destruction under quarantine or customs regulation or confiscation by order of any government or public authority. Buyer shall be responsible for paying all applicable taxes, duties and customs charges for all lots delivered outside the country where the auction is hosted. All lots will be shipped FOB Destination, freight prepaid and charged back. Title and risk of loss pass to the Buyer at the destination upon tender of delivery. Acceptance of delivery constitutes acceptance of the purchased lots. Inspection of the purchased lots is not required for acceptance. Any and all claims based upon Buyer's failure to receive a purchased lot, Buyer's receipt of a lot in damaged condition, or otherwise related to delivery, must be received in writing by Stack's Bowers no later than the earlier of thirty (30) days after payment, or the date of the Auction Sale (the "Outside Claim Date"). As Buyers may not receive notification of shipment, it is Buyer's responsibility to keep track of the Outside Claim Date and make timely notification of any such claim. The failure to make a timely claim, time being of the essence, shall constitute a waiver of any such claim. Orders paid by credit card will only be shipped to the verified address on file with the credit card merchant.

10. DISCLAIMER AND WARRANTIES. NO WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE IS MADE OR IMPLIED ON ANY LOT. NO WARRANTY, WHETHER EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, IS MADE WITH RESPECT TO ANY LOT EXCEPT FOR WARRANTY OF TITLE, AND IN THE CASE OF TITLE, AUCTIONEER IS SELLING ONLY THAT RIGHT OR TITLE TO THE LOT THAT THE CONSIGNOR MAY HAVE AS OF THE AUCTION SALE DATE. ALL LOTS ARE SOLD "AS IS" AND WITH ALL FAULTS. PURCHASER HEREBY ASSUMES ALL RISKS CONCERNING AND RELATED TO THE GRADING, QUALITY, DESCRIPTION, CONDITION, AND PROVENANCE OF A LOT.

a. COINS AND CURRENCY LISTED IN THIS CATALOG AS GRADED AND ENCAPSULATED BY PCGS, NGC, ANACS, ICG, PCGS CURRENCY, PMG, PCGS BANKNOTE GRADING, CMC OR ANY OTHER THIRD PARTY GRADING SERVICE ARE SOLD "AS-IS" EXCEPT AS EXPRESSLY SET FORTH HEREIN AND MAY NOT BE RETURNED FOR ANY REASON WHATSOEVER BY ANY BUYER. ALL THIRD PARTY GRADING SERVICE GUARANTEES, INCLUDING AUTHENTICITY, ARE THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE THIRD PARTY GRADING SERVICE AND NOT WARRANTIES OR GUARANTEES OF THE AUCTIONEER. BUYERS SHOULD CONTACT THESE THIRD PARTY GRADING SERVICES DIRECTLY WITH RESPECT TO ANY CLAIMS OR QUESTIONS THEY MAY HAVE CONCERNING THEIR GUARANTEES AND WARRANTIES. BUYERS ACKNOWLEDGE AND AGREE THAT AUCTIONEER IS NOT BOUND BY OR LIABLE FOR ANY OPINION OR CERTIFICATION BY ANY THIRD PARTY GRADING SERVICE.

b. In the case of non-certified coins and currency that have neither been examined by the Buyer prior to the Auction Sale, nor purchased by the Buyer or Buyer's agent at the Auction Sale, if it is determined in a review by Stack's Bowers that there is a material error in the catalog description of a non-certified coin or currency, such lot may be returned, provided written notice is received by Stack's Bowers no later than seventy-two

Terms & Conditions – Showcase and Collectors Choice Auctions (cont.)

(72) hours of delivery of the lots in question, and such lots are returned and received by Stack's Bowers, in their original, sealed containers, no later than fourteen (14) calendar days after delivery, in the same condition the lot(s) were delivered to the Buyer, time being of the essence. Non-certified coins and currency that have been either examined by the Buyer prior to the Auction Sale or purchased by the Buyer or Buyer's agent at the Auction Sale, will not be granted return privileges, except for authenticity.

c. All non-certified coins and currency are guaranteed to be genuine.

d. If an item or items are returned pursuant to the terms herein, they must be housed in their original, sealed and unopened container.

e. Late remittance or removal of any item from its original container, or altering a coin constitutes just cause for revocation of all return privileges.

f. Grading or condition of rare coins and currency may have a material effect on the value of the item(s) purchased, and the opinion of others (including independent grading services) may differ with the independent grading services opinion or interpretation of Stack's Bowers. Stack's Bowers shall not be bound by any prior, or subsequent opinion, determination or certification by any independent grading service.

g. Questions regarding the minting of a coin as a "proof" or as a "business strike" relate to the method of manufacture and not to authenticity.

h. All oral and written statements made by Stack's Bowers and its employees or agents (including affiliated and related companies) are statements of opinion only, and are not warranties or representations of any kind, unless stated as a specific written warranty, and no employee or agent of Stack's Bowers has authority to vary or alter these Terms and Conditions of Auction Sale. Stack's Bowers reserves the right to vary or alter the Terms of Sale, either generally or with respect to specific persons or circumstances, in its sole discretion. Any variation or alteration shall be effective only if in writing and signed by an officer of Stack's Bowers authorized to do so.

i. Stack's Bowers is acting as an auctioneer. Title to the lots purchased passes directly from the Consignor to the Buyer. Accordingly, Stack's Bowers is not making, and disclaims, any warranty of title.

j. Bidders shall have no recourse against the Consignor for any reason whatsoever.

k. Bidder acknowledges that the numismatic market is speculative, unregulated and volatile, and that coin prices may rise or fall over time. Stack's Bowers does not guarantee or represent that any customer buying for investment purposes will be able to sell for a profit in the future.

l. Bidder acknowledges and agrees that neither Stack's Bowers, nor its employees, affiliates, agents, third-party providers or consignors warrant that auctions will be uninterrupted or error free and accordingly shall not be liable for such events.

11. Waiver and Release. Bidder, for himself, his heirs, agents, successors and assignees, generally and specifically waives and releases, and forever discharges Stack's Bowers, and its respective affiliates, parents, officers, directors, shareholders, agents, subsidiaries, employees, managers and members and each of them, and their respective successors and assignees from any and all claims, rights, demands and causes of actions and suits, of whatever kind or nature, including but not limited to claims based upon Auctioneer's negligence, whether in law or equity, tort or otherwise, whether known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected (a "Claim"), which Bidder may assert with respect to and/or arising out of, or in connection with any challenge to the title to or authenticity of any goods purchased, the sale itself, any lot bid upon or consigned, and/or the auction, except where such Claim is otherwise expressly authorized in these Terms of Sale. It is the intention of Bidder that this waiver and release shall be effective as a bar to each and every Claim that may arise hereunder or be related to the Auction Sale, and Bidder hereby knowingly and voluntarily waives any and all rights and benefits otherwise conferred upon him by the provisions of Section 1542 of the California Civil Code, which reads in full as follows:

"A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS WHICH THE CREDITOR OR RELEASING PARTY DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE, WHICH IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER MUST HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR OR RELEASED PARTY."

12. Disputes. If a dispute arises concerning ownership of a lot or concerning proceeds of any sale, Stack's Bowers reserves the right to commence a statutory inter-pleader proceeding at the expense of the Consignor and Buyer and any other applicable party, and in such event shall be entitled to its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs. Stack's Bowers reserves the right to cancel or postpone the Auction Sale or any session thereof for any reason whatsoever. No Bidder shall have any claim as a result thereof, including for incidental or consequential damages. Neither Stack's Bowers nor any affiliated or related company shall be responsible for incidental or consequential damages arising out of any failure of the Terms of Sale, the auction or the conduct thereof and in no event shall such liability exceed the purchase price, premium, or fees paid. Rights granted to Bidders under the within Terms and Conditions of Auction Sale are personal and apply only to the Bidder who initially purchases the lot(s) from Stack's Bowers. The rights may not be assigned or transferred to any other person or entity, whether by sale of the lot(s), operation of law or otherwise. Any attempt to assign or transfer any such rights shall be absolutely void and unenforceable. No third party may rely on any benefit or right conferred by these Terms and Conditions of Auction Sale.

Any dispute arising out of or related to these Terms of Sale, the Auction Sale or any lot, with the sole exception of actions by Stack's Bowers to collect amounts owed to it and other damages, shall be submitted to binding arbitration pursuant to the commercial arbitration rules of the American Arbitration Association, with any arbitration hearing to occur in Orange County, California. Absent an agreement of the parties, the arbitrator shall limit discovery to that which is necessary to enable the hearing to proceed efficiently. The arbitrator shall not have the power to award punitive or consequential damages, nor alter, amend modify any of the terms of this Agreement. The award by the arbitrator, if any, may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof. Each party shall pay one-half the costs of the arbitration. Bidder acknowledges and agrees that the competent courts of the State of California shall have exclusive in personam jurisdiction, subject to the requirement to arbitrate, over any dispute(s) arising hereunder, regardless of any party's current or future residence or domicile. Bidder further agrees that venue of the arbitration proceeding shall be in Orange County, California; and any court proceeding shall be in the Orange County Superior Court, in the State of California, and in each case waive any claim of Forum Non Conveniens. Bidder agrees that any arbitration or legal action with respect to this Auction Sale is barred unless commenced within one (1) year of the date of this Auction Sale. AUCTION PARTICIPANTS EXPRESSLY WAIVE ANY RIGHT TO TRIAL BY JURY.

13. General Terms. These Terms and Conditions of Auction Sale and the auction shall be construed and enforced in accordance with, and governed by, the laws of the State of California, regardless of the location of the Auction Sale. These Terms of Sale and the information on the Stack's Bowers' website constitute the entire agreement between the parties hereto on the subject matter hereof and supersede all other agreements, understandings, warranties and representations concerning the subject matter hereof. If any section of these Terms of Auction Sale or any term or provision of any section is held to be invalid, void, or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining sections or terms and provisions of a section shall continue in full force and effect without being impaired or invalidated in any way. Stack's Bowers may at its sole and absolute discretion, make loans or advances to Consignors and/or Bidders.

14. Chinese Translation. The Chinese translations are provided as a matter of convenience. In the event of a conflict, all English Terms and Conditions and lot descriptions take precedence and are binding.

Bidding in this auction sale constitutes unconditional acceptance by the Bidder of the foregoing terms of sale.

Please note: Transparent holders in which the auction lots are stored are to facilitate viewing and inspection of the lots and ARE NOT for long-term storage.

PCGS and NGC numbers provided are for bidder convenience only, we do not guarantee their accuracy. An incorrect PCGS or NGC number is not grounds to return a lot.

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