

**AUCTION RESULTS\***

**JOHN J. FORD, JR. COLLECTION**

**COINS, MEDALS AND CURRENCY**

**Part II**



**NUMISMATIC AMERICAN HISTORY**

**Early American Coins and Tokens:**

**Higley Coppers, Maryland and New York Coinages**

**Immune, Immunis and Confederatio Issues**

**Carolina and Rhode Island Tokens**

**U. S. Territorial Gold Coins and Assay Ingots**

**MAY 11, 2004**

*Stack's*

123 West 57th Street • New York, NY

**PUBLIC AUCTION SALE**

LOT #	PRICE	LOT #	PRICE	LOT #	PRICE	LOT #	PRICE
1	1700.00	60	31000.00	119	1500.00	178	3000.00
2	350.00	61	18000.00	120	550.00	179	2500.00
3	1000.00	62	1400.00	121	525.00	180	2000.00
4	4250.00	63	1000.00	122	475.00	181	2200.00
5	225.00	64	22000.00	123	1400.00	182	5000.00
6	500.00	65	9500.00	124	525.00	183	6000.00
7	1700.00	66	4000.00	125	425.00	184	19000.00
8	1600.00	67	32500.00	126	425.00	185	15000.00
9	275.00	68	18000.00	127	1900.00	186	16000.00
10	250.00	69	9000.00	128	775.00	187	13000.00
11	275.00	70	2750.00	129	450.00	188	5000.00
12	250.00	71	3000.00	130	10000.00	189	2300.00
13	5500.00	72	1800.00	131	1400.00	190	240000.00
14	5800.00	73	1400.00	132	1900.00	191	7500.00
15	5500.00	74	2100.00	133	1700.00	192	525.00
16	3800.00	75	7000.00	134	1000.00	193	1700.00
17	4800.00	76	1500.00	135	825.00	194	2200.00
18	5750.00	77	1300.00	136	3250.00	195	2200.00
19	2600.00	78	800.00	137	1200.00	196	2800.00
20	800.00	79	800.00	138	2500.00	197	4500.00
21	3600.00	80	750.00	139	1000.00	198	11000.00
22	2100.00	81	1900.00	140	1100.00	199	450.00
23	1600.00	82	11000.00	141	1200.00	200	775.00
24	5100.00	83	650.00	142	725.00	201	600.00
25	28000.00	84	500.00	143	800.00	202	600.00
26	100000.00	85	525.00	144	775.00	203	325.00
27	30000.00	86	450.00	145	650.00	204	375.00
28	210000.00	87	1000.00	146	700.00	205	700.00
29	340000.00	88	775.00	147	5250.00	206	1200.00
30	90000.00	89	525.00	148	1200.00	207	1200.00
31	47500.00	90	450.00	149	2600.00	208	2000.00
32	130000.00	91	850.00	150	900.00	209	425.00
33	21000.00	92	20000.00	151	6250.00	210	15000.00
34	7000.00	93	1000.00	152	130.00	211	3750.00
35	4500.00	94	850.00	153	700.00	212	3250.00
36	2000.00	95	850.00	154	625.00	213	3500.00
37	900.00	96	725.00	155	500.00	214	4250.00
38	700.00	97	2000.00	156	475.00	215	2400.00
39	650.00	98	3250.00	157	350.00	216	575.00
40	1400.00	99	5000.00	158	2200.00	217	11000.00
41	1300.00	100	11000.00	159	3750.00	218	1100.00
42	2700.00	101	700.00	160	2400.00	219	1600.00
43	3200.00	102	525.00	161	2600.00	220	275.00
44	7250.00	103	500.00	162	6750.00	221	1100.00
45	35000.00	104	500.00	163	6750.00	222	375.00
46	525.00	105	650.00	164	4750.00	223	475.00
47	3800.00	106	600.00	165	30000.00	224	4000.00
48	8000.00	107	500.00	166	11000.00	225	3500.00
49	37500.00	108	12000.00	167	12000.00	226	3500.00
50	5000.00	109	15000.00	168	30000.00	227	2800.00
51	3100.00	110	650.00	169	22000.00	228	3750.00
52	3100.00	111	725.00	170	16000.00	229	2000.00
53	5250.00	112	13000.00	171	28000.00	230	1600.00
54	2200.00	113	8500.00	172	15000.00	231	1200.00
55	525.00	114	850.00	173	4250.00	232	2400.00
56	7000.00	115	1600.00	174	3000.00	233	2500.00
57	575.00	116	1100.00	175	3750.00	234	1500.00
58	2200.00	117	1500.00	176	1600.00	235	5250.00
59	2600.00	118	950.00	177	3000.00	236	3500.00

LOT #	PRICE	LOT #	PRICE	LOT #	PRICE
237	2300.00	296	19000.00	355	650.00
238	2000.00	297	1600.00	356	525.00
239	1000.00	298	21000.00	357	500.00
240	1000.00	299	5500.00	358	500.00
241	4250.00	300	2500.00	359	500.00
242	100.00	301	10500.00	360	3250.00
243	110.00	302	4000.00	361	200000.00
244	110.00	303	4750.00	362	375000.00
245	300.00	304	1700.00	363	250000.00
246	100.00	305	1600.00	364	9500.00
247	200.00	306	1100.00	365	26000.00
248	2400.00	307	15000.00	366	30000.00
249	2200.00	308	22000.00	367	15000.00
250	2000.00	309	35000.00	368	7000.00
251	1400.00	310	30000.00	369	85000.00
252	42000.00	311	22000.00	370	53000.00
253	5000.00	312	55000.00	371	70000.00
254	24000.00	313	85000.00	372	40000.00
255	16000.00	314	2600.00	373	70000.00
256	1400.00	315	2200.00		
257	1300.00	316	3250.00		
258	6000.00	317	2200.00		
259	2600.00	318	1600.00		
260	3600.00	319	1400.00		
261	95000.00	320	1550.00		
262	18000.00	321	1000.00		
263	14000.00	322	1500.00		
264	11000.00	323	1000.00		
265	7000.00	324	1600.00		
266	3400.00	325	2400.00		
267	60000.00	326	6500.00		
268	32000.00	327	18000.00		
269	32000.00	328	11000.00		
270	190000.00	329	7500.00		
271	32000.00	330	4000.00		
272	85000.00	331	4750.00		
273	30000.00	332	3250.00		
274	210000.00	333	2800.00		
275	12000.00	334	4000.00		
276	27500.00	335	2200.00		
277	15000.00	336	2200.00		
278	17000.00	337	2200.00		
279	20000.00	338	2100.00		
280	16000.00	339	1500.00		
281	150000.00	340	1500.00		
282	75000.00	341	1300.00		
283	30000.00	342	1000.00		
284	55000.00	343	1000.00		
285	26000.00	344	35000.00		
286	26000.00	345	2100.00		
287	55000.00	346	3250.00		
288	5250.00	347	5500.00		
289	52500.00	348	1000.00		
290	13000.00	349	1100.00		
291	13500.00	350	1400.00		
292	3250.00	351	2600.00		
293	32500.00	352	500.00		
294	190000.00	353	500.00		
295	20000.00	354	500.00		

**Stack's suggests that you employ not only prices realized but also other readily available sources of information in establishing numismatic market value.**

**\*These prices represent the last price called by the auctioneer (the "hammer price") and do not include the 15% Buyer's Fee.**



**STACK'S  
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PUBLIC AUCTION SALE

*FRONT COVER*

*The flag illustrated is the "Powell Standard,"  
National Standard of the Philadelphia Light Horse  
(First City Troop), circa 1797. Image courtesy  
of "The Museum of the First Troop,  
Philadelphia City Cavalry."*

**PUBLIC AUCTION SALE**

**JOHN J. FORD, Jr. COLLECTION**

**COINS, MEDALS AND CURRENCY**

**Part II**

**MAY 11, 2004**

**Tuesday Evening, May 11, 2004**

**6:30 P.M. Sharp**

**Lots 1-373**

***Lot Viewing***

April 26 - April 30, 2004-By Appointment Only.

May 3, 2004	10:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.	May 7, 2004	10:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.
May 4, 2004	10:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.	May 10, 2004	10:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.
May 5, 2004	10:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.	May 11, 2004	10:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.
May 6, 2004	10:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.		

Lots will be available for viewing at the above times at our offices at  
123 West 57th Street, N.Y. Positively no lots will be shown at Le Parker Meridien Hotel.

***Public Auction Sale***

This Public Auction Sale will be held in the Tansa Room (3rd floor) of  
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David T. Alexander

Scott Mitchell

Vicken Vegparian

NUMISMATIC CONSULTANT

Michael Hodder

NUMISMATIC PRODUCTION AND GRAPHICS

Jan Eric Blamberg

## JOHN J. FORD, Jr.

### My Fellow Numismatist, Teacher and Friend

by

Harry J. Forman

I could write a book about my fellow numismatist, John Ford. He was the best teacher I ever had, the person who taught me more than anyone else about the intriguing world of rare coins. For nearly fifty years, I have been associated with John, one of the smartest numismatists of all time.



The first time I met John Ford was at a coin show in New York City in 1956. I had five packs - 100 in each - of brand new Hawaiian \$1 bills, bills that were issued in 1943 in case the West Coast fell to the Japanese. They were known as Hawaiian notes, and today each note would sell for about \$125 each. I paid \$1.10 for each note, and I was looking to get \$1.25 for each.

I don't mind admitting that in 1956, I was just beginning. I was not well known. I had a fruit stand in Philadelphia at 11th and Market Streets, but I had started playing around with coins about two years earlier, in 1954. The cashier at a nearby drug store knew that I played with coins, and he sold me the Hawaiian notes. I had to go to New York anyway, so I decided to take them with me and try to sell them.

At this particular coin show, there must have been 50 or 60 dealers, all with tables and display cases. And there is Mr. Ford - wearing a cowboy shirt and leather boots that must have been custom made. He was a big dealer, a partner in New Netherlands Coin Company, which at the time was one of the biggest coin facilities in New York City. I walked up to Mr. Ford and said, "Look, would you be interested in buying 100 \$1 Hawaiian notes?" And he looked at me and said, "I don't handle that garbage. Come back when you have some good coins."

I felt terrible. I felt put down. These Hawaiian notes weren't common. I knew they were worth something, so I walked around to the other dealers, sold all 500 notes, and tried to forget about John Ford.

But, of course, I couldn't. I never forgot what he said, "Come back when you have some good coins." I was 35 years old at the time, struggling to be a coin dealer. It wasn't long before I had a mentor by the name of Charles Dochkus. He took a liking to me. Every night, when I finished selling fruit, I went to Charlie's home and he would sell me coins and I would make money selling them to someone else. Charlie was a "vest pocket dealer" - he didn't go to coin shows, he didn't advertise, but he had connections. He could come up with the rarest coins and he was perfect. I would make \$50 selling fruit in a day, and I would go see Charlie that night and buy \$50 worth of coins. And then sell them for \$100.

Well, one day, I noticed this coin, just sitting there on Charlie's marble table. It looked exactly like a Chalmers ring shilling, and if it was real, I knew that this coin was extremely rare. "Charlie, is this genuine?" And he said, "You should know better than that! I wouldn't handle anything that wasn't genuine. I will sell it to you and give you double it if isn't genuine!" Knowing that Charlie was a man of his word, I bought the coin from him for \$650 - with the proviso that I could get back double my money if it wasn't real. I took the coin, and showed it to Walter Breen, a brilliant numismatist who worked for New Netherlands. He pronounced it genuine.

It had been almost a year since I had seen John Ford, but I knew that this coin was the one I had been waiting to show him. Within a few days, I traveled to New York and went straight to the New Netherlands Coin Company. Ford recognized me immediately. "Oh, the Hawaiian man," he said, when I walked in. I was shocked that he remembered me, because I had yet to realize that Ford had the most uncanny memory of any one in coins. But I only said one thing back to him.

Forman: "You told me to come back when I had a rare coin." I put the Chalmers on the table.

Ford: "Where did you get this?"

Forman: "Mr. Ford, does Wanamaker tell Gimbels?"

Ford: "Harry, there are only three of these known and they are all in museums."

Forman: "Well, now there are four known, and I didn't steal this coin from a museum."

Ford: "What's the price?"

Forman: "\$1,000."

Unbeknownst to me, Ford knew the pedigree of the coin, that it was from the Brock collection once housed in the University of Pennsylvania. Brock had given this coin collection to the University in 1892, with the proviso that it could not be sold until 1952. In 1952, the university sold the collection to a very big dealer from Fort Worth, Texas, called B. Max Mehl. When Ford got wind of the sale to Mehl, he went to Texas and bought quite a bit of stuff. But when he inquired about the Chalmers ring shilling and other coins, Mehl said he didn't get them.

To make a long story short, Ford figured out that I got the coin from someone who knew the broker of the collection, because he knew that I had to have a contact who could get some of these rarities. I sold John Ford the Chalmers for \$1,000. And today, the first coin I sold to Ford would, at auction, probably bring in a quarter to a half million dollars.

From that moment on, John Ford and I had a working relationship. Additionally, I also sold Ford a Pitt Token, a Baltimore Cent (the finest known), a Libertas Americana Silver Medal (made to order for Benjamin Franklin), an 1852 Proof Half-Cent with large berries (only four known) - plus many other rarities that Ford asked me to acquire for him. I would offer him these rare coins, and he didn't quibble with the price. He would give me an order - "I want you to buy this particular coin for me" - and I would go out and buy this particular coin for him. Clearly, I was no longer the "Hawaiian man." And we haven't even gotten yet to the point that Ford sold me coins! Many of those stories are quite legendary, too.

In my opinion, John Ford is the most knowledgeable numismatists who ever lived. He knows more about United States coins, paper money and metals, even Western coins, than any one individual has ever known. I often tell people that I'll put Ford up against any expert in the field, and I'll put my money on Ford. He is actually a genius.

[Forman is author of *How You Can Make Big Profits Investing in Coins* and its sequel, *You Can Keep on Making Big Profits Investing in Coins*. In 2000, he was named "Numismatist of the Year" by the American Numismatic Association. He and his partner, Ruth Bauer, run Forman & Bauer, Inc. in Philadelphia.]



Lot No. 49

# PUBLIC AUCTION SALE

## FIRST SESSION

TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 11, 2004

6:30 P.M. SHARP

LOTS 1 - 373

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

*In accordance with the terms of sale, each successful bidder also agrees to pay a buyer's charge of fifteen percent (15%) of the winning bid recognized by the auctioneer.*

## THE JOHN J. FORD, Jr. COLLECTION

### PART 2

## WASHINGTON COINS, MEDALS AND TOKENS

Stack's is extremely honored to present the John J. Ford, Jr. Collection of Washingtonia: coins, medals, and tokens. It is entirely safe to say that there has never been such an offering presented for public auction competition in numismatic history. It surpasses such landmarks as the Bushnell and Garrett collections and outshines all the other offerings which, by comparison, seem lackluster.

Mr. Ford enjoyed the benefits of taste, knowledge, and connection. He drew the best from F.C.C. Boyd's and Wayte Raymond's collections and they, in their turn, had purchased what they wanted from Newcomer, Colonel Green, Virgil Brand, and others. What he did not find in Boyd or Raymond, Mr. Ford purchased competitively or through private treaty. He knew his Washingtonia better than most other men know their families and he profited from his intimacy. His Washington Before Boston medals include pieces bought in Paris (where else to find new specimens?) from dealers unfamiliar with American market values at prices that seem attractive even then. Through his friendship with Art Kagin he obtained material from the Paul Magriel Collection that supplemented his own by then world class collection and that pushed it to the head of its class. Purchases in the Garrett sale rounded out his holdings with patterns that had been off the market for a century.

Mr. Ford confined his principal collection to pieces made before the Civil War. That is what is catalogued below. The rest of his collection, largely ex Boyd, included pieces struck from the late 1850's on (with some important earlier pieces). Part of this he sold to the late Jack Collins, who lovingly catalogued it for fixed price sale in 1991. The larger part of the Boyd-Ford Collection was sold to a Long Island collector who offered it for sale about a decade ago. It was bought by Q. David Bowers and was offered for sale in subsequent issues of the *Rare Coin Review*. It was later sold privately to well known dealers in medals and tokens.

The cataloguer will not mention particular highlights of Mr. Ford's collection, except to point out that the specimens of issues of 1791-1792 are the most comprehensive ever seen at auction. There are duplicate Eccleston medals and multiple offerings of funeral urn medals, offered as they were collected, in differing grades or from different die pairs. The cataloguer has tried to keep his own asides to a minimum, preferring, as he did in Ford I, to let Mr. Ford speak for himself in the catalogue. To that end, readers will find essays by Mr. Ford on the patterns of 1792, the Getz pieces of the same date, and the Washington Before Boston Medal. The importance of the 1791-92 issues is emphasized by a series of articles written by the late Walter Breen and that of the Washington Before Boston Medal by George Fuld's classic study of the series. Both of these works have been enriched by the fruits of later research but neither has been entirely supplanted and readers will benefit from both.

The order of sale does not strictly follow Baker's numbering system. The cataloguer has moved the 1791 Liverpool and 1793 Ship halfpennies to follow the 1792 Getz half dollars. Neither of these were pattern proposals for a federal contract coinage and moving them restores the integrity of the 1791 and 1792 issues that were. The counterstamped pieces have also been grouped together, where they may be more conveniently found by those who collect them. In other cases, the Baker sequence has been retained.



Lot No. 1

Lot No. 2

- 1 **1783 Unity States Cent. Baker 1.** Copper. Plain edge. 114.7 gns. **Brilliant Uncirculated.** Very granular on both sides, with much stronger striations visible on the front and back than usually seen on this issue. The obverse is a light iridescent rose and blue while the reverse is a combination of iridescent yellow, purple, rose, and blue-green. As with nearly all Unity States Cents, this piece exhibits the enigmatic, strong parallel striations visible at the peripheries of both obverse and reverse.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

- 2 **1783 Unity States Cent. B.1.** Copper. Plain edge. 117.6 gns. Extremely Fine. A second. This piece is light olive brown on both sides. Somewhat softly struck around the obverse periphery, as usual, but the striations on this specimen are not as pronounced as on the preceding piece. Small reverse rim tic at 8:00.

*Ex F.S. Werner on July 9, 1976.*

**CURIOUS WASHINGTON BADGE DATED 1783**



Lot No. 3

- 3 **B-unlisted.** Silver. Plain edge. 21.2 mm. 120.1 gns. About Uncirculated. Looped. Classical style bust of Washington right within double banded border. Reverse engraved neatly 1783 WASHINGTON & INDEPENDANCE (French spelling). Struck on a single, round piece of silver, the obverse lightly golden yellow in color, the reverse more coin silver in shade. Some flaws on the back, mostly minor, one underlying W in WASHINGTON. Obverse rim flaw at 9:00, as made. Past owner T. Carlin told the Chapmans he bought the piece in 1873 and wore it as a charm on his watch chain.

*Ex T.F. Carlin Collection (S.H. & H. Chapman, November 27, 1891, lot 808); F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

**BROAD STRUCK DRAPED BUST CENT**



Lot No. 4

- 4 **1783 Draped Bust Cent. No Button. B.2.** Copper. Plain edge. 114.5 gns. **Choice Uncirculated.** Broad struck on a remarkable 30.0 x 30.8 mm. (vertical by horizontal) flan and the first such we have seen, clearly uncollared. There is considerable extra metal lying beyond the beaded border on the obverse. The surfaces are bright, smooth, and somewhat glossy in appearance. There are tantalizing hints of very faded mint color in the protected areas, principally in the wreath on Washington's head. A remarkable example and apparently unrecorded in the literature.

*Ex Fred Baldwin on June 6, 1967.*



Lot No. 5

- 5 **1783 Draped Bust Cent. With Button. B.2.** Copper. Plain edge. 108.9 gns. Very Fine. Mottled olive and brown in color, the centers soft, as struck. Some very faint striations can be seen on the obverse.

*Ex F.S. Werner on July 9, 1976.*



Lot No. 6

- 6 **1783 Draped Bust Cent. With Button. B.2.** Copper. Plain edge. 112.7 gns. Very Fine. A third. This example is toned a very dark brown, particularly on the reverse.

*Ex Lyman Low's 149th sale (April 29, 1910), lot 526; Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

**VERY RARE LARGE HEAD CENT**



Lot No. 7

- 7 **1783 Draped Bust Cent. Large Head. B.2B.** Copper. Plain edge. 129.0 gns. **Choice Brilliant Proof.** Both the obverse and reverse are toned in a very pale golden brown shade. The strike is sharp, particularly in the centers. There is a small area of toning on the branch in Liberty's hand on the reverse. **Very rare**, the cataloguer knows of three to five specimens. Struck from the broken state of the obverse, with a break running along the rim at the base and engaging the bottoms of the last two date numerals.

*Ex Virgil M. Brand Collection with B.G. Johnson's envelope accompanying the lot.*



Lot No. 8

- 8 **1783 Draped Bust Cent. B.3.** Copper, bronzed. Center grained edge. 146.8 gns. **Gem Brilliant Proof.** A nice example of the W.S. Lincoln restrike ca. 1850-60, toned in a rich, appealing shade of mahogany. The fields are still quite reflective.

*Ex Wayte Raymond Estate on October 22, 1961.*



Lot No. 9

- 9 **1783 Large Military Bust. B.4.** Copper. Plain edge. 113.9 gns. Extremely Fine. Pale brown in most places with some tantalizing suggestions that the piece might once have been silvered. Fairly decent central sharpness for the grade.

*Ex F.S. Werner on July 9, 1976.*



Lot No. 10

- 10 **1783 Large Military Bust. B.4.** Copper. Plain edge. 108.3 gns. Very Fine. Both the obverse and reverse are toned in pale steel gray and brown. Fairly decent central sharpness for the grade.

*Ex F.S. Werner on July 9, 1976.*



Lot No. 11

- 11 **Undated Double Headed Cent. B.6.** Copper. Plain edge. 124.2 gns. Very Fine. Medium brown in color on both sides. Several fairly serious obverse scrapes.

*Ex F.S. Werner on July 9, 1976.*



Lot No. 12

- 12 **1789 Robinson's Fantasy Washington Cent. B.14.** Copper. 30.5 mm. Gem Brilliant Proof, red and brown.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

## THE COINAGE PATTERNS AND PROPOSALS OF 1791-1792

### Featuring Washington's Portrait and Other Federal Types

by

Walter Henry Breen

Given the extreme importance of the 1791 patterns in the Ford Collection and the unparalleled opportunity they present for understanding the series, we felt it advisable to reprint selections from a seminal study of the coinage written by Walter Breen. First published by *Numismatic News* (or *Numismatic News Weekly* as it then was titled and adapted here with their kind permission), the study appeared as a series of six installments beginning on October 23, 1973 and ending with the issue of December 3 of that year. The first included the historical and analytical portion of the study and this is what is reprinted here. It is vintage Breen, enthusiastic and certain, but is also the best we still have on the series. Other installments included an annotated listing of 1791 issues, much of which will be familiar to students of Washingtonia as it appeared, redacted, 15 years later in Breen's *Encyclopedia* (1988). The article is adapted with the kind permission of *Numismatic News*.

Ever since the original article appeared in *Historical Magazine* for September 1861, there has been controversy as to the status of the "original Washington cents of 1791." Appearing on pages 277 to 278, the article, prepared by an anonymous writer, includes reminiscences by Jonas R. McClintock, Philadelphia Mint melter and refiner, and Adam Eckfeldt, under whose direction the coins were struck.

For many years, because of that magazine article, large and small eagle cents were among the most prized memorabilia of Washington, though far from rare. The "original" cents were struck in John Harper's cellar, at 6th and Cherry Sts., two blocks from the Philadelphia Mint. Auctions 100 years ago elicited bids for choice examples equivalent in purchasing power to \$100 and more today. Invariably, reference was made to the "original cents of 1791," evidently in allusion to the *Historical Magazine* article.

Now that several hitherto unknown or unpublished pieces associated with the coins have been uncovered, and will be discussed herewith, I can offer what appears to be an almost complete story behind John Gregory Hancock coins and quasi-coins that portray Washington.

The story begins appropriately with a mystery, a disappearing work of art. In this instance it is the first portrait sketch of Gen. Washington made in this country for production of engraving copies. Swiss artist Pierre Eugene Du Simitiere, who settled in Philadelphia in 1766, observed Washington close enough to make a quick drawing. It was not a good likeness, but the general probably had not sat for the picture, wherever it was executed.

Until that time there had been no known authentic Washington portraits in Europe and no good ones in America. No engraved copies were available of the Charles Willson Peale portrait of Washington, completed in 1772. The Houdon head, from a life mask, was not to be made until 1785, and Gilbert Stuart's, Trumbull's, Joseph Wright's, Edward Savage's and Robert Pine's portraits were not yet even contemplated.

In Europe, liberals of all kinds had been following the career of George Washington and his strategies in the War of Independence. French philosopher Voltaire already had gone so far as to hire a local hack to engrave dies and strike examples of the medal to honor Washington. A Parisian engraver in 1778 made a fictitious Washington profile, said to resemble Jeremy Bentham, British political-economic philosopher, and added the general's name and titles. On the reverse was an unpublished couplet by Voltaire. Apparently it was well known that this earliest of all Washington medals bore a spurious portrait, as no one seems to have copied it.

However, Du Simitiere's sketch was sent to Europe and engraved copies appeared in Madrid in 1781 and Paris and London in 1783. This engraving was the prototype for coins, quasi-coins and tokens made through the mid-1790's by many Birmingham (England) engravers. In addition, it was used for the historic 1792 Washington half dollars by Peter Getz, struck in December, 1791, under Adam Eckfeldt's supervision—100 or so impressions of cent weight in copper being the "original Washington cents of 1791". These were the ones referred to in the magazine article.

During that period, so far as British and Continental liberals were concerned, engravings made from Du Simitiere's sketch constituted the only authentic portrait of Washington. Many copies of the engravings still exist, although the original sketch has long since disappeared. Its location was unknown even when W.S. Baker prepared his books, "Medallic Portraits of Washington" and "Engraved Portraits of Washington" in the 1880's.

Though the far superior Joseph Wright engraved portrait had been completed in 1790 and published in Massachusetts Magazine for March, 1791, apparently either no copies were available in Birmingham, England, or, as equally likely, local diesinkers were employed to make the Du Simitiere engravings. Accordingly, the next chapter begins in Birmingham, among whose token makers nothing remained secret for long. This was especially true of the Boulton & Watt establishment-Albion Mills, later Soho Mint-whose activities were quickest to become the topic of rumors.

From 1789 on rumors were rife of correspondence and conferences between officials of the American government and Boulton & Watt on a coveted coinage contract. Everyone knew of the Jefferson and Morris proposals for coinage and that one of the Morrises had come to Birmingham in 1783 and left after giving the Wyons an immense order for coppers. These were the Nova Constellatio series of 1783-85, common even today after a mintage in excess of 40 tons—more than five million pieces and largest output of any colonial coppers.

Some at least must have known of the conference between Robert Morris and the Wyons in 1785 that led to issuance of rare patterns, "Decads," inscribed "Inimica Tyrannis Americana Confederatio." This was followed in 1786 by the departure for American shores of Wyon's pupil, Walter Mould, with two sets of "irons" (punches) and a group of dies of more or less American character. But of Mould's plans nothing further was heard. It is unlikely that news had been received of the failure of Matthias Ogden's proposal for federal contract coinage in March 1787, using facilities of the New Jersey mints with either Walter Mould or Albion Cox in charge.

Accordingly, sometime late in 1790 or 1791, John Gregory Hancock, Sr., working at the Obadiah Westwood token factory, started an ambitious project for federal contract coinage. He knew if he was to receive an order, many pairs of dies would be needed. Accordingly, device punches, or hubs, would be necessary instead of the usual one or two individually prepared pairs of dies that had been ample for small orders.

Simple was the answer as to what would be the most appropriate devices: a portrait of the "father of his country" was one. Because the great seal of the United States (1782) showed an eagle, some version of the national bird was an obvious choice for the reverse. At least two arrangements of legends, dates and styles of eagles would be appropriate, it was thought, as officials to whom sample coins would be submitted undoubtedly would want to make a choice.

As usual, the operation could be financed partially by manufacture of special mulings and atypical pieces-odd edges and the like-for local collectors and London coin dealers. Blanks were no problem; there were many left over from the recent Macclesfield halfpenny orders, and plain edge blanks could be given a suitable American edge, say, "United States of America," with or without ornamentation. (I have seen a single blank planchet from the 1791 issue of the 196 grain standard. Its edge is lettered with "United States of America" with only one cross, which proves it was intended for large and small eagle cents, not the 1792 experiments. The planchet is in a private collection in New York).

It would take at most a few week's worth to produce a pair of Castaing edge bars and process a few thousand plain edge stock blanks. Concerning weight, much fuss had been made in American newspapers about lightweight Birmingham base halfpence. So, to be on the safe side, it was decided to try a standard rather than heavier British legal measure-46 to the pound avoirdupois-say between 35 and 36 to the pound, or 4,000 pieces per hundredweight (196 grains each). This was lighter than the 264 grain standard for copper cents suggested in Alexander Hamilton's report of February, 1791. However, no contract coiner would have taken seriously such a preposterously heavy weight-not even Boulton could turn a decent profit at that level.

Accordingly, Hancock made the device punches and produced a few trial pieces, some uniface and others from working dies in various stages of completion. Many years later several of these found their way into American numismatic circles through Hancock's widow. These items qualify as genuine trial pieces, not fancy productions for collectors.

For collectors and dealers, Hancock produced a lagniappe-after executing dies intended for American authorities-in the famous Liverpool penny and 1792 mules; there are unpublished varieties here, too. It is a testimony to Hancock's honesty in this venture that he made no attempt of this kind until the original speculative issue of large and small eagle cents had been completed and shipped to America.

We now can give details of the issue of these coins, which establishes satisfactorily origin, purpose and approximate amount of mintage-plus the reason for their reputation as the "original Washington cents of 1791."

In the October, 1962 "Seaby's Coin and Medal Bulletin", Robert W. Julian published letters by Thomas Digges, an American who during the 1790's conducted an export business in England, that provide the key to the "Washington cents" question. I quote from Digges' letter of March 10, 1973, to Thomas Jefferson:

"But as indeed not to do so (i.e. notify you) from having accidentally seen a Birmingham production of one of the American cents, the intended coin of America & the 1/100th part of a Dollar (would be wrong, I write you now). Knowing it had been determined in Congress to have all their money minted in the States (Resolution of Congress, March 3, 1791), I made it my business to seek out and inform myself all I could about this Cent coinage here and of the Artists and Merchts engaged about them.

I first apply'd to Messrs. W. & Alexr Walker (who have a partner Mr. Thos. Ketland in Phila), and they showed me the specimens sent herewith & afterwards gave them to me. They said it was merely a speculation or trial to obtain the orders for making the intended Cents here which induced them to the attempt in 1791 and that some hundred wt. or so had been sent to America and given to the President and other public gentn; But that on the determination of Congress to mint their own money, their scheme here had fallen thro.

They were close and secret as to who the diesinker was, where coined & but upon further inquiry I found Messrs. Walker had ordered them to be done at Mr. Obediah Westwood's (a considerable maker of those kinds of money), and that his die sinker Mr. Jno Gregory Hancock (one of the first in this place tho' with Character of a dissipated man) and a prentice lad Jno Jordan very clever in that line, had executed them, & still held the dies.

This lad Jordan has two years of his time (to serve) wishes much to go to America, but I suppose his time would be worth 200 (pounds). The face likeness on both are the same die (portrait punch) and a good likeness of the President, tho the Eagles and motto are different-The likeness was taken from a large medal struck at Phila."

Digges' letter of April 6, 1792, to Thomas Pinckney, then American minister in London, alludes to three types of Washington coins by Hancock. The third must have been one of the 1792 pieces, not the Liverpool muling-because that was not made until 1793 or 1794-or the ship halfpenny of 1793. Because it was said to show much the same portrait as the 1791 coins, it must not have been the "Roman head" but a variety of the Washington eagle cent of 1792. When this was made, the Philadelphia Mint was under construction. Thus it was far more a small scale speculative issue than a true pattern for contract coinage.

I have examined and weighed many large and small eagle cents. Weights on both types so closely approach 196 grams as to make it certain this was the intended heft. A "hundredweight" is not 100 but 112 pounds avoirdupois. At the rate of 196 grains per coin, there would be 4,000 pieces per hundredweight-a neat, round number to fit into a small cask. Thus it is safe to say approximately 4,000 pieces were shipped to Philadelphia by Westwood's firm on behalf of W. & Alexander of Birmingham, probably to Thomas Ketland, a partner, for presentation to Gen. Washington and every other person possible in government.

Each presentation would be accompanied by an outright sales pitch, "Here is what I can do for you; good weight, pure copper, protected edge, excellent quality of engraving-and our rates are lower than Boulton's." Of these 4,000 pieces, it is probable that slightly more than half were large eagle cents, the rest small eagle. In addition, a few Proofs were in presentation cases, though none are known to exist although one appeared in an 1865 auction.

A pair found their way to Adam Eckfeldt, who kept them side by side with other treasured specimens, including Peter Getz pattern half dollars and early issues of cents, disme and half disme, made by mint workmen in summer and fall, 1792. These now all are at the Smithsonian Institution. Judging from pieces unearthed in England, Westwood must have retained some 2,000 for local collectors or made extras in 1792-93.

As indicated by trial pieces, Hancock must have prepared the raised device punches and supervised the sinking of working dies from them. John Jordan's part would have consisted principally of punching legends and dates into the working dies. The bungled "Roman head" fantasy die legend with "President" betrays the work of an apprentice.

It was apparent after 1792 that no Birmingham contract coiner, not even Boulton, would receive an order from the United States government. Yet it was necessary to finance the abortive enterprise of 1791. Westwood thus was forced to depend on two other sources-circulation of tokens of half-penny (or cent) size in the states and numismatists; the former would be at a time when the Philadelphia Mint's production was still too small to drive other copper from people's pockets.

For the half penny circulation, Westwood asked Hancock to repolish one of the 1791 Washington obverses and mule it with a stock die not elsewhere in use to produce the 1793 ship halfpenny. For collectors he could depend on several procedures—sell the overstock of large and small eagle cents of 1791; make some in other metals or with atypical edges; produce similar varieties of the ship halfpenny; manufacture mulings with one or the other of the Washington dies; make a new fantasy issue. All these were tried, though to a lesser extent than that of Lutwyche or other unscrupulous brummagem issuers.

Thus the small eagle cent is to be found in brass with Macclesfield edge; large eagle cent on smaller, thin flans with smaller edged letters, with plain edges and allegedly in gold; the ship half penny of 1793 with a plain edge (instead of the normal “Payable in Anglesey London or Liverpool” edge) and in brass; the reverse of the large eagle cent muled with a Georgius III die, and the obverse of the large eagle cent muled with a Liverpool Halfpenny die of 1792-93. Then there are the 1792 cents of similar types in copper, silver and gold.

All these were very limited issues and probably sold for from a few shillings to several pounds sterling each, except for the gold pieces of 1791 and 1792, handled quietly through London agents. In the meantime, Westwood, with a bit of spiteful satire, directed Hancock to make dies for a fantasy Washington cent that showed the general as a dissolute Roman emperor. Obviously no Voltaire medal with fantasy profile was made because of lack of an authentic portrait engraving, it was dated 1792 and evidently followed issue of large and small eagle cents. The reference would have been apparent to any English collector abreast of events. On one hand, Washington was compared to Cincinnatus with dictatorial powers lost when he resigned his commission as commander in chief of the Continental Armies in 1783 and later refused a crown. On the other hand, it unquestionably was Washington’s having seen the large and small eagle cents of 1791 that influenced his decision to reject all proposals to place his portrait on coinage as too suggestive of monarchy. It evidently was a sensitive point with President Washington.

Robert Morris’ mint Bill, introduced into Congress Dec. 21, 1791, just about the time he had financed the Peter Getz pattern half dollars and coppers (cents) in Philadelphia, met with great opposition. This resistance was not based on lack of utility of coppers—Thomas Paine’s suggestions, published in the “National Gazette” for Nov. 17, 1791, already being sufficiently familiar to congressmen to overcome objections on that score—but solely on the basis of Section 10, which called for coins to bear a profile of the president.

Birmingham coppers already experienced a poor reputation in government circles because of numerous newspaper reports of lightweight halfpence and anonymous coppers being shipped from that city on every packetboat. Congressional opposition must have been based on these events, and it is unfortunate that Peter Getz chose to copy the general portrait and style of the small eagle cent for his own half dollar dies (as depicted).

It cannot be ascertained whether Washington’s indignation at seeing his portrait on sample coins was directed at the Peter Getz half dollars or the large and small eagle cents of 1791. When Snowden (“Washington and National Medals”, 1861) reported the famous old story, he, like everyone else, was influenced by confusion between the Birmingham “original Washington cents” of 1791 and Philadelphia counterparts dated 1792 but made in December, 1791. The confusion was compounded because coins Eckfeldt had given to the Mint Cabinet Collection in 1838 included both types, which made it impossible to separate the genuine pieces.

It cannot be assumed that Westwood read of congressional sneers at the proposal, which included explicit comparison of a presidential portrait on coins with Roman and provincial coins that bore dissolute likenesses of Nero, Caligula and Heliogabalus. It is likely that W. & A. Walker’s agent in Philadelphia, Thomas Ketland, had seen newspaper reports on congressional debates of late March, 1792, and gleefully written about them to the Walkers in Birmingham—from which source Westwood may have heard them, too.

Here, then, is the most probable origin of the strange project of issuing a fantasy Washington cent that portrayed him as a Roman emperor. It was a neat, unobvious piece of revenge against Washington for sabotaging for all time any chance of Birmingham coiners to obtain an American contract. However, for what appeared good reasons, few of the Roman head cents were made, they being strictly a caviar item. Washington was too popular with the average collector and dealer in England for such a satirical blast to find much acceptance.

Had President Washington seen one of the coins, the result probably would have been an “international incident”. He was never one to be known for a sense of humor, especially involving jokes at his own expense. Washington was far too imbued with a sense of dignity and responsibility for the affairs of the state to be any other way. And so Westwood’s revenge remained a secret among Birmingham coiners, a barb all the more painful because of its exquisite workmanship.

THE 1791 LARGE AND SMALL EAGLE DIE TRIALS

The Most Comprehensive Offering Ever Sold

1791 LARGE EAGLE DIE TRIAL

From the Unfinished Reverse Die



Lot No. 13

- 13 **1791 Large Eagle Die Trial. B.15H, Breen 1213, Fuld WA.1791.P3.** Uniface. Reverse. Copper. Plain edge. 27.2 mm. Rims 1.8 - 2.1 mm. thick. 161.9 gns. **Essentially as struck.** Both sides are light brown in color. The surfaces show original die engraver's lines in the areas between the wings, legs, tail, and head. A very early state of the unfinished Large Eagle Cent die, lacking the denomination ONE CENT at the top, the scroll on which UNUM E PLURIBUS would be featured (and those letters, incuse, blundered, here), the branch and arrow bundle in the eagle's talons. In addition, there is no outer border around the shield. A pronounced center dot can be seen in the middle of the shield. The unstruck side shows a very bold beveled rim and a curious raised central device, slightly off center, which resembles a Japanese crest. **Probably unique:** the only example known to the cataloguer with nary a rumor of another in the two decades since it was last sold.

*Ex Garrett Collection (Bowers & Ruddy, March 25, 1981, lot 1703); earlier, ex James W. Ellsworth Collection.*

1791 LARGE EAGLE DIE TRIAL

From the Adopted Reverse Die



Lot No. 14

- 14 **1791 Large Eagle Die Trial. B.15F, Breen 1215, Fuld WA.1791.P2.** Uniface. Reverse. Copper. SHREWSBURY edge. 30.3 mm. Rims 1.0 - 1.6 mm. thick. 167.4 gns. **Gem Uncirculated.** Prooflike. A lovely piece, with rich medium brown color and traces of the palest blue iridescence. All the letters on the scroll in the eagle's beak are fully legible, even at the thinnest portion. Clearly struck from the adopted, working die for the Large Eagle Cent, with closed 'O' in ONE (on the only other specimen known, Garrett:1702, that letter is open). **Extremely rare:** one of only two known, the other with same edge device. The pedigree given in Fuld (1995) is incorrect.

*Ex Art Kagin on November 4, 1981.*

**1791 LARGE EAGLE DIE TRIAL**  
**From the Unadopted Reverse Die**



*Lot No. 15*

- 15 **1791 Large Eagle Die Trial. B.15G, Breen 1214, Fuld WA.1791.P1.** Uniface. Reverse. Copper. BERSHAM, BRADLEY, WILLEY, SNEDSHILL edge. 28.6 mm. Rims 1.7 - 1.9 mm. thick. 190.2 gns. **Essentially as struck.** Very attractive dark brown in color on both sides, the shade uniform. Struck side essentially as made and free from signs of mishandling; unstruck side also as made, and with notations to be described, below. Struck from the unadopted Large Eagle Cent die, without the border outline around the shield. Edge lettering perfectly applied. Scratched on the back are the enigmatic numbers 41474, 45287, 1337, and 25, whose meaning has eluded the best minds in numismatics ever since the piece was first discovered. **Probably unique:** the only example known to the cataloguer with nary a rumor of another in the two decades since it was last sold. Fuld described the piece as "Certainly unique." Same edge device as the B.15E in the ANS.

*Ex Garrett Collection (Bowers & Ruddy, March 25, 1981, lot 1701); earlier, ex engraver John Hancock's widow, Captain Davenport (1830), Jeremiah Colburn, Charles Ira Bushnell Collection (S.H. & H. Chapman, June 20, 1882, lot 1243), W.E. Woodward's 69th sale (October 13, 1884).*

**1791 SMALL EAGLE HUB TRIAL**  
**From the Unfinished Obverse Hub**



*Lot No. 16*

- 16 **1791 Small Eagle Hub Trial. B-unlisted, Breen unlisted, Crosby unlisted, Fuld unlisted. Unpublished.** An obverse hub punch impression similar to Fuld's WA.1791.P8 (for which, see next lot). Uniface. Obverse. Incuse. Copper. BERSHAM, BRADLEY, WILLEY, SNEDSHILL edge. 29.8 mm. Rims 2.1 - 2.4 mm. thick. 188.4 gns. **Essentially as struck.** Brown and olive in color. An incuse hub impression of the unfinished stage of the Washington portrait. Here, facing right, Washington's queue and epaulet are incomplete and there are no buttons on his coat. The planchet is irregular and heavily striated, it was clearly intended for a Snedshill halfpenny token. **Probably unique:** the only example known to the cataloguer.

*Ex A. Heaver on February 4, 1963.*

## 1791 SMALL EAGLE DIE TRIAL

From the Unfinished Obverse Without Legend

The Crosby and 1914 ANS Plate Coin



Lot No. 17

- 17 **1791 Small Eagle Die Trial. B-unlisted, Breen 1211, Crosby Plate X, 4 (this coin), Fuld WA.1791.P8.** Uniface. Obverse. Copper. MACCLESFIELD edge. 29.3 mm. Rims 1.6 - 1.9 mm. thick. 194.4 gns. **Essentially as struck. Probably unique:** the only example known to the cataloguer. **The 1914 ANS Exhibition coin.** Light golden brown. Showing Washington's bust portrait facing left, the queue about finished, the epaulet still not complete and no coat buttons. In addition, the piece lacks its final legend, WASHINGTON PRESIDENT. Struck on a blank for a Macclesfield halfpenny. There is a small nick in the center of Washington's bust. Accompanied by Hillyer Ryder's ticket noting that it was from the John G. Mills sale and further described by Ryder as "Unique. Fine. See Crosby, page 352."

*Ex John G. Mills Collection (S.H. & H. Chapman, April 27, 1904, lot 144), Hillyer Ryder, F.C.C. Boyd; earlier, ex engraver John Hancock's widow, Dr. Charles Clay Collection (W.E. Woodward, December 5, 1871, lot 992), Sylvester S. Crosby Collection (John W. Haseltine, June 27, 1883, lot 299).*

## 1791 SMALL EAGLE DIE TRIAL

From the Unfinished Obverse With Legend



Lot No. 18

- 18 **1791 Small Eagle Die Trial. B.16F, Breen 1221, Fuld WA.1791.P9.** Uniface. Obverse. Copper. PAYABLE AT THE WAREHOUSE OF THOs & ALEXr HUTCHISON edge. 29.2 mm. Rims 1.5 - 2.0 mm. thick. 192.7 gns. **Essentially as struck.** Toned on the obverse in a very pale mahogany shade, somewhat lighter gold on the reverse. There are a few areas of what may be active verdigris on both sides. Struck from the unfinished obverse, similar to the state seen on the piece procured from engraver Hancock's widow, with no buttons on Washington's coat and his queue unfinished. The legend is present, the epaulet is clear, and the letters in WASHINGTON PRESIDENT have been added to the die. Reverse blank, showing several meandering raised lines, the impression from the anvil upon which this piece was struck. Very similar to those that first appeared in Woodward's sale of April 1863, a pair of large and small eagle reverse die trials with edges lettered. Crosby had seen the pieces ex Colburn and Clay, and described them on page 352 of *The Early Coins of America*. **Probably unique:** the only example known to the cataloguer with nary a rumor of another in the two decades since it was last sold.

*Ex Garrett Collection (Bowers & Ruddy, March 25, 1981, lot 1707); earlier, ex engraver John Hancock's widow, Captain Davenport (1830), Jeremiah Colburn, Charles Ira Bushnell Collection (S.H. & H. Chapman, June 20, 1882, lot 1242), W.E. Woodward's 69th sale (October 13, 1884).*

WASHINGTON COINS, MEDALS AND TOKENS



21



25



26



27



28



29



30



44



45



WASHINGTON COINS, MEDALS AND TOKENS



60



61



64



65



67



CHOICE 1791 LARGE EAGLE CENT



Lot No. 19

- 19 **1791 Large Eagle Cent. B.15.** Copper. Normal USA edge. 1.7 mm. thick. 170.3 gns. **Choice Uncirculated**, red and brown. A pretty specimen with ample mint red color on the obverse and lovely, satiny surfaces. A small spot of old discoloration on the obverse is noted. Slightly off-center.

*Ex Tom Elder's sale of March 22, 1922, lot 2688; Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 20

- 20 **1791 Large Eagle Cent. B.15.** Copper. Normal USA edge. 1.8 mm. thick. 192.8 gns. Extremely Fine. Good, rich deep brown color on both sides.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

GORGEOUS GEM SMALL EAGLE CENT



Lot No. 21

- 21 **1791 Small Eagle Cent. B.16.** Copper. Normal USA edge. Rims 1.7 - 2.0 mm. thick. 188.1 gns. **Gem Brilliant Uncirculated**, red and brown. Prooflike. Both the obverse and reverse are toned in light brown with considerable original mint red remaining in the protected areas and in portions of the fields. Fairly typical strike on the obverse, some portions of Washington's hair soft but most of the detail in his epaulet quite visible. Reverse almost always sharper on these. The cataloguer notes that Fred Boyd called this Proof. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

*Ex Wayte Raymond's sale of March 7, 1927, lot 68; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

1791 SMALL EAGLE CENT



Lot No. 21

1792 ROMAN HEAD CENT



Lot No. 25



Lot No. 22

- 22 **1791 Small Eagle Cent. B.16.** Copper. Normal USA edge. Rims 1.7 - 2.0 mm. thick. 189.6 gns. **Choice Brilliant Uncirculated.** Prooflike. This piece is mostly an even, rich brown with some very faint suggestions of faded mint color in the clouds on the reverse. The fields are bright and somewhat reflective, smooth and hard to the naked eye.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 23

- 23 **1791 Small Eagle Cent. B.16.** Copper. Normal USA edge. Rims 1.7 - 2.0 mm. thick. 191.9 gns. About Uncirculated. Semi-prooflike. Toned in a rich brown on the obverse, lighter gold, brown, and iridescent blue on the back. Obverse rim nicked twice at right; short hairline in lower left obverse field.

*Ex Wayte Raymond Estate on October 22, 1961.*

**VERY RARE SMALL EAGLE CENT**

**With MACCLESFIELD Edge**



Lot No. 24

- 24 **1791 Small Eagle Cent. B.16B, Breen 1218, Fuld WA.1791.2a.** Copper. **MACCLESFIELD edge.** Rims 1.7 - 2.1 mm. thick. 196.9 gns. **Choice Uncirculated.** Prooflike. A lovely, reflective and satiny smooth example of this great rarity. Both the obverse and reverse are toned in a rich, pleasing brown and tan. There are traces of very faded mint color in the protected areas on the obverse, between the letters in WASHINGTON PRESIDENT. The fields are semi-reflective, smooth and hard in appearance. About as well struck in the centers as this issue usually comes, typically soft on the curl of Washington's ear, the epaulet showing more detail than usual, center of the reverse strong but the feathers on the eagle's right leg somewhat faint. There is a small area of dark toning on the reverse to the left of the date. **Very rare and the discovery specimen:** unknown to Crosby, from the Parmelee sale (1890) where it was described as "very fine, sharp, proof surface; we know of no duplicate." Today, the cataloguer knows of three for sure (**this**, the piece in our 1992 Fixed Price List, and the MHS specimen) with a couple of others probable (Hatie:175 and Krugjohann:65). Fuld (1995) wrote there were five known.

*Ex Lorin G. Parmelee Collection (New York Coin & Stamp Company, June 25, 1890, lot 613); Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd.*

## GORGEOUS 1792 ROMAN HEAD CENT



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 25

- 25 **1792 Roman Head Cent. B.19, Crosby X.9, Breen 1249.** Copper. USA edge. 29.2 mm. 198.4 gns. **Gem Brilliant Proof.** A simply magnificent example of this issue. Both the obverse and reverse are toned in iridescent rose, purple, and bright gold shades. The surfaces are brightly reflective, nearly fully mirrorlike, and are undisturbed by stray marks or signs of mishandling. Very sharply struck on both sides, with the finest details showing in Washington's hair on the obverse portrait. All details on the reverse including those in the eagle's tail bold. A small toning spot at the top of Washington's head will serve to hallmark this piece. Hillyer Ryder described this piece as "Proof. Splendid impression of beautiful color. Only about eight known. Undoubtedly, one of the finest known." **Very rare.**

Seven examples were known to the Holland sale cataloguer in 1878. Carl Wurtzbach traced only nine auction appearances of a Roman Head Cent from 1864 (McCoy sale, the first one brought back from England) to the 1904 Mills sale (this specimen). The cataloguer has records of eight different specimens in private hands. Breen thought 12 to 15 survived, five of which were in museum collections. Fuld wrote that at least 15 were known, of which five were permanently impounded in public collections. In the past decade or two the same four pieces have traded hands. This example has been off the market for 100 years. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

*Ex John G. Mills Collection (S.H.&H. Chapman, April 27, 1904, lot 149); Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

*The story of the discovery of the first Roman Head Cents can be found in William Elliott Woodward's 77th sale catalogue (1885), where we read:*

*"The first of this variety known to American collectors was imported by Mr. Davenport in a parcel of English tradesmen's tokens. Many years afterwards I bought the piece and sold it in the McCoy collection to Mr. Lightbody for \$480. I afterwards bought Mr. L's collection, and, at the sale, he again became owner at \$400.00. I next obtained two of the coins in a celebrated collection which I have reason to believe contained four specimens, including the Bushnell and Hoffman pieces. These pieces Mr. Bushnell said he obtained from a negro, who declared he found them at a fire in Brooklyn, and it happens that the collection to which I refer passed through a fire in Brooklyn under the precise circumstances detailed by the colored man, the alleged finder; so it appears that about one-half of the visible stock of this rare coin was once the property of a youth who picked them up in England, something more than fifty years ago."*

## EXTREMELY RARE 1792 13 STARS HALF DOLLAR

## One of Just Two Traced



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 26

- 26 **1792 Washington Half Dollar. 13 Stars on Reverse. B.20, Crosby X.10, Breen 1231, Fuld WA.1792.4c.Ag. Silver. USA edge.** 31.4 mm. Rims 1.2 - 1.3 mm. thick. 186.5 gns. Fine to Very Fine (graded Very Fine-30 by Ford in 1975). Both sides are toned in medium coin silver gray in the fields with traces of iridescent rose and light gold principally around the protected areas. Washington's bust on the obverse is soft on the high points yet most of the detail in his epaulet can be seen and two of the buttons on his coat are visible. On the reverse, the eagle's legs are worn and its talons are indistinct but the wing feather detail is bold and the feathers on the neck can be seen clearly. Above its head each of the 13 stars can be made out individually, including their open centers. There is a myriad of short, hairline scratches principally on the obverse, with some more hidden in the reverse fields, suggesting that this may have been a pocketpiece at one time. Holed and expertly plugged. **Extremely rare:** neither the cataloguer today nor Ford in 1975 could trace more than just three specimens: **this**; the somewhat finer Robison:245-Roper:379 specimen; and Bushnell:1248. Fuld (1995) estimated four to five known but counted the Robison-Roper coin as two different specimens. This Baker number missing from the Garrett, Steinberg, Scott, LaRiviere, Dreyfuss, Witham, and Collins sales. In the 1890 Parmelee auction this piece sold for \$86. F.C.C. Boyd appraised the piece for B.G. Johnson in 1938 at \$100. It was then part of the Newcomer-Colonel Green holdings. Five years later, Boyd bought it from Johnson for \$650. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate; earlier, ex Colonel Green via B.G. Johnson on September 21, 1943; Lorin G. Parmelee Collection (New York Coin & Stamp Company, June 25, 1890, lot 619).*

*On September 21, 1943 B.G. Johnson wrote to F.C.C. Boyd on St. Louis Stamp & Coin Company letterhead. Addressed "Dear Fred", the letter enclosed on approval an extensive selection of Rosa Americana and Washington pieces and read, in part:*

*"I really did forget about the Carolina piece and am sending it to you today with the beautiful lot of Rosas and Washington pieces such as you ask for.*

*These are the first colonial coins I have ever taken out of the Newcomer-Green Collection. These coins with the exception of three Washington pieces which were not in the Collection are all from the Newcomer-Green lot and are the first I have ever taken out of the two big cases."*

*Boyd kept \$2,808.50 of the total \$5,041.75 invoice amount. Today, any one of the five coins Boyd selected might be worth ten times the total Johnson invoiced for the whole lot of 49 pieces.*

## THE FINEST COLLECTION OF GETZ HALF DOLLARS EVER SOLD

There has never been a finer offering of Washington pieces (or medals, the jury is still out on this) designed and struck by Lancaster, Pennsylvania gold and silversmith Peter Getz ever offered for sale at public auction. The Ford holdings are particularly strong in this series because Mr. Ford believed at the time he bought them, and still holds fast to his idea, that these pieces represented what he and Walter Breen called "multi-denominational patterns" and not medals struck in the first president's honor.

To Ford, a multi-denominational pattern is a design for a coin that does not express its denomination in words or numbers in the types. Rather, by varying the metallic content and size, the same types struck in gold could be one denomination, those in silver another, while those in gold or silver of lesser size would be fractions of their bigger brothers.

An analogy might be if the Mint had struck the Seated Liberty type coinage with identical reverse designs and no mark of denomination, with weights and sizes the only way to tell different value coins apart. The scheme is practical in its application if the public expects to try each specie coin against its norms, which was exactly the case in late 18th century America.

Other examples of the multi-denominational pattern idea of the time can be found the 1776 Continental Dollars and British and French specie coinage.

Mr. Ford's love for the Getz series can be seen in the extraordinary quality and rarity of the specimens to follow. The supreme highlight, of course, is the gem prooflike silver piece (neither Mr. Ford nor the cataloguer dare to call it a Proof, although B.G. Johnson did in 1943, F.C.C. Boyd did when he paid \$1,000 for it, and many of those who see it, today, will).

It seems absolutely incredible that this specimen could have survived for more than 200 years in such essentially pristine condition. To call it a presentation piece does not do it justice.

When Mr. Ford catalogued an important coin he spent hours crafting the description so it conveyed exactly what he knew and felt about it. When he offered a silver Getz Half Dollar for sale to Fred Werner in 1975, he wrote a description of the coin that is a masterpiece of both the cataloguer's craft and the numismatist's art.

In just three pages, it tells its reader more about the Getz half dollar than he could gather from a day's worth of reading, all of it being then state of the art knowledge. It also inadvertently captures a side of Mr. Ford's character that only the "old-timers" (and a select few of the younger crowd) ever had the chance to enjoy.

Mr. Ford is a consummate salesman, at home in an uptown boardroom as well as behind a Chrystie Street barrow. The following document shows all of this. We challenge any of today's cataloguers to outdo Ford's description and any of today's dealers to try to make a sale with more finesse.

### From the desk of John J. Ford, Jr.

August 15, 1975

To Fred Werner

Here is the Ten Eyck specimen of the 1792 Washington Getz Pattern half dollar with the most complete write-up that I could give it.

The piece is really one helluva buy at the price of \$35,000, as I sold the Jackman example (lot #240 in Henry Chapman's sale of that coll., 6/28-29/18) over a year ago to Mike Brownlee and Julian Leidman for more money. That piece was a hair less sharp than the present Ten Eyck specimen, and was even more obviously defective as it had a slightly curved planchet flaw in the upper r. obverse field (which Henry Chapman called a deep scratch). Mike and Julian, I am told, are asking as much as \$60,000 or \$65,000 for their piece.

Remember, that the Getz half dollar should not be thought of as a Washington colonial, but as a true 1792 pattern for U.S. coinage, struck with the cognizance of several people connected with our first mint, among them Harper, Birch and Eckfeldt. This piece will be shortly written up, with others, in "The Numismatist".

Cheers  
JJF

[The following is typewritten on a three page invoice dated August 15, 1975 from John J. Ford, Jr. to Mr. Fred S. Werner, Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company Building, 2631 Merrick Road, Bellmore, NY 11710. Terms: Cash, Delv'd.]

### Getz 1792 U.S. Pattern Washington Half Dollar

1792. Half Dollar. Bust l., from the portrait by Pierre E. Du Simitiere; G. WASHINGTON. PRESIDENT. I. around, date (J792) below. Rev. Eagle with shield, branch and arrows in talons; 15 stars above, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA around, a stop or period on either side. (These double denomination pattern dies also used to strike copper cents!) Silver. Small, constricted planchet; flan slightly defective, most apparent on obv. rim between I. and date about edge opposite UNITED (rev.). Plain edge. Weight: 232.55 Grains. This is one of the heaviest Getz pieces known, recorded weights of the other specimens known range from 193 to 248.75 grains, the average being close to 208, which would be legal for half dollars under the terms of the so-called Morris Bill, drafted and presented to the U.S. Senate in December, 1791.

Crosby, Plate X, No. 8; page 357, fig. 100. W.S. Baker, No. 24.

F-15-; almost, but not quite Very Fine-20. With old, light "pin scratching" almost entirely in the l. obverse field and within the letter O of WASHINGTON. This scratching is diagnostic, and includes the date "June 1806". The reverse is remarkably clean. A previous owner, James Ten Eyck of Albany, N.Y., was much impressed by the lightly scratched early date, and thought that it added to the historical significance of the piece.

This coin initially appeared in W.E. Woodward's 95th Auction Sale, held by Bangs & Co. in New York City, May 21-25, 1888. There it was lot #1165 and called Very Fine. In the catalogue, it was said to have cost \$100, but it realized only \$64 in Woodward's offering. Subsequently, this identical coin was lot #838 in B. Max Mehl's celebrated Mail Bid Sale of the Ten Eyck collection held in Fort Worth, Texas, May 2, 1922. It was there illustrated on Plate VI, and realized \$92. This, in an offering where an EF 1776 Continental Dollar brought \$14.25 and an exceptional Higley Threepence, broad axe type, only sold for \$52.00.

The Getz half dollars and cents were struck upon a press made by Adam Eckfeldt, for many years the Chief Coiner of the Philadelphia Mint, according to Snowden's Mint Manual of 1860, page 97. Walter Breen, in his "The United States Patterns of 1792" (Wayte Raymond, N.Y., 1954), locates the Eckfeldt coin press in the cellar of John Harper, at Sixth and Cherry Streets, Philadelphia, the same location where the famous Half Dimes and Dimes of 1792 were struck.

All authorities agree that the Peter Getz coins were the only Washington pieces of the period certainly made in the U.S. The half dollars, dated 1792, accurately give the devices and legends called for in the bill introduced into the Senate by Robert Morris in December, 1791. Morris was the chairman of a committee, appointed by the Senate in October, which was to consider a mint project and to draft legislation. Throughout December the Senate debated the Morris committee proposals, finally passing the bill in January, 1792, and sending it on to the House of the Representatives. The House, presumably on the President's strong recommendations, overwhelmingly voted out a clause providing for Washington's likeness on the coins, and returned the bill to the Senate after passing it by a vote of 33 to 22. There the bill was vigorously debated, as the Senate at first refused to surrender its plan for a portrait of the President on the coins, but was finally passed in the House next day, where it became Statute One, the Mint Act of April 2, 1792.

Twenty-three year old Peter Getz most probably engraved his dies under the supervision of Robert Birch. The divergence (as shown on the copper cents or "copper half dollars" (as they are incorrectly called) from the reverse design for cents prescribed by the Morris bill no doubt arose from lack of time to prepare a proper (third) reverse die. W.S. Baker had the idea that one copper piece was given to each Congressman and Senator. This is quite plausible, as from Dec., 1791, to March, 1792, there were 29 Senators (one seat from Pa. being vacant) and 65 Representatives, for a total of 94. To assume that one hundred copper cents were struck is quite reasonable and consistent with the rarity of the pieces. George Fuld (Baker reprint by Krause, 1965) claims that about 70 plain edge copper coins are known, and six or more with the circles and squares edge. While Fuld may be correct in the latter instance, certainly no more than 40 or 50 copper cents are extant in all grades with plain edge. As Walter Breen wrote twenty-one years ago, "To assume that the silver pieces were struck as pattern half dollars in January or February, 1792 for presentation to the Senators only-less than 35 specimens-will provide almost the correct ratio of silver to copper specimens surviving." Fuld's thinking that 18 silver examples of all kinds still exist could be accurate, but his breakdown of 15 plain edge coins, 2 with circles and squares, plus a unique coin with an edge showing twin olive leaves, is incorrect. The number of plain edge pieces could not reach a dozen, while 4 or 5 ornamented edge (circles and squares) half dollars exist. Two specimens with the leaved edge are now accounted for, and a unique example with lettered edge, struck over a half crown of Charles II, has recently been discovered. Fuld also neglected to mention that many of the silver impressions are plugged or otherwise mutilated.

Net \$34,000.00\*

\*Fred, If you can squeeze \$34,500. out of this piece, I would appreciate it! JFF

## THE UNIQUE 1792 NO STARS GETZ HALF DOLLAR



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 27



(Enlarged)

- 27 1792 Washington Half Dollar. Large Eagle. No stars on reverse. B.23; Crosby p.357, no.99; Breen 1346; Pollock 5001, Fuld WA.1792.2.Ag. Silver. Plain edge. 32.3 mm. Rims uniformly 1.3 mm. thick. 194.5 gns. Extremely Fine. Both sides show signs of tooling. Small 'H' scratched inside 'U' on reverse, for previous owner Howard.

The obverse is bright silver in the center while the periphery is a darker shade of gray with some iridescent blue. The reverse, in contrast, is a more even medium gray and shows considerable iridescent blue, principally around the rim.

Some light handling marks in the fields on both sides, some scratches visible only under the aid of magnification, reverse rim dent at 8:30 and a few minor tics on the obverse are noted. No obvious signs of wear on the obverse die, the definition in Washington's epaulet and his coat buttons is still clear and the curl over his ear is sharp and bold, as well.

Struck from the 1792 Getz Half Dollar obverse die, apparently in a worn state but without the clash mark in right field seen on later states of the die; and a cancelled reverse showing a large eagle that appears on no other coin or medal.

From the Garrett IV sale where it was diffidently catalogued and sold as is for no justifiable reason other than some weak claims against its authenticity based upon a dislike of the reverse surface. The piece was described by Crosby in 1875 without negative comment, although he stated he did not then know its present owner.

The Chapmans did not know exactly what to make of it when they wrote its 1882 Bushnell sale description. Despite that, it sold for \$365. The 1890 Parmelee sale cataloguer decided, incorrectly, that the cancellation mark on the reverse was really a die break. Nevertheless, the piece sold for \$175 while four lots later the unique gold 13 stars reverse (Baker 20) sold for \$220.

The analyses conducted for Bowers & Ruddy in 1981 at M.I.T. showed the piece to be struck silver and not a cast or an electrototype. The style of the reverse is obviously not that of the late 18th century. The piece was, therefore, a later product, the fruit of a union between the original Getz obverse and a back die that was cancelled before use.

When that reverse die was cut and this piece was struck are not entirely certain.

The Garrett cataloguer stated that its pedigree reached back to 1831 but provided no details. Breen filled in the gaps, basing his story on Henry Chapman's description of the piece in the 1918 Jackman sale. According to Chapman's account, the piece had been bought in 1858 by Winslow J. Howard, a mining engineer and coin collector, from a New York city shoemaker named Bossuet for \$40.

Bossuet told Howard he had received it in change around 1831 from a son of Rufus King. Howard sold the coin (and his collection) in 1858 to George Dana of Boston, who sold his collection to Joseph Finotti. The piece was sold in Woodward's November, 1862 Finotti auction where Bushnell bought it for \$125.

Parmelee bought it later at the Bushnell sale and Jackman bought it at the Parmelee auction. In his description of the Jackman lot, Chapman wrote that Winslow Howard had sent a letter to Crosby about 1874-75 detailing the history of the coin as he knew it.

Whether Howard's story is believable or not, the coin can be pedigreed back either to 1831 or 1862. The cataloguer suggests the latter date is the more likely, given the style of the eagle die. He notes, however, that his opinion is not shared by all, notably Fuld, who wrote (1995):

"In the writer's opinion, the large eagle Getz half dollar is fully genuine." Regardless of the date of manufacture of the reverse, a most important conclusion can be drawn about the Getz obverse. It survived into the 19th century in a state good enough to allow its further use. There is much more to be learned about the Getz dies and the Half Dollars they coined.

The first question to ask is, is there only one set of dies? And if not, how much of them was hubbed? A die emission sequence can be worked out for the Getz reverse(s). The sequence for the obverse(s) holds the key to dating the entire series. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

*Ex Garrett Collection (Bowers & Ruddy, March 25, 1981, lot 1713); earlier, ex Lorin G. Parmelee Collection (June 25, 1890, lot 614), Charles Ira Bushnell Collection (S.H. & H. Chapman, June 20, 1882, lot 1253).*

REMARKABLE 1792 GETZ HALF DOLLAR

One of the Finest Known for the Type

The Finest Plain Edge Variety Seen Struck in Silver



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 28



(Enlarged)

28 1792 Getz Half Dollar. B.24, Breen 1347, Fuld WA.1792.1e.Ag. Silver. Plain edge. 32.2 mm. (Breen's "narrow flan"). Rims 1.4 - 1.7 mm. thick. 235.8 gns. **Choice About Uncirculated.** Prooflike. A lovely silver Getz half dollar. The obverse is toned in very pale gray with hints of iridescent rose and gold around the rim.

The reverse is a shade darker gray in color with more pronounced iridescent russet and gold mainly around the rim. Obverse center fairly sharp, with most of Washington's epaulet and curl detail clear, all but the uppermost button on his coat sharp. The legend on this side is somewhat soft at the upper right but all the letters there can be read.

The reverse center is soft, as often seen, with the vertical and horizontal shield lines weak on their highest points, the eagle's head somewhat flat but its eye and mouth and most neck feathers clear. Tip of eagle's right wing soft, as struck. The legend on this side is quite bold.

The fields are brightly reflective, not entirely mirrorlike but they offset the central devices to fine effect and lend the piece a very engaging appearance. Definitely overstruck, as are all silver specimens, but the undertype is more than elusive and its traces yield no firm attribution.

**Very rare:** the cataloguer has records of nine but feels there must be 12 to 15 silver plain edge pieces surviving. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex Waldo C. Newcomer; Colonel E.H.R. Green; B.G. Johnson; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



1792 SILVER GETZ HALF DOLLAR  
*Finest Known*



*Lot No. 29*



## THE FINEST OF ALL 1792 SILVER GETZ HALF DOLLARS

## A Dramatically Beautiful Piece



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 29



(Enlarged)

- 29 1792 Getz Half Dollar. B.24A, Breen 1350, Fuld WA.1792.1g.Ag. Silver. Circles and squares edge device. 35.1 mm. Rims 1.3 mm. thick. 215.3 gns. **Gem Brilliant Uncirculated. Prooflike. A dramatically beautiful piece** with deep, iridescent blue toning over the most satiny smooth surfaces one can imagine.

An essentially flawless piece and without a doubt in the cataloguer's mind the **finest known silver Getz Half Dollar of any variety**. The center of the obverse is light gray and pale blue. The periphery is faint iridescent gold. The eagle in the center of the reverse is wreathed in iridescent blue while the rest of the field is light gold and really pale rose.

The piece is broadstruck, clearly on another coin as all silver Getz half dollars are, with tantalizing (but unattributable) traces of the undertype visible around the obverse periphery. The fields are bright, somewhat reflective, and partially mirrorlike.

There is a broad border of denticles around the obverse while those on the reverse are fainter but complete all around. Washington's features are clear and bold, the three buttons on his coat are sharp, the elements of the epaulet are distinct, and his hair shows essentially full detail.

On the reverse, the highest point of the eagle's shield is soft, the tops of its legs are, also, but the other details on this side are clear and well defined. There are a couple of very tiny flaws, principally on the reverse, and a small rim bruise above 'UNI' on that side that require mention.

Struck from a much later state of the reverse die than usually seen even on copper pieces, with considerable rust in the stars and additional rust on the right side of the tail, reaching to the rim below. By contrast, the obverse die still appears to be in about the same condition as it was when first engraved, suggesting that this was a long lasting and robust die.

Bought by Boyd in 1943 from B.G. Johnson ex Colonel Green's collection for \$1,000, described on Johnson's approval invoice dated September 21 as "Proof" and marked by Boyd 'K' for "Keep". **Very rare:** This is the second rarest of the silver Getz varieties. Fuld (1995) wrote there were "Perhaps four or five known in varying condition." Ford agreed with him. Breen thought there might be five known but qualified the estimate with a question mark.

The present cataloguer has records of only four different specimens: **this**; Norweb; MHS; Stack's 1993 Fixed Price list. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate; earlier, ex Col. Green, B.G. Johnson.*

The following information about Peter Getz deserves to be better known. In his biography of David Rittenhouse, published in Philadelphia in 1813, William Barton recorded the fact that Getz had once been considered for a job at the Mint. Bartons relates (p.127):

"A particular instance, of a similar kind, occurred within the knowledge of the Memorialist. Mr. Peter Getz was, lately, a self-taught mechanic of singular ingenuity, in the borough of Lancaster; where he many years exercised the trade of a silversmith and jeweler, and was remarkable for the extraordinary accuracy, elegance, and beauty of the workmanship he executed.

This person was a candidate for the place of chief coiner or engraver in the mint; and, on that occasion, he offered to present to Dr. Rittenhouse, in the summer of 1792, a small pair of scales—such as are commonly called gold-scales—of exquisite workmanship as well as great exactness, as a specimen of his skill as an artist. The Director conceived, that an instrument equally well suited to the use for which this was designed, though less ornamental, could be procured for the mint, if desirable for less money than this was worth as a matter of curiosity; he would not, therefore, purchase it for the mint; but being determined not to accept it as a present, and desirous at the same time to make compensation to the artist for his work, he insisted on his receiving twenty dollars for the instrument; on payment of which, he retained it himself."

EXCEPTIONALLY RARE 1792 SILVER GETZ HALF DOLLAR

The Finer of Two Known With Olive Leaf Edge Device

The Zabriskie-Wurtzbach-Brand-Raymond-Boyd Coin



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 30



(Enlarged)

- 30 1792 Getz Half Dollar. B.24B, Breen 1351, Fuld WA.1792.1h.Ag. Silver. Twinned olive leaf edge device. 34.4 mm. Rims 1.5 - 1.7 mm. thick. 252.3 gns. **Extremely Fine**. Even, pale silver gray on both sides, the color uniform just about everywhere. The surfaces appear somewhat granular to the naked eye. Hairline hemispherical scratch on the obverse from about 11:30 around to 5:30, below the date. Definitely overstruck, almost certainly on a Spanish four reales, judging from the edge type.

Nicely broadstruck for the type, about 2 millimeters wider than these usually come. No die rust over the eagle's head or in the stars. **The finer of the two known**, the second being the plugged Very Good/Fine piece published (and plated) by Ford in 1975 (see text following the Getz pieces). Peter Getz used half crown sized host coins for his silver planchet stock. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex Andrew C. Zabriskie Collection (Henry Chapman, June 3, 1909, lot 609); Carl Wurtzbach; Virgil M. Brand; Horace Louis Philip Brand; New Netherlands Coin Company; Wayte Raymond; Raymond Estate; New Netherlands Coin Company; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

ATTRACTIVE COPPER GETZ HALF DOLLAR



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 31



(Enlarged)

- 31 1792 Getz Half Dollar. B.25, Breen 1352, Fuld WA.1792.1. Copper. Plain edge. 32.0 mm. (Breen's "narrow flan"). Rims 1.9 - 2.3 mm. thick. 260.8 gns. **Extremely Fine**. Both the obverse and reverse are richly toned in a deep olive brown shade, the color uniform across both surfaces.

The central devices and peripheral legends stand out nicely against this dark background. On the obverse, Washington's hair and curl detail over his ear are bold, the epaulet is sharp and outlined and even some of the interior braid work across the shoulder can be seen. All four coat buttons are sharp, this most unusual since the uppermost one is usually soft even on sharp silver strikes.

On the reverse, the eagle's right wing feather tips are soft but detail elsewhere on this side is sharp and bold. Struck from the rust-free state of the reverse. It seems, from the slowly rusting state of the reverse die, that copper pieces were made first, followed by silver specimens and some more struck in copper.

BEAUTIFUL COPPER GETZ HALF DOLLAR

Very Rare With Circles and Squares Edge Device



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 32



(Enlarged)

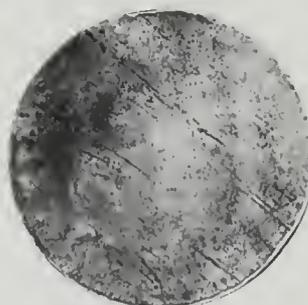
- 32 1792 Getz Half Dollar. B.25D, Breen 1357, Fuld WA.1792.1c. Copper. Circles and squares edge device. 35.0 mm. Rims 1.1 - 1.3 mm. thick. 180.6 gns. **Choice Extremely Fine.** Struck on a very broad flan. Both the obverse and reverse are a beautiful deep olive brown in color. There are traces of very pale faded color, principally in the stars on the reverse and around a few of the obverse letters.

Center of obverse somewhat rough, as struck, but the detail there still sharp. The uppermost button in Washington's coat is mostly clear while on the reverse the horizontal and vertical shield lines are almost all separated and clear. Struck from much later states of the dies than seen on the copper piece above. Reverse quite rusty above eagle's head and in stars, both dies lapped, tops of letters soft or gone, now.

Breen suggested these may have been worn as funeral medals. **Very rare:** no accurate count of the number of copper specimens known with circles and squares edge device exists. Fuld's 1995 estimate of "about six specimens are known" is probably as accurate as any. The actual rarity of the copper pieces of all varieties has not been established.

The late Jack Collins had begun a study and census of the issue but died before it could be completed.

UNIFACE SILVERED BRASS GETZ HALF DOLLAR



Lot No. 33

- 33 1792 Getz Half Dollar. B-unlisted, Breen unlisted, Fuld unlisted. Uniface obverse. Brass, silvered. Essentially as made. Plain edge. 35.7 mm. 173.7 gns. The obverse is toned in a rich coin silver gray shade, with traces of iridescent blue and gold. The reverse shows the original coppery color of the planchet on which it was struck.

The silvering on the obverse is virtually complete, with just slight hints of copper showing through on Washington's jaw line in an angled light. Struck from the later state of the obverse, the die clashed in the upper right field, also showing some ghostly outlines of the letters above the denticles of the clashing.

Some light scratches. Exact purpose unknown, although almost certainly not a die trial. A piece like this might have been made as an escutcheon, a decorative object to be mounted on a flat surface, or for some other similar purpose. **Unique** to the best of the cataloguer's knowledge.

## THE UNIQUE FONROBERT HALF DOLLAR



Lot No. 34

- 34 1792 [i.e., third quarter of the 19th c.] Fonrobert, or Anthon, Washington Half Dollar. B.26, Fuld WA.NC.1792.1. Silver. Plain edge. 34.4 mm. Rims 1.3 - 1.4 mm. thick. 213.3 gns. Essentially as made, struck on a virgin flan. Both sides are toned in light silver gray with areas of iridescent rose, gold, and pale blue mainly around the peripheries.

Softly struck in the centers, as made. A finely made copy of the 1792 Getz half dollar, clearly mid to late 19th century origin. Nicely struck in silver on a planchet with a high and prolonged ring when struck. The piece was first noticed in the 1878 Fonrobert sale in Berlin. In the intervening 125 years it has had only four owners.

*Ex Garrett Collection (Bowers & Ruddy, March 25, 1981, lot 1718); earlier, ex Jules Fonrobert Collection (Berlin, February, 1878, lot 6103); Charles Anthon Collection (Bangs, October 20, 1884, lot 407).*

## NEWLY DISCOVERED 1792 WASHINGTON PATTERN COINS

by John J. Ford, Jr.

LM 250

[In 1975, the same year that Mr. Ford offered the Ten Eyck silver Getz half dollar to Fred Werner, a series of important Getz half dollars was introduced to the collecting public. Mr. Ford described the pieces in the September, 1975 issue of *The Numismatist*. The article is important for the history of the issues and their collectors. It allows us a deeper appreciation of the Getz series and we reprint it here (largely unedited) as a coda to the magnificent selection of Getz pieces offered above. It is adapted here from their official publication with the kind permission of the American Numismatic Association. ed.]

Two hitherto unknown specimens of the Getz 1792 U.S. Pattern Washington silver half dollar changed hands this past June, as did three other important Washington pieces bearing the same date. The existence of the latter trio has been long known, but for all practical purposes forgotten. One of the recently unearthed Getz Washington half dollars has a lettered edge, being struck over a British halfcrown. The other is the second known specimen with twin olive leaves upon the edge, similar to that seen on the 1776 Continental dollars of apparent official origin, and to that on the silver 1783 Constellatio patterns of better established official origin. Although the other three 1792 Washington pieces can be traced to early U.S. auction sale catalogue listings, two of them have not, to my knowledge, been in numismatic circulation before in this century.

## Unpublished Getz 1792 Washington Half Dollar with Lettered Edge

The...Washington pattern [illustrations referred to can best be seen in the original publication-ed.], the dies listed in Crosby on pages 357-58, Figure 100, Plate X, No. 8, and by W.S. Baker as his No. 24, was described as having an ornamented edge when initially discussed on the trans-Atlantic telephone. Surprisingly, the ornamentation turned out to be raised lettering when the piece was first looked at upon its arrival back to the United States at New York's JFK International Airport. Further study quickly suggested that the Getz dies had been struck over a British halfcrown, as the edge lettering resembled that used on many of the larger British milled denominations.

Although most of the undertype was obliterated, it was first thought to be a George II coin of the type coined from 1731 to 1751, since the Roman numeral II was faintly discernible centered above our first President's head. However, subsequent study, undertaken after the piece was purchased, revealed otherwise. Since the edge lettering was almost uniformly visible around the circumference of the overstrike, even if most of the surface numerals, letters, and devices were not, it was believed that disclosure of the Edge Year would reveal or confirm the type and exact date of the British coin. After some difficulty, primarily because of unfamiliarity, the critical edge words were made out: DECUS ET TUTAMEN ANNO REGNI TRICESIMO PRIMO ++ Consultation with friend Jim Risk, of Stack's Coin Galleries in New York City, ascertained that the halfcrown was one of Charles II and not George II, and that its date was 1679.

The weight of this unique discovery is exactly 218.4 grains, compared to a standard 218 grains for the British halfcrown. The strike resulted in a very broad piece..., apparently the result of the coin having been struck under considerable pressure without the confining restraints of a collar. Both the size and weight of this specimen resemble those of the ornamented edge variety, which has a design of circles and squares similar in style to that found on the U.S. dollar of 1794-1803. It could be graded as a full Extremely Fine, or possibly a little better EF-40+; although obviously cleaned, traces of the original lustre can still be located upon the reverse. Careful examination reveals numerous, mainly short pinpoint scratches, most of which are about the reverse periphery. Evidently, this silver overstrike laid face up in a felt lined cabinet drawer for a great many years, undoubtedly in an institution, and crude attempts were recently made to remove some of the encrusted reverse oxidation.

The importance of this major Washington rarity and one of a kind U.S. pattern of 1792 cannot be overemphasized. According to the prior owners, it allegedly spent several decades in a prominent European museum, and has no known prior pedigree. In discussing the coin with specialists Walter Breen, Dick Picker, and Don Taxay, none of us could recall any reference, either in the literature or our experience, to an overstruck Getz 1792 Washington half dollar, except to the vague reference concerning one struck over a French ecu, listed in an A.B. Sage sale of 1859. A lettered edge piece, struck over a British halfcrown, was certainly unknown to us. A few days following our conversations, while sorting some obscure numismatic pamphlets (in a continuing effort to sort and pack for eventual relocation in Arizona), I discovered what might well be a clue to the past history of this particular unique specimen. In a torn green booklet dated 1865 describing the proceedings of the Manchester Numismatic Society, Manchester, England, I noted that at the general meeting of October 20, 1864, Charles Clay, M.D., the Society's President, exhibited nineteen important American coins. Among these was a Washington half dollar, 1792, struck on an English crown. This could well be the same example, the word crown being an error on the part of the secretary of the organization.

### **Second Known Getz 1792 Washington Half Dollar with Twin Olive Leaves on Edge**

Until June 5, 1975, when the...coin appeared in a group of Washington items at a Western coin show, it was long believed that only a single specimen existed of the Getz Washington half dollar with the twin olive leaf device on the edge, a device like that seen on other Early American pattern issues. George Fuld, while misdescribing the edge devices as vine and bars, called it unique, as did Don Taxay in his listing of United States Mint Essays 1791-92, struck prior to regular Mint operations, where he numbered it 8-C.

This second known example of the Getz pattern with leaved edge is also classified under Baker 24, being from identical dies to that first described in this article. With a weight of 248.75 grains, it has the distinction of being the heaviest silver half dollar recorded. The coin's planchet is broad, almost as much so as that of the last and relatively thick. The piece has, unfortunately, been rather sloppily plugged above Washington's head, but it shows an evenly struck, bold, not unattractive reverse. The obverse appears quite weak in comparison, and its fields display several obvious scratches. Excluding the plug, this rarity could be fairly graded as Very Good-8/Fine-12; obv. scratched.

Until the startling appearance of this second example, the only known specimen was the A.C. Zabriskie piece, which appeared as Lot 109 in the 1909 sale of that collection. The superior Zabriskie coin, which was never holed, was purchased on the floor by collector Carl Wurtzbach. Later, the Wurtzbach collection containing the then unique Getz half dollar was sold to Chicago collector Virgil Brand. After Brand died in 1926, the piece became involved in his colossal numismatic estate, where it remained until 1953. In that year, the Brand-Wurtzbach collection was acquired by the New Netherlands Coin Co. of New York City. As a then principal of the New Netherlands firm, I traded the Zabriskie specimen with twin olive leaves to collector-dealer Wayte Raymond. After Mr. Raymond's untimely passing in 1956, New Netherlands Coin Co. was privileged to handle his estate, and the highly valued half dollar was sold to F.C.C. Boyd, of Ringoes, New Jersey, a great and enthusiastic collector. Following Fred Boyd's death in 1958, New Netherlands also handled his estate, and some years thereafter the Zabriskie coin found its way into my collection. Unhappily, the present plugged example lacks a comparable detailed history, but its owner of nearly a century ago has almost been positively identified, and will be revealed together with the name of the most recent purchaser, further along in this article.

### The Ten Eyck Getz 1792 Washington Half Dollar with Plain Edge

A third Getz silver pattern became available on the market this past June, and quickly found a new home. This particular Baker-24, unlike the other two coins that appeared at about the same time, was of the plain edge variety, considered to be the closest thing to a regular issue of the Getz half dollars. Like all but one or two of its ten or eleven brothers with an uninscribed edge, the specimen...is struck upon a small, rather constricted, somewhat thick flan. Its weight of 232.55 grains makes it one of the heaviest Getz silver patterns, as recorded weights of the other known examples range from 193 grains to the fantastic 248.75 grains of the specimen last described. In comparison, the Ely-Jackman piece, which was privately sold last year and is one of possibly two Getz silver half dollars with plain edge struck upon a thin, broad planchet, weighs but 204 grains.

This specimen has been labeled the Ten Eyck half dollar out of respect for its most illustrious owner. James Ten Eyck was a direct descendant of early Dutch settlers, and a life long resident of Albany, New York. He was born in that city in 1840, and died there in 1910. Ten Eyck was devoted to the coinage of the United States, and put together a formidable array of American colonial rarities, among which were a 1714 Dawson (Gloucester Court House) shilling, the 1774 Virginia shilling, a Washington Confederatio cent of 1785, the 1785 Inimica-Tyrannis Americana-Confederatio cent, a 1786 New Jersey cent with date under plow beam, one of the famous 1787 Brasher doubloons, and, of course, this Getz 1792 pattern Washington half dollar. As president of the Albany Institute Historical and Art Society, James Ten Eyck allegedly had a fascination for historical association and the significance of trivial bits of history. It has been said that his specimen of our country's first half dollar was of additional interest to him because the date June 1806 was lightly scratched in and part of related minor graffiti located almost entirely in the coin's left obverse field. While the importance of the scratching, which is certainly diagnostic, cannot be vouched for, it can be said with certainty that the reverse of the Ten Eyck piece is remarkably clean. Conservatively, it might be graded Fine-15+, or almost but not quite, Very Fine-20.

This coin initially appeared in W.E. Woodward's 95th Auction Sale, held by Bangs & Co. in New York City, May 21-25, 1888. There it was described as Lot #1165 and called Very Fine. It was allegedly from the G.M. Klein (Vicksburg Cabinet) collection. In the catalogue, Woodward also claimed that the coin originally cost \$100, but it realized only \$64 in the sale. Probably, Ten Eyck purchased the piece at that time, although a named copy of the catalogue has not been located for confirmation. Subsequently, it was offered as Lot #838 in B. Max Mehl's celebrated mail bid offering of the Ten Eyck Collection held in Fort Worth, Texas, May 2, 1922. It was there illustrated on Plate VI, and realized \$92. This, in an offering where an EF (today's AU, or even Unc.) 1776 Continental Dollar brought but \$14.25, and where an exceptional Higley Threepence, broad axe type, only sold for \$52.

### The Bushnell Getz 1792 Washington Cent with Plain Edge

Present day collectors and dealers are in the habit of describing the copper impressions from the half dollar size pattern dies of Peter Getz with small reverse eagle (likewise listed by S.S. Crosby on pages 357-358, there illustrated by his Figure 100, and as No. 8 on his Plate X) as copper half dollars. This is a serious mistake! Walter Breen, twenty-one years ago, considered that the 1792 dated Getz copper pieces were struck as cents, and concluded that most of them were probably struck in December 1791. Breen further observed that these pieces were invariably referred to as cents in the earliest auctions of the 1860's. Don Taxay treats the subject of the 1792 Getz patterns somewhat differently than Breen, but tends to agree that the copper pieces were intended to be cents. However, he states without qualification that the pattern silver half dollars rather than the coppers were struck, for the most part, in December, 1791.

The Bushnell Getz 1792 Washington cent with plain edge was one of three important Washington patterns that appeared in a larger lot of Washingtonia at a Long Beach, California gathering this June. The others were the second known example of the half dollar with twin olive leaves on the edge, earlier mentioned, and the fifth coin that will be described and discussed in this article. The present cent is struck upon a broader, slightly thinner flan than most of the plain edge copper specimens. It weighs 257.5 grains, compared to recorded weights of 220 to 273 grains for the other Getz copper patterns. When it was offered as Lot #1252 of the 1882 offering of the C.I. Bushnell collection, the Chapman brothers called it Uncirculated, and the finest impression we have seen; the edge slightly bruised, but a splendid specimen. The coin has a uniform, evenly toned chocolate surface upon both sides, and is highly attractive. Knowing full well that it has been sliding around a cabinet drawer since before I was born, I would still describe it today as being About Uncirculated 50+ with (mainly) minor rim bruises.

Charles I. Bushnell was a wealthy, somewhat eccentric, often mysterious nineteenth century collector. He was born in 1810, and died in his New York home, on Sept. 17, 1880. Known as the author of two numismatic works published in 1858-9 which concerned tradesman (merchant) and political tokens and the first three business tokens of N.Y., Bushnell was better known as a specialist in American colonials, tokens, and medals. Despite his reputation for having an unsurpassed knowledge of Early Americana, his collection revealed him to be the owner of many suspicious and questionable items, including the infamous Good Samaritan Shilling. It is said that he promoted the Brasher gold coinage proposals to doubloon status (he owned the unique variety with the countermark upon the shield), and a series of Mickey Mouse Hard Times tokens bears his name to this day. The handling and sale of the Bushnell Collection was a celebrated event, and a source of extensive comment for some years. The auction listing was the first of the large size Chapman catalogues, and much was made of the ages and inexperience of the cataloguers. This is understandable, since the Chapmans, Samuel Hudson and Henry, Jr. were but twenty-five and twenty-three years of age at the time of the sale. Nearly a quarter of a century ago I researched the background and history of the Bushnell offering, and made it the subject of a seven page article in Wayte Raymond's "Coin Collector's Journal" at the request of Mr. Raymond.

## The Historical Background of the 1792 Getz Patterns

Peter Getz, a self taught silversmith and goldsmith from Lancaster, PA, cut the dies for the 1792 pattern Washington half dollars and cents which bear his name. According to Don Taxay, Robert Birch (of Birch Cent fame) supervised Getz's work on the dies and sunk the punches for the date and legends. A different pattern reverse than that utilized in the production of the four coins commented upon here was also cut, but subsequently cancelled, and is only known by a single silver (half dollar) impression (Baker 23). All authorities agree that the relatively common, 1791 Birmingham made, Westwood-Hancock small and large eagle coppers served as models for the Getz pattern half dollars and cents.

As mentioned earlier, there is some disagreement as to which were first struck, the Getz silver half dollars or the copper cents from the same pattern dies. Walter Breen developed a logical case in 1954, when he concluded that the copper impressions from the Peter Getz dies with small eagle were the original Washington cents of 1791, as mentioned in Snowden's Mint Manual of 1860. Happily, there is a consensus of opinion as to when the coins were collectively struck, where they were first made, and where they were subsequently manufactured. The Getz 1792 dated patterns were initially struck in December, 1791, and then again in January and/or February 1792. The first impressions were taken in the basement of John Harper's saw factory, located at the corner of Sixth and Cherry streets, Philadelphia. The second strikings were made on a press constructed by Adam Eckfeldt, for many years the Chief Coiner of the Mint. The Eckfeldt press was in an old coach house on Sixth Street, above Chestnut, in Philadelphia. The precise location of the old coach house is unclear, as some writers place it opposite Jayne Street, and others across from Carpenter Street. It is interesting to note here that the half dismes and dismes of 1792 were also made in John Harper's cellar, presumably upon a smaller press than that used for the Getz pieces.

Agreement is unanimous that the Peter Getz coins were the only Washington pieces of the period made in the United States. The half dollars accurately give the devices and legends called for in the bill introduced into the Senate by Robert Morris on December 21, 1791. Morris was the chairman of a committee appointed by the Senate on October 31 which was to consider a mint project and to draft legislation. Throughout December and early January the Senate debated the Morris committee proposals, finally passing the bill on January 12, 1792, and sending it off to the House of Representatives. The House, presumably on the President's strong recommendations, overwhelmingly voted out a clause providing for Washington's likeness on the coins, and returned the bill to the Senate after passing it by a vote of 33 to 22 on March 26th. There the bill was vigorously debated as the Senate at first refused to surrender its plan for a portrait of the President on the coins, sent back to the house, returned, and finally passed in the House version on April 1st. Washington signed the bill into law the next day, where it became Statute One, the Mint Act of April 2, 1792.

Don Taxay bases his claim that the Getz silver half dollars were struck first upon the contention that they were made to be distributed to members of the Senate when the Morris bill was reported on December 21st. Baker, on the other hand, thought it apparent that the original text of the (Morris) bill was founded on specimens submitted to the Senate Committee, a number being struck in copper for the purpose, as well as for presentation to the different members of both branches of Congress. Breen, as has been said, did not disagree with the Baker reference that the coppers came first, nor did he think it implausible that some 100 cents were made for the 29 Senators and 65 Representatives, serving from Dec., 1791 to March, 1792. Despite considerable conjecture on all sides, we still do not know with any certainty which came first, the Getz patterns or the Morris bill, or if both developed simultaneously. We do know that the recorded silver half dollars, weighing from 193 to 248.75 grains with different planchets and edges, and the known copper cents with similar weights of 220 to 273 grains, all seem to conform to the 108 to 164 grains specified under the terms of the Morris bill. Presumably, the inferior quality of the rollers utilized to fabricate the strips from which the several types of planchets desired were taken was responsible for the wide range of weights known for each denomination. Getz and Birch undoubtedly used primitive equipment and labored under some stress. Time was of the essence, and each desired an appointment in the new Mint. Since there was no time to engrave a suitable reverse for the copper cent patterns, as called for in the Morris bill, the reverse die of the half dollar was used.

To assume that 35 half dollars and 100 cents were struck is quite reasonable, and consistent with the established rarity of the pieces. Breen originally made this assumption, and concluded that the two figures will provide almost the correct ratio of silver to copper specimens surviving. George Fuld has claimed that eighteen silver examples of all kinds still exist, and he could be on target. However, his breakdown of 15 plain edge coins, 2 with circles and squares, plus a single piece with twin squares, plus a single piece with twin olive leaf device, is incorrect. There are possibly a dozen plain edge pieces, 4 or 5 ornamented edge (circles and squares) half dollars, and, as pointed out earlier, two specimens with the twin olive leaves. The unique example with a lettered edge, the Charles II halferown overstrike, was of course not known to Fuld. Friend Fuld has thought that about 70 plain edge copper cents are extant, and six or more with the circles and squares edge. While he may be correct in the latter instance, certainly no more than 40 or 50 copper patterns exist in all grades with the plain edge. Unfortunately, some of the silver strikes are either badly worn or damaged, and several others have been holed and plugged. Likewise, many of the copper patterns are found abused, although the cents are far more easy to obtain in a high state of preservation than the much rarer half dollars.

### 1792 Washington Stars Over Eagle Half Dollar with Lettered Edge

The 1792 Washington Stars over Eagle multi-denominational patterns constitute an elusive and mysterious series. These coins have the WASHINGTON PRESIDENT obverse with 1792 date, and the large heraldic eagle reverse showing twelve stars placed in a semi-circle about the top periphery and a thirteenth star located just above the eagle's head. The reverse die is similar to that used for the familiar 1791 Birmingham made, Westwood-Hancock large eagle cent. Upon the obverse, the uniformed bust of Washington faces left, after the 1778-79 sketch by Du Simitiere, and the reverse displays a similar eagle motif with scroll in beak, but with the eagle arms considerably larger and differently executed. In heraldic terminology, the 1791 cent shows a shield argent, six pales gules, a chief azure. The most distinguishing feature of the 1792 reverse, other than the updating of the eagle-arms design, is the substitution of the thirteen stars for the denomination, ONE CENT. These dies are described by S.S. Crosby as his Obv. 2, Rev. B; they are illustrated by his Figure 98, Page 355, on Plate X, No. 10. Examples are found from them with the edge plain, in both silver and copper, and with the edge lettered (incuse) UNITED STATES OF AMERICA X, in gold, silver and copper.

Taxay, in his "Comprehensive Catalogue and Encyclopedia of U.S. Coins" (1971), lists the silver strike with lettered edge as 3-D, and calls it Rarity-8. He describes all of the pieces as a Half Dollar and places the group under the title of Semi-Official Essays. The Yeoman "Guide Book of United States Coins", 29th Edition, designates all impressions from these dies, regardless of composition, the same way, as an "Eagle Half Dollar". W.S. Baker has the silver (and gold) impressions as his No. 20, but makes no mention of the silver pieces extant with plain edge. All known specimens of this type, save a single copper example with plain edge in the Eric P. Newman collection, are from an obverse die with the 'T' in PRESIDENT above the corner of Washington's shoulder...this follows the obverse legend placement of the 1791 small eagle cent, except on the 1792 coins there is no stop after PRESIDENT. The unique Newman copper piece, Taxay 4, has the 'T' of PRESIDENT placed under the shoulder.

Breen describes these pieces, regardless of metal or variety, as the Washington Eagle cent of 1792. In his opinion, the Washington bust found upon these coins, which closely resembles that on the small eagle cents, is either from a different device punch or the same one extensively reworked. Walter's critical eye notes that the profile is stronger, the nose more Roman, jaw much heavier, eye more deeply set, the brow more sloping, and the collar, truncation of bust, and shoulder more curved, among other differences. Punchlinked with the small eagle coppers, the 1792 Washington Stars over Eagle' dies are undoubtedly by the same die sinker who made both 1791 cents. The authorities agree that this was John Gregory Hancock, Sr., ably assisted by a young apprentice named John Jordan.

These multi-denominational patterns were presumably struck as a small scale speculative issue after the abortive promotion of the large and small eagle cents of 1791. During a visit to Birmingham in 1973, I confirmed the belief that Hancock worked at the establishment of Obadiah Westwood, and that the pieces attributed to him were struck in that die sinker's plant. The fact that the 1792 pieces exist in gold, silver, and copper, as do the 1785 Columbia patterns, which also originated in Birmingham, suggests that the makers, in both instances, were fishing for a coinage contract with the infant republic in America and were prepared to make coins in any or all of the three metals as required. The concept of utilizing a single pair of dies or identical dies for three different denominations, in a period when even Benjamin Franklin suggested the use of medal dies for coin manufacture, could well have been considered an enticing and pragmatic proposition by its proposers. A man who disagrees with this reasoning, Colonial specialist Eric P. Newman, is the long time owner of the solitary specimen in gold known of the 1792 Stars over Eagle patterns. Last winter, in a carefully written two page furtherance of his argument that the coin was Washington's pocket piece, the St. Louis collector contended that the 1792 Birmingham struck coins were actually intended to be cents and the gold and silver impressions were made entirely for presentation. In 1973, Walter Breen, in his "Numismatic News Weekly" series, thought differently: Earlier owners all believed that this (the gold specimen) had been President Washington's pocket piece. In view of his opinions concerning portraiture on coins, this seems unlikely unless indeed it had been given to him as a medal.

The present silver pattern weighs 168.5 grains, compared to the weight of 187 grains given by Crosby, Breen, and Newman. It has been neatly and masterfully plugged, which might explain the weight differential, but the newly resurrected specimen of the Getz half dollar with twin olive leaves upon the edge, obtained with this rarity and analyzed earlier, turns out to be the heaviest of the 1792 Philadelphia struck silver patterns. The plug aside, this remarkably clean appearing coin could honestly be described as Very Fine-30. This is quite likely the example that appeared as Lot 690 in the Edward Cogan auction sale of April 12-13, 1877, where the obverse was illustrated on Plate 1. Probably only four five examples are known of this British half dollar coinage proposal with lettered edge, and only two or three with the edge plain. George Fuld has claimed that five or six lettered edge specimens are extant, plus another four or five with plain edge. Crosby knew of only four, of both varieties, which makes some of us wonder how our friend George arrived at his figures.

Together with this 1792 Westwood-Hancock silver pattern, the Getz Washington half dollar with twin olive leaf device and the Bushnell specimen of the Getz copper cent were purchased early last June as part of a group of Washington items that included at least one medal. The fourth most important coin in the lot turned out to be a Washington Liverpool halfpenny. This assemblage was purchased at the California Long Beach show by Dallas dealer Steve Ivy, who kindly forwarded the three described pieces to me for examination and photography. It is presently believed that they, together with the rest of the group, originated from the W.S. Baker Collection, which has long been the property of a prominent Eastern institution. The strong resurgence of interest in the colonial series, long overdue and brought about partly by the Bicentennial observance, may bring other long buried and forgotten early American coins to light. Hopefully, some of these, as in the present instance, could turn out to be unknown or unpublished examples.

RARE 1791 LIVERPOOL HALFPENNY



Lot No. 35

- 35 **1791 Liverpool Halfpenny. B.17.** Copper. ANGLESEY edge. 136.3 gns. Choice Very Fine. A very attractive example of this rare issue. Both the obverse and reverse are a nice, rich olive brown in color. The surfaces are fairly smooth and hard to the naked eye, showing just some minor microgranularity under magnification. Fairly typical softness in the center of the obverse and reverse, the ship on the back quite indistinct about one third of the way along its hull. Obverse slightly off center, to the bottom, with bases of the date numerals off flan; reverse slightly off center, to the top, with just the tops of a few letters there running off the flan. Struck from the broken state of the reverse, with a pair of pronounced cuds in the ship's rigging and at the top of its main mast, a smaller cud forming between 'FT' in the legend on that side. **Rare:** George Fuld has written that only 25 of these are known.

*Ex A.H. Baldwin & Sons, Ltd. in June, 1965.*

UNIQUE 1791 LIVERPOOL HALFPENNY



Lot No. 36

- 36 **1791 Liverpool Halfpenny. B-unlisted, Breen 1224, Fuld WA.1791.3a.** Copper. **Plain edge.** 141.5 gns. Sharpness of Extremely Fine in many places. A remarkable piece, which appears to have been copperplated at one time (first noticed by Mr. Ford). The obverse is well centered, with the date numerals on flan and just the tops of most letters off but without altering the legibility of the legend. Similarly well centered on the reverse, with all design details and letters in the legend clear. Struck from the usually seen very advanced state of the reverse die with pronounced die cuds. The piece rings nicely and we have no explanation for why it was copperplated. **Unique:** the cataloguer has no records of another specimen with a plain edge.

*Ex Fred Baldwin on June 6, 1967.*



Lot No. 37

- 37 **1793 Ship Halfpenny. B.18.** Copper. Normal ANGLESEY edge. 152.1 gns. Nice Very Fine to Extremely Fine. Both sides are somewhat mottled brown and pale steel gray in color. The surfaces are smooth and hard, free from porosity and flaws. About as well struck as this issue ever comes, the center of the obverse soft due to its age, center of the reverse soft due to extreme die failure, there. Struck from the sinking state of the reverse, the die buckled at the top, center failing, small die cuds present in many of the finer details of the design.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 38



Lot No. 39

- 38 **1793 Ship Halfpenny. B.18.** Copper. Normal ANGLESEY edge. 161.2 gns. Nice Very Fine. Very dark brown, nearly steel gray in color. Good surfaces, just minor flaws on the reverse. Struck from an earlier state of the reverse than seen on the first of these, with most of the central detail of the ship visible, its gunports still clear, and just a few scattered cuds here and there.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

- 39 **1793 Ship Halfpenny. B.18.** Copper. Normal ANGLESEY edge. 161.3 gns. Nice Very Fine. This piece is lighter brown in color on the obverse, somewhat darker on the reverse. Struck from a much later state of both dies, the obverse quite soft on Washington's shoulder, the reverse extremely indistinct almost everywhere at the top and center, the ship fading as if sailing into fog, the die buckling at the top and sinking deeply at the rim at the lower right.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 40



Lot No. 41

- 40 **1795 Grate Token. Large Buttons. B.29.** Copper. LONDON edge. 28.1 mm. 144.3 gns. Extremely Fine. Both sides are toned in a variegated combination of dark and lighter golden brown. The surfaces are smooth and hard and the strike in the centers is about as sharp as one could expect from the grade. Old scratches in center of obverse. **Rare**, fewer than a dozen probably survive. The cataloguer has seen six.

- 41 **1795 Grate Token. Small Buttons. B.29D.** Copper. Reeded edge. 29.0 mm. 143.4 gns. Extremely Fine to About Uncirculated. An important example of this very scarce variety, showing a larger Washington head and much smaller coat buttons. Both sides are toned in a nice, pleasing olive brown. Fairly well struck for the issue, the top of Washington's head soft and the letters in LONDON faint, as often found. Struck from the broken state of the obverse, a field cud forming below 'TON' and another between the letters 'Y G'. Described by Hillyer Ryder on his collector's ticket as "Edge knurled. Very fine. Excessively rare. Head is larger and buttons smaller than on the common variety. Crosby Plate X No 15."

*Ex Richard Winsor Collection (S.H. & H. Chapman, December 16, 1895, lot 261); Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

**LOVELY LIBERTY AND SECURITY PENNY**



Lot No. 42

- 42 **Undated [ca.1795] Liberty and Security Penny. B.30.** ASYLUM edge. Plain rims. 33.0 mm. 305.4 gns. **Choice Brilliant Uncirculated**, red and brown. An attractive example. Both the obverse and reverse fields are somewhat reflective. The obverse is pale golden brown with considerable traces of fading mint red principally in the protected areas. The reverse is a slightly deeper shade of brown with more pronounced mint red in the upper left portion around the letters in the words LIBERTY. Somewhat softly struck on Washington's hair and epaulet on the obverse; eagle's left wing and leg on the reverse. Very typical rim and inner border striking failure, these undated Liberty and Security pennies never seem to be fully struck up, even on outstanding specimens such as this.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

A SECOND LIBERTY AND SECURITY PENNY



Lot No. 43

- 43 **Undated [ca.1795] Liberty and Security Penny. B.30.** ASYLUM edge. Plain rims. 33.3 mm. 302.1 gns. **Brilliant Uncirculated.** Prooflike. A second example. Both sides are light brown in color with some pale blue and rose iridescence. The fields are bright and semi-reflective and show off the central details to full effect. Much better than many of this issue seen, Washington's hair is full, his epaulet is complete, and the eagle's figure is sharp and bold save for the very highest portion of its head. Better and more complete inner borders on both sides than often seen on this issue, particularly on the reverse; fairly typical border softness on the obverse at the upper left.

OUTSTANDING LIBERTY AND SECURITY PENNY

With Engine Turned Rims



Lot No. 44

- 44 **Undated [ca.1795] Liberty and Security Penny. B.30E.** ASYLUM edge. **Engine turned rims.** 33.2 mm. 292.9 gns. **Choice Brilliant Uncirculated.** Prooflike. An outstanding example of this very elusive variety, with engine turned rims. Both the obverse and reverse fields are a nice, rich golden brown. There are considerable traces of fading mint red color on the obverse which is changing into iridescent purple and rose. The reverse is a more uniform pale golden brown. Typically soft on Washington's epaulet but the curl over his ear is sharper than usually seen; eagle's left wing and leg soft, a portion of the planchet below 'SUC' on this side not struck up resulting in failed arrowheads. Elsewhere, the reverse is nicely sharp for the issue. Engine turning on the rims nearly complete on both sides, but given the fact that Liberty and Security undated pennies almost never have fully struck up rims the softness in portions on this piece is not unexpected. This is an issue that is **rare** but also one that seems to come quite nice when a specimen is found. **(SEE COLOR PLATE)**

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

**SILVER PERKINS PATTERN DOLLAR**



*Lot No. 45*



**RARE SILVER WASHINGTON AND FRANKLIN MEDAL**

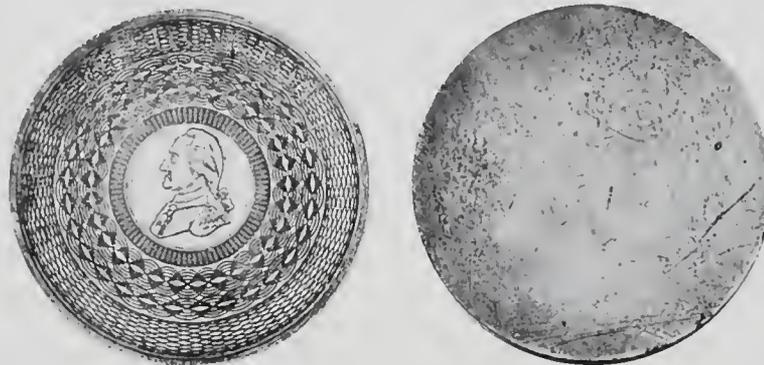


*Lot No. 61*



## THE UNIQUE SILVER PERKINS PATTERN DOLLAR

### Previously Unknown Struck Solid



Lot No. 45

- 45 Undated [ca. 1800-1818] Perkins Pattern Washington Dollar. B.33A; Standard Catalogue (18th.ed.), p.36; Pollock 5067 and Judd Appendix C, p.265 (but shells, this piece unrecorded). Uniface obverse, reverse blank. Solid silver. Plain edge. 41.7 mm. Rims 3.0-3.2 mm. thick. 705.1 gns. Essentially as struck, appearance of Choice Very Fine. An absolutely remarkable piece of Washingtonia. The obverse design is composed of three bands of intricate steel rule engraving. The outer band, of tightly drawn lozenges, encircles a second band of more open design, which in turn surrounds an inner band of very tight engraving. At the top of the first band of engraving can be read, somewhat faintly, WASHINGTON (incuse). The central portrait appears to be that of Perkins' Washington bust used on his 1799-1800 Washington Funeral medals (see below for a selection of these). The reverse is blank and its roughness shows the original surface of the planchet used to coin this piece. The struck obverse side is toned in a rich silver gray shade around the central portrait, which is mostly light golden brown and pale silver gray. The intricate engraving, for which Jacob Perkins was famous, was certainly meant to be an anti-counterfeiting measure. However, given the degree of skill required to produce this precise engraving, and its inevitable cost, the proposal could not have been attractive to the Mint.

**Unique and unrecorded** as a solid strike. The Judd and Pollock books both reference the thin planchet specimen H.O. Granberg showed at the 1914 ANS exhibition that has the obverse design showing incuse on the back. Granberg's piece was lost in the mails in the late 1950's while on its way from Wayte Raymond to F.C.C. Boyd. Raymond had photographed it to illustrate *The Standard Catalogue of United States Coins*. Unlike Granberg's now lost uniface shell, this piece is solid through and through and the back is blank. The reason for making this type is uncertain but it is fairly obvious that it ties in with the 1818 Perkins pattern Cent and the 1819 Perkins pattern Liberty Dollar. Perkins was the most advanced engraver of his time in the United States and his anti-counterfeiting measures for paper currency were state of the art. Perhaps he thought to turn his hand towards making the nation's coinage equally secure against counterfeiters. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*





Lot No. 46



Lot No. 47



- 46 **Undated [ca.1795] North Wales Halfpenny. Single stars flanking harp. B.34.** Plain edge. 26.8 mm. 92.3 gns. Fine to Very Fine. Both the obverse and reverse are toned in a pale olive brown shade. The surfaces are mostly smooth and hard in appearance to the naked eye. Very typical strike, with considerable lack of definition on Washington's head, shoulder, and in the center of the reverse harp. No important defects requiring mention.

- 47 **Undated [ca.1795] North Wales Halfpenny. Single stars flanking harp. B.34A, Breen 1296.** LANCASTER edge. 27.2 mm. 141.4 gns. Fine to Very Fine. Both sides are toned in a dark olive brown shade. The surfaces appear rough on the obverse, somewhat granular on the reverse. A little better struck than often seen, with more definition in Washington's figure on the obverse and most of the harpstrings visible on the reverse. No really important defects requiring mention, just a few ties here and there commensurate with the piece's age and circulation wear. **Rare:** there are probably more than the six specimens Fuld (1995) traced and the eight to ten Breen (1988) estimated, but the census almost certainly would not exceed 15 to 20 specimens. The cataloguer has tracked only eight.

*Ex Fred Baldwin on June 6, 1967.*

### REMARKABLE TWO STARS NORTH WALES HALFPENNY

#### Plain Edge Struck in Brass



Lot No. 48

- 48 **Undated [ca.1795] North Wales Halfpenny. Double stars flanking harp. B.35.** Brass. Plain edge. 27.0 mm. 111.3 gns. Choice Very Fine. Both the obverse and reverse are toned in a rich, pleasing olive brown shade. The surfaces are actually smooth and hard, appearing rough principally due to the advanced state of the obverse die. Quite soft on the obverse, Washington's facial features can be seen clearly but his hair, shoulder, and most uniform detail is gone. The legend GEORGEIWS WASHINGTON can be read, with some difficulty. On the reverse the center of the crown is soft, the harp strings are somewhat faint but mostly present, the legend above NORTH WALES is legible, and the all important double stars on each side of the harp are clear and bold (plainly, the reason why this particular piece was collected as opposed to others which might have been sharper on the obverse). Struck from quite late states of both dies, the obverse considerably later than seen on the pieces in the preceding two lots, with the break in left field longer and a new and more damaging break arcing from the rim at about 1:00 down through the top of Washington's head, ending in the left field in front of his forehead; and other signs of damage elsewhere on this side. A remarkable specimen with strong claims to **finest known status. Extremely rare.**

There are said to be six known in brass (the issue is known in copper, too) but the cataloguer can find recent records of only one, Stack's sale of December, 1994, lot 898, Very Good to Fine, the Fuld/Baker plate piece. He can find records of four struck in copper: Rosa Americana 13, lot 453, Very Good; Roper:398, bought by Bill Anton; Steinberg:208; and a specimen shown to be copper in March, 1994 when it was tested by J.P. Martin, then of ANAAB, using SEM x-ray spectroscopy. The Norweb piece is listed as brass but this is unconfirmed. Fuld WA.1795.8 appears to conflate brass and copper pieces.

*Ex Fred Baldwin on June 6, 1967.*



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## THE WASHINGTON BEFORE BOSTON MEDAL

by

George M. Fuld

Our friend George Fuld, who is Stack's special consultant on Washingtoniana, published this study of the famous Washington Before Boston Medal in the *TAMS Journal* back in the fall, 1963. Over the years since, a few new ideas about the different varieties of the medal have been presented but the essence of the story remains as George described it, here. While his study is no longer the last word on the medals it is still the classic starting point for all collectors of the Washington Before Boston medallic series. Stack believes that the new generation of collectors, who may not know of the study or may be unable to obtain a copy of the *Journal* issue in which it appeared, will benefit from reading it. The present editor has left references to plates as they originally appeared in George's article because they are supplemented by descriptions that are of value to the collector. The acknowledgements section has not been included, here. The article is adapted with George's kind permission.

Undoubtedly the most famous and most important Washington medal is the Washington Before Boston medal,—it was the first medal authorized by Congress in 1776, although due to various circumstances, it was not struck until 1786 (at the Paris Mint). However, the most amazing fact about the Washington Before Boston medal is, that although listed in dozens of references, and illustrated in at least six (Wyatt, Snowden, Loubat, Johnston, Raymond and Magriel), the original medal has never been illustrated (and on most occasions, the original has been improperly described).

Since the 1880's, it has been generally acknowledged that the method of detecting a restrike Washington Before Boston medal, is that the original medal has four horses' hoofs showing under Washington's horse, while the restrike has three legs under the horse. However, as will be discussed in this article, there are five distinct restrikes, from four different obverse dies (one of which is the original obverse die) and five different restrike reverses (in addition to the original reverse used on the "original" medal that was presented to Washington in both gold and silver). Amazingly enough, of the five different reverses used for restrikes, only two show three hoofs under Washington's horse, and the other three show four hoofs under Washington's horse. To further complication the picture, restrikes (in late golden bronze) are still available from the Paris mint (dies of the 5th restrike) from the U.S. Mint at Philadelphia (dies of the 4th restrike) and both of these current dies show four hoofs showing under Washington's horse. In addition, the American restrike has the correct punctuation in the exergue legend on the reverse, which is also supposed to be indicative of the original Washington Before Boston medal.

To understand the very confusing situation of five different restrikes of an original medal, the history and background of this medal is most enlightening.

### History of the Medal

The medal was ordered by the Continental Congress to commemorate the Evacuation of Boston on March 17, 1776. It is said that this country can never produce a more notable memorial. It is the first medal of a nation, and a record of that nation's first victory. Congress, then sitting in Philadelphia, was surprised and delighted by the official announcement that the British had left Boston; and the representatives of the struggling Colonies gave expression to their gratitude in the following resolution:

“Resolved, That the thanks of this Congress, in their own name, and in the name of the thirteen united Colonies whom they represent, be presented to his Excellency Gen. Washington, and the officers and soldiers under his command, for their wise and spirited conduct in the siege and acquisition of Boston; and that a medal be struck in commemoration of this great event, and presented to his Excellency; and that a committee of three be appointed to prepare a letter of thanks, and proper device for the medal.

Monday, March 25, 1776”

The three members chosen were Messrs. Adams, Jay and Hopkins. The mutual congratulations among the members of the committee, the president of the Congress, John Hancock, and Washington are enlightening. One writer comments that the letter written by Mr. Hancock was in such a stiff and courtly style, that the conviction arises that he may still have felt the sting of disappointment in regard to not having received the command of the army. The official letter of congratulations and of the award of the gold medal is contained in the following letter from Hancock to Washington:

PHILADELPHIA, April 2, 1776

To  
GENERAL WASHINGTON

SIR: It gives me the most sensible pleasure to convey to you, by order of Congress, the only tribute a free people will ever consent to pay—the tribute of thanks and gratitude to their friends and benefactors. The disinterested and patriotic principles which led you to glory; and it affords no little consolation to your countrymen to reflect that, as a peculiar greatness of mind induced to you decline any compensation for serving them, except the pleasure of promoting their happiness, they may, without your permission, bestow upon you the largest share of their affections and esteem.

Those pages in the annals of American history will record your title to a conspicuous place in the temple of fame which shall inform posterity that, under your direction, an undisciplined band of husbandmen, in the course of a few months, became soldiers; and that the desolation meditated against the country by a brave army of veterans, commanded by the most experienced generals, but employed by bad men in the worst of causes, was, by the fortitude of your troops, and in the address of their officers, next to the kind interposition of Providence, admit more room than was necessary for the encampments and fortifications they lately abandoned. Accept, therefore, Sir, the thanks of the United Colonies, unanimously declared by their delegates and be pleased to communicate them this distinguished mark of the approbation of their country. The Congress have ordered a golden medal, adapted to the occasion, to be struck, and, when finished, to be presented to you.

I have the honour to be, with every sentiment of esteem, Sir your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President

On the same day, John Adams, as a member of the committee, wrote to Washington, congratulating him and telling him of the medal. His letter is as follows:

PHILADELPHIA, April 2, 1776

TO  
GENERAL WASHINGTON

SIR: I congratulate you, as well as all the friends of mankind, in the reduction of Boston, an event which appeared to me of so great and decisive importance, that, the next morning after the arrival of the news, I did myself the honour to move for the thanks of Congress to Your Excellency, and that a medal of gold should be struck in commemoration of it. Congress have been pleased to appoint me, with two other gentlemen, to prepare a device. I should be very happy to have Your Excellency's sentiments concerning a proper one.

I have the honour to be, with a great respect, Sir, your most Obedient and Affectionate servant,

JOHN ADAMS

In reply to the letter from Adams, Washington wrote as follows:

NEW YORK, April 15, 1776

TO  
JOHN ADAMS, Esq.

Sir,—I am impressed with the deepest gratitude for the high honour intended me by Congress. Whatever devices may be determined upon by the respectable committee they have chosen for that purpose, will be highly agreeable to me. I have the honour to be, Most respectfully, Sir, Your most obedient and affectionate humble servant.

G. WASHINGTON

Interestingly enough, although this was the first medal authorized by Congress, even predating the Declaration of Independence, it was not the first medal struck by order of Congress. The reasons for this were probably consequent upon the difficulty in procuring an acceptable model of the head of Washington for the engraver to copy. (In the opinion of Mr. H.P. Arnold, the delay was also due to incompetency of the men in France who were to engage the French mint to execute the medal).

As is well known, very few lifelike portraits of Washington were available before 1790, and certainly the contemporary medals of Washington before 1830 reflect this in their remarkable disparity from any accepted lifelike portrait in most cases.

It was ten years after the date of the original resolution of the Congress that the order for the Washington Before Boston medal was given to the French artist Duvivier to make dies for the medal, the design having been officially approved.

The next official correspondence of record in regard to the medal is a letter to General Washington in 1785 from Col. Humphreys; though undoubtedly there was prior correspondence among the committee in regard to the medal. It had been decided that the medal should be struck in France and Humphreys was in charge of getting the medal produced.

Meanwhile, eight other medals had been ordered by the Continental Congress in compliment to gallant officers. It appears that the 'respectable committee' modestly declined to accept the delicate responsibility of selecting 'proper devices' for the Washington medal, very wisely appreciating its difficulties. However, they did call upon the French Royal Academy of Inscriptions and Belles-Lettres to propose the design and contemporary records at the meeting of the academy give the exact design as proposed to Washington in Col. Humphreys' letter of May, 1785.

Col. Humphreys' letter to Washington is as follows:

PARIS, May, 1785

MY DEAR GENERAL,—Upon leaving America, Mr. Morris invested me with the power of procuring the several honorary presents which have been voted by Congress to different officers in their service during the late war. The Royal Academy of Inscriptions and Belles-Lettres, to whom I have addressed a letter on the subject, have furnished me with the following device and inscription which is to be executed for your Excellency: One side the head of the general. Legend: 'Georgio Washington, supreme Ducis exercitum Adsertori Liberatis comitia Americana.' On the reverse, Taking possession of Boston. The American Army advances in good order toward the town, which is seen at a distance; while the British army flies with precipitation toward the shore, to embark on board the vessels with which the harbor is covered. In the front of the American army appears the general on horseback in a group of officers, whom he seems to make observe the flight of the enemy beyond. Legend: 'Hostibus Primo Fugatio'. Exergue, Bostonium Recuperatum Die XVII Martii, MCCCLXXVI.

I think it has the character of simplicity and dignity, which is to be aimed at in a memorial of this kind, which is designed to transmit the remembrance of a great deed to posterity. You really do not know how much your name is venerated on this side of the Atlantic. I have the honor to be, my dear general, your sincere friend and humble servant,

D. HUMPHREYS

Col. Humphreys left Paris for London before the work on the medal was begun, and the matter was placed in charge of Thomas Jefferson. The following letter from Humphreys proves this to have been nearly ten years after the congressional order:

LONDON, Jan. 30, 1786

To  
THOMAS JEFFERSON, Esq., Paris.

DEAR SIR,—Gatteau the engraver lives in the Street St. Thomas du Louvre, opposite the treasury of the Duke de Chartres. Now that there is no obstacle to commencing the medal for General Washington since Houdon's return, I could wish, should it not be giving you too much trouble, that you would send for Duvivier, who lies in the old Louvre, and propose to him undertaking it upon exactly the terms he had offered, which, I think, were twenty-four livres besides the gold, and expense of coinage. If he should not choose it, we must let it rest until Dupre shall have finished Gen. Green's. Gatteau has a paper on which is the description of Gen. Washington's medal.

I am, sir, your most obedient and humble servant,

D. HUMPHREYS

## THE WASHINGTON BEFORE BOSTON MEDAL

Jefferson acted promptly on these suggestions; and assuredly the commission was undertaken in his usual good taste. To Col. Humphreys he wrote:

PARIS, May 7, 1786.

DEAR SIR,—I have received the books and papers you mention, and will undertake to have finished what you left undone on the medals, or at least will proceed in it till the matter shall be put in better hands. I am dear sir, your friend and servant,

TH. JEFFERSON.

Undoubtedly the Washington medal was struck in gold for General Washington in 1786, and sent to him for presentation, although for some unknown reason there is no formal record of the presentation, nor any record until immediately after his death in 1799.

Although no formal reply was received from Washington to Humphreys' letter of May, 1785, the medal as executed by Duvivier was exactly as described in his letter (with the Latin spelling errors being corrected). The description of the medal as issued shows the bust of Washington, facing right modeled after Houdon's famous portraits. This profile bust modeled from the Houdon bust, is the classical representation of Washington, although from what is deduced from more life like pictures as well as his death mask, it is sometimes eulogized in its characterization. The legend around the obverse reads *GEORGIO WASHINGTON SUPREMO DUCI EXERCITVVM ADSERTORI LIBERTIS* which freely translated means "To General George Washington Supreme Commander of the Armies and Establisher of Liberty." Below the bust is *COMITIA AMERICANA*, a legend that appears below the other eight medals authorized by Congress from 1777 to 1781 to other Commanders. Freely translated, it means "American Committee" and refers to the official authorization by the Continental Congress.

The reverse of the medal is likewise as proposed in Humphreys' letter, and an enlargement of the reverse is shown on Plate I [all references to plates will be found in the original 1963 TAMSJ publication-ed.]. The legend above, *HOSTIBUS PRIMO FUGATIS* freely translated means "The enemy first put to flight." The exergue legend below in three lines is as follows *BOSTONIUM RECUPERATUM/XVII, MARTII/MDCCLXXVI*. The translation of the legend is "Boston retaken 17, March, 1776." The diameter of the medal is 2 and 11/16ths inches or 78mm. The weight of the silver medal is approximately [see the Ford specimen-ed.] and the weight of the original bronze medals is approximately [see the Ford specimens-ed.].



Since it is the object of this paper to unravel the chronology of the original medal and the five restrikes of it, it is important to understand which dies were made when. Fortunately, both the original gold medal presented to Washington, and a silver medal presented him by the French government are still in existence, so it is easy to determine by comparison to these two specimens which medal represents the original dies (needless to say, there can only be one set of original dies—all other dies and the pieces made from them must be restrikes!!). Of course, part of the confusion among the pieces lies in the fact that the two key classical methods for the determination of the original—the four horses hoofs showing under Washington's horse on the reverse and the periods in the lower exergue legend are invalid as mentioned in the introduction. The rest of the confusion lies in the fact that undoubtedly the dies used for the original medal were not the artists' first rendition of the piece.

Pierre Simon Duvivier was a famous die sinker employed by the Americans in Paris to engrave the Washington medal and several others of the nine pieces authorized by Congress from 1776 to 1781 (Gatteaux and Dupré engraved the others as well as Duvivier). Three die trials of the medal are known, and are shown on Plate IV. The rejected obverse die, designated Obv. R in the plate is to our knowledge only known in a single example in the Norweb collection. It differs from the accepted design in three respects. There is a dividing line below the bust to offset the legend COMITIA AMERICANA—actually this dividing line appears on all but one of the other eight medals authorized from 1777 to 1781, but was apparently rejected by Jefferson. In addition, the legend uses the letter 'U' rather than the letter 'V' as on the accepted design. Also, the bust itself differs in the treatment of the hair—the bow is larger and the hair rather than curling upwards at the end curls slightly downward. The die trial, obv. R is apparently made by the splashing method (molten lead poured into the die and allowed to harden), and adhering to the rough plain reverse in mirror image (the photograph was printed in reverse to show the lettering correctly) are remains of some printing. As a guess, the inscription reads 'Ethis destroyee per ordre de Jopseh Veytax Ouis, G—', which indicates that the rejected obverse was destroyed, and undoubtedly a few lead splashings were taken as souvenirs.

The rejected reverse, Rev. X, was obviously not destroyed after it was made, and is a definite clue as to the original of the first restrike. Baker, on page 29 in a footnote mentions the existence of this reverse, but its significance was missed. The design of this piece is almost identical to the accepted reverse A, differing slightly in the placing of exergue lettering, and in the length of the gun in the left soldier's hand (pointing towards the border), in the shape of the 'O' in PRIMO (it is slightly oval, not round as on the Rev. A), but the most striking difference is in the date which reads MCCLXXVI or 1276, not 1776 (the 'D' was omitted). This error in the date is obviously the reason the die was rejected.

Since many people wanted copies of Washington's medal, a number of specimens were undoubtedly struck in both bronze and silver in addition to the gold presentation piece. Undoubtedly in the course of striking, the reverse die was shattered, and to expedite the preparation of the new reverse, the Rev. X was corrected by over cutting the 'D' over the 'M' and placing the new M just to the left. This is obviously the origin of the first restrike reverse, Rev. B. By comparing Rev. B to Rev. X, the over cutting is apparent, and the differences mentioned above in describing Rev. X are readily apparent from the accepted die, Rev. A. Since this first restrike piece was probably struck before 1820, the French Mint did not mark the edges CUIVRE or ARGENT, which distinguishes all subsequent French mint restrikes. Unfortunately when compiling his booklet *Early Medals of Washington*, Wayte Raymond did not know of this first restrike, type I-B, and illustrated this instead of the real specimen. The error was repeated, since the identical cut (the medal was from Raymond's collection) was used to illustrate Shepard Pond's article on the Webster silver presentation set which contained Washington's silver specimen of his award medal. Baker should have suspected the existence of this first restrike from his footnote, but having probably never compared bronze specimens with Washington's two original pieces, the differences were probably overlooked.

The other die trial shown on Plate IV is the accepted obverse I, and might have not been a trial shell, but made later (it does not show any of the die breaks of the obverse readily discernible on Type I-C).

Before going into the history of the known pieces, the chronology of the other known restrikes is helpful. The accepted (from the literature) restrike, is the classical one with three legs showing under Washington's horse, and was made at the French mint, probably about 1830. All specimens seen have the words ARGENT, CUIVRE or BRONZE stamped on the edge clearly indicating that they are restrikes. The early restrikes in silver (ARGENT on the edge) and bronze (CUIVRE on the edge—the color of the metal is a dark chocolate shade) were made undoubtedly over a period of years. The obverse shows a number of die breaks and flakes for instance over the E of GEORGIO and under the long curl near the bust truncation. Also, on the bust itself are a number of rust spots, clearly visible to the naked eye (see Plate II). This is the second restrike, type I-C. The reverse differs from the original, not only in the number of hoofs showing under the horse, but has no periods in the lower exergue legend, and the gun in the soldier's hand immediately to the left of Washington is quite short. The piece is listed as Baker 48 and Raymond 2.

Actually the dies of the second restrike were in use until about 1890, as a few specimens struck in 'late bronze' have been seen. This finish, introduced by the French mint about 1890 is the current 'golden bronze' used on medals by both the French and U.S. mints, and on the French pieces, may be distinguished by the edge lettering BRONZE. Actually, on these pieces, (see illustration on Plate V), the die flakes on the obverse have been removed, and the die slightly retouched. In addition, a large die break has begun to appear over the HOS of HOSTIBUS—probably only a few of these late restrikes from the third set of dies were made, as the broken reverse necessitated the issuance of the Fifth Restrike by the French mint, probably about 1910. This combination, Type IV-F, has a very similar obverse to that of the late strike of Type I-C (see Plate V) but as may be seen on Plate III, the new Rev. F is very similar to the second restrike reverse, Rev. C, but to help confuse the collecting public, there are now four hoofs showing under Washington's horse, and there is no punctuation in the lower exergue legend. Probably this piece was first made about 1910, and on the edge has BRONZE FRANCE—it is assumed that later restrikes, probably after 1930 have the single name BRONZE on the edge. These pieces are still available through the French Mint, and about 1960 specimens were even struck in silver (the edge is stamped ARGENT), and at one time were offered for sale in the United States as originals at \$35.00 apiece.

The first American made restrikes of the Before Boston medal were made by the U.S. Mint at Philadelphia about 1860 (the third restrike, Type II-D). At this time, officials of the Mint were trying to build up their collection of U.S. coinage, but more especially their collection of Washington pieces under the direction of J.R. Snowden. Besides their somewhat clandestine escapades into restriking regular U.S. coinage (half cents, patterns and 1804 dollars!!), they also began to issue medals for sale to the collecting public-naturally the series of medals awarded by Congress from 1776 to date were a natural. Unfortunately dies for many of the early pieces were at the Mint in Paris, and they would not release them to the U.S. Mint (in other cases the dies were lost, or shattered beyond usefulness). Thus, since they were unable to obtain the dies, new ones were prepared. The Washington Before Boston medal was of course a natural, and the Third Restrike dies were made by a gun metal transfer process-losing some of the detail of the original piece-the model medal used was the second French restrike (Type I-C)-of course the lettering was touched up after the transfer. These pieces, made for sale to the general public were only struck in the old dark bronze, and were struck at various periods up unto about 1890. At that time, these dies became useless, and a new set was prepared.

The Fourth Restrike (Type III-E), is the dies currently in use by the Mint at Philadelphia-they have the superficial resemblance to the original medal, in that once again four hoofs show under Washington's horse, and for the third time (Obv. A and B) the reverse exergue legend has period punctuation. However, even a cursory comparison to any of the early pieces, shows that an entirely new set of letter punches was used-this is especially noticeable in the legend HOSTIBUS PRIMO FUGATIS where it has no resemblance to the original letter punches. The 'O' of PRIMO is especially different.

The early strikings of the Fourth restrike were made in the dark chocolate bronze which was the standard finish up to about 1900-after that the light golden bronze was used and the current medals available from the Mint in Philadelphia at \$4.00 apiece use these same dies. (It was this identical piece that was confused as an original in the Washingtonia article in *Antiques* magazine in 1957, and more recently in the February 22, 1963 issue of *Coin World*).

At the conclusion of this article, a list of the illustrations of the Before Boston medal in previously published literature is given, and all but one of the illustrations shows one or another of the various restrikes. In addition a list of known pieces is given, with an indication of rarity, and a separate listing of tentative valuations is given in a separate table [this omitted-ed.].

To further round out this study of the Before Boston medal, three other related pieces are shown on the plates. On Plate III, a contemporary silver cast of a Before Boston medal is shown, as mentioned by Wayte Raymond under his listing of the original piece. Actually this cast is from the Second Restrike (Type I-C), from the Raymond collection-the hallmarks on the edge we have been unable to identify, except that obviously the silver used was 800 fine. There is definite evidence of tooling in the field of the medal after it was cast, as may be seen from the photograph.

On the bottom of Plate IV is shown a blue and white porcelain medallion in imitation of the obverse of the Before Boston medal. This is the only similar piece we have discovered, and although its fabric suggests the style of Wedgwood, various porcelain authorities have attributed it to France at the period of about 1800. (The piece obtained in the 'Flea Market' of Paris in 1960).

The third miscellaneous piece included on Plate V, is shown only for completeness. The medal shown is mentioned by Baker in a footnote on page 28, where A. Dumarest of New York exactly copied the bust of the Before Boston medal by Duvivier, but signed his name. The piece is not struck, but only an electrotype-no struck specimens are known. The piece actually is rather scarce, but has little direct relation to the Before Boston medal.

The pedigree history of the gold and silver original Before Boston medals that were in the possession of General Washington is quite fascinating, and has been covered in considerable detail in the literature. However, since most of the references discussing these pieces are not readily accessible, a summary of the history of both pieces (the gold piece is at the Boston Public Library and the silver specimen is located at the Massachusetts Historical Society in Boston) is given in the appendix. Only one other impression from the original dies in silver is known. Baker said that supposedly other specimens in silver (he only knew of one) were supposedly in existence-however in the past hundred years there have been no auction records or published reports of any other silver specimen except the Webster piece at the M.H.S.

### List of Known Pieces

Original Type I-A Gold-unique, in collection of Boston Public Library (from General Washington's 'Iron Chest') R-10 (About 1931 a gold specimen, of unknown dies was offered for sale to Stack's of New York by a group of gypsies, and the author was told by a reputable French dealer that one in gold was in a private collection in France. It is extremely doubtful that either of these are from original dies (it is thought the 'gypsy' piece was melted for gold value) as anyone could order a medal struck by the French Mint in gold by supplying the bullion and paying a striking cost-probably any gold pieces that turn up will be the second restrike type (Type I-C).

Silver-Two known. R-9. One ex. Gen. Washington, in the Webster case of eleven silver medals at the Mass. Hist. Soc. And the second known specimen in Fuld Collection from old medal collection formed in Lima, Peru and sent to this country in 1961.

Bronze-probably 5 or 6 specimens known. Presently located specimens in Fuld and Norweb coll. One in Parsons sale, probably original. R-8.

SILVER WASHINGTON BEFORE BOSTON MEDAL



Lot No. 49



SILVER WASHINGTON BEFORE BOSTON MEDAL

The Great Prize in the Washington Series



Lot No. 49

- 49 1776 Washington Before Boston Medal. B.47A, Julian MI.1. Original. Silver. 68.1 mm. Rims 4.8 - 5.2 mm. thick. 2,562.7 gns. **Extremely Fine**, reflective fields. The single most historic of all early American medals and the prize of all Washingtonia collections. Struck at Paris to the order of the Continental Congress as an acknowledgement of Washington's victory over the British forces at Boston. The obverse is light silver in the fields, darker gray and pale gold around the rim. The reverse is a similar light gray in the fields, darker gray on the high points, with some areas of pale gold principally around the rim on this side. The surfaces are somewhat reflective, still retaining portions of their original mirror brilliance.

Well struck for such a massive silver medal, Washington's hair is soft only on its highest points. The very tip of his tricorne hat on the reverse is flat but the horse's rump still retains its rounded shape, as do the cannons lying in the right foreground. The fields show a myriad of tiny haymarks under magnification, but there are no really important defects or signs of damage; the small rim test mark on the reverse at 3:00 may be noted, but is essentially trivial. **Extremely rare:** the catalogue has recorded only five (seen four) and there may be no more than that number surviving, including: **this;** Massachusetts Historical Society; Dreyfuss:5224; LaRiviere:3026; private collection. Obverse: Washington's bust facing right; reverse: Washington and aides-de-camp on Dorchester Heights observing the British evacuating Boston, ranks of American troops drawn up on the near shore, cannons and a battery to the right. Struck from early states of both dies, the obverse rust not as developed as usually seen on bronze originals, the reverse unbuckled. Two small specks of rust on the obverse, the first below 'GE' and the second to the left of the engraver's name; the rust spot at the rim above 'E' in ADSERTORI is present but has not yet extended through that letter; no other rust spots of any size evident to the naked eye. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

Ex Jean Vinchon, Paris on May 30, 1967.

## THE FINEST SEEN ORIGINAL BRONZE BOSTON MEDAL



Lot No. 50

- 50 **1776 Washington Before Boston Medal. B.47B, J.MI.1. Original. Bronze.** 68.1 mm. Rims 4.7 - 5.8 mm. thick. 2,379.7 gns. **Choice Uncirculated.** A magnificent specimen and the **Finest Seen** by the cataloguer. An absolutely remarkable example. The obverse is a rich combination of medium brown, pale orange, light rose, and very delicate green. There is a distinct "wood grain" surface effect on Washington's neck and cheek. The reverse is a similar combination of rich brown, pale orange, rose, and delicate green and purple shades. The surfaces are clear, smooth, hard, sharp and still show some of their original reflectivity. The strike is remarkably sharp and under magnification it can be seen that the piece was struck at least four separate times in the Paris Mint's medal press. All of Washington's hair detail is sharp, his eyebrow is distinct and its details separate, and the furrows in his brow are bold. On the reverse, Washington's figure is sharp, the nearest corner of his tricorne hat is crisp, his horse's rump is rounded, and the cannon nearest the observer on the lower right is sharp and bold clear around its circumference.

In the distance, individual windows in the buildings in Boston can be seen without the aid of magnification and some gunports can be made out on the leading British ships. Struck from later states of both dies, as expected, the obverse quite rusty, with the first two spots that usually grow on this side, below 'GE' and to the left of the engraver's name, here advanced. Additional spots now appear below 'M' of SUPREMO and the die rust spot above 'E' of ADSERTORI has extended now and runs through that letter. A small area of die rust is beginning to appear in the right obverse field, about on a level with Washington's chin. On the reverse, the die is quite clearly buckled across the surface, best visible in the area above Boston. (*SEE COLOR PLATE*)

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

A LOVELY ORIGINAL BRONZE BOSTON MEDAL



Lot No. 51

- 51 1776 Washington Before Boston Medal. B.47B, J.MI.1. Original. Bronze. 68.8 mm. Rims 4.4 - 5.6 mm. thick. 2,351.2 gns. Extremely Fine. The obverse is a combination of deep orange and mahogany with some areas verging on black while the reverse is mostly dark brown verging on black. The surfaces on both sides still retain some of their original mint brilliance. Good strike on the obverse, most of Washington's hair detail is clear save for a touch of softness on the very highest point. On the reverse, the horse's rump shows clear softness and the nearest corner of Washington's hat is somewhat flat. Rim cut on obverse at about 2:00; some scattered marks elsewhere on each side. Struck from the rusted state of the obverse and the moderately buckled state of the reverse.

*Ex Etienne Page, Paris on June 10, 1969.*



Lot No. 52

- 52 1776 Washington Before Boston Medal. B.47B, J.MI.1. Original. Bronze. 68.8 mm. Rims 4.5 - 5.4 mm. thick. 2,278.9 gns. Extremely Fine. The obverse is a combination of deep mahogany and orange in the fields, slightly lighter on Washington's hair. The reverse is dark brown on the left, lighter mahogany elsewhere, with a pale gold rim. Some softness evident on Washington's hair and on the highest points on the reverse (the rump of Washington's horse, for one). The surfaces still have some residual mint brilliance remaining. Short obverse nick in lower left field; several stray haymarks on the table above the view of Boston on the reverse. Struck from the rusted state of the obverse, about as seen on the preceding lot; reverse die also moderately buckled, not yet close to failure.

*Ex Glendining's sale of June 23, 1976, lot 181.*

## EXTREMELY RARE ERROR REVERSE VARIETY



Lot No. 53

- 53 1776 Washington Before Boston Medal. B.47Z, types of J.MI.1. Original obverse, error reverse. Bronze. 68.0 mm. Rims 5.3 - 5.8 mm. thick. 2,613.4 gns. **About Uncirculated. Prooflike.** Quite possibly the finest of this variety known. **Error date:** the reverse engraved MCCLXXVI (i.e., 1276 instead of 1776, the Roman D for 500 being accidentally omitted from the date). **Extremely rare:** one of just three specimens known, the others being the Dreyfuss:5228 and LaRiviere:3029 examples. The obverse and reverse are both toned in a lovely, rich and even orange brown. The surfaces still show considerable original mint brilliance, and are somewhat reflective. The strike is sharp on both sides save for the very highest portion of the obverse and reverse, where Washington's hair curl over his ear is a bit soft and his horse's rump shows flatness. Elsewhere, this piece is crystal clear, with the windows in the buildings in Boston visible in the distance, the cannon nearest the observer sharp clear around, and furrows in Washington's worried brow still clear and bold. There are no important defects requiring specific mention save for a scattering of tiny toning flecks on the obverse.

This specimen was studied by Glenn Mooney in 1976 and **plated by George Fuld for his 1985 Baker update.** All three specimens known grade About Uncirculated or so, showing they have not passed through many hands and have been well cared for (most original perfect date bronzes cannot make that claim). Struck from a very late state of the obverse die, with extra rust on Washington's neck and chin, the usual rust spots thicker and/or longer, and the entire obverse table quite rusty (visible only under magnification). Clearly struck after the silver originals in this, the Dreyfuss, and LaRiviere sales; similarly, later than the Daniel Webster specimen. From the state of this obverse, it appears that these error reverse medals were struck contemporaneously with some bronze originals but earlier than the first restrikes with the new reverse.

It is very likely, therefore, that the error reverse pieces represent the first new reverse meant to replace the buckling original reverse. The error discovered after some had been struck, the die was replaced with the one that has been called the first Paris Mint restrike. The error reverse, then, could be dated circa 1800 and is the real "first restrike". Until recently it had been surmised that the error reverse was the first cut and its rare offspring represented rejected "trials". Mooney certainly thought so and described it as such in a November 22, 1976 letter to Ford (which will be found in the Ford archives when they are moved to the care of the American Numismatic Society once the series of sales is concluded). The Dreyfuss cataloguer saw something anomalous in the canonical sequence but did not pursue his suspicions. The LaRiviere cataloguer saw the same impossibility in the accepted die emission sequence and helpfully described his findings at greater length.

*Ex Etienne Page, Paris on June 10, 1969.*

CURIOUS WASHINGTON BEFORE BOSTON VARIANT



Lot No. 54

- 54 **1776 Washington Before Boston Medal. B.47, bis.** Uniface. Bronzed silver. Oval 55.2 x 64.0 mm. 2.6 - 2.8 mm. thick. 1,186.9 gns. As made. Obverse deep orange and brown; reverse same color in the center, silvery around the periphery. Plain edge, also silvery in appearance. On first glance, a die trial from the original reverse without exergual inscription and with no trace of the legend at the top. However, on closer inspection, clearly struck from the buckled state of the reverse die and therefore a delicacy made for a collector. The piece has acquired a certain cachet which we are happy to pass on to its next owner. Believed by Mr. Ford to have been a die trial of the central motif of a stage of the obverse design, without the exergual inscription. See the *TAMS Journal* v.3, n.4 (September-December, 1963) for this.

*Ex J. Florange, Paris on June 9, 1965.*

NOTES ON A SILVER WASHINGTON BEFORE BOSTON MEDAL

The following letter, written by Mr. Ford, was published in Spink & Sons, Ltd. *Numismatic Circular* v.77, n.5 (November, 1969). It was in response to a challenge to the authenticity of the silver specimen that was last sold in the LaRiviere auction. The challenge was ludicrous at the time but offered Mr. Ford an opportunity to share some of what he knew about the medal with collectors around the world. We reprint it here with Mr. Ford's permission for the younger generation to whom it will be both new and instructive.

At the time of the sale which took place at Glendining's on 30th October, 1968, Mr. Diarmuid Brennan wrote a letter to the Sale Room Correspondent of *The Times*, raising doubt as to the authenticity of Lot 241, the Washington Before Boston medal. Mr. Bevis Hillier, then Sale Room Correspondent wrote to Mr. Linecar to ask if there was a story behind this famous medal and the allegations that the piece in question was false. Since Spink & Son catalogued the coins and medals in the October 30th sale on behalf of Glendining's, since the medal belonged to a customer of Spink's and since Spink's bought the medal at the sale on behalf of a client, there was certainly a story, but not one that could be got together quickly fast enough to interest a daily newspaper.

Mr. Liddell, Director of our coin Department, therefore wrote to John J. Ford, the leading authority on questions of this kind, asking his opinion. Mr. Ford, kindly replied in considerable detail, but as the question was no longer one with a topical news value it was not felt at *The Times* that the matter would any longer interest the general public. Realizing the numismatic importance of Mr. Ford's letter, however, they were kind enough to allow it to be published here, and the following is the substance thereof.

Mr. Brennan wrote to *The Times* and more or less condemned the Washington Before Boston COMITIA AMERICANA silver medal which I believe your firm catalogued for the Glendining auction of October 30, 1968. In that sale catalogue the medal was described as Baker 47, which of course says that it is an original. As Lot 241 the medal sold for £1,050.

The Washington Before Boston medal commemorates the evacuation of Boston by the British on March 17, 1776. It was authorized by a resolution of the American Continental Congress (then sitting in Philadelphia), on March 25, 1776, upon a move by John Adams. Although this was the first medal authorized by Congress, even predating the Declaration of Independence, it was not the first medal struck by order of Congress. It was a full ten years after the date of the original Congressional resolution that Pierre Simon Duvivier, the French artist and engraver, started to execute the dies for the Washington Before Boston medal, taking the portrait from a life mask of Washington made shortly before by Houdon, the famous sculptor. Thomas Jefferson (the third President of the U.S.) expedited the completion of nine of the American Revolutionary medals executed in France, among them the Washington before Boston. These were personally brought to the United States by Jefferson aboard the *Clermont* in October, 1789.

Shortly after noon on Sunday, March 20, 1790, President Washington received Thomas Jefferson, his new Secretary of State, in New York City. Washington saw Jefferson again on Monday, March 21st, and for a third time on Wednesday, March 23rd. It was at one of these meetings that Jefferson presented the president with the gold medal authorized just about fourteen years before, plus the gold and silver medals destined for other Revolutionary officers. He also handed Washington what amounted to a duplicate set in silver, consisting of eleven medals, which was encased in a splendid mahogany box made by Upton, a Parisian cabinet-maker. Both the unique Washington before Boston gold medal and its cased silver duplicate were struck from the identical pair of dies.

The gold original which Jefferson gave to Washington in 1790 descended to a collateral branch of the family. It was purchased in 1876 from the widow of George Lafayette Washington, whose husband was a descendant of an elder brother of President Washington, by a committee of fifty gentlemen, residents of the city of Boston, for presentation to that City and placed in the collections of the Boston Public Library. (W.S. Baker, *Medallic Portraits of Washington*, Philadelphia, 1885, pages 27-30; George L. Washington to Daniel Webster, Jan. 28, 1850; affidavit of Louisa Washington, March 25, 1876; deed of ownership, March 11, 1876; all in Boston Public Library).

The set of silver medals (including the Washington before Boston and ten others) was offered for sale to the United States in 1827, but was refused after a two or three day debate in the House of Representatives. It seems that a constitutional question arose whether Congress could, without a violation of their duty and obligations, buy a relic from Washington's cabinet. When the debate ceased, Daniel Webster (then a member of Congress from Massachusetts) purchased the cased set of eleven silver medals. The price paid was presumably close to that authorized in the defunct Congressional resolution, i.e., not over \$4500. (*Daily National Intelligencer*, Jan. 25, 1850; *Journal of the House of Representatives*, 19th Cong., 2nd session, 23, 24, and Feb. 27, 1827, pages 326, 348-49, 351). Upon Webster's death in 1852, the set of silver medals passed to one Peter Harvey, a close friend of the great American orator. Harvey presented the eleven pieces to the Massachusetts Historical Society in 1874.

Careful examination of the pedigreed originals, in gold and silver, of the Washington before Boston medal, both of which are still in the Boston Public Library and the Mass. Hist. Society, discloses the diagnostic style and die characteristics. Knowledge of these permits the prudent numismatist to identify other original specimens. The key to identification of an original medal is the reverse, where the pertinent points can be quickly checked: the gun in the soldier's hand at left is about .6 of a mm. from the edge; four hoofs show under Washington's horse; the "O" in PRIMO is perfectly round; periods follow XVII and MDCCLXXVI in the exergue; the last "I" of MARTII is under the "R" of RECUPERATUM.

Various letters and notes are extant, mainly from Jefferson, concerning the number of medals to be struck in various metals (silver, copper, tin). Noteworthy among these is Jefferson's letter to John Jay of Feb. 14, 1787, and his Memoranda Concerning Distribution, Cost, and Makers of Medals, circa Feb. 1789. Only the one original impression in gold is known, and it is quite obvious that only a single example was struck. In addition to the silver Webster piece in the Mass. Hist. Society, two additional silver original Washington before Boston medals have been traced. One is the Fuld specimen, Lot 241 in the Oct. 30th Glendining sale, and another is in an American collection. It is quite possible that other silver specimens remain to be discovered, presumably in Europe. At least a dozen originals in copper (i.e., bronze) are extant. Others undoubtedly exist, and remain to be unearthed by observant numismatists.

After the unique gold presentation piece, the silver and bronze Washington before Boston medals were struck. In the course of striking these copies, the reverse die shattered. A new reverse die was prepared by altering a rejected reverse die, which was discarded initially because the date read MCCLXXVI (or 1276), and not 1776 (the "D" having been omitted). Strikes from this altered reverse (with the date corrected to MDCCLXXVI and with a slightly oval "O" in PRIMO), combined with the original obverse, are known as the First Restrike. Examples in both lead and bronze exist, and all were probably struck prior to 1815. These have plain edges.

It does not surprise me that Mr. Brennan has become thoroughly confused. There are five distinct restrikes from four different obverse dies (one of which is the original obverse die) and five different restrike reverses (in addition to the original reverse used on the original medals in gold and silver presented to Washington). Of the five different reverses used for restrikes, three show four hoofs under Washington's horse, and two have three hoofs. (This is both interesting and important, as it was long believed that the method of identifying an original medal was by the number of hoofs under Washington's horse, originals, of course, having four of them).

Dr. George Fuld, the one time owner of the silver original Washington before Boston medal that brought £1,050 in the Oct. 30th Glendining auction, wrote a very comprehensive article on that medal and the various restrikes, trial pieces, and related matters, which appeared in the Sept.-Dec. 1963 issue of *The Journal of the Token and Medal Society*, Vol. III, No. 4. Historian Brennan should not only refer to the Fuld dissertation, but he might also spend some time with Vol. 16 of *The Papers of Thomas Jefferson*, (Nov. 30, 1789 to July 4, 1790), published by the Princeton University Press here in the States in 1961. Other suggested reading would include: *The Webster Medals* (in the Mass. Hist. Society), *American Journal of Numismatics*, Vol. IX, page 8 (1874); *The Washington Medals* (detailed description of the Webster presentation pieces), *AJN*, Vol. IX, page 27; C.W. Betts, *American Colonial History Illustrated by Contemporary Medals*, N.Y., 1894; Loubat, *The Medallic History of the United States of America*, N.Y., 1879.

EXTREMELY RARE BAKER 52H



Lot No. 55

55 **1776 Siege of Boston Medal. B.52H. Fourth muling.** White metal. 32.3 mm. **Uncirculated.** Obverse the reverse die of B.52, reverse the broken Charles Willson Peale obverse of Adams PA394. The Washington side is bright silver in the fields, a slightly deeper shade on the central device, but shows considerable tinpest. The Charles Willson Peale side is quite dark in the center, brighter around the periphery. **Extremely rare:** the cataloguer knows of only one other, ex Dr. Schuster Collection. The piece clearly is as struck, since the fields still show their original mint brilliance where the tinpest has not overtaken them. Very heavily broken clear across the Peale side, the die in two parts, the upper one of which is in a different plane than the other.

*Ex Dorge's 9th Mail Bid Sale (February 20, 1974); earlier, ex Garvin Collection, New Netherlands May 3, 1951.*

RARE SIGNING OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE MEDAL



Lot No. 56

56 **1776 [i.e., ca. 1850] Signing of the Declaration of Independence Medal. B.53. Struck bronze.** 90.7 mm. By Charles Cushing Wright. **Very Choice Uncirculated.** A simply lovely example of this very rare, solidly struck C.C. Wright medal. Both sides are toned a lovely, rich orange tan shade. The strike is extremely sharp, with every single curl in Washington's hair individually outlined and no signs of flatness on this side, whatsoever. On the reverse, each individual signer's figure is sharp, Franklin's facial features can be seen without the aid of magnification, and the architectural elements in the ceiling frieze are sharp and bold. The diagonal die break that runs through the center of the reverse and that ultimately caused its failure can be seen through the crossed flags, standing figures in the middle ground, ending at the speaker's lectern. There is one small rim bruise at about 2:45 on the obverse that requires specific mention. **Very rare:** there are probably fewer than 10 of these solid medals surviving today. Tom Elder sold Wright's personal specimen of this medal in his sale of November 10, 1913 as lot 549. Lot 560 contained the obverse and both reverse dies, the obverse portrait hub, and the collar.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

BRONZE ELECTROTYPE OF THE SIGNING MEDAL



Lot No. 57

57 1776 [i.e., ca. 1850] Signing of the Declaration of Independence Medal. B.53F. Bronze electrotype by Segebaden. 90.5 mm. **Uncirculated.** Both the obverse and reverse are dark brown, the former being quite striated and spotty. A good example nevertheless, with just a few stray marks and an almost imperceptible seam around the edge.

AMERICAN BEAVER MEDAL



Lot No. 58

58 1776 [i.e., ca. 1805-77] American Beaver Medal. B.54, Betts 549, J.CM.4. **Second obverse.** Bronzed copper. 40.3 mm. Rims 3.4 - 3.6 mm. thick. 568.9 gns. No witness line. **Choice Uncirculated.** Both the obverse and reverse are a beautiful, rich mahogany brown in color. The surface finish is uniform and undisturbed on each side. Very sharply struck, with full detail showing in Washington's epaulet on the obverse and in the trunk of the oak tree on the reverse. The fields on both sides are smooth, hard, and porosity free. One small rim tic on each side, at about 3:30. Obverse: conjoined busts left of Washington and Benjamin Franklin. Reverse: beaver gnawing at an oak tree, reeds to the right, date 1776, below. This is the second use of this reverse, the first having been published in 1805 married to the Franklin solitary bust.

*Ex Ted Craige Estate; earlier, ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate, New Netherlands stock.*

**SILVER COMMANDER IN CHIEF,  
ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES MEDAL**



*Lot No. 60*



## LOVELY AMERICAN EAGLE MEDAL

The Finest Seen



Lot No. 59

- 59 **1834 American Eagle Medal. B.55.** White metal. 49.3 mm. 677.6 gns. **Gem Uncirculated.** A lovely example and the **finest seen** by the cataloguer. Both the obverse and reverse are bright, original and brilliant. There are no toning flecks, spots, or other disturbances that detract from the visual appearance of the piece. Both sides were sharply struck in the centers, Washington's epaulet and hair are bold, the eagle shows full feather detail on its breast. Even the date on the bottom of the scroll, July 4 1776 can be seen. This number can be a lovely medal but even the best ones always seem to come with problems. This is a notable Gem.

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on December 21, 1970.*

## EXTRAORDINARY SILVER COMMANDER IN CHIEF, ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES MEDAL

Possible Finest Known



Lot No. 60

- 60 **1783 Washington C.C.A.U.S. Peace Medal. B.57, J.CM.6. First obverse. Silver.** 40.7 mm. 578.9 gns. Rims 3.0 - 3.3 mm. thick. By John Reich. **Gem Uncirculated. Fully prooflike.** A museum quality specimen of this classic, very early Washington medal. Witness line at 6:00 from obverse. **Possible Finest Known.** Both the obverse and reverse are a beautiful, rich coin silver gray graced with very delicate iridescent blue toning. The surfaces are bright, shimmery, and those on the reverse are nearly fully mirrorlike. Sharply struck on both sides, Washington's epaulet is complete, the hair above his ear is flat on just the highest point, and eagle's head on the reverse is sharp, bold, and well defined. A few stray hairlines are noted in the fields on both sides but there are no important rim or other defects requiring mention.

Obverse: Washington's military bust facing left. Reverse: Eagle above globe bearing thunderbolt and branch of peace, date 1783 above. On the globe, the United States is clearly noted and under magnification circles can be seen on the map showing the locations of such cities as Quebec, Boston, New York, Washington, St. Louis, etc. **Extremely rare:** the cataloguer knows of seven examples (and has seen five of them), including: **this;** the Ford duplicate that will be included with his U.S. medals; LaRiviere:3047, ex Brand; Witham:2106; Garrett:1751; Norweb Family; Pennsylvania Historical Society. Accompanied by a green plush and silk lined square leather case with squeeze type fastener. This is the first marriage of the eagle above globe reverse die. The second marriage was to the Washington & Franklin obverse die. The LaRiviere piece weighs 514.7 gns. while the Ford duplicate is also lighter than this, at 512.1 gns. Neither the Garrett nor Witham specimen's weights was published and the Norweb and PHS specifications are still unpublished. **(SEE COLOR PLATE)**

*Ex Federal Brond's sale of January 21, 1954, lot 752 where it was bought by Dick Picker as agent for John Ford. Cataloguer Mike Kolmon wrote the piece was "Worth over \$100.00." It sold for \$350. Add two zeros to the end of that price realized and the piece would still be a steal. Woodward described the 1878 Holland sale specimen as in "Perfect condition." We wonder if that and this are the same.*

EXTREMELY RARE SILVER WASHINGTON & FRANKLIN MEDAL

One of the Finest Known



Lot No. 61

- 61 1783 Washington & Franklin Peace Medal. B.58, Betts 617, J.CM.5, Fuld FR.M.UN.3, Greenslet GM.82. **Second obverse. Silver.** Plain edge (no R). No witness line. 40.3 mm. 554.9 gns. Rims 3.0 - 3.3 mm. thick. By John Reich. **Gem Uncirculated. Prooflike. Outstanding** condition, this piece can be compared to the Garrett specimen (catalogued there as a proof) and certainly qualifies as the **one of the finest known**. The obverse and reverse are both light silver gray in color, with some faint iridescent blue at the top of each side. The surfaces are bright and somewhat reflective, particularly those on the back. Sharply struck on both sides, Washington's hair and epaulet are complete on the obverse and the eagle's head is sharp and bold on the reverse. Two small obverse rim toning flecks, one trivial reverse rim tic at 4:00. Obverse: Conjoined busts left of Washington and Franklin. Reverse: Eagle clasping thunderbolt in its talons and a branch of peace in its beak above the globe on which a map of the United States, date 1783 in field, above. **Extremely rare:** the cataloguer knows of only six examples: **this**; the gem Ford duplicate that will be included in a later sale with his Betts medals; another duplicate that will be sold with the Ford Frankliniana; Garrett:1752, graded Proof; LaRiviere:3048, graded AU; Steinberg:15, graded Choice EF. Only two were known in 1965, the Garrett piece and the Fuld Collection example that went to LaRiviere via Picker, Dr. Crouch, Glendining's sale of October, 1968. By 1981 a third had been rumored, based upon a comment by Wayte Raymond, published in the Garrett Catalogue. LaRiviere's has a small 'R' intaglio on the edge. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

BRONZED COPPER WASHINGTON & FRANKLIN PEACE MEDAL



Lot No. 62

- 62 1783 Washington & Franklin Peace Medal. B.58A, Betts 617, J.CM.5, Fuld FR.M.UN.3, G.GM.82. **Second obverse. Bronzed copper.** Plain edge (no R). No witness line. 40.3 mm. Rims 3.2 - 3.5 mm. thick. 552.6 gns. **Choice Uncirculated.** Both the obverse and reverse are toned in a deep mahogany color, the former being somewhat darker. A few stray toning marks, none significant, no other defects requiring specific mention. Some slight evidence of die rust on Washington's forehead led Mr. Ford to wonder if these had been restruck at the Mint in the early 1800's. Since we know that Sansom advertised the first medal in his series as struck "under the inspection of the Director of the Mint," Mr. Ford's conjecture is not entirely impossible. This is the second marriage of the eagle above globe reverse die, to the Washington & Franklin bust obverse. The first marriage was to the Washington solitary obverse die.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 63

- 63 1783 Washington & Franklin Peace Medal. B.58A, Betts 617, J.CM.5, F.FR.M.UN.3, G.GM.82. Second obverse. Bronzed copper. Plain edge (no R). No witness line. 40.3 mm. Rims 3.4 - 3.7 mm. thick. 552.6 gns. **Uncirculated**, nearly Choice. A second. Lovely, rich mahogany color on both sides. Fairly clear surfaces, essentially mark-free.

Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.

RARE 1792 WASHINGTON PRESIDENT



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 64

(Enlarged)

- 64 1792 Washington President. B.59, Crosby Plate X, 11, Breen 1234. Copper. Plain edge. 30.0 mm. Rims 1.6 - 1.7 mm. thick. 180.3 gns. Extremely Fine. Both the obverse and reverse are a lovely, rich olive brown in color. The obverse shows several areas of cuprous oxide accretions along with a few areas of active verdigris. Well struck on the obverse, Washington's hair over the ear and the outline of the epaulet can be seen without the aid of magnification. Remarkable reverse, every single line sharp, clear, bold, fully legible. Struck from the obverse die of Baker 20 (not 16). **Rare**: no reliable count of the number of survivors has been published. Fuld (1995) suggested about 15 to 20 known. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.

HIGH GRADE WASHINGTON BORN VIRGINIA



Lot No. 65

- 65 Undated [ca. 1792] Washington Born Virginia. B.60, Breen 1239. Copper. Plain edge. 30.6 mm. Rims 1.2 - 1.7 mm. thick. 173.2 gns. Extremely Fine. Both sides are deeply toned in steel gray, very nearly black, with a few faint traces of iridescent rose around the top of the obverse. Good central detail visible on both sides, particularly on the reverse, which shows each of the ten lines sharp and bold, fully legible. Small obverse rim tic at 3:00. Very scarce. The obverse die for B.60 is in the ANS.

Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.

A SECOND WASHINGTON BORN VIRGINIA



Lot No. 66

66 Undated [ca. 1792] Washington Born Virginia. B.60, Breen 1239. Copper. Plain edge. 30.1 mm. Rims 1.3 - 1.6 mm. thick. 171.2 gns. Fine. A second example. This piece is deeply toned in a rich olive brown shade, the color uniform on both sides. Good central detail for the grade, with portions of the epaulet on Washington's shoulder still visible and all the letters in the reverse legend legible, if somewhat soft in the center. Surfaces a trifle rough in places on both sides. Very scarce.

Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.5

POSSIBLY UNIQUE SILVER WASHINGTON BORN VIRGINIA

The Lettered Edge Discovery Specimen



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 67

(Enlarged)

67 Undated [ca. 1792] Washington Born Virginia. B.60B, Breen 1241, Fuld WA.1792.9a.Ag. Silver. USA edge. 31.5 mm. Rims 1.0 - 1.2 mm. thick. 171.4 gns. Very Fine. A lovely piece and one of major importance. The obverse and reverse are both toned in a rich, medium coin silver gray shade. The surfaces are smooth, hard, and porosity free. The central detail is good for the grade, with considerable sharpness showing in Washington's hair and the outlines of the epaulet on his shoulder clear. On the reverse, the center is soft but the dates 1775 and 1788 can still be read with the aid of magnification. There is one small reverse rim bruise at about 1:30 and a few scratches on the edge in two places. Otherwise, the piece is remarkably defect free. **Extremely rare:** the cataloguer has been unable to verify the existence of a second specimen. Fuld (1995) wrote he had bought one in 1961, holed and plugged, whose present whereabouts were unknown. Breen recorded two, this and a plugged piece he pedigreed to Fuld and Picker but if Picker ever owned it he sold it prior to his death.

Robison:263 and Roper:402 were plain edge pieces as was Garrett:1734. LaRiviere, Witham, Scott and Steinberg did not have one. This lettered edge piece may well be **unique. The Discovery Specimen.** Originally from an unidentified Frossard sale, the piece was inserted into the Bushnell sale by the cataloguers. Unknown to Crosby, described by Baker under his No.60. Described by Ford and Breen on an undated and unissued invoice to F.C.C. Boyd (part of the Ford archives) as "This coin is the connecting link between the 1791-92 series as the edge bears the same inscription as the large and small Eagle pieces of 1791 and was lettered by the same die and machine. It fully establishes the fact that this piece was one of the intended designs for a Half Dollar and Cent to bear a statement of the principal events in the President's career." (SEE COLOR PLATE)

Ex Charles Ira Bushnell Collection (S.H.&H. Chapman, June 20, 1882, lot 1244); Virgil M. Brand; New Netherlands Coin Company; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.



68



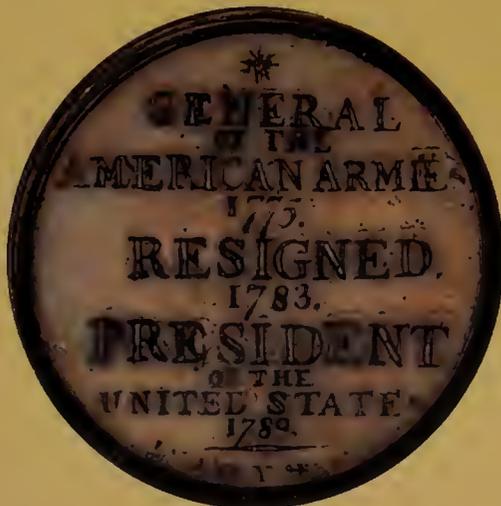
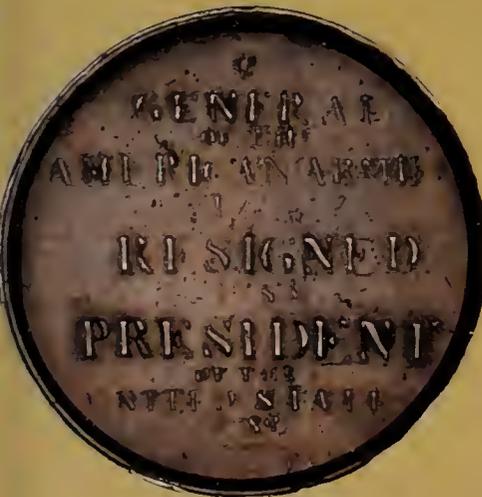
69



71



75



All items on this plate are shown enlarged.

VERY RARE SILVER FIRST OBVERSE MANLY MEDAL



Lot No. 68



ONE OF THE FINEST COLLECTIONS OF MANLY MEDALS EVER SOLD AT AUCTION

LOVELY SILVER FIRST OBVERSE MANLY MEDAL



Lot No. 68

68 1790 Manly Medal. B.61. First obverse. Silver. 47.9 mm. Rims 3.2 - 3.3 mm. thick. 852.7 gns. Uncirculated. Both the obverse and reverse are toned in a rich silver gray with areas of pale champagne iridescence. The surfaces appear granular to the naked eye, due entirely to the fact that these were struck on cast planchets. **Very rare:** the cataloguer has seen only six struck in silver, including **this**; the Ford duplicate; Garrett:1754; Collins:60 ex Oechsner:1422; LaRiviere:3051; Steinberg:17. Obverse strike quite sharp, typical flatness on the curl over Washington's ear and the very highest point of his epaulet but more detail can be seen on this piece than on almost any other silver first obverse this cataloguer has seen.

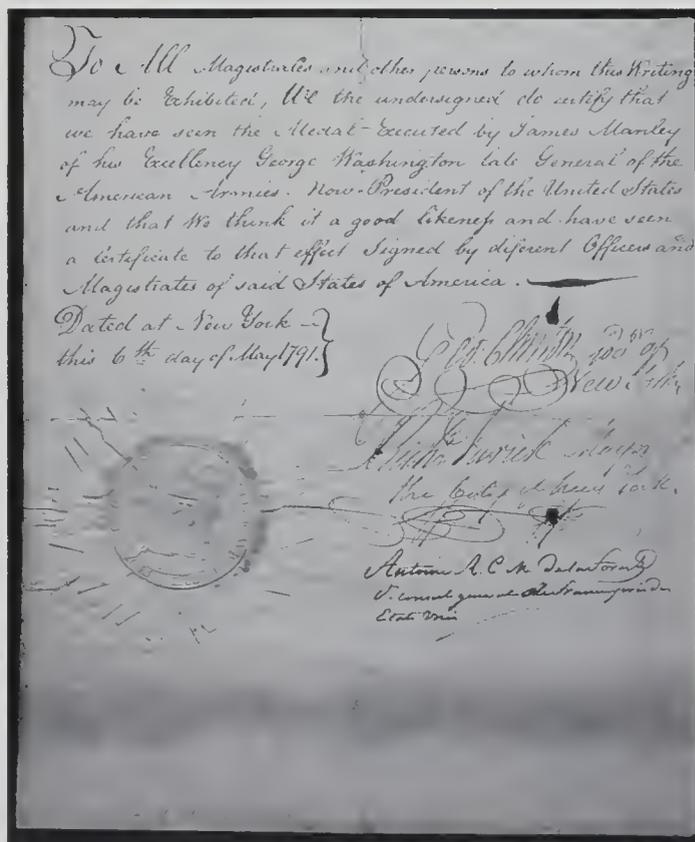
Center of reverse soft but all letters in the legend legible, nevertheless. Clearly struck multiple times to bring up as much detail as possible. No important defects requiring specific mention, the piece is about as struck. Publisher's name and date faint but legible, nevertheless, around the base of the reverse rim. Accompanied by a round hinged black leather covered wood case built up from three or four layers of wood steamed to make the round shape, green silk lined, the first such seen. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

Ex Fred Baldwin on June 24, 1965.

In lot 40 of his auction of March 20, 1969 Charles Hamilton offered for \$180 an example of the American 1791 attestation of the quality and desirability of the Manly Medal. Hamilton described the item as a "Remarkable document, linking three prominent Revolutionary figures and concerning the celebrated MANLY MEDAL of Washington. An attestation by CLINTON (who signs as Gov'r of New York) and by VARICK (who signs as Mayor of the City of New York) that We the undersigned have seen the Medal Executed by James Manly of his excellency George Washington late General of the American Armies, Now President of the United States and that We think it is a good likeness Also signed by the French consul general in the United States. A few tissue repairs on blank verso, otherwise in fine condition, bearing striking signatures. Of great Revolutionary, New York State and numismatic interest."

George Fuld (2002) described a specimen of the attestation he once owned. Purchased from Maurice Gould in the late 1950's, Fuld's May 9, 1791 dated specimen was in French and was signed by the French vice-consul in New York City and, interestingly, by General Lafayette in Paris.

These certificates attesting to the Manly Medal's faithful representation of the likeness of George Washington seem to have been more plentiful once than they are today. The one illustrated here, recently purchased by Stack's, is only the third we are aware of. How they were originally solicited is unknown. Given the signatures of the governor and mayor of New York that appear on them, there could not have been many such signed. The signature of the French vice-consul at New York was probably deemed useful because Manly was French. Were they carried by salesmen to be shown to prospective buyers as testimonials? Their language says that was their sole purpose. Did the purchaser of a Manly medal get one, like a certificate? Why did such important persons as the governor of New York and the mayor of New York City lend their names to Manly's medals? Were they silent partners in the business? We do not know at present and suggest these questions as the start of a fruitful and interesting research study for an interested collector.



1791 Manly Medal Attestation (not included with this lot)

RARE SILVER FIRST OBTVERSE MANLY MEDAL



Lot No. 69

69 1790 Manly Medal. B.61. First obverse. Silver. 47.1 mm. Rims 2.8 - 3.0 mm. thick. 692.6 gns. A second. Choice Extremely Fine. This piece is more darkly toned in coin silver gray and has a faint iridescent gold toning principally around the obverse rim. Good detail shows on both sides, the curl over Washington's ear flat but most of the epaulet detail still can be seen. Two small flan flaws below GEO on the obverse, a patch of roughness in the lower right obverse field, some reverse rim disturbances, one vertical scratch through the center of the obverse. **Very rare:** the cataloguer has seen only six struck in silver, including **this**; previous lot; Garrett:1754; Collins:60 ex Oechsner:1422; LaRiviere:3051; Steinberg:17. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on August 20, 1970.*

RARE TIN FIRST OBTVERSE MANLY MEDAL



Lot No. 70

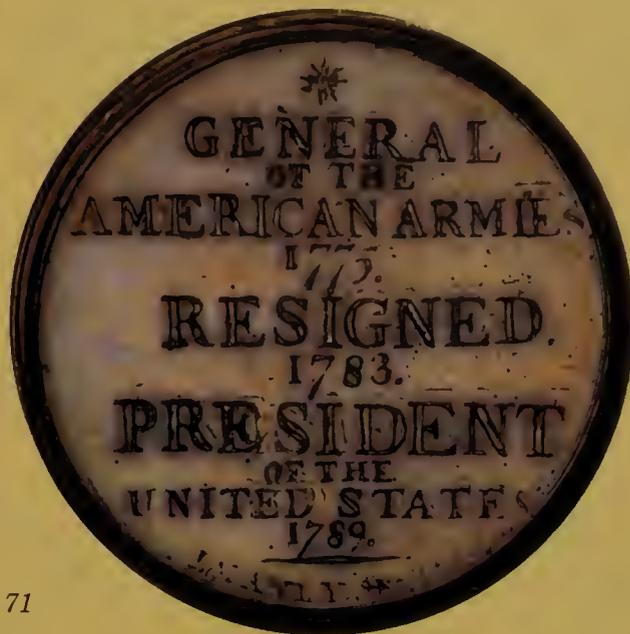
70 1790 Manly Medal. B.61A. First obverse. White metal (tin). 48.4 mm. Rims 2.4 - 2.7 mm. thick. 585.9 gns. **About Uncirculated.** An absolutely wonderful example, one of the finest this cataloguer can remember seeing. The obverse is deeply toned in the center in rich pewter gray while the fields are lighter in color and there are traces of pale golden iridescence around the rim. The reverse is a much lighter shade of silver gray, with strong, if faded, mint lustre in the protected areas around the letters of the legend. Fairly well struck for a pewter, with most of Washington's epaulet clear, the curl over his ear almost always soft (even on the best struck silver and bronze of this first obverse). On the reverse, the entire inscription is sharp and bold with no central softness, a remarkable feature as the central area of this side is almost always found soft (since it was opposite the highest portions of the obverse). There are really no defects that require particular mention here save for one small edge flaw which was mint made and can be seen at about 12:00 on the obverse. **Very rare:** the cataloguer estimates there are fewer than 10 of these in tin. This example is nicer than Collins:61 and LaRiviere:3052.

*Ex Seaby Coin & Medal Bulletin, September, 1979, V436.*

**FINEST SEEN BRONZE FIRST OBVERSE MANLY MEDAL**



Lot No. 71



**UNIQUE HALLIDAY MEDAL STRUCK IN SILVER**



Lot No. 92



THE FINEST SEEN BRONZE FIRST OBVERSE MANLY MEDAL



Lot No. 71

71 1790 Manly Medal. B.61B. First obverse. Yellow bronze. 48.3 mm. Rims 3.1 - 3.3 mm. thick. 535.4 gns. **Gem Uncirculated.** The finest bronze first obverse Manly medal this cataloguer has ever seen. The obverse and reverse are both a lovely, rich golden yellow bronze in color. The fields are graced with the most delicate iridescent rose and pale blue toning, colors that are essentially never seen on these bronze specimens. The strike is remarkably sharp for a first obverse Manly, the piece really having been struck multiple times in the press. Almost every single strand in the curl over Washington's ear is sharp and his epaulet is bold all the way down to its edge. On the reverse, also struck multiple times, each letter in the legend is sharp, clear, crisp, and bold. The publisher's name and date are somewhat soft at the base. Clearly struck on a cast flan, the areas of roughness visible in a few places on both sides are casting flaws. The fields on both sides are lightly reflective, a feature virtually never found on one of these. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on August 20, 1970.

NICE BRONZE FIRST OBVERSE MANLY MEDAL



Lot No. 72

72 1790 Manly Medal. B.61B. First obverse. Yellow bronze. 48.6 mm. Rims 2.9 - 3.0 mm. thick. 653.5 gns. **Choice Uncirculated.** Some original mint color still remains. A lovely example and were it not for a few obverse toning flecks a candidate for one of the finest seen. Both the obverse and reverse are a rich, deep golden yellow bronze in color. There are considerable traces of original mint color on both sides in many areas, not only around the protected portions but also in the center, on Washington's neck, and most notably through the letters of the reverse legend. Well struck on both sides, most of the detail in Washington's epaulet is clearly visible without the aid of magnification while that on the curl over his ear is only partially present, due principally to a flaw in that area. Elsewhere, well struck and sharp, as already described, the superficial roughness due to the use of a cast blank, as always on these. Some scattered obverse toning flecks, apparently verdigris, mostly inactive.

Ex A. H. Baldwin & Sons, Ltd. on July 22, 1965.



Lot No. 73



Lot No. 74

- 73 1790 Manly Medal. B.61B. First obverse. Yellow bronze. 48.5 mm. Rims 2.6 - 2.8 mm. thick. 602.1 gns. **Uncirculated**, with some claims to Choice. Nice, rich yellow bronze color on both sides with some tantalizing remnants of original golden iridescence in the protected areas and around the rims. Good obverse strike with near full detail showing on the obverse. Reverse shift double struck down and to the left. Obverse surface seems smooth and harder than usually seen on these, reverse shows the typical light pitting found on Manlys, which were struck on cast flans.

*Ex Fred Baldwin on June 24, 1965.*

- 74 1790 Manly Medal. B.61B. First obverse. Yellow bronze. 47.7 mm. Rims 3.2 - 3.3 mm. thick. 610.7 gns. Choice About Uncirculated. Toned in a rich, even golden yellow color, with traces of original mint golden red in the recesses of the inner border. Well struck on both sides, more detail than usually seen on the curl over Washington's ear and the epaulet on his shoulder. Center of reverse somewhat rough, these were struck on cast blanks and that accounts for the lack of detail seen on these. Nevertheless, the letters in the legend are all fully legible.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

**GEM SILVER SECOND OBVERSE MANLY MEDAL**

**The Finest Seen**



Lot No. 75

- 75 1790 [i.e., ca. 1850] Manly Medal. B.62. Second obverse. Silver. 49.4 mm. Rims 1.9 - 2.7 mm. thick. 736.6 gns. **Gem Uncirculated. Prooflike.** An absolutely stunning example, quite possibly the finest known and certainly, **the finest this cataloguer can remember seeing.** Both the obverse and reverse are beautifully toned in medium coin silver gray, with hints of iridescent rose, purple, and pale blue in the center. The surrounding rim is bright silver gray and essentially untoned. The reverse continues the color scheme of the obverse, the mix of iridescence being more uniform, creating a very pleasing appearance.

The fields on both sides are somewhat reflective. Very nicely struck, with almost full detail in the curl over Washington's ear, his epaulet bold, and all letters in the reverse legend sharp and crisp. No defects requiring specific mention. Struck from the broken state of the obverse, the die cracked from rim through second 'S', engaging the top of Washington's head, continuing along the back of that element. Reverse die rusty, as expected. **Extremely rare:** actually harder to find than a silver first obverse type. Mr. Ford has only one. There may be as few as four or five of these surviving, including **this**; Dreyfuss:5605; LaRiviere:3054; and Steinberg:20. All known specimens are in high grades, suggesting these were special orders and were always carefully preserved as important collectibles. **(SEE COLOR PLATE)**

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

LOVELY BRONZE SECOND OBTVERSE MANLY MEDAL



Lot No. 76

76 **1790 Manly Medal. B.62B. Second obverse.** Bronze. 49.2 mm. Rims 3.2 - 3.8 mm. thick. 907.7 gns. **Gem Uncirculated.** A gorgeous gem and a perfect mate to the outstanding silver piece in the preceding lot. Both the obverse and reverse of this specimen are attractively toned in a rich, deep golden brown shade. The color is uniform on both surfaces, undisturbed by toning flecks save for a small spot below 'N' in PRESIDENT on the reverse. Very sharply struck, Washington's curl shows nearly full inner detail and the epaulet is bold. On the reverse, all the letters in the inscription are sharp and clear. The obverse shows no defects or signs of mishandling, while the reverse has one or two small tics on the rims and two small, but noticeable, scuffs in the legend. **One of the finest seen,** nicer than LaRiviere:3055 and the pretty piece in our Collins sale.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

SHARP BRONZE SECOND OBTVERSE MANLY MEDAL



Lot No. 77

77 **1790 Manly Medal. B.62B. Second obverse.** Bronze. 48.9 mm. Rims 3.1 - 3.7 mm. thick. 844.2 gns. **Uncirculated,** prooflike. This specimen is more lightly toned than the preceding, the shade being a more delicate golden brown on both sides. The surfaces are bright and somewhat reflective, particularly those on the reverse. Well struck, Washington's curl detail is essentially full and the epaulet is bold. There are traces of very faded original mint color visible in the protected areas. One or two small toning flecks, principally around the obverse rim.

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on March 22, 1971.*

A PAIR OF 1789 TWIGG MEDALS



Lot No. 78

- 78 **1789 Twigg Medal. B.65.** White metal. Plain edge. 35.6 mm. Rims 2.7 - 2.8 mm. thick. 268.4 gns. **Uncirculated. Prooflike.** Bright silver and pewter gray in color on both sides, the reverse brighter and the field in the center somewhat reflective. One small area of darker toning in the right obverse field is noted. Obverse: Washington's military bust right, inscription around. Reverse: Washington's military and civil career rehearsed in nine lines.

*Ex Darge's (DORis and gearGEfuld) Mail Bid Sale of January 24, 1975, lot 6; earlier, ex Henry Chapman, David Bullawa on May 10, 1951, George Fuld, L. Edlow.*



Lot No. 79

- 79 **1789 Twigg Medal. B.65.** White metal. Plain edge. 35.5 mm. Rims 2.8 - 3.0 mm. thick. **Uncirculated. Semi-prooflike.** Another. This piece is toned in a somewhat deeper pewter gray color. The fields are bright, and those on the obverse are somewhat reflective. One small area of darker color in the left obverse field; center of reverse shows some light staining. No important defects requiring mention.

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on December 21, 1970.*

1797 WYON'S PRESIDENCY RESIGNED MEDAL



Lot No. 80

- 80 **1797 Wyon's Presidency Resigned Medal. B.66 var.** White metal. Plain edge. 37.5 mm. About **Uncirculated.** The center of the obverse is medium pewter gray in color, while around the letters in GEORGE WASHINGTON original mint brilliance can still be seen. On the reverse, most of the surface still retains its original mint brilliance in the protected areas while the table in between the inscription lines is darker. Struck from the broken state of the obverse, a rim cud forming above 'TON'; and the failing state of the reverse, the center clearly sinking.

*Purchased over the counter at New Netherlands Coin Company on January 5, 1960.*

AN UNPUBLISHED WYON MEDAL DIE PAIR



Lot No. 81

- 81 **1798 Wyon's Presidency Resigned Medal. B.66.** White metal. Plain edge. 37.4 mm. About Uncirculated. **Unpublished dies.** Both the obverse and reverse are beautifully toned in a medium pewter gray shade. There are traces of original mint brilliance, appearing as golden iridescence, around the obverse periphery and across most of the reverse. On the obverse, Washington's features are well struck, his hair shows some detail, and while the epaulet is soft the uniform buttons and ruffle at his throat are sharp. On the reverse, the center is somewhat soft but still legible, and all the other letters in the nine-line inscription are clear and bold. On this new Wyon Presidency Resigned medal, Washington's queue points directly to the last 'N' in WASHINGTON while on the more common B.66 it points to the space following that letter. On this reverse, the easiest feature that distinguishes it from the more common B.66 reverse is the placement of the numerals in the 1793 date in the third to the last line of the inscription. The '3' of 1793 on the common variety is below the '7' in the 1789 date above (fourth line from the bottom). On the new variety, the '3' in the 1793 date is below the space between '78' in the 1789 date, above. The obverse die appears perfect on this variety, while the reverse seems to be broken diagonally across from 'GE' at the top to the space beside '7' in the date and the last line.

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on September 22, 1970.*

A NEW RESUMED COMMAND MEDAL

The Finer of two Known



Lot No. 82

- 82 **1799-1800 Wyon's Resumed Command Medal. B.67b.** White metal. Plain edge. 37.0 mm. Rims 2.0 - 2.3 mm. thick. 245.7 gns. **Uncirculated. Prooflike.** The finer of just two known of this reverse variety [the other being the Norweb specimen discovered and illustrated by Fuld (2002)]. The obverse and reverse are brightly reflective. Both sides are pale silver gray in color, with light iridescent gold showing in the reflectivity. Well struck, Washington's hair detail is clear and most of the braid in his epaulet is sharp. On the reverse, all letters in the 12-line inscription are clear. There are two areas of tinpest on the obverse rim, one large below Washington's bust, and a small flan flaw above '14' in the obverse inscription. Otherwise, the piece is almost as struck. Struck from a rare reverse die, here the '9' in 1789 is higher than '7' (on the other it is lower) and the '1' in 1797 is above 'T' (on the other it is over the space between 'DT').

Further distinguished from the common B-67 and the very rare B.67a by the placement of the initial letter in the first line of the reverse inscription, which is directly above the 'T' of THE below on this piece, to the right of that letter on B.67a, and over the space between 'TH' on B.67. The planchet is also thicker than seen on the B.66. An important discovery in the Ford Collection, its existence previously unheralded. **Extremely rare** as a type also, the cataloguer knows of only six white metal Resumed Command specimens, including the bronzed Garrett-Steinberg piece; LaRiviere's spotty Extremely Fine; and the Norweb; Smithsonian; and Historical Society of Pennsylvania examples, all of which are off the market.

*Ex A.F. Baldwin & Son on July 22, 1965.*

LOVELY FIRST OBERSE REPUB. AMERI. CENT



Lot No. 83

83 1796 Repub. Ameri. Cent. B.68. First obverse. Bronzed copper. Plain edge. 33.0 mm. Rims 2.8 - 3.1 mm. thick. 301.0 gns. **Very Choice Uncirculated. Prooflike.** A lovely example of this Washington medal, both the obverse and reverse toned in rich iridescent purple and pale gold shades. Sharply struck on both sides, and a piece essentially free from defects.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 84

84 1796 Repub. Ameri. Cent. B.68. First obverse. Bronzed copper. Plain edge. 33.0 mm. Rims 3.0 - 3.1 mm. thick. 299.6 gns. **Uncirculated.** This piece is toned in a deeper shade of chocolate brown. One or two minor reverse rim tics are noted.

*Ex A.H. Baldwin & Sons, Ltd. on June 23, 1969.*



Lot No. 85



Lot No. 86

85 1796 Repub. Ameri. Cent. B.68. First obverse. Bronzed copper. Plain edge. 33.1 mm. Rims 3.0 - 3.2 mm. thick. 305.4 gns. **Choice Uncirculated.** This piece is toned medium reddish mahogany brown. Well struck in the centers. A scattering of small, active verdigris spots is noted on the obverse.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate..*

86 1796 Repub. Ameri. Cent. B.68. First obverse. Bronzed copper. Plain edge. 33.1 mm. Rims 3.3 mm thick. 309.5 gns. **Uncirculated. Prooflike.** Pale reddish brown, once cleaned, now medium mahogany brown in color on both sides. Well struck, with semi-reflective surfaces.

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on September 22, 1970.*

WASHINGTON MEDALS



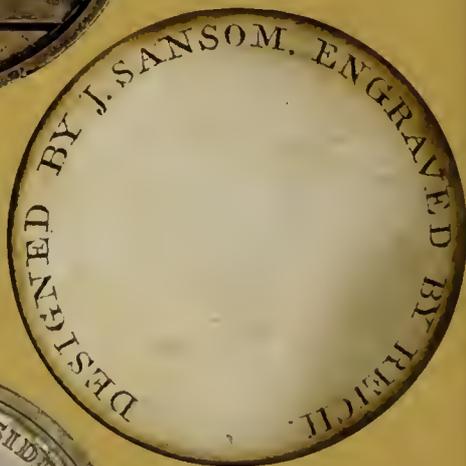
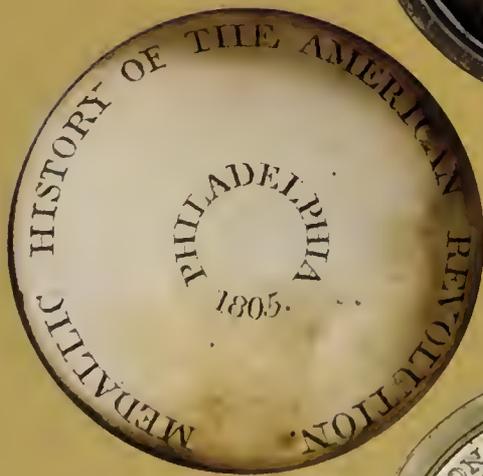
87



92



99



100

WASHINGTON MEDALS



108



109



112



113



130

LOVELY SECOND OBVERSE REPUB. AMERI. CENT



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 87



(Enlarged)

87 **1796 Repub. Ameri. Cent. B.69. Second obverse.** Bronzed copper. Plain edge. 32.8 mm. Rims 2.7 - 2.8 mm. thick. 300.4 gns. **Very Choice Uncirculated. Near full red. Prooflike.** A lovely example of the second obverse REPUB. AMERI. piece. Both the obverse and reverse surfaces are brightly reflective, being semi-mirrorlike. Nearly full mint red can be seen on both sides, the color somewhat faded on the reverse with some purple and rose iridescence showing. A couple of minor rim spots are noted on the obverse. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.



Lot No. 88



Lot No. 89



88 **1796 Repub. Ameri. Cent. B.69. Second obverse.** Bronzed copper. Plain edge. 32.8 mm. Rims 2.8 - 2.9 mm. thick. 310.7 gns. **Very Choice Uncirculated. Prooflike. Red and brown.** A lovely example with smooth satiny surfaces. Both the obverse and reverse show some original mint red, that on the obverse being about 50% full, confined principally to the protected areas around the rim. No serious defects requiring mention, just a few small toning flecks in the fields which are essentially trivial.

Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.

89 **1796 Repub. Ameri. Cent. B.69. Second obverse.** Bronzed copper. Plain edge. 32.8 mm. 247.7 gns. **Choice Uncirculated. Prooflike.** Both sides are a rich, deep mahogany in color. There are traces of original mint color remaining at the tops of the obverse letters, and in some of the more protected places on the reverse. The fields are somewhat reflective. Two small obverse ticks are noted at the top.

Ex A.H. Baldwin & Sons, Ltd. on June 23, 1969.



Lot No. 90



Lot No. 91



90 **1796 Repub. Ameri. Cent. B.69. Second obverse.** Bronzed copper. Plain edge. 32.8 mm. Rims 2.9-3.1 mm. thick. 319.1 gns. **Choice About Uncirculated. Prooflike.** The obverse fields are brightly reflective. Deeply toned, in a rich brown shade. Some small reverse rim disturbances. Light corrosion spots on the obverse near the rim at 2:00 and 4:00.

Ex Wayte Raymond II (NASCA, June 6, 1978, lot 3816).

91 **1796 Repub. Ameri. Cent. B.69A. Second obverse.** White metal. Plain edge. 32.9 mm. Rims 2.6 - 2.9 mm. thick. 219.6 gns. **Uncirculated. Prooflike.** The fields on both sides are bright, nearly full mirrors, showing near complete reflectivity. The central devices are lightly frosted and appear darker against the bright table. Some stray haymarks on both sides, none really important. **Quite rare** and definitely underappreciated as such.

Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.

UNIQUE HALLIDAY MEDAL STRUCK IN SILVER

The Fewsmith-Crosby Specimen



Lot No. 92

- 92 1797 [i.e., 1816] Halliday Medal. B.70B. Silver. Plain edge. Plain rims. 54.4 mm. 1,574.4 gns. Rims 4.7 - 4.9 mm. thick. **Choice About Uncirculated. Prooflike.** The obverse is medium silver gray in the center with iridescent blue and light rose around the rim. The reverse is mostly silver gray with some more delicate traces of iridescent blue confined to the rim. The fields on both sides are bright, reflective, and nearly fully mirrorlike. The central devices are frosted. There are some stray haymarks on both sides, a small field nick beside Washington's head, and two areas of light abrasion on the reverse, one within the wreath and the other above and to its left. No witness line. Struck at least four times, to bring up all the detail on this massive, thick silver medal. **Unique.** Mr. Ford's notes suggested a second known silver example in the Paul Magriel Collection but that later turned out to be a forgery. Haseltine catalogued this piece in the 1883 Crosby sale as "Very thick silver proof. Unique. Was formerly owned by Mr. Fewsmith, of Philadelphia, who paid \$50 for it." It sold for \$45. Baker described this as the most important of the Washington civil and military career medals. **(SEE COLOR PLATE)**

*Ex Richard Picker as agent for John Ford on January 25, 1968; Max Schwartz; George Fuld in 1954; Sylvester S. Crosby Collection (John W. Haseltine, June 27, 1883, lot 351), Fewsmith Collection.*

A LOVELY BRONZED COPPER HALLIDAY MEDAL



Lot No. 93

- 93 1797 [i.e., 1816] Halliday Medal. B.70C. Bronzed copper. Plain edge. Plain rims. 53.7 mm. Rims 3.7 - 3.9 mm. thick. 1,045.1 gns. **Choice Uncirculated. Prooflike.** Very near Gem quality and a lovely example. Lovely, rich mahogany brown in color on both sides. The fields are smooth, hard, and near satin in appearance. A few stray haymarks, none disturbing. A lovely example with great quality.

*Ex Randolph Zander; New Netherlands Coin Company on October 6, 1970.*



Lot No. 94

- 94 1797 [i.e., 1816] Halliday Medal. B.70C. Bronzed copper. Plain edge. Plain rims. 53.8 mm. Rims 3.5 - 3.8 mm. thick. 1,010.0 gns. **Choice Uncirculated.** This piece is brightly reflective, with fields which are nearly prooflike in quality. A few stray marks are noted. Obverse nice mahogany, reverse a lighter shade.

*Ex Robert Batchelder on August 2, 1966.*



Lot No. 95

- 95 1797 [i.e., 1816] Halliday Medal. B.70C. Bronzed copper. Plain edge. Plain rims. 53.7 mm. Rims 4.0 mm. thick. 1,032.9 gns. **Lovely Uncirculated. Prooflike.** A third example, the obverse dark brown, the reverse a lighter shade. Small field tic in lower right obverse field.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 96

- 96 1797 [i.e., 1816] Halliday Medal. B.70C. Bronzed copper. Plain edge. Plain rims. 53.6 mm. Rims 3.9 - 4.1 mm. thick. 1,467.4 gns. **Uncirculated.** A very pleasing specimen, toned on both sides in a light to medium brown shade. The fields are undisturbed and are semi-reflective. Tiny obverse rim tic above first 'S' in STATES.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

## LOVELY BRONZE HALLIDAY WITH DECORATED RIMS



Lot No. 97

- 97 1797 [i.e., 1816] Halliday Medal. B.70C. Bronzed copper. Plain edge. Engine turned decorated rims. 53.7 mm. Rims 5.0 - 5.3 mm. thick. 1,082.5 gns. **Choice Uncirculated**, prooflike. The obverse and reverse are lightly toned in a pale golden orange shade. Fairly pristine fields, just a few haymarks are noted. The engine turning on the rims is complete on both sides and was applied with care. It is impossible to say from this specimen whether the decoration was applied before or after striking. It is quite subtle in appearance and does not have the same drama as it does on the white metal ones. **Quite rare:** there is no really accurate estimate of the number of bronzed copper survivors with decorated rims; experience suggests that the number is fewer than 15.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

## FINEST SEEN WHITE METAL HALLIDAY WITH DECORATED RIMS



Lot No. 98

- 98 1797 [i.e., 1816] Halliday Medal. B.70S. White metal. Plain edge. Engine turned decorated rims. 53.8 mm. 815.1 gns. Rims 3.4 - 3.5 mm. thick. **Choice Brilliant Proof. The Finest Seen** of this very rare variant. The fields are bright, fully reflective mirrors while the central devices are lightly frosted. The engine turning on the rims is complete on both sides and on the obverse it extends to the inner border showing it was applied to the piece subsequent to striking. Fields hairlined from an old cleaning. Small field tic above the axe in the fasces on the reverse. **Very rare.** Once thought extremely rare, this variety is now known in at least six specimens (**this**; Garrett; Witham; Halpern; Norweb; Rosa Americana:11), with others securely anticipated.

*Ex Robert Batchelder on August 2, 1966.*

ORIGINAL SILVER SANSOM'S COMMISSION RESIGNED MEDAL



Lot No. 99



## EXTREMELY RARE ORIGINAL SILVER SANSOM MEDAL



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 99

- 99 **1797 Sansom's Commission Resigned Medal. B.71. Original. Silver.** Plain edge. Witness line at 6:00. 40.3 mm. 492.3 gns. Rims 2.8 - 3.1 mm. thick. **Uncirculated. Semi-prooflike.** A simply gorgeous specimen. Both the obverse and reverse are deeply toned in rich coin silver gray. There are hints of attractive iridescent rose and gold in the obverse and reverse fields. The central devices are slightly darker in color than the fields, and stand out to full effect against them. Some stray marks on the rims, none really disturbing, especially given the great rarity of the piece. Well struck, the obverse shows full detail, the reverse soft on the wreath over the fasces, and the highest fold of the drapery.

**Extremely rare:** the cataloguer has seen six of these and there may not be very many more than that number surviving. Known examples include **this**; the broad rim, looped Winterthur piece; LaRiviere:3068; the example in our July, 1992 sale, lot 2035; the one in Bowers' sale of November, 1992; and the cased Ford specimen in the next lot. There was no original silver Sansom medal in the Garrett, Collins, or Dreyfuss sales. The Norweb Family collection may have one and the Baker Collection in the Historical Society of Pennsylvania is another likely candidate. Fuld suggested six to seven were known. There are at least two variants among the silver originals, with broad or narrow rims, the former being the rarer. The fabric of the broad rim piece suggests a U.S. Mint restrike using the original reverse, before it was replaced by the copy die. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on August 20, 1965.*

## A CASED ORIGINAL SILVER SANSOM MEDAL



(Enlarged)

(Enlarged)

- 100 **1797 Sansom's Commission Resigned Medal. B.71. Original. Silver.** 40.5 mm. 486.2 gns. Narrow rims 2.6 - 3.0 mm. thick. **Uncirculated. Prooflike.** Pale silver gray in color on the obverse, lighter gray with some areas of delicate gold and russet on the reverse. Central devices and rims on both sides frosty in appearance. One tiny obverse toning fleck on the rim at about 12:30; a few minor reverse rim tics. Sharply struck, virtually all of the detail in the obverse die clear, reverse wreath a trifle soft at its highest point, drapery a little flat along its highest fold. Edge scratched in places, from removing the piece from its protective silver case. **Extremely rare:** the cataloguer has seen six of these and there may not be very many more than that number surviving. Fuld suggested six to seven were known. This specimen is accompanied by a pair of **silver shell cases and rim band.** The medal fits into the rim band and the two shells (43.3 mm.) fit over the top and bottom, making a protective case for the medal. The top shell case is engraved in an elegant, old style MEDALLIC HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION around PHILADELPHIA 1805 in the center. The bottom shell case is engraved in the same hand DESIGNED BY J. SANSOM. ENGRAVED BY REICH. We have not seen this ensemble before.

The set of four Sansom medals included Baker 54 (Washington & Franklin with beaver reverse) B.57 (Washington C.C.A.U.S. with hemisphere reverse), B.58 (Washington & Franklin with hemisphere reverse), and B.71 (Washington Commission Resigned). The first struck seems to have been B.57, which was advertised for sale in December, 1805. The other three followed over the next two years. The case accompanying this piece, dated 1805, either originally accompanied a B.57 and later became associated with this B.71, or else the date refers to the inception of the series and not to the strike date of any particular medal. The cataloguer should mention that the late Ted Craig questioned the dating on the shell as being anachronistic for a B.71. Mr. Ford disagreed. **3 pieces. (SEE COLOR PLATE)**

*Ex Wayte Raymond Estate.*



Lot No. 101

- 101 **1797 Sansom's Commission Resigned Medal. B.71A. Original.** Bronzed copper. Plain rims. 40.5 mm. Rims 2.6 - 2.9 mm. thick. 388.9 gns. **Choice Uncirculated. Semi-prooflike.** Toned on both sides in a rich mahogany brown. Beautifully struck, with nearly full detail visible on both sides. Essentially mark-free, a tiny tic in the lower left obverse field is all that comes to mind on first inspection.

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on August 20, 1965.*



Lot No. 102

102 **1797 Sansom's Commission Resigned Medal. B.71A. Original.** Bronzed copper. Plain rims. 40.5 mm. Rims 2.3 - 2.5 mm. thick. 372.6 gns. **Uncirculated. Prooflike.** A lovely example, with a rich, deep mahogany finish. Fields semi-reflective. An interesting contrast to the piece in the preceding lot, the rims on both sides somewhat rounded at the right.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 103

103 **1797 Sansom's Commission Resigned Medal. B.71A. Original.** Bronzed copper. Plain rims. 40.4 mm. Rims 3.0 mm. thick. 430.9 gns. **Uncirculated. Prooflike.** Light mahogany brown in color. The fields semi-reflective, with some light blue iridescence. A few stray marks here and there.

*Ex Presidential Coin & Antique's Sale 22 (April 18, 1977, lot 771).*



Lot No. 104

104 **1797 Sansom's Commission Resigned Medal. B.71A. Original.** Bronzed copper. Plain rims. 40.5 mm. Rims 2.8 - 2.9 mm. 441.0 gns. **Choice About Uncirculated. Prooflike.** Light mahogany brown in color, with some pale blue iridescence. Traces of original mint color can be seen around the reverse periphery. Some stray obverse marks.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 105

- 105 1797 Sansom's Commission Resigned Medal. B.71B. Original. White metal. Plain rims. 40.5 mm. Rims 2.7 - 3.0 mm. thick. **Uncirculated. Prooflike.** The obverse and reverse fields are fully mirrorlike. The central devices are lightly frosty, as are the rims and the letters in the inscriptions. Some toning flecks, one notably in the right obverse field. Quite a bit rarer in this metal than in bronze.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 106

- 106 1797 Sansom's Commission Resigned Medal. B.71B. Original. White metal. Plain rims. 40.6 mm. Rims 2.8 - 3.1 mm. thick. **Uncirculated. Prooflike.** Like the preceding, the obverse and reverse fields on this piece are fully mirrorlike and the central devices and rims are frosty. There are some hairlines and some short scratches on the obverse fields.

*Ex Leonard Stark on February 3, 1962; earlier, ex George Bauer Collection.*



Lot No. 107

- 107 1797 Sansom's Commission Resigned Medal. B.71B. Original. White metal. Plain rims. 40.4 mm. Rims 2.7 - 2.9 mm. thick. 354.3 gns. **Uncirculated.** The fields are still bright and reflective. Considerable tinpest can be seen on both sides. Small reverse rim bruise at 10:00.

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on March 22, 1971.*

UNIQUE GOLD MINT MADE SANSOM MEDAL



Lot No. 108



UNIQUE GOLD MINT MADE SANSOM MEDAL  
Unpublished and Hitherto Unknown



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 108

- 108 1797 [i.e., ca. 1859] Sansom's Commission Resigned Medal. B.72 bis, J.PR.1 but struck in gold. Unlisted in this metal. Second reverse. Plain edge. 40.5 mm. Rims 1.7 - 2.5 mm. thick. 667.1 gns. Choice Extremely Fine. With integral suspension loop inlet into top edge. Struck from the U.S. Mint copy reverse die but not recorded as having been struck in gold. Undoubtedly **unique, unpublished, hitherto unknown** and one of the high points of this collection. Mr. Ford prized this piece particularly since he especially liked things that were unlisted and unpublished. Pale yellow gold in color, with a few traces of original mint brilliance close to the obverse rim. With suspension loop at the top, the hole drilled down into the edge, its channel visible at the top on both sides. Clearly worn for a ceremonial or display purpose, the pattern of wear and marks on both sides show its fairly prolonged usage for that purpose. Flan slightly twisted, only visible when viewed edge on. We have absolutely no record of another and believe the piece to be both unpublished and unique. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

MAGNIFICENT SILVER VOLTAIRE MEDAL



Lot No. 109



MAGNIFICENT SILVER VOLTAIRE MEDAL  
A Candidate for Finest Known



Lot No. 109

- 109 Undated [ca. 1778] Voltaire Medal. B.78, Betts 544. Silver. Plain edge. 40.5 mm. 290.5 gns. Thin, 2.25 mm. flan. **Choice About Uncirculated. Prooflike. The finest of the seven** known to the cataloguer (**this**; the near Extremely Fine Ford duplicate with a thicker planchet that will be sold later with the Betts medals; LaRiviere:3078 ex Steinberg:43; Patterson:148; MHS; Kaiserliche Kunsthalle, Vienna; Norweb Collection, holed). There was no silver Voltaire Medal in the Garrett sale. The obverse and reverse fields are full mirrors, with deep reflectivity showing, particularly on the front. Well struck, with nearly full detail showing in Washington's head on the obverse and the trophy of arms on the reverse. Pale silver gray in the centers, light gray and delicate champagne around the peripheries. There are traces of iridescent rose and blue on the rims, one each side. Some light hairlines on the obverse, none really disturbing. Shift double struck, the doubling most noticeable on the reverse under magnification.

Struck from a later state of the obverse and reverse dies than will be seen on the Ford duplicate, here with a rim cud formed on the obverse at about 7:00 and tiny rust spots in the field on the reverse below 'LES' in the inscription. Planchet slightly twisted in striking, probably on the second impression. Obverse die clearly dishd. There is still no adequate American study of late 18th century French silver medals in general nor of the American related types struck there at the time. Voltaire Medals in silver are known weighing 375.3, 352.0, and 290.5 gns. Planchet thicknesses seem to range from 2.25 to 2.80 mm. There appear to be two varieties in the Voltaire issue, struck on thick and thin planchet stock, an observation first made (to the cataloguer's knowledge) by John Ford. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

Ex Spink & Son, Ltd. on July 18, 1967.



Lot No. 110

Lot No. 111

- 110 Undated [ca. 1778] Voltaire Medal. B.78B. Bronze. Plain edge. 39.9 mm. Rims 2.3 - 2.8 mm. thick. 342.1 gns. **Choice Uncirculated. The finest seen.** Lovely, deep brown in the fields on the obverse, lighter brown with some traces of very faded mint color around the periphery on that side. Reverse mostly a uniform pale mahogany in color. Obverse rim ragged at left, clearly struck from a later state of the die, the cud which was seen on the late state Ford silver specimen seems here to have been ground down. No defects requiring specific mention. Struck multiple times to bring up the detail in the dies, most visibly on the reverse, some shifting in between.

Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on September 22, 1970.

- 111 Undated [ca. 1778] Voltaire Medal. B.78B. Bronze. Plain edge. 40.0 mm. Thicker flan than the preceding, rims 4.3 - 5.0 mm. thick. 632.2 gns. **Uncirculated**, semi-prooflike. The obverse is a dark chocolate brown while the reverse is more mahogany in color. Slightly shift triple struck but sharp. Lightly lacquered. Pronounced reverse wire rim from about 11:00 around to 6:00. Some light obverse haymarks. No obvious sign of a rim cud on the obverse at 8:00. Small cloudy area in left obverse field.

Ex Ted Craige Estate; earlier, ex Henry Christensen's sale of September 20, 1967, lot 212.

SILVER 1800 HERO OF FREEDOM MEDAL



Lot No. 112



## EXTREMELY RARE SILVER HERO OF FREEDOM MEDAL

A Candidate for Finest Known



Lot No. 112

- 112 **1800 Hero of Freedom Medal. B.79. Silver.** Plain edge. 38.4 mm. 456.5 gns. Rims 2.9 - 3.0 mm. thick. **Uncirculated. Prooflike. The finest known** to the cataloguer. A lovely example! The obverse is toned in the fields in a medium gray shade with traces of iridescent rose and pale blue. The rim on this side is very pale silver gray and delicate yellow. The reverse, in contrast, is a fairly even light coin silver gray in color. The fields on both sides are brightly reflective, with mirrorlike flash visible even in the most protected areas of the obverse and the reverse.

Well struck, Washington's hair detail is complete and his shoulder seems undisturbed by signs of rub. The center of the reverse appears somewhat soft to the naked eye but on closer inspection is about as well struck as the center of the obverse. No serious defects of any sort requiring mention on either side of this piece. Some slight signs of strike doubling, principally in the letters in the obverse and reverse legend. **Extremely rare:** the cataloguer knows of only six examples in silver, including: **this**; next lot; LaRiviere:3080, ex Ford; Steinberg:45; Garrett:1766 ex Bushnell:1303; Norweb Collection. The piece sold as lot 646 in Old Colony Coin Auctions NENA sale October 11, 1958 was graded about Fine, holed. It sold for \$50 to Dick Picker. If it is not the Norweb specimen it represents a seventh known. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex Spink & Son, Ltd. on April 29, 1969; earlier, ex Glendining's sale of October 30, 1968, lot 231, bought in at 210 pounds; Fuld Collection. The pedigree printed in the LaRiviere catalogue for lot 3080 was incorrect. That piece, bought from John Ford, was a third once owned by Mr. Ford.*

## LOVELY SILVER HERO OF FREEDOM MEDAL

The W.W.C. Wilson Specimen



Lot No. 113

- 113 **1800 Hero of Freedom Medal. B.79. Silver.** Plain edge. 38.3 mm. 449.2 gns. Rims 2.9 - 3.0 mm. thick. **Choice About Uncirculated. Prooflike.** A second example and an unprecedented opportunity to acquire a specimen. We are unaware of any other auction that offered its bidders chances on two silver Hero of Freedom Medals. **Extremely rare:** the cataloguer knows of only six (or seven, see above) examples in silver. The obverse is a deep medium gray in the center while the rim around is lighter gray and pale gold. The reverse is mostly medium gray in the center with just a few areas lighter, principally around the letters in the legend. The fields are bright and reflective, with not as much flash as seen on the piece in the preceding lot but still showing their essentially undisturbed nature.

Some light rub on the highest point of Washington's periwig, a trace of softness on his shoulder. Signs of very light ghosting around some of the letters on the obverse and reverse are noted, indicating the piece had been struck at least twice to bring up the detail. The toning characteristics of this and the piece in the preceding lot, because they are so similar, suggest a commonality between the two which may derive from either its method of manufacture or the striking process involved. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex W.W.C. Wilson Collection (Wayte Raymond, November 16, 1925, lot 860 as possibly unique).*



Lot No. 114

- 114 **1800 Hero of Freedom Medal. B.79B.** Bronze. Plain edge. 38.4 mm. Rims 2.5 - 2.7 mm. thick. Extremely Fine. A very pleasing example of this variety. Both sides are deeply toned in a rich, chocolate and mahogany brown. No signs of serious damage on either side, the filing marks on the reverse rim were mint made.

*Ex Warren Baker on December 17, 1974.*

### EXTREMELY RARE FIRE GILT HERO OF FREEDOM MEDAL

The Finest Seen



Lot No. 115

- 115 **1800 Hero of Freedom Medal. B.79C.** Bronze, fire gilt. Plain edge. 38.3 mm. 413.2 gns. Rims 2.6 - 2.8 mm. thick. **Choice Uncirculated, prooflike.** A lovely example. **The Finest Seen.** Both the obverse and reverse are light golden yellow in color with near complete gilding still remaining. The fields are bright, fully reflective, and show complete, unbroken mirrors everywhere. Very sharply struck, with all the detail in Washington's hair clear and sharp, and every single letter in the reverse legend bold and distinct. Some light hairlines are noted in the fields on both sides. **Extremely rare:** the cataloguer has seen only three, including this; LaRiviere:3082 (ex Mr. Ford); and Rosa Americana:13:455 (a lighter weight Unc. with its box).

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 116

- 116 **1800 Hero of Freedom Medal. B.79BA.** Struck over a 1797 Cartwheel Penny. Partially diagonally reeded edge. **Uncirculated.** The obverse and reverse of this piece are both a nice, rich mahogany brown in color. There are considerable traces of the cartwheel undertype, principally on the reverse rim and in places above Washington's portrait. GEORGIUS III D:G REX shows on the reverse rim and the 1797 date shows upside down on top of the obverse. **Extremely rare:** we have recorded only four of these, including **this**; Collins Sale (July, 1995); Kessler-Spangenberg sale; LaRiviere:3081. The most desirable of them are those that show ample parts of the undertype, as this does.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

## EXTREMELY RARE TIN WESTWOOD MEDAL

The Finest Seen



Lot No. 117

- 117 1799 Westwood Medal. B.80. First Reverse. White metal (tin, probably silvered). Plain edge. 40.5 mm. Rims 4.0 mm thick. **Choice Uncirculated. The finest seen.** Both sides of this interesting piece are toned around the peripheries in iridescent blue and gold. There are several obverse rim tics. Clearly struck from the latest states of the dies seen, both quite heavily rusted. Struck on a cast flan, unlike the pieces to follow. This one appears to be anomalous in the series, and while it is a genuine Westwood medal, its method of manufacture and subsequent silvering are unusual, to say the least. **Very rare:** the cataloguer has seen only five of these. Mr. Ford thought there might be five known. Fuld suggested between four or five. Earlier, Woodward, who had seen a lot of nice things, knew of only "...one or two...in tin." Garrett did not have one, nor did Witham or Collins. Other examples seen include LaRiviere:3083 (a lighter weight EF), Steinberg:48 (bought for Mr. Ford at a very advantageous price, see below), and the ones in the next lots. Struck from a rusted obverse die in a state later than seen on the fire-gilt bronze example to follow.

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on October 5, 1970.*

## SECOND TIN WESTWOOD MEDAL

An Unprecedented Opportunity



Lot No. 118

- 118 1799 Westwood Medal. B.80. First Reverse. White metal (tin). Plain edge. 40.1 mm. Rims 4.0 mm thick. 482.1 gns. **Uncirculated. Prooflike.** Some tinpest, edge and rim pry marks. Described by Mr. Ford as "This piece was in a wooden, fabric-lined, circular box, the bottom half of which had to be destroyed to free the medal." This was a beautifully turned, polished wooden box, green plush-lined, that may have been original to the medal. **Very rare:** as noted, the cataloguer has seen only five of these and Mr. Ford thought there might be five known. The obverse is light gray in the center, with pale silver and delicate gold around the rim. The reverse, by contrast, is a fairly even light silver and pale yellow gold in color. The fields on both sides are bright, reflective, and those on the reverse are nearly fully mirrorlike. Well struck, with good sharpness showing in the centers. Some light rim disturbances from removing the medal from its box. Struck from a fairly heavily rusted state of the obverse, later than the lovely bronze to follow.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

## THIRD WESTWOOD MEDAL IN TIN



Lot No. 119

- 119 1799 Westwood Medal. B.80. First Reverse. White metal (tin). Plain edge. 40.9 mm. Rims 3.4 - 3.6 mm. thick. 505.1 gns. **About Uncirculated.** The obverse and reverse are light silver gray in color, with traces of pale yellow and light green toning around the rims. Very attractive, especially for the grade, and while there are some light hits on Washington's face the piece, overall, has a very pleasing appearance. Struck from the earliest states of the dies seen in this particular series, the obverse unruled and the reverse also showing no signs of rust despite the roughness that runs vertically through the center. **Very rare:** as noted, the cataloguer has seen only five of these. Mr. Ford bought this one through Ross & Tanenbaum at the Steinberg sale, where it was under-catalogued by the present writer in only four lines and it sold accordingly.

*Ex Steinberg Collection (Stack's, May 6, 1992, lot 48).*

## FIRST REVERSE WESTWOOD MEDALS IN BRONZE



Lot No. 120

Lot No. 121

- 120 1799 Westwood Medal. B.80A. First Reverse. Bronze. Plain edge. 40.6 mm. Rims 3.3 - 3.4 mm. thick. 586.6 gns. **Choice Uncirculated, prooflike.** A very lovely example, deeply toned in a rich brown shade with traces of original mint red at the tops of some letters on the obverse and reverse legend. The fields are bright, reflective, and nearly fully mirrorlike. The piece was sharply struck, with all of the details showing in Washington's hair on the obverse and the letters on the reverse sharp and bold. Struck from an early rusted state of the obverse, the die showing small rust pits in the area below Washington's ear.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

- 121 1799 Westwood Medal. B.80A. First Reverse. Bronze. Plain edge. 40.5 mm. Rims 3.3 - 3.5 mm. thick. **Choice Uncirculated, prooflike.** A really lovely example. Both the obverse and reverse are nicely toned in a mahogany brown shade. The fields are bright, reflective, and nearly fully mirrorlike. Well struck in the centers, despite the high obverse relief, and without the roughness in the center of the reverse that is often seen on the white metal first reverse specimens. There is a small, retained planchet lamination in the lower right obverse field. Struck from the lightly rusted state of the obverse, some pitting can be seen below Washington's ear, but earlier than the first of the tin first reverse specimens offered in this series, slightly later than the third one.

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on October 5, 1970.*



Lot No. 122

122 **1799 Westwood Medal. B.80A. First Reverse.** Bronze. Plain edge. 40.2 mm. Rims 3.2 - 3.5 mm. thick. 585.9 gns. **Uncirculated, prooflike.** A final example of the first reverse Westwood medal struck in bronze. This piece is toned in a light mahogany brown shade. Struck from a slightly later state of the obverse than seen on the other two bronze first reverse medals in this series, with an additional break running from the tie around Washington's neck to the area below. Struck on a slightly damaged planchet, showing the crescent shaped mark of a fairly large planchet cutter, clearly the one that was used to cut these from the strip from which the blanks were made.

*Ex Dorge's Mail Bid Sale of January 24, 1975, lot 25; earlier, ex Wuertzbach, Brand, New Netherlands, George Fuld.*

**EXTREMELY RARE FIRE GILT WESTWOOD MEDAL**



Lot No. 123

123 **1799 Westwood Medal. B.80B. First Reverse.** Bronze, fire gilt. Plain edge. 40.5 mm. Rims 2.8 - 3.0 mm. thick. 526.0 gns. About Uncirculated. Prooflike reverse. About 85% of the original fire gilding remains on the obverse, nearly all of it on the reverse. Well struck, with all of the central details showing strongly. The obverse fields are somewhat reflective while those on the reverse are bright and fully mirrorlike. Struck from about the same state of the obverse die as seen on the piece in the preceding lot. **Very rare** and possibly underrated as such, this being the first the cataloguer has seen.

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on October 5, 1970.*



Lot No. 124

124 **1799 Westwood Medal. B.81. Second Reverse.** Bronze. Plain edge. 40.4 mm. Rims 3.3 - 3.6 mm. thick. **Uncirculated, prooflike.** Both sides are a deep mahogany red and brown in color. Well struck in the centers, with full detail showing there. Struck from an early state of the obverse, about in the same condition as seen on the first reverse bronzes offered earlier. It is interesting to wonder why Mr. Westwood felt it necessary to create two reverses for his Washington obverse. Since the tin first reverse specimens offered at the beginning of this Westwood series were in a later state of the obverse die than seen on the presently offered piece with the second reverse, it is clear that the two reverses were used interchangeably at one time.

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on March 22, 1971.*



Lot No. 125

- 125 **1799 Westwood Medal. B.81. Second Reverse.** Bronze. Plain edge. 40.6 mm. Rims 3.0 - 3.3 mm. thick. 581.3 gns. **Uncirculated.** A rather attractive example, both sides of this specimen, unlike the others in this series, are a light brown in color, suggesting a different metallic composition than the ordinary. The fields are clear, clean, and appear undisturbed by accidents or defects. The centers are well struck, and while there appears to be a slight area of rub on Washington's highest curl, the reverse is sharp and bold, justifying the grade awarded the specimen. Edge filed in places. Struck from about the same state of the obverse die as seen on the preceding specimens.

*Ex Dorge's Mail Bid Sale of January 24, 1975, lot 26; earlier, ex New Netherlands stock, George Fuld on May 9, 1953, L. Edlow.*



Lot No. 126

- 126 **1799 Westwood Medal. B.81. Second Reverse.** Bronze. Plain edge. 40.4 mm. Rims 3.1 - 3.7 mm. thick. Technically Uncirculated, prooflike. Nice, very attractive rich bronze in color, slightly lighter and grayer around the peripheries. A lovely specimen were it not for an old scrape down Washington's chest and engaging the rim and the edge underneath. Struck from about the same state of the obverse die as seen on the preceding Second Reverse bronzes, or a trifle later, but the die still unruled.

*Ex C.E. Bullowa's Mail Bid Sale of October 24, 1974, lot 192.*



Lot No. 127

- 127 **1799 Westwood Medal. B.81A. Second Reverse.** Bronze, fire gilt. Plain edge. 40.8 mm. Rims 3.0 - 3.1 mm. thick. 561.6 gns. **Choice Uncirculated. Prooflike.** A lovely example, with about 97% of the original fire gilding still remaining on both sides. The fields are bright, reflective, and show full mirror brilliance everywhere. Well struck, as expected, and with hints that it may have been on a cast flan, but given the fact that the piece was fire gilt, one cannot be entirely certain.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

## UNLISTED WESTWOOD MEDAL VARIANT



Lot No. 128

- 128 **1799 Westwood Medal. B.81C. Second Reverse. Tin, silver plated.** 40.7 mm. 475.0 gns. Plain edge. **Uncirculated**, with claims to Choice. Pale silver gray in color on both sides, bright but not mirrorlike. The silvering has worn and/or flaked off in places on the rims but remains complete elsewhere. There are some stray marks on both sides, and signs of the beginnings of the rust that can be seen on the first reverse tin specimens offered earlier in this series, but here in a very early state. **Extremely rare:** the second reverse Westwood Medal is fairly common in bronze (B.81) and is known in bronze fire-gilt (B.81A). It is not listed in Fuld & Rulau in white metal but at least three of those are known (EAN 9/95:464 to EAN 1/96:667; LaRiviere:3086; PCAC 5/77:133). The cataloguer calls that variety B.81B. The variant described here is still unlisted and has been numbered B.81C as next in sequence.

*Ex David Schenkman on November 26, 1975.*

## UNIFACE WESTWOOD SHELL



Lot No. 129

- 129 **1799 Westwood Shell. B.82. Uniface. Obverse.** Silvered white metal. Plain edge. 45.4 mm. 106.8 gns. About Uncirculated, nice deep gray in color, lighter inside. Washington civilian bust facing right, very much like the Hero of Freedom medal bust, but signed on the truncation WESTWOOD. Around is the inscription GEORGE WASHINGTON surrounded by a very broad continuous oak wreath. Exact purpose for this piece is unknown, although it could have served as a roundel, a furniture mount, or a decorative escutcheon. **Extremely rare:** one of just two known to the cataloguer, the other being the piece in the Norweb collection plated by Fuld (2002). It is possible that we have here a clue to the authorship of the Hero of Freedom medal.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

EXTREMELY RARE EMANCIPATOR OF AMERICA MEDAL



Lot No. 130



EMANCIPATOR OF AMERICA MEDAL

One of Just Two Known

The Only Specimen Available to Collectors



Lot No. 130

- 130 **1799 Emancipator of America Medal. B.83A.** Bronze, fire gilt. 44.4 mm. Rims 3.9 - 4.2 mm. thick. 766.6 gns. Very Fine. Obverse die signed I.W. for John Westwood, Jr. (tentative attribution). About 60% of the original fire gilding remains, primarily in the protected areas of the obverse and across much of the reverse surface. Several fairly light rim dents, a few edge dings, holed at the top for suspension. **Extremely rare:** one of only two known, the other being permanently off the market in the Appleton Collection at the Massachusetts Historical Society. The present specimen was unknown to collectors until it appeared in England recently. Sold to the late Jack Collins in Presidential's December, 1989 auction, it subsequently appeared in Stack's sale of Jack Collins' Washingtonia in April, 1996. Mr. Ford bought it there for \$8,360. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex Jack Collins Collection (Stack's, May 30, 1996, lot 89); George Hatie; Presidential Coin & Antique Company's sale of December 2, 1989, lot 251 at \$9,850; Chris Eimer, ex the UK.*

LOVELY BRONZE FAME MEDAL



Lot No. 131

- 131 **1803 Fame, or Wisdom, Virtue & Patriotism Medal. B.84.** Bronze. Plain edge. 38.3 mm. Rims 2.8 - 3.2 mm. thick. **Choice Uncirculated, prooflike.** A really lovely example of this medal. Both sides are light brown in color, with traces of original mint red in the protected areas of the obverse and particularly the reverse legends. The fields are bright, reflective, and nearly fully mirrorlike. No obvious signs of die rust.

*Ex Fred Baldwin's June 24, 1965 FPL No. 12.*



Lot No. 132



Lot No. 133

132 1803 Fame, or Wisdom, Virtue & Patriotism Medal. B.84. Bronze. Plain edge. 38.3 mm. Rims 2.7 - 3.5 mm. thick. **Uncirculated**, semi-prooflike. This piece is slightly darker in color than the preceding, and shows some very faint traces of faded mint color around the obverse periphery. The fields are somewhat reflective, but not fully mirrorlike. Some minor rim disturbances at the upper right on the reverse.

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on October 5, 1970.*

133 1803 Fame, or Wisdom, Virtue & Patriotism Medal. B.84. Bronze. Plain edge. 38.3 mm. Rims 2.9 - 3.2 mm. thick. About **Uncirculated**. Light brown in color. Some reflectivity still remains in the surfaces. Stray haymarks visible on both sides. Reverse slightly shift triple struck.

*Bought in 1951.*



Lot No. 134



Lot No. 135

134 1803 Fame, or Wisdom, Virtue & Patriotism Medal. B.84. Bronze. Plain edge. 38.4 mm. Rims 2.9 - 3.2 mm. 454.2 gns. **Choice Extremely Fine**, semiprooflike. Light golden brown in color on both sides. The fields are somewhat reflective, particularly those on the obverse.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

135 1803 Fame, or Wisdom, Virtue & Patriotism Medal. B.84. Bronze. Plain edge. 38.3 mm. Rims 2.8 - 3.1 mm. thick. 444.9 gns. About **Very Fine**. Darker brown and golden brown in color. Several obverse flaws, rims dented in places.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

**CHOICE 1803 FAME MEDAL**



Lot No. 136

136 1803 Fame, or Wisdom, Virtue & Patriotism Medal. B.84A. **White metal**. Plain edge. 38.5 mm. Rims 3.30 mm. thick. **Choice Uncirculated, prooflike**. The finest known to the cataloguer. Both the obverse and reverse are pale silver gray in color. The fields are brightly reflective in the protected areas, more matte in appearance elsewhere. Centers appear somewhat soft, principally because the metal in which the piece was struck did not flow into the dies as well as might have been expected. Struck from a later state of both dies, now quite rusted in the centers, reminiscent of the appearance of the first reverse Westwood medals struck in tin. There are some stray haymarks on both sides and a light, meandering scratch on the reverse. **Extremely rare**: the cataloguer knows of only four struck in white metal, including: **this**; Steinberg:50, ex Stickney; LaRiviere:3088, ex Brand; Rosa Americana 15:487.

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on October 5, 1970.*

1805 ECCLESTON MEDAL



Lot No. 138



## A SERIES OF LOVELY ECCLESTON MEDALS



Lot No. 137

- 137 **1805 Eccleston Medal. B.85.** Bronze. 75.9 mm. Plain rims 3.9 - 4.5 mm. thick. 2,344.53 gns. **Choice Uncirculated, red and brown.** Brightly reflective fields on both sides. A stunning example with outstanding quality for an Eccleston, perhaps the finest in the entire offering. Both the obverse and reverse are lightly toned in pale brown, while there are areas of considerable mint red on the obverse, in the protected areas; and across most of the reverse surface. The fields on both sides are bright, reflective, and have near full mirror brilliance. The strike is very sharp, the piece is essentially mark-free, and overall, it is one of the finest Eccleston medals this cataloguer can ever remember seeing. Early reverse state, the break here fairly thin.

*Ex A.H. Baldwin & Sons, Ltd. on July 22, 1965.*



Lot No. 138

- 138 **1805 Eccleston Medal. B.85.** Bronze. 76.0 mm. Plain rims 3.9 - 4.5 mm. thick. 1,930.38 gns. **Choice Uncirculated, red and brown.** Prooflike. An absolutely spectacular example, the only one this cataloguer has ever seen with this degree of mint red remaining. The reverse color is nearly complete, about 95% red; while the obverse shows a couple of spots, but is elsewhere about as complete. Sharply struck on both sides, the visible porosity due to the cast flan on which Eccleston struck his Washington medals. Very sharp just about everywhere, the mint color lending a remarkable three-dimensionality to the piece. The folds in Washington's neck cloth nearly sharp enough to cut one's fingers upon! Full detail visible on both sides, early reverse die state. **(SEE COLOR PLATE)**

*Ex Fred Baldwin on June 6, 1967.*



Lot No. 139

- 139 **1805 Eccleston Medal. B.85.** Bronze. 75.6 mm. Plain rims 3.6 - 3.9 mm. thick. 1,994.2 gns. **Uncirculated, red and brown.** Prooflike. Another attractive specimen with ample red color remaining. Toned in a nice, rich brown color elsewhere. Some minor abrasions, light obverse spotting. Early reverse state, the break still quite thin.

*Ex A.H. Baldwin & Sons, Ltd. on June 23, 1969.*

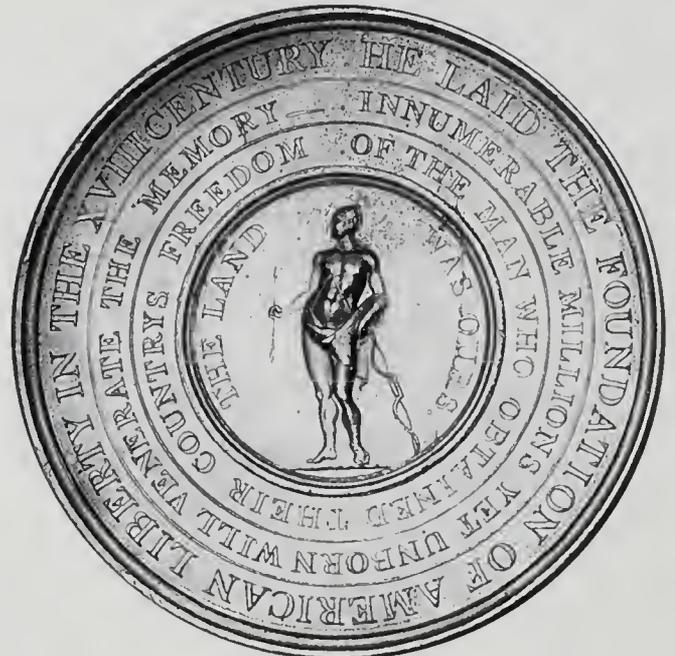


Lot No. 140

- 140 **1805 Eccleston Medal. B.85.** Bronze. 76.1 mm. Plain rims 3.6 - 3.9 mm. thick. 2,037.0 gns. **Uncirculated, red and brown.** Prooflike. Another lovely example, this piece light golden brown in color with considerable areas of original mint red remaining on both sides. The fields are somewhat bright and reflective. A few light, active verdigris spots in the lower right obverse field; one short reverse scratch that nearly parallels the die break on that side. Struck from the usually seen, broken state of the reverse die.

*Ex Wayte Raymond Estate.*





Lot No. 143

143 1805 Eccleston Medal. B.85. Bronze. 75.9 mm. Plain rims 4.0 - 4.3 mm. thick. 2,056.5 gns. **Uncirculated.** Attractive, medium brown in color on both sides. Some areas of light porosity, due to the fact that these were struck on cast blanks.

*Ex A.H. Baldwin & Sons, Ltd. on July 22, 1965.*



Lot No. 144

144 1805 Eccleston Medal. B.85. Bronze. 75.7 mm. Plain rims 3.50 mm. thick. 1911.6 gns. **About Uncirculated.** Variegated golden brown in color. Nice, smooth surfaces with decent sharpness. Some verdigris on the reverse, minor signs of handling. Struck from the broken state of the reverse die.

*Ex A.H. Baldwin & Sons, Ltd. on June 23, 1969.*



EXTREMELY RARE SILVER UGLY HEAD MEDAL



Lot No. 147



## EXTREMELY RARE SILVER UGLY HEAD MEDAL



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 147

- 147 1799 [1860's] Ugly Head Medal. B.89. Silver. Plain edge. 37.8 mm. 380.6 gns. Rims 2.3 - 3.0 mm. thick. **Choice Uncirculated, prooflike.** The finest known to the cataloguer. A lovely example of this medal. Both the obverse and reverse are beautifully toned in pale silver gray, with iridescent blue and gold principally around the rims. The fields are bright, reflective, and nearly fully mirrorlike. The strike is sharp on both sides, the centers showing full detail on Washington's features and the central legend. No important marks or defects that require specific mention save for one shallow abrasion in the right obverse field. **Extremely rare:** the cataloguer knows of only four specimens, including: **this**; Steinberg:54 ex Garrett:1770; LaRiviere:3091; Baker plate. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on March 22, 1971.*

## EXTREMELY RARE FILL BLESSED SUN MEDAL



Lot No. 148

- 148 1853 Fill Blessed Sun Medal. B.E-96A. White metal. Plain edge. 53.5 mm. **Gem Uncirculated, prooflike.** A gorgeous example, bright and as attractive as the day it was struck. The obverse and reverse central devices are lightly frosted, while the fields are bright, full mirrors. There are a few stray haymarks here and there, but none that seriously detract from the importance of this very rare piece. Some light reverse rim disturbances are noted. **Extremely rare:** missing from the Garrett, Patterson, Magriel, LaRiviere, and Witham sales. Fuld noted just three known. The cataloguer has records of four: **this**; Collins:102; Steinberg:60; Steinberg:61.

*Ex George Bauer Collection, February 3, 1962, via Leonard Stark.*



Lot No. 149



Lot No. 150

- 149 **1799 Stuart Portrait Medal. B.129.** White metal. Plain edge. 44.2 mm. Choice Extremely Fine, if not slightly nicer. Holed, as usual. Pale pewter gray in color on both sides. Some rim nicks, but no other defects that are really disturbing on this quite rare piece.

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on December 21, 1970.*

- 150 **1799 Stuart Portrait Medal. B.129.** White metal. Plain edge. 44.4 mm. Another. Extremely Fine. Holed, as usual. Very pale pewter gray in color. Some heavier reverse rim marks on both sides than seen on the piece in the preceding lot.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

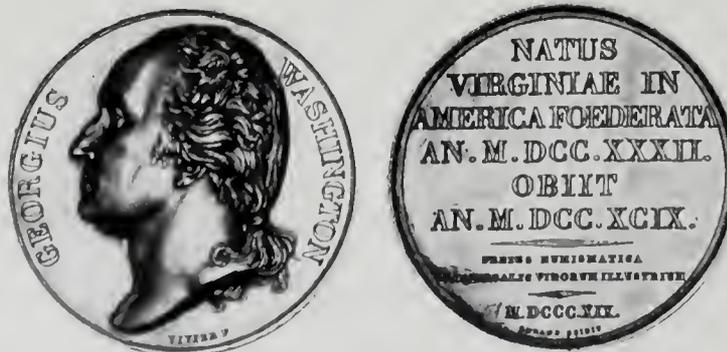
THE FINEST OF FOUR KNOWN WASHINGTON DEATH MEDALS



Lot No. 151

- 151 **1799 Washington Death Medal. B-unlisted, Fuld/Rulau B129.** White metal. 46.4 mm. 334.7 gns. Approximately 2 mm thick. Rough Extremely Fine. Medium gray in color most everywhere save the peripheries where the lighter, original pewter color still shows through. Not holed or mounted, as the Fuld plate piece. On the obverse, the peripheral legend GEN GEORGE WASHINGTON PRESIDENT OF THE U.S. is fully legible. Washington's portrait is soft on his left eye and forehead but elsewhere can be seen fairly easily. The center of the reverse softer, the displayed eagle mostly bold but its head quite weak, circular inscription BORN FEB 22d 1732 DIED DEC 14th 1799 fully legible. Some rim disturbances, a couple fairly severe. **Extremely rare and the finest known** of the four recorded by the cataloguer, including **this**; Dreyfuss:5619 (holed, edge filed); LaRiviere:3096 (the Fuld/Rulau plate piece); ANS.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 152

- 152 **1819 Series Numismatica Medal. B.132.** Bronze. Plain edge. 40.8 mm. Choice Uncirculated, prooflike. Nice, pale golden brown in color on both sides. The fields are brightly reflective, those on the reverse being almost fully mirrorlike.

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin, December 21, 1970.*



WASHINGTON FUNERAL MEDALS



165



166



168



169



170



171



172



184



NICE ORIGINAL PHILADELPHIA PROCESSION MEDALS



Lot No. 153

- 153 **1832 Philadelphia Civic Procession Medal. B.160. Silver.** Plain edge. 32.3 mm. 244.0 gns. **Gem Uncirculated. Prooflike.** A magnificent example of this early issue. Both the obverse and reverse are toned in medium coin silver gray, with iridescent blue and rose highlights on the obverse, a more pronounced combination of those two colors on the reverse. Both surfaces have full, complete and stunning mirror brilliance. Full reverse roped border. Struck from the perfect state of the reverse. Accompanied by Hillyer Ryder's ticket which notes this was struck for the 1832 Washington Civic Procession on the centennial of his birth in Philadelphia, made by the Gold and Silver Artificers of Philadelphia. Not looped, as Garrett:1798, another silver piece described as an original. Given the immaculate condition of this piece one would wish to classify it as one of the 1858 restrikes, but its perfect reverse state suggests it was struck before that date. *(SEE COLOR PLATE)*

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate; earlier, ex W.W.C. Wilson Collection (Wayte Raymond, November 18, 1925, lot 869).*



Lot No. 154

Lot No. 155

- 154 **1832 Philadelphia Civic Procession Medal. B.160. Silver.** Plain edge. 32.3 mm. 243.2 gns. **Gem Uncirculated, prooflike.** An absolutely gorgeous example. Both the obverse and reverse are pleasingly toned in rich, medium coin silver gray with pale rose and delicate pink highlights. The fields on both sides are fully mirrorlike, with bright reflectivity showing even in the interstices. Beautifully struck, from the perfect state of the reverse die. Full reverse roped border shows. Struck from the unbroken reverse as the preceding and also not looped.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

- 155 **1832 Philadelphia Civic Procession Medal. B.160A. White metal.** Plain edge. 32.6 mm. **Choice Uncirculated, prooflike.** Attractive, pale silver gray in color on both sides. There is a small toning spot to the right of Washington's portrait. Both the obverse and reverse are brightly reflective and semi-prooflike. Struck from the perfect state of the reverse.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 156

Lot No. 157

- 156 **1832 Philadelphia Civic Procession Medal. B.160bis. Copper, gilt.** Plain edge. 32.3 mm. **Uncirculated, prooflike.** Very attractive, with full gilding remaining on the obverse, a few worn spots showing on the reverse but the gilding on that side is nearly complete as well. The fields are bright and reflective, those on the reverse being nearly fully prooflike. **Unrecorded gilt.** Struck from the perfect state of the reverse, without signs of a break. This type shows up from time to time in odd metals. The Steinberg sale had one in brass for example.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

- 157 **1832 Philadelphia Civic Procession Medal. B.160B. Copper.** Plain edge. 32.3 mm. **Gem Uncirculated, red and brown. Prooflike.** Full, blazing mint red is visible on the obverse while the color on the reverse has toned down to a deeper shade of brown with some rose and pale blue highlights. The fields on both sides are bright, reflective, and semi-prooflike. Some light reverse hairlines. Struck from the unbroken reverse but given its condition almost certainly one of the 1858 restrikes. The whole question of the dating of these by their reverse states needs to be re-examined.

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on March 22, 1971.*

## EXTREMELY RARE 1832 TINSMITHS MEDAL



Lot No. 158

- 158 **1832 Tinsmiths Medal for the Philadelphia Civic Procession. B.161.** Uniface. Tin. Plain edge. 41.3 mm. Appearance of Very Good to Fine, probably **nearly as struck**. Very low relief, accounting for the low sharpness grade. The obverse shows a small bust of Washington facing to the left, his hair tied behind his neck, with the inscription above and below GEO. WASHINGTON. FEB 22 1832. The reverse is blank, bearing an incuse impression of the obverse. The first we have ever handled. The piece is mostly toned in a deep pewter gray, but there are traces of original lustre in some of the protected areas. **Extremely rare.** This number was missing from the LaRiviere, Steinberg, Witham, Collins, Garrett, and Scott sales. Fuld did not plate one in 1965 or 2002, nor did Fuld & Rulau have one to illustrate in their revisions of Baker. The piece was said to have been made by tinsmiths by cutting the die into the face of a hammer. Pieces were struck on thin pieces of tin. This is the first public auction of a specimen in many decades.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

## DECENT LOOKING VICTOR SINE CLADE MEDAL



Lot No. 159

- 159 **1799 Victor Sine Clade Medal. B.164.** White metal (pewter?). 56.8 mm. Rims 4.1 mm. thick. Nearly Extremely Fine. A decent looking example of a medal notorious for surviving in Very Fine or lower grades and usually badly banged up. Mr. Ford suspected there were two varieties of this medal struck on thick and thin planchets. **The finest this cataloguer has ever seen** and quite likely the finest known. **Not holed**, as every other one seen has been. Pale silver gray in color, brighter on the reverse, some dark flecks on both sides but these are really not disturbing. A few light scuffs, some minor rim bumps on both sides, but no defects that are really important nor detracting from the importance of the piece. Single witness line on the edge (as seen on the next two, to follow, as well). Clearly struck on a cast flan, also as the next two to follow.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

TWO ADDITIONAL VICTOR SINE CLADE MEDALS



Lot No. 160

160 1799 Victor Sine Clade Medal. B.164. White metal (pewter?). 56.2 mm. Rims 3.7 mm. thick. Very Fine. Holed, mount removed from the top. Medium pewter gray in color. Some light scratches visible on each side, usual rim nicks and knocks, but none really serious. Were this piece in a sale by itself, it would be noteworthy.

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on March 22, 1971.*



Lot No. 161

161 1799 Victor Sine Clade Medal. B.164. White metal (pewter?). 57.1 mm. Rims 3.7 mm. thick. About Very Fine. Another, in very typical condition. Holed for suspension. Slightly deeper silver gray than on the preceding specimen. Some light scratches in the upper right obverse field, a few lighter marks elsewhere on either side. Nice, medium gray color with some traces of very faded mint lustre. Far nicer than almost every other one seen. These almost never come nice looking. Besides being struck in a soft metal, susceptible to damage and mishandling, the medal must have been popular at the time.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

WASHINGTON FUNERAL MEDALS BY PERKINS

Collected by Metal and Die Variety

The Most Comprehensive Collection Ever Offered at Auction

EXCEPTIONAL SILVER SKULL & CROSSBONES FUNERAL MEDAL



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 162



(Enlarged)

162 **1799 Skull & Crossbones Funeral Medal. B.165A. Dies 1-A.1. Silver.** Plain edge. 29.0 mm. 141.2 gns. Nearly Extremely Fine. Holed for wearing as almost always found. The obverse is a rich medium gray in color with some pale blue and light russet, while the reverse is mostly a light silver gray with some faint traces of what might be lustre in some of the protected areas. Neatly holed at the top. Free from edge problems, dents or signs of serious mishandling. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex Dr. Paul Patterson on December 17, 1974.*



Lot No. 163

163 **1799 Skull & Crossbones Funeral Medal. B.165A. Dies 1-A.1. Silver.** Plain edge. 29.1 mm. 131.0 gns. Very Fine. Holed for wearing as almost always found. A very nice example, nearly perfect for the type. Both the obverse and reverse are toned in a rich, medium coin silver gray shade. There are traces of very pale iridescent rose and light gold toning on both sides. Some light marks, holed neatly at the top for suspension, otherwise defect-free and quite attractive.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 164

164 **1799 Skull & Crossbones Funeral Medal. B.165A. Dies 1-A.1. Silver.** Plain edge. 28.8 mm. 126.1 gns. Fine. Holed for wearing as almost always found. Pale silver gray most everywhere, save for areas of deep russet and Harvard gray in some of the obverse and most of the reverse protected areas. Neatly holed at the top.

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on August 20, 1970.*



THE FINEST SEEN SILVER SKULL & CROSSBONES MEDAL



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 165



(Enlarged)

165 **1799 Skull & Crossbones Funeral Medal. B.165A. Dies 2-A.2. Silver.** Plain edge. 29.8 mm. 117.6 gns. **Uncirculated. Prooflike.** A beautiful piece. Both sides are nicely toned in rich, coin silver gray. There are pale rose and iridescent blue highlights around the protected areas. Very sharply struck, Washington's hair is complete, his epaulet is boldly defined, and the skull on the reverse shows deep eye sockets and its teeth are fully outlined. Very neatly holed for wearing at the top, through the bottom and right side of 'E' in THE. **The finest seen** of this type, better than every other one in this collection and all the others offered at auction in the past 25 years. Mr. Ford noted that this was the "Finest AR one that I have seen." **Extremely rare** die pair, Fuld noted only one silver specimen reported from these dies. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on December 21, 1970.*

EXTREMELY RARE TIN SKULL & CROSSBONES MEDALS



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 166



(Enlarged)

166 **1799 Skull & Crossbones Funeral Medal. B.165C. Dies 1-A.1. White metal (tin).** Plain edge. 28.9 mm. 128.6 gns. **Choice About Uncirculated.** Holed for wearing as this type usually was. A very lovely example, bright, pale silver gray in color. The surfaces on both sides are brightly reflective, not quite prooflike but one might be justified in describing them as semi-prooflike. Neatly holed at the top, the hole not intruding into the denticulated border above. Well struck, with all design details sharp and bold for the grade. **Extremely rare:** Fuld suggested two to four were known. This is the second of only two the cataloguer can remember seeing (the other being in the lot to follow). (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 167

167 **1799 Skull & Crossbones Funeral Medal. B.165C. Dies 1-A.1. White metal (tin).** Plain edge. 28.2 mm. 125.6 gns. **Extremely Fine to About Uncirculated. Not holed.** A pleasing specimen, medium silver gray in color on both sides. There is bright reflectivity visible in the protected areas of both sides, those on the reverse, particularly. Not holed, unusual for the type, since these were struck and meant to be worn. The number of unholed pieces, compared to the number of pieces with holes at the top for suspension, is quite small. **Extremely rare:** Fuld suggested two to four were known. This is the second of only two the cataloguer can remember seeing.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

IMPORTANT GOLD FUNERAL URN MEDAL



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 168

168 **1800 Funeral Urn Medal. B.166. Dies 1-B. Gold.** Plain edge. 29.6 mm. 243.7 gns. **Uncirculated, prooflike.** An important and heavyweight example from these dies. Neatly holed at the top for suspension, as usual. A magnificent specimen. Both the obverse and reverse are bright yellow gold in color. The fields are brightly reflective, with nearly full mirrors showing. Well struck in the centers, almost all of the detail in Washington's uniform is visible and his initials on the urn are clear and bold. Some stray haymarks, but none really important. **One of the nicest seen** of this die combination, about on a par with the lovely example ex Western Reserve Historical Society (Stack's, January, 2003) and nicer than the LaRiviere piece. Although dated 1799 like the Skull and Crossbones type, the Funeral urn medals have traditionally been ascribed to the 1800 procession held in Boston in Washington's memory. We have dated the latter 1800, accordingly, although we recognize that the standard attribution has been challenged. **(SEE COLOR PLATE)**

*Ex Wayte Raymond Estate on July 28, 1958.*

SECOND LOVELY GOLD FUNERAL URN MEDAL



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 169

169 **1800 Funeral Urn Medal. B.166. Dies 1-B. Gold.** Plain edge. 30.5 mm. 171.2 gns. Very nice Extremely Fine to About Uncirculated. Prooflike. A second example from these dies. A really pleasing piece, toned in rich orange gold around the protected areas, brighter yellow in the fields. The surfaces are brightly reflective, nearly mirrorlike. Neatly holed at the top for suspension, as usual. **One of the nicest seen**, not quite as fine as the preceding but superior to the one to follow. **(SEE COLOR PLATE)**

*Ex Virgil M. Brand (inventory number 92002), Carl Wurtzbach Collections.*

A THIRD GOLD FUNERAL URN MEDAL



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 170

170 **1800 Funeral Urn Medal. B.166. Dies 1-B. Gold.** Plain edge. 29.3 mm. 206.5 gns. Extremely Fine, or so. Holed for wearing as almost always found. Bright, pale yellow gold in color, with some reflectivity visible on both sides. Planchet flaw on reverse, at right corner of pedestal below urn. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.

THE FINEST SEEN GOLD FUNERAL URN MEDAL

From An Extremely Rare Die Pair



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 171

171 **1800 Funeral Urn Medal. B.166. Dies 3-C.2. Gold.** Plain edge. 29.8 mm. 202.3 gns. **Choice About Uncirculated.** Holed for wearing as almost always found. **The nicest seen** of the handful of gold Funeral Urn medals sold in the past five years. **Extremely rare die pair:** LaRiviere's and the recent Western Reserve pieces were both the usual 1-B. Steinberg's was the rarer 2-C.1. The Dreyfuss cataloguer did not know enough to look up the Fuld die pair. There are probably 15 to 20 B.166 medals known in gold. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.

GEM SILVER FUNERAL URN MEDAL

The Finest Seen by the Cataloguer



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 172



(Enlarged)

172 **1800 Funeral Urn Medal. B.166A. Dies 1-B. Silver.** Plain edge. 29.4 mm. 145.6 gns. **Gem Uncirculated.** A gorgeous silver piece, one of the most attractive this cataloguer has ever seen. Both the obverse and reverse are deeply toned in rich gray, pale iridescent rose, light gold, and dramatic blue. The reverse toning is quite spectacular in appearance. The fields on both sides are bright, reflective, and essentially fully mirrorlike. The piece was neatly holed at the top for suspension, as usual. Well struck in the center of the reverse, Washington's initials quite visible on the urn; soft in the center of the obverse, Washington's facial features are visible, but somewhat indistinct. Some of these are known with their owner's names scratched in the fields or onto the base of the urn. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 173



173 **1800 Funeral Urn Medal. B.166A. Dies 1-B. Silver.** Plain edge. 29.6 mm. 146.0 gns. **Choice About Uncirculated.** Prooflike. This example is toned in a medium coin silver gray shade, with traces of pale gold iridescence in some of the protected areas. Neatly holed at the top for suspension, as usual. The obverse and reverse fields are bright, reflective, and fully mirrorlike. Well struck in the centers, Washington's initials on the urn are complete, his facial features are almost full, just the mouth and cheek being soft.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 174



174 **1800 Funeral Urn Medal. B.166A. Dies 1-B. Silver.** Plain edge. 29.3 mm. 149.3 gns. **Choice About Uncirculated.** Prooflike. Holed for wearing as almost always found. The obverse and reverse are both pale silver gray in color, with some traces of deeper gray toning here and there. The fields are bright, reflective, and essentially mirrorlike. Well struck in the centers, Washington's facial features are complete and his initials on the urn can be read without the aid of magnification.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 175

- 175 **1800 Funeral Urn Medal. B.166A. Dies 1-B. Silver.** Plain edge. 29.4 mm. 150.0 gns. Extremely Fine. A nicely toned example, rich coin silver gray in the fields, with some tinges of delicate russet and pale blue, principally on the reverse. Very neatly holed at the top for suspension. The fields are bright, reflective, and semi-prooflike.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 176

- 176 **1800 Funeral Urn Medal. B.166A. Dies 1-B. Silver.** Plain edge. 29.6 mm. 151.1 gns. A second. Fine, or slightly better. Holed for wearing as almost always found. Deeply toned in the fields in rich coin silver gray, lighter on the higher points and in the center of the reverse. Neatly holed at the top for suspension, as usual. One small rim dent on the obverse at 10:00 requires specific mention.

*Ex L. Stark; G. Bauer on February 3, 1962.*



Lot No. 177

- 177 **1800 Funeral Urn Medal. B.166A. Dies 3-C.2. Silver.** Plain edge. 29.1 mm. 130.9 gns. Nearly Extremely Fine. The obverse is two-toned, in a combination of pale gold and silver and deep Harvard gray, while the reverse is a more even medium gray shade, with traces of very light russet on the high points. Not holed, unusual for the type, making it an interesting piece for the specialist. Instead, this piece appears to once have been mounted at the top, from the rim, where remnants can still be seen.

*Ex Hal Birt, Jr. on September 4, 1970.*



Lot No. 178

- 178 **1800 Funeral Urn Medal. B.166A. Dies 3-C.2. Silver.** Plain edge. 29.4 mm. 132.7 gns. A second from these dies. Extremely Fine. Deeply toned on both sides, in a rich, attractive coin silver gray shade. The high points are lighter silver in color, and there are traces of very pale gold toning visible, principally around the peripheries. Neatly holed at the top for suspension, disturbing portions of the top of the reverse legend. No important defects or signs of mishandling requiring specific mention.

*Ex H. Whiteneck on August 15, 1961.*



Lot No. 179

- 179 **1800 Funeral Urn Medal. B.166C. Dies 1-B.** White metal (tin). Plain edge. 29.4 mm. Thin, 1.4 - 1.7 mm. flan. 121.9 gns. Choice About Uncirculated. A lovely example. Both the obverse and reverse are toned in a very pale pewter gray. The piece was neatly holed at the top for suspension, as usually seen. Well struck, with almost all of the central details showing full and bold. One small hairline scratch in the right obverse field is noted.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 180

- 180 **1800 Funeral Urn Medal. B.166C. Dies 1-B.** White metal (tin). Plain edge. 29.2 mm. Thin, 1.2 - 1.4 mm. flan. 113.2 gns. Extremely Fine. Both sides are toned in the centers in medium pewter gray, while there is bright, reflective original mint surface around the peripheries. Holed at the top for suspension, disturbing portions of the legends on both sides.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 181

- 181 **1800 Funeral Urn Medal. B.166C. Dies 3-B.** White metal (tin). Plain edge. 29.2 mm. Thin, 1.2 - 1.6 mm. flan. 104.3 gns. Choice About Uncirculated. Holed for wearing as almost always found. Bright pewter silver in color, with some attractive reflectivity in the fields around the peripheries. Slightly bent.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

**THE FINEST SEEN TIN FUNERAL URN MEDAL**



Lot No. 182

- 182 **1800 Funeral Urn Medal. B.166C. Dies 4-C.** White metal (tin). Plain edge. 29.1 mm. Thick, 1.7 - 1.8 mm. flan. 122.4 gns. **Uncirculated, prooflike.** Pale pewter gray in color on both sides. The fields are bright, reflective, and show partial mirrors. Neatly holed at the top for suspension, affecting only the top of 'ARM' in the reverse legend. One small rim nick at 6:00 on the obverse requires specific mention.

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on December 20, 1970.*

AN UNLISTED FUNERAL MEDAL DIE COMBINATION



Lot No. 183

183 1799-1800 Washington Funeral Medal. B.- unlisted, Fuld unlisted. B.168 (obverse)/B.167 (reverse). Copper. Plain edge. Round 31.9 mm. 138.3 gns. Nearly Fine/Very Good. A muling, probably a trial, of these dies. Deep coppery brown in color. Double struck on both sides, the second strike off center to the right. The obverse is about perfectly on flan, tight on the right, with most of the legend legible, the central type clear, Washington's portrait complete but soft. The reverse is much softer in the lower left, with portions of the legend illegible there, but the central urn device is bold, and Washington's initials on its pedestal are clear. There is a partial outer beaded border visible both sides, principally at the left, top, and bottom, missing or indistinct on the right.

Traces of the original, first strike, can be seen in places on both sides. Many light bumps and knocks, some old scratches on either side, other signs of fairly careless handling all suggest that this was a trial rather than a piece meant for distribution to the public. An unrecorded die combination, there are undoubtedly other discoveries to be made in the Washington Funeral badge series. **Unlisted by Baker, probably unique.** The cataloguer has not come across another like this. The obverse is the die of B.168, with Washington's bust surrounded by GEN. WASHINGTON, BORN, VIRGINIA F.11. The reverse is the die of B.167, showing a funeral urn with G.W. on the base. Baker 168 has hitherto always been seen (two known: MHS and Collins:153) with the Indian princess reverse type. This piece will be new to all who see it.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

THE FINEST SEEN GOLD OVAL FUNERAL BADGE



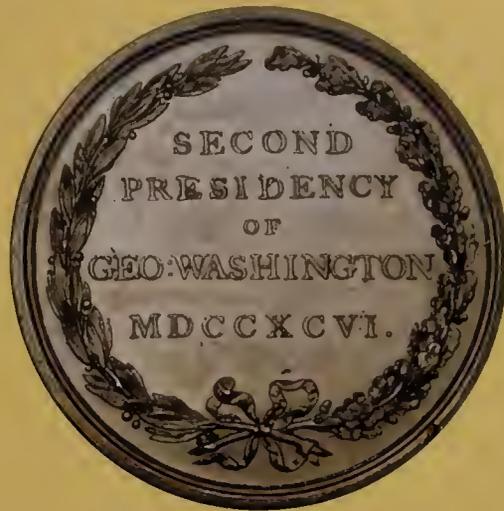
Lot No. 184

184 1799 Oval Washington Funeral Badge. B.169. Gold. Uniface. 29.3 x 25.0 mm. 25.9 gns. **Gem Uncirculated.** Absolutely gorgeous. The obverse is bright yellow gold in color with brilliant prooflike flash. The back is an even paler gold and shows the obverse type incuse. Very sharply struck, Washington's hair is complete and his epaulet is bold. This is, without doubt, **the finest seen**, nicer even than the recent Western Reserve Historical Society piece ex Norweb Collection. **Very rare:** there is no precise census of the number of surviving specimens. Fuld suggested about eight known but we have seen six and suspect that about 15 exist. Several of them are in contemporary mounts. These seem to have been particularly popular with the wealthier class of persons since several known were specially mounted for wearing or display. One specimen is known in an elaborate mount of natural pearls, for example. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

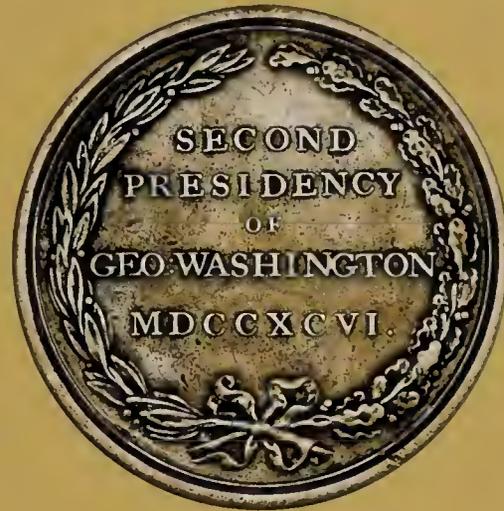
WASHINGTON SEASONS MEDALS



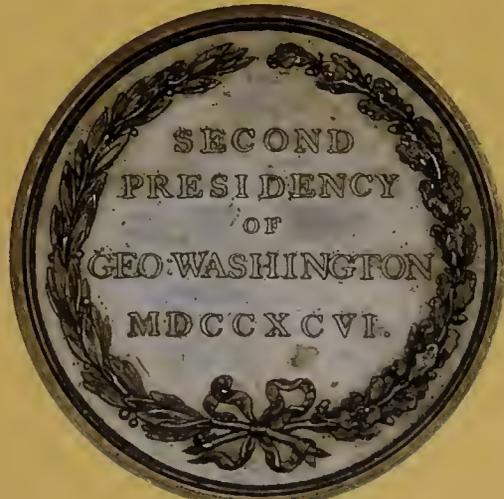
185



186



187



THE WASHINGTON SEASONS MEDALS

Ordered by Secretary of War James McHenry in October, 1796, the Seasons Medals were struck in England at Boulton and Watt's Soho facility in Birmingham. The dies were designed by John Trumbull and were engraved by Conrad Kuchler. A total of 500 in silver and 200 in copper of the three types were ordered. Of that number, 51 silvers and 21 coppers were ordered to be made without suspensions, the rest to be mounted with small loops for wearing. Nearly two years later, in July, 1798, the Secretary of War received 326 silver medals and an unstated number of copper ones. These were distributed to Indians while John Adams was in office and others were carried with Lewis and Clark 1804-6 while Jefferson was president.

MAGNIFICENT SHEPHERD MEDAL



Lot No. 185

185 **The Shepherd. B.170A, Belden 12. Bronze. 47.9 mm. 728.1 gns. About Uncirculated, prooflike.** Magnificent quality for one of these. Rich, deep mahogany bronze in color. The fields are brightly reflective everywhere. Very sharply struck, with full detail showing in the veins in the leaves on the reverse and even the ribs on the somewhat emaciated looking cow on the reverse. Some scratches in the center of the obverse, these heartbreakingly fresh. Suspender broken from the top. Obverse edge bruise on rim at about 6:30. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex Virgil Brand Collection on April 30, 1962.*

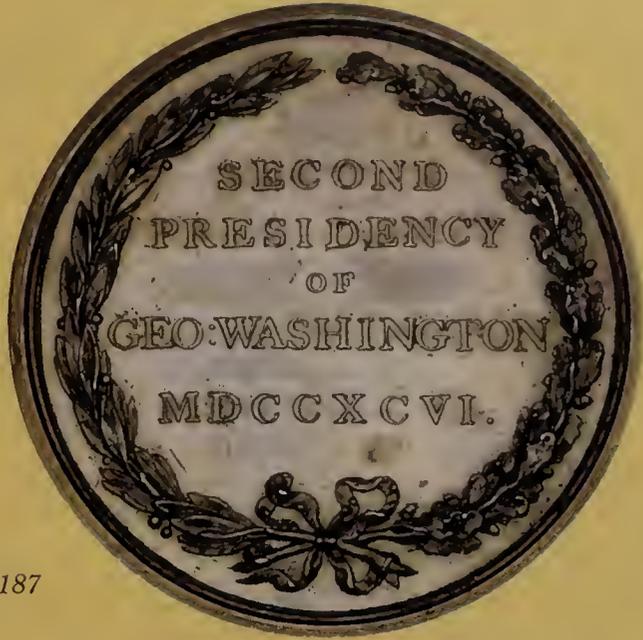
VERY RARE SILVER SEASONS MEDAL



Lot No. 186

186 **The Farmer, or Sower. B.171, Belden 13. Silver. 47.7 mm. 711.6 gns. Fine, bent.** Suspension mount broken from the top. **Very rare;** there is no accurate census of the silver Seasons medals. Both the obverse and reverse are pale silver gray, the reverse a slightly darker shade. On the obverse, the sower's figure can be seen, the house is indistinct, the ox and plow are quite faint, the hills beyond can be seen in their outlines. On the reverse, the inscription in the center is bold and the encircling wreath is mostly clear. The bend is noticeable. Some light rim marks. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

**SUPERB FARMER MEDAL**



*Lot No. 187*

**WASHINGTON OVAL INDIAN PEACE MEDAL**



*Lot No. 189  
(Reduced)*

SUPERB FARMER MEDAL



Lot No. 187

- 187 **The Farmer, or Sower. B.171A, Belden 13.** Bronze. 47.9 mm. 735.5 gns. **About Uncirculated, prooflike.** Superb quality for a Seasons Medal, most known in bronze are in much lower grades with no surfaces left. A really lovely example, and one of the nicest this cataloguer has seen. Both the obverse and reverse are attractively toned in a rich, deep mahogany and brown-gold shade. The fields are bright, reflective, and show near full mirror brilliance just about everywhere. Very sharply struck, the sower's facial features are clear, the diminutive farmer in the background plowing behind a team of oxen is sharp, the rooflines are bold, as are the trees behind and the hills in the background. On the reverse, the central legend is sharp and all of the leaves in the palm and oak wreath are clear, sharp, and show inner detail. No sign of suspension visible on the edge. Some minor signs of handling, but none really important given the appearance of the piece. *(SEE COLOR PLATE)*

*Ex B. Max Mehl on April 30, 1954.*

INTERESTING SPINNER MEDAL



Lot No. 188

- 188 **The Family, or Spinner. B.172A, Belden 14.** Bronze. 47.6 mm. 733.5 gns. **Very Fine.** Dark steel gray and brown in color on both sides. Many obverse ties in the fields, rims damaged in places, dented on the reverse. Mount almost certainly removed from the top.

*Ex Virgil M. Brand Collection (inventory number 28925) on April 18, 1963; appraised in 1933 for \$25.*

### WASHINGTON OVAL INDIAN PEACE MEDALS

The John J. Ford, Jr. collection of oval Washington Indian Peace medals is legendary. Over the half century he has been collecting these, Mr. Ford has let slip very little about exactly what he owns. Some stories are known, some pieces were seen bought by collectors still living, but most of what is known is based upon hearsay. Some of it is disinformation.

The following three oval medals have been included here as illustrative of a portion of the Washingtonia series that very few collectors ever have a chance to see, let alone bid on. These are not the only ovals in Mr. Ford's collection. They have been selected for inclusion here as high points of Mr. Ford's collection of Washingtonia. The other ovals he owns, as well as silver Indian trade goods of the late 18th century, will be included with Mr. Ford's Indian Peace medals when they are sold.



## WASHINGTON OVAL TYPE OF 1789

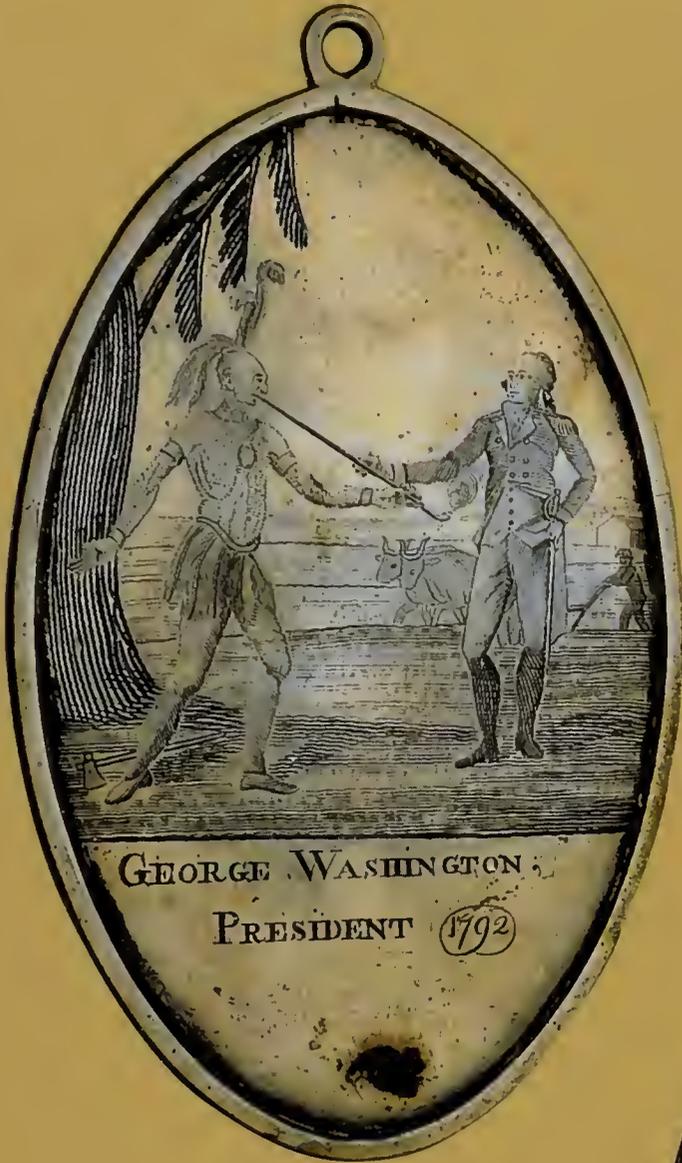


Lot No. 189  
(Reduced)

- 189 **1789 Washington Oval Indian Peace Medal. B.174M, Belden 1, Prucha 22. Silver.** Oval 136.5 x 107.6 mm. 1,829.6 gns. Sharpness of Extremely Fine. Looped, with heart shaped pendant, the loop marked with lion passant sinister. Rim loose at the time of purchase, later repaired. Bright silver gray on the Heraldic Eagle side, deeper gray on the dated side. **A modern copy, and sold as such.** The exact nature, origin, and actual age of all of the 1789-dated Washington oval Indian Peace medals is a subject that requires further study. The types on this medal show an Indian standing to the left, dropping a tomahawk from his right hand and passing a pipe of peace in his left to a standing figure of Athena, who points with her left hand to a plow. Between the two is Athena's shield, lying on the ground beside a cast down spear, the two symbolic of peace. Above is engraved G. WASHINGTON PRESIDENT. The date, 1789, is in the exergue below.

The reverse shows the heraldic eagle, derived from the Great Seal of the United States, with the legend THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA above. The eagle holds an olive branch in its right talon, and a bundle of 13 arrows in its left. The cataloguer knows of only a handful of 1789 ovals that might challenge an authenticator. Most are very obvious, poorly executed pieces. The two specimens in the Ford Collection are both very skillful copies and require careful study. The cataloguer is uncertain of the number of genuine 1789 ovals surviving. Father Prucha was similarly diffident in his description of this type, writing that there was no way to tell who made them, how many were made, or to whom they were presented. Fr. Prucha accepted the type as genuine, however. There is one in the ANS which was purchased in 1916, having first appeared in Henry Chapman's sale of December 22, 1915. There is another in Winterthur's collection. Its spectrographic analysis suggests it is old silver (interestingly, its rim and loop may once have been gilt) but its provenance does not seem to be long. Mr. Ford bought the present specimen 40 years ago subject to return if he thought it was fake. He never returned it and, in fact, bought a second from a different seller. He felt they were unrecognized genuine pieces and hence, underpriced. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex Shore Galleries, Chicago on December 1, 1960 for \$485.*



190

EXTRAORDINARY 1792 WASHINGTON OVAL INDIAN PEACE MEDAL

One of Just Two Known of the Smallest Size

The Only Specimen Available to Collectors



Lot No. 190  
(Reduced)

190 **1792 Washington Oval Indian Peace Medal. B. unlisted, Belden 4-C, Prucha 34. Silver.** Oval 133.0 x 80.5 mm. 1,175.7 gns. Choice Very Fine. Unmarked, as the ANS specimen but of finer style than that piece. This is one of the finest Washington oval Indian Peace medals the cataloguer has ever seen. In appearance and execution it proclaims its importance. Both sides are toned in a nice, even medium gray shade. There are subtle hints of pale iridescence visible in places. Around the rims are bands of darker toning and there is a black area near the rim on the date side. The engraving is fine, showing a skilled and experienced hand at work. The rim is broad and the opening of the loop is parallel to the plane of the medal. **Of the highest rarity:** one of just two genuine specimens of the smallest size known, the other being the permanently impounded ANS example. The ANS piece is wider than this by half a millimeter and shorter by nine.

Baumann Belden reported he had seen a specimen owned by a New Yorker that he measured at 81 x 127 mm. It is the cataloguer's opinion that Belden must have seen Boyd's piece. The Washington ovals were distributed during that presidency and in fairly limited quantities. They were commissioned from Philadelphia silversmiths, Joseph Richardson, Jr. being prominent among them. Each was hand engraved on a silver plate that was later reduced to its final, oval shape. The plate was then banded with flattened silver wire with a loop at the top for suspension. Oval medals were made in three different sizes and distributed according to the rank of the recipient as perceived by the government agent. In general, the smallest medals are believed to be the ones that survive the least often, since they went to persons of lesser rank and may not have been held in as much esteem as the Great Medals. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



191

1793 WASHINGTON OVAL INDIAN PEACE MEDAL

The Largest Size Medal for Great Chiefs



Lot No. 191  
(Reduced)

191 1793 Washington Oval Indian Peace Medal. B.174 bis, Belden 5A, bis, Prucha 27, bis. Silver. Oval. 171.4 x 125.4 mm. 2,582.0 gns. Unsigned. Essentially as made. Bright silver in most places, with considerable mottling in dark gray and gold, particularly around the encircling band. Loop replaced at the top, band repaired with solder at the bottom, split twice at about 6:15. Rolling flaw in the upper obverse field between the Indian's and Washington's heads. Inscription in two lines on the obverse. Engraving style on the dated side somewhat indifferent, many details appearing to be unfinished (particularly on the plowing farmer, Washington's feet, the Indian's hands). Other details as expected from the period, particularly the oak and pine trees, the five feathers on the Indian's head, details in Washington's waistcoat, the barn in the background. On the eagle side, detail in execution much finer and more finished, almost suggestive of a second hand, with the treatment of the olive branch showing some skill and the arrows in the bundle traceable along their length from fletches to points. A difficult piece to catalogue. Mr. Ford purchased it as genuine and it has many of the details one expects from a late 18th century Washington oval Indian Peace medal. Particularly in its favor is the fact that it appears to have been engraved on a single sheet around which was wrapped the encircling band which clearly has a groove down its center into which the engraved plate was inlet (this can be clearly seen in many places on the outside of the band). The obverse rolling flaw also speaks in its favor. However, the detail in execution on the obverse does not appear to be up to Richardson's workshop's skill level, and gives rise to some uncertainty about the actual date of this medal. Accordingly, we offer it here, **AS IS. (SEE COLOR PLATE)**

*Purchased on July 29, 1979 at the ANA convention for \$30,000; earlier, said ex Dr. Paul Patterson's collection.*



Lot No. 192

- 192 1834 Washington, Kosciusko, & Lafayette Medal. B.196. Original. Bronze. 51.3 mm. Choice About Uncirculated, with prooflike fields. Nice, even orange-tan surface finish. Very well struck, with just the slightest trace of rub on the highest point of Washington's hair. Devoid of any signs of careless handling whatsoever.

*Ex Presidential Coin & Antique's Sale 22 (April 18, 1977, lot 777).*

## 1824 WASHINGTON/LAFAYETTE COUNTERSTAMPED COINS

### The Finest Such Collection Yet Offered



Lot No. 193

- 193 1824 Washington Head Left Medal. B.198AA. Uniface. Silver. Plain edge. 24.5 mm. Rims 1.7 mm. thick. 40.9 gns. The Washington side only of the familiar B.198 type and as struck. A nice little piece, beautifully toned in rich gray, iridescent blue, and pale russet. The fields are brightly reflective on the struck side. Unlisted by Fuld, quite possibly **unique**.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estote.*



Lot No. 194

Lot No. 195

- 194 1824 Washington/Lafayette Counterstamp. B.198C. 168.6 gns. On an 1816 Large Cent. Newcomb 8. Host and counterstamp both Very Fine. Attractive, even olive brown in color on both sides. The counterstamp has been nicely applied, the Washington side nearly perfectly centered, the Lafayette punch nicely inlet in the wreath, although upside down when the Large Cent is properly oriented. **Very rare:** only a handful is known struck on Large Cents.

*Ex E.C. Thomos on October 5, 1962.*

- 195 1824 Washington/Lafayette Counterstamp. B.198C. 162.4 gns. On an 1818 Large Cent. Newcomb 3. Host: Fine to Very Fine. Counterstamp: Very Fine to Extremely Fine. Toned in a deep brown shade on both sides. Washington counterstamp inlet in the center of the Large Cent obverse, oriented crosswise; Lafayette counterstamp in the center of the wreath on the reverse, nearly upside down when the Large Cent is properly oriented. **Very rare:** only a handful is known struck on Large Cents. John Kleeberg has shown that the engraver of the Washington and Lafayette busts was Joseph Lewis and not C.C. Wright, as previously believed.

*Ex Hons Schulmon's sale of January 26, 1957, lot 2016); earlier, believed ex Farouk Collection.*



Lot No. 196

- 196 **1824 Washington/Lafayette Counterstamp. B.198C.** 152.1 gns. On an 1822 Large Cent. Newcomb 4. Host: Very Fine. Counterstamp: Extremely Fine to About Uncirculated. Pale steel brown in color on both sides. Washington counterstamp in the center of the obverse of the Large Cent, oriented upside down when the Large Cent is correctly positioned; Lafayette counterstamp within the center of the wreath, slightly diagonally up to the right when the Large Cent is correctly positioned. Washington side fairly sharp, Lafayette side very crisp. **Very rare:** only a handful is known struck on Large Cents. The cataloguer notes an inferior specimen in Bowers' March 19, 1993 auction that sold for \$1,700.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 197

- 197 **1824 Washington/Lafayette Counterstamp. B.198E.** On an 1824/various dates Overton 103 Half Dollar. 207.7 gns. Host and counterstamp Extremely Fine, with nice color. Small attempt at puncture near the cap to the right of the seventh star. The host coin is toned in gray and iridescent blue on the obverse, gray and light russet on the reverse. The Washington side was struck so that it is facing upright when the Half Dollar side is correctly oriented; while the Lafayette side, as seems typical on these, was placed upside down when the Half Dollar was correctly oriented. Washington side somewhat soft, because when the counterstamp was applied the Washington counterstamp side wound up being convex while the Lafayette side, sharper here, as usual, was concave. **Extremely rare:** the cataloguer knows of only a very few of these counterstamped on Bust Halves. Stew Witham sold one for \$3,750 in 1992 to a well known counterstamp enthusiast. Missing from the LaRiviere, Dreyfuss, Witham, and Collins sales. Fuld noted only one seen, on an 1824 dated Half.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

**EXTREMELY RARE 1824 WASHINGTON/LAFAYETTE COUNTERSTAMP**



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 198



(Enlarged)

- 198 **1824 Washington/Lafayette Counterstamp. B.198E.** On an 1824 Overton 108 Half Dollar. 209.2 gns. Host: Choice About Uncirculated. Counterstamp: Extremely Fine. A beautiful specimen. The host coin is brilliantly lustrous, and attractively toned in iridescent shades. The Washington counterstamp is well struck and about centered on the obverse, the Lafayette side overlying the uppermost portion of the eagle. Washington side nicely oriented with regard to the Half Dollar; Lafayette side upside down when the Half Dollar is correctly oriented. Washington side fairly crisp, the legend bold, hair soft; Lafayette side, as typical on this counterstamp, much sharper and crisper. **Extremely rare:** the cataloguer knows of only a very few of these counterstamped on Bust Halves. **(SEE COLOR PLATE)**

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 199

- 199 **Undated Washington Counterstamp. B.1037, sim.** 97.7 gns. 'GW' counterstamped in a square cartouche in the center of a 1792 Lima 2 reales. Host: Fine. Counterstamp: Very Fine. Undoubtedly, a fantasy. Deep coin silver gray toning can be seen on both sides. Counterstamp nicely placed in the center of the Charles IV obverse bust.

*Ex Allan Lee Scott Collection (NASCA, April 28, 1980, lot 1147).*



Lot No. 200

- 200 **Undated Washington Counterstamp. B.1038, sim.** 141.8 gns. 'GW' counterstamped in the center of the obverse of a Georgius Triumpho Washington token. Host: Fine, holed and plugged twice. Counterstamp: Very Fine. Nice, rich yellow brass color. Uncertain date, possibly a fantasy.



Lot No. 201

- 201 **Undated Washington Counterstamp. B.1050, sim.** Oval 8.0 x 6.5 mm. 222.8 gns. Washington military bust right without inscription on the obverse of a British 1811 3 Shilling Bank Token. Host: Extremely Fine, or so. Counterstamp: About Uncirculated. Attractive, deep coin silver gray toning can be seen on both sides. **Extremely rare:** the cataloguer has no records of another of these and notes it as unlisted by Rulau. It may be a fantasy but if so, it predates the very modern era.

*Ex Virgil Brand Collection.*



Lot No. 202

- 202 **Undated Washington Counterstamp. B.1053AA.** 85.6 gns. GEORGE WASHINGTON around a small bust right twice on the obverse of a 1789 Madrid 2 Reales. Host: Very Good to Fine. Counterstamp: Extremely Fine to About Uncirculated. The counterstamps are attractively toned, while the host coin is medium silver gray in color. **Very rare:** this undertype not recorded by Fuld, who notes one and writes "perhaps two other impressions are known."

*Ex W. Fox Steinberg on October 23, 1959.*



Lot No. 203

- 203 **1962 Washington Counterstamp. B.1058.** GEORGE WASHINGTON around a civilian bust in circular depression on the obverse of a 1797 British cartwheel Twopence. **Choice Uncirculated**, with mint red remaining in the protected areas on both sides. As struck in January, 1962 by Paul Franklin, Sr., one of two given to Ford and Bashlow, the third retained.



Lot No. 204

- 204 **1856 Eight Presidents Medal. B.221D. Unsigned reverse.** White metal. Plain edge. 46.1 mm. **Choice Uncirculated.** Bright pewter silver in color on both sides, with considerable reflectivity and original mint lustre showing. From the so-called "Unsigned Reverse," lacking the name of the engraver, W.H. Bridgens, New York. Like the Manly medals that lack the publisher's name, the engraver's name on the Eight Presidents medal can be seen, faintly, even on those that are said to lack it. For another, see Scott:506. These appear to be quite rare.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

**EXTREMELY RARE EIGHT PRESIDENTS MEDAL**

**The Crosby-Garrett Bronzed Copper Specimen**



Lot No. 205

- 205 **1856 Eight Presidents Medal. B.221F. Signed reverse. Bronzed copper.** Plain edge. 45.6 mm. **Very Choice Uncirculated.** A lovely, rich mahogany brown specimen with a great pedigree. Very well struck. Also from the "Unsigned Reverse," with portions of the engraver's name still legible under magnification. **Extremely rare:** missing from the LaRiviere, Witham, Collins, Steinberg, and Scott sales. Unknown to Baker in copper. We have auction records of only this piece. This is only the third time in 122 years this piece has traded hands.

*Ex Garrett Collection (Bowers & Ruddy, March 25, 1981, lot 1819); earlier, ex Sylvester S. Crosby Collection (William Haseltine, June 27, 1883, lot 380).*

GEM SUCCESS TOKEN



Lot No. 206

- 206 **Undated [ca. 1790-1810] Success Token. B.265.** Brass. Plain edge. Large flan, 25.0 mm. 73.4 gns. **Gem Brilliant Uncirculated.** Bright and fully lustrous. Obverse break much more pronounced and the reverse quite heavily rusted. This piece, from its quality, appears to the cataloguer to be a restrike, although when it might have been made is unknown.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 207

Lot No. 208

- 207 **Undated [ca. 1790-1810] Success Token. B.265.** Brass. Plain edge. Large flan, 24.9 mm. 73.1 gns. **Extremely Fine.** Pale brassy gold in color, with some original mint lustre remaining in the protected areas of the obverse and reverse. A couple of obverse spots, small area of discoloration in the center of the reverse resembling the number 5. Struck from the broken state of the obverse.

- 208 **Undated [ca. 1790-1810] Success Token. B.266.** Brass. Reeded edge. Large flan, 24.5 mm. 58.9 gns. **Uncirculated.** Brightly lustrous. Medium yellow gold in color on the obverse, slightly darker on the reverse. Some original mint lustre can be seen in the protected areas on both sides. Struck from the same reverse as the two pieces in the preceding lots, but a different obverse die, the type identical but the engraving different. Struck from an earlier reverse state than the piece in a preceding lot described as a restrike.



Lot No. 209

- 209 **1861 A Decisive War Medal. B.282.** White metal. Plain edge. 25.6 mm. **Uncirculated, prooflike.** Pale silver gray in color on both sides. The fields are bright, reflective, and have near full mirror brilliance showing. There are a few areas on the obverse with some darker toning. Loop removed from the top, almost unnoticeable when the piece is viewed face on. **Extremely rare:** the only other specimens the cataloguer remembers are Garrett:1835, PCAC #62:182, and the Ganter II Sale piece.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

VERY RARE GENERAL GRAND MASTER MEDAL



(Enlarged)

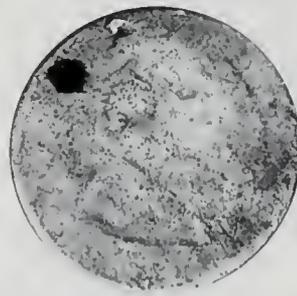


(Enlarged)

Lot No. 210

- 210 1797 General Grand Master Medal. B.288B. Brass. Engrailed edge. 34.8 mm. Rims 1.6 - 1.8 mm. thick. 239.4 gns. From dies almost certainly executed by Peter Getz, author of the 1792 Getz Half Dollars. Nice Very Fine. An important piece, one of the nicest this cataloguer can remember seeing. **Very rare:** there are about six or seven known with an engrailed edge. Pale brassy gold and brown in color on both sides. Surfaces mostly clear and hard, some superficial tics in the right obverse field. Obverse slightly softly struck at the left, 'ASHI' faint but still legible in the legend. Reverse much sharper than often seen, with almost all of the Masonic symbols clear, including the trowel on the ground and the stars that surround the crescent moon. Good sharpness in the centers as described, Washington's head mostly clear, all his uniform buttons sharp, and the bottoms of the braid in his epaulet clear. Well manufactured flan, a few very minor cracks in from the edge but none that penetrate deeply into the coin, most being confined to the beaded border. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

UNIFACE GENERAL GRAND MASTER MEDAL



Lot No. 211

- 211 1797 General Grand Master Medal. B.288C. Uniface. Obverse. Bronze. Plain edge. 34.0 mm. 120.2 gns. Extremely Fine. Light gray brown in color on the obverse, slightly lighter on the reverse. A couple of small toning flecks on the obverse, one fairly large one on the reverse. Trace of silver or tin or solder on the reverse. The piece has a very nice ring when struck. Obverse die break through Washington's throat a little more pronounced than seen on the piece in the preceding lot, suggesting it was struck later. Good central detail, almost all of Washington's hair is sharp, his uniform buttons clear, the button hole at the top visible, and most of the braid in his epaulet clear and distinct. **Very rare.** These are believed to have been snuff box lids. Fuld (2002) plates one. About six are known in brass with plain edges.

*Ex Wayte Raymond in 1953.*

LOVELY SILVER WASHINGTON MONUMENT MEDAL



Lot No. 212

- 212 1848 Washington [National] Monument Medal. B.320A. Silver. Plain edge. 39.4 mm. 443.3 gns. Choice About Uncirculated. Prooflike. A lovely example of this medal struck in silver. The obverse is toned in the fields in rose and pale gray while the peripheries show iridescent blue color, as well. The reverse is mostly pale gray and rose, with areas of dark blue around the rim. The fields show some light hairlines, but none are really distracting. There are a couple of reverse rim cuts, one moderately serious. **Extremely rare in silver:** missing from the Garrett, Scott, Dreyfuss, Steinberg, LaRiviere, and Witham sales. Fuld suggested two or three known. The cataloguer has seen only two: this and Collins:177 (a choice Unc. that was underappreciated at \$2,000).

*Ex Dorge's 11th Mail Bid Sale (January 24, 1975, lot 1801).*

GORGEOUS WASHINGTON BENEVOLENT SOCIETY MEDALS

A LOVELY GEM SPECIMEN



Lot No. 213

- 213 1808 Washington Benevolent Society Medal. B.327, J.RF.23. Silver. Plain edge. 42.3 mm. 419.1 gns. Attributed to John Reich. **Gem Uncirculated, prooflike.** With hanger. An absolutely amazing example, the finest this cataloguer can remember seeing. Both the obverse and reverse are magnificently toned in iridescent blue, rose, and pale gold. The fields are bright, reflective, and have full mirror brilliance showing everywhere. The strike is very sharp, with every single detail in the die visible on the piece. Accompanied by its original hanger, struck from a later state of the obverse, with a small rim cud at about 2:30. A lovely example of this well made and beautifully styled early republican medal. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

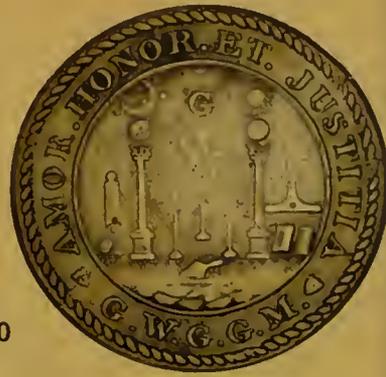
*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on August 20, 1970.*



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214



## BENEVOLENT SOCIETY MEDAL WITH ORIGINAL BLUE SILK ROSETTE



Lot No. 214

- 214 1808 Washington Benevolent Society Medal. B.327, J.RF.23. Silver. Plain edge. 42.3 mm. Attributed to John Reich. **Choice Uncirculated, prooflike.** A very important piece, of museum quality. Both the obverse and reverse are light silver gray, and show traces of pale iridescent blue toning. The fields are bright, reflective, and show essentially full mirror brilliance. Struck from a later state of the obverse die than the piece offered earlier, here the rim cud broader and extending up along this side to end above the wreath. With hanger and still attached to its **original blue silk rosette** measuring a generous 2 5/16 inches. **Plated in Antiques** magazine, February, 1957. This is the first such we have seen. The entire ensemble makes a lovely display, especially as this is the way these were meant to be seen by the makers. It is interesting to note that bookseller J.F. Carr offered a copy of *The Text-Book of the Washington Benevolent Society* in his 48th catalogue (1968). That small book included a biography of Washington and a copy of his farewell address and was printed in Concord, NH in 1812 by George Hough. Its original owner's membership certificate, issued in Gilmanton, NH in 1812 was still inside. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

*Ex Paul Magriel via Paul Kagin on August 20, 1970.*

ANOTHER SILVER BENEVOLENT SOCIETY MEDAL



Lot No. 215

- 215 **1808 Washington Benevolent Society Medal. B.327. Silver.** Plain edge. 42.2 mm. 456.0 gns. **Choice Uncirculated, prooflike.** Both the obverse and reverse of this piece are deeply toned in a medium gray shade, while there is some pale blue and rose iridescence visible in places. The fields are bright, reflective, and have nearly full mirror brilliance. Struck from an earlier state of the die than seen on the preceding piece, without the rim cud at about 2:30. Small obverse rim tic above 'Y' in the legend. With its original swivel mount hanger. *(SEE COLOR PLATE)*

*Ex Olga Raymond on September 3, 1976.*

UNDATED TYRANT ALCOHOL MEDAL



Lot No. 216

- 216 **Undated Tyrant Alcohol Medal. B.332. Silver.** Reeded edge. 20.3 mm. 50.1 gns. About Uncirculated. A nice little piece, toned in pale gray and gold, with considerable mint lustre and traces of original mint flash in the fields. The reverse is slightly darker than the obverse, and appears a bit porous, but given the importance of the piece, these observations are almost irrelevant. Quite a rare little medal and underappreciated as such.

*Ex David Oserkis on January 15, 1971.*

*EXTREMELY RARE CHOWDER CLUB MEDAL*



*Lot No. 217*



**EXTREMELY RARE CHOWDER CLUB MEDAL**

**One of Just Three Recorded by Us in Silver**



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 217

(Enlarged)

217 **1818 Washington Market Chowder Club Member's Badge. B.338A, Rulau E.NY.930. Silver.** Plain edge. 23.4 mm. 72.8 gns. Sharpness of About Very Fine, actually About Uncirculated but softly struck in the centers. Nicely toned, in rich silver gray with some traces of pale russet on both sides. Both sides well centered, with the obverse type and the reverse inscription fully on flan. Plain edge, well executed. Washington's bust a trifle soft yet his facial features can be seen. 'W' in the center of the reverse soft, but legible, nonetheless. Struck at least twice, to bring up the detail, from dies with pronounced polish lines on the obverse. Some light, essentially hidden scratches in the center of the reverse visible only under magnification. Slightly shift struck three times. **Extremely rare:** the cataloguer has records of only two in silver (**this** and the Norweb piece) and one gold (ex Garrett, owned by an East Coast collector).

The Garrett cataloguer suggested four known in silver, the source of all subsequent estimates of the rarity of B.338A. The late Carl W.A. Carlson noted that Frossard sold I.F.Wood's silver piece in February, 1884 and three months later Woodward sold Levick's gold and silver specimens. Together with the piece Holland owned (sold by Woodward in 1878) and the one Appleton listed in 1873, Carlson felt there was a good chance that four were known in silver in 1884. The cataloguer feels comfortable with a census of four pieces surviving in silver, of which he can trace three including **this**; Norweb Collection; ANS. The pieces recorded by Rulau as owned by Witham did not appear in Bowers' sale of Witham's Washingtonia. The late Jack Collins told the cataloguer that Witham stated in September, 1992 that he did not own any Chowder Club medals. The unique gold specimen is not in the Ford Collection. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate on March 27, 1959.*

**LOVELY SILVER CALIFORNIA MEDAL**



Lot No. 218

218 **1876 California Centennial Medal. B.410. Silver.** Plain edge. 39.8 mm. 386.8 gns. Thick planchet. From dies by C.F. Mohrig, struck by Kuner in San Francisco. **Gem Uncirculated, prooflike.** A very nice companion to the piece in the following lot. This example is toned on the obverse in a rich rose and deep gray, while the reverse is paler gray and has areas of russet toning in the fields. Looped at the top, for suspension, as almost always seen. **Very rare:** the cataloguer has only seen three of these in silver, including **this**; next lot (thin flan); and Garrett:1874.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

VERY RARE SILVER CENTENNIAL MEDAL



Lot No. 219

- 219 **1876 California Centennial Medal. B.410. Silver.** Plain edge. 39.7 mm. 247.9 gns. Thin 1.1 - 1.2 mm. planchet. **Gem Uncirculated, prooflike.** A gorgeous piece. Both sides are nearly identically toned in rich iridescent blue and rose. The fields are bright, reflective, and show full mirrors when angled in the light. The piece was sharply struck in the centers, the steamship in the golden gate on the reverse and the stagecoach and Express Rider in the center of the obverse are quite clear and bold, even without the aid of magnification. Not looped, almost every other one seen has been. **Very rare.** The cataloguer knows of one uniface in brass, a choice AU in Kirtley's February, 1988 FPL.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

GEM CALIFORNIA CENTENNIAL MEDAL IN WHITE METAL



Lot No. 220

- 220 **1876 California Centennial Medal. B.410. White metal.** Plain edge. 39.8 mm. **Gem Uncirculated.** Beautifully toned in iridescent blue, rose, and russet shades. Looped at the top for suspension, as issued. Some hidden hairlines are noted.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

THE VERY RARE ANDREW CANEL MEDALS



Lot No. 221

- 221 1841 Andrew Canel of Trieste Medal. B.K-678. Silver. 46.5 mm. 599.0 gns. Proof, with claims to Choice. Light silver gray on both sides with bright flash in the fields. Sharply struck, some frost still remains on the devices. **Very rare:** there cannot be more than a handful of these struck in silver, this being the same one we sold over a decade ago with no other noted. The medal states it was struck in honor of one Andrew Canel of Trieste to record his hospitality towards the resident Americans during the 1841 Washington birthday celebrations. Canel's biography has not yielded to investigation.

*Ex Coin Galleries sale of February 12, 1992, lot 2600.*



Lot No. 222

- 222 1841 Andrew Canel of Trieste Medal. B.K-678C, Fonrobert 5661. Copper. 45.7 mm. 636.7 gns. Choice About Uncirculated. Good, medium brown and tan color with some very faded traces of color on the reverse. Dark obverse toning lines, some roughness in the center of the reverse. **Extremely rare:** in fact, Fuld and Rulau doubt the existence of one of these in copper! Types and dies as the silver above and the one to follow.

*Ex D. Oserkis on January 15, 1971.*



Lot No. 223

- 223 1841 Andrew Canel of Trieste Medal. B.K-678C, Fonrobert 5661. Copper. 45.7 mm. 632.8 gns. Choice Extremely Fine. A second example of this **extremely rare** medal struck in copper. Even, medium brown and tan with a small dark obverse spot at the right rim. Sharp obverse, much softer reverse. This and the one above are the only two in copper we have recorded.

*Ex C. McSorley on April 29, 1967.*

WASHINGTON MEDALS AND INAUGURAL BUTTONS, EARLY AMERICAN TOKENS



215



217



241



233



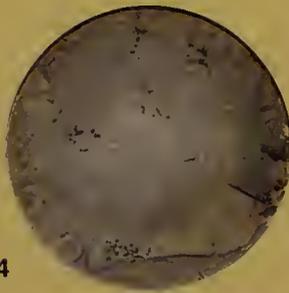
235



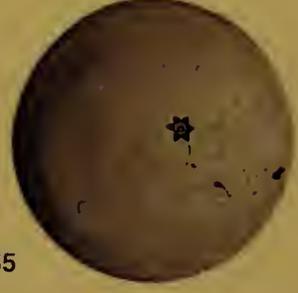
252



254



255



260



261



262



263



264



**EAGLE AND STAR INAUGURAL BUTTON**



*Lot No. 233*

**HERALDIC EAGLE INAUGURAL BUTTON**



*Lot No. 235*

WASHINGTON INAUGURAL BUTTONS



Lot No. 224

224 Inaugural Button. Linked States. Script GW. B.1001, Cobb 10, Albert 11A, DeWitt GW.1789-2. Brass. 35.9 mm. 157.5 gns. Nearly About Uncirculated. Attractive, very bright yellow brass. A very nice example, nearly an exemplar of its type. With original, unsoldered shank.

Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.



Lot No. 225

225 Inaugural Button. Linked States. Script GW. B.1001, C.10, A.11A, DeW.GW.1789-2. Brass. 35.5 mm. 132.4 gns. A second. Very Fine. Nearly Extremely Fine. Pale yellow gold brass in color. Slightly bent. Original shank, not resoldered.

Ex Ben Levin on August 6, 1963.



Lot No. 226

226 Inaugural Button. Linked States. Script GW. B.1003, C.9a, A.10B. Design shows intaglio on the back. Brass. 34.0 mm. 117.6 gns. Extremely Fine. Bright and attractive yellow brass in color. Shank resoldered on the back, flat and not bowed.



Lot No. 227

227 Inaugural Button. Linked States. Script GW. B.1003, C.9a, A.10B. Design shows intaglio on the back. Brass. 34.0 mm. 102.3 gns. Very Fine. Dark yellow gold brass in color. Slightly convex on the front, shank resoldered on the back.

EXCEPTIONAL QUALITY BUTTON



Lot No. 228

228 Inaugural Button. Linked States. Script GW. B.1003A, C.9, A.10A. Brass, silvered. 34.3 mm. 108.6 gns. Extremely Fine. Very attractive, with the full silvering remaining in the inner circle inscribed LONG LIVE THE PRESIDENT and in Washington's initials, partially in the state abbreviations and some of the outer rings. Center of the reverse still shows some silvering. Original shank, not resoldered. Exceptional quality for one of these.



Lot No. 229

229 Inaugural Button. Eagle and Star. B.1009, C.17h, A.18. 63 impressions. Design shows through on the back. Brass. 34.5 mm. 112.5 gns. Near Extremely Fine, shank re-soldered. Once cleaned. Bright yellow brassy gold in color.



Lot No. 230

- 230 **Inaugural Button. Eagle and Star. B.1009, C.17g, A.18.** 63 impressions. Design shows through on the back rim, only. Brass. 34.2 mm. 112.3 gns. Very Fine. Recolored. Dark brown with a few areas lighter. Original shank, bent, not resoldered.



Lot No. 231

- 231 **Inaugural Button. Eagle and Star. B.1009, C.17g, A.18.** 63 impressions. Design shows through on the back rim, only. Brass. 34.5 mm. 101.4 gns. Very Fine. Very dark, some pitting on both sides, surfaces a trifle rough in places. Nevertheless, the outer border is fully legible, all indentations are countable, the eagle and his displayed wings are clear and bold. Original shank, resoldered.



Lot No. 232

- 232 **Inaugural Button. Eagle and Star. B.1009, C.17g, A.18.** 63 impressions. Design shows through on the back rim, only. Brass. 34.3 mm. 106.3 gns. Nearly Very Fine, original **double twist shank** (the first such seen), not resoldered. An attractive piece, toned in deep yellow-brown brass with some areas of pale red and gold showing. Very nice sharpness.

ATTRACTIVE EAGLE AND STAR BUTTON



Lot No. 233

- 233 **Inaugural Button. Eagle and Star. B.1010, C.4, A.2, DeW.GW.1789-4.** Brass. 33.9 mm. 101.8 gns. Fine to Very Fine, shank re-soldered. Slightly bent. Good, rich golden brown color, fairly uniform across the entire surface. Very sharply struck, all design details in the displayed eagle, the sun above, and the inscription fully legible. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

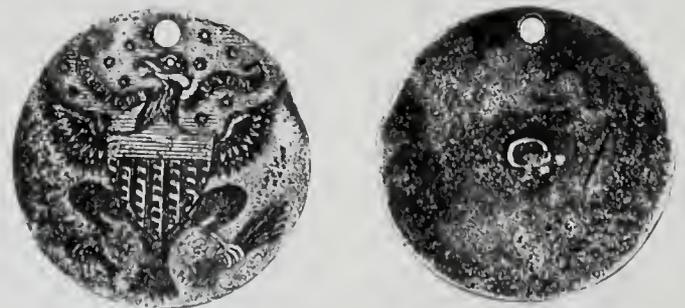


Lot No. 234

- 234 **Inaugural Button. Eagle and Star. B.1010, C.4, A.2, DeW.GW.1789-4.** Brass. 33.7 mm. 102.1 gns. Fine to Very Fine. Pale steel brown and gray. Somewhat porous surfaces. Soft in the center. Shank broken off.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

EXTREMELY RARE HERALDIC EAGLE BUTTON



Lot No. 235

- 235 **Inaugural Button. Heraldic Eagle. B.1011, C. unlisted, A.23, DeW.GW.1789-5.** Brass. 35.6mm. 144.8 gns. Fine, or so. Medium brown in color. Fairly porous surface. Several knocks, holed at the top for suspension. Shank removed from the back. Displayed eagle quite clear, ribbon in its beak with national motto E PLURIBUS UNUM visible and the motto legible, bundle of arrows and olive branch clear in its talons. **Extremely rare:** the cataloguer knows of only two specimens: **this** and the Albert plate piece (not holed). (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

RARE THIRTEEN STARS BUTTON



Lot No. 236

236 Inaugural Button. Thirteen Stars. B.1012, C.21, A. unlisted, DeW.GW.1789-12. Brass. 34.1 mm. 106.0 gns. Very Fine. Dark brown fields, lighter golden brown high points. Slightly bent. Shank broken off. **Very rare:** Cobb knew of only three specimens. Missing from the Cobb sale (Stack's, January, 2003).

Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.



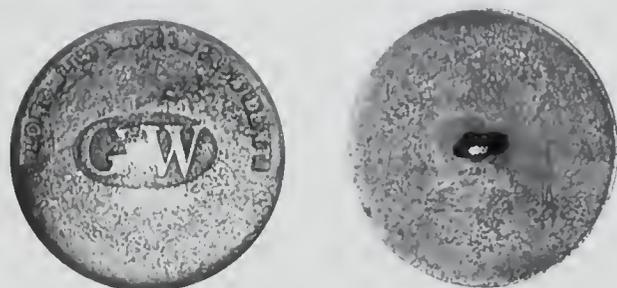
Lot No. 237

237 Inaugural Button. Roman GW. B.1016, C.5, A.3. Narrow spacing in GW. Brass. 34.1 mm. 116.7 gns. Very Fine. Pale golden brown, once cleaned. Original shank, not resoldered.



Lot No. 238

238 Inaugural Button. Roman GW. B.1017, C.5C (Emilio), A.4, DeW.GW.1789-18. Brass. 34.4 mm. 118.4 gns. Very Fine. Original shank, probably not resoldered.



Lot No. 239

239 Inaugural Button. Roman GW. B.1017, C.5C (Emilio), A.4, DeW.GW.1789-18. Brass. 34.2 mm. 99.4 gns. Very Good to Fine. Dark brown, rather porous in appearance. Original shank, not resoldered.



Lot No. 240

240 Inaugural Button. Roman GW. B.1017, C.5C (Emilio), A.4, DeW.GW.1789-18. Brass. 34.3 mm. 107.4 gns. Sharpness of Very Good, somewhat porous obverse. Shank broken off. Once cleaned.

Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.

EXTREMELY RARE INAUGURAL BUTTON



Lot No. 241

241 Inaugural Button. Eagle with Shield. B-unlisted, C-unlisted, A.28. Brass, once gilt. 22.7 mm. 64.1 gns. At least Very Fine, with some claims to being Extremely Fine. Original shank. Very attractive and **extremely rare:** one of just two specimens known to the cataloguer, the other being the source for the plaster copy plated by Albert. Light brown in color on both sides. Displayed eagle in the center, with Liberty cap above flanked by 'G' on the left and 'W' on the right. On back, 'E&D' above shank, GILT below. Some original mint color can still be seen in the eagle's wings and its left leg. Somewhat rough on the back, a little porous, but part of the inscription can be read on that side. A few rim chips on the reverse are noted but these do not disturb the obverse, which makes a fairly nice presentation for such a small piece. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

MEDALS NOT LISTED BY BAKER



Lot No. 242

- 242 **B-unlisted.** Uniface. Cast Iron. Plain edge. 21.8 x 16.6 mm. About Uncirculated. Small oval Washington military bust medal. Cast metal. Dark steel gray in appearance, somewhat porous. Henry Chapman thought this, the only one he had seen, was made of "Berlin" iron ca. 1800 as a ring ornament.

*Ex Dorge's 9th MBS (February 20, 1974, lot 912); earlier, ex New Netherlands in May, 1951; Garvin Collection; Parsons Collection (H. Chapman, June 24, 1914, lot 1047).*



Lot No. 243

- 243 **B-unlisted.** Uniface. Brass. 55.5 mm. Military portrait facing left, GENERAL WASHINGTON above. Very Fine. Holed at the top, looped, crushed in places. Similar in some ways to lot 1044 in the 1914 Parsons sale. Ford felt it might be dated to the 1786-90 period.

*Ex Fred Baldwin on June 24, 1965.*



Lot No. 244

- 244 **B-unlisted.** Uniface. Gilt Brass. Plain edge. 55.5 mm. Brass uniface. Types as the preceding's, different die but clearly for the same purpose. This appears to have been a mirror back, although it has been holed at the right rim, possibly to serve another purpose. It is likely that this and the pieces to follow were manufactured by the same company and were meant to serve the same purpose. Looped. Within a roped border Washington's military bust left, GENERAL WASHINGTON above. Extremely Fine.

INTERESTING WASHINGTON UNIFACE MEDALS



Lot No. 245

- 245 **B-unlisted.** Uniface. Brass. 55.6 mm. Military portrait facing left. About Uncirculated. Holed at the top for suspension. Same obverse bust as the first of these three uniface brass Washington portrait pieces, this one executed somewhat differently, better preserved, with a differently formed rim and no wide reverse border. Clearly, these three are all related to each other, and while Mr. Ford suspected they may have been field mirror backs, their exact purpose is unknown.

*Ex Fred Baldwin on June 6, 1967.*



Lot No. 246

- 246 **B-unlisted.** Uniface. Brass. Plain edge. 45.1 mm. Military bust. Extremely Fine. Brass uniface shell with a fairly ugly Washington portrait, his last name crudely broken WASHING TON. Rims folded down, this piece was originally fully round and broader than it appears now. Probably meant as a furniture boss.

*Ex Stephen K. Nagy Estate.*



Lot No. 247

- 247 **B-unlisted.** Uniface. Bronze. 105.1 mm. Portrait plaque. Unsigned. About Uncirculated. Showing Washington's civilian bust. Light brown and red in color. A fairly decent piece. Porous in places and with a few light casting flaws. Back rough, as made.

*Ex Glendining's sale of July 9, 1970, lot 581.*

#### BLUE GLASS SEAL



Lot No. 248

- 248 **B-unlisted.** Ca. 1790-1810 blue glass seal bearing the incuse uniformed bust of Washington facing the observer's right with "Washington" cut in, above. Bell shaped, the flat surfaces octagonal. 29.5 mm high. Oval face 18.2 x 23.8 mm. Brass gilt attached loop. Shows some use, a few minor chips to the glass mainly about the upper part of the oval border. Traces of old wax in the incuse device and letters.

*Ex B.A. Seaby, Ltd. on August 25, 1977.*

## COLONIAL AND EARLY AMERICAN COINS AND TOKENS

John Ford's collection of colonial and early American coins and tokens is legendary, and well it should be. If it is famous for what people think he owns, its contents as revealed through auction outshine any of the lustre legend may have lent it. There has never been a collection like John's and it is quite likely there never will be again.

After western territorial numismatics and Indian peace medals, colonials are John's passion. He loves them as much for their rarity as for their history. To John, coins have more than one dimension and he feels that no coins have more to offer the sophisticated collector than do colonials. To the commonplaces of rarity and value, colonials add the romance of history and the lure of mystery. There is so much we still do not know about the coins of early America and there are more unanswered questions remaining than there are last words to be written.

Much of John's collection came to him, intact, when he bought the F.C.C. Boyd Collection during the late 1960's and early 1970's. Boyd's collection, in turn, was built on the best that Hillyer Ryder owned, and for his part, Ryder bought the best that David Proskey owned. Each of the three, Ford, Boyd, and Ryder were active participants in the major auction sales of their days. The Ford Collection, therefore can pedigree many of its coins back a century and more and along the way it can boast pieces from such great collections as Bushnell, Crosby, Jackman, Parmelee, Appleton, Miller, Noe, Norweb, and Garrett, to name just the handful that come immediately to mind. In the descriptions to follow there are a few lots without known pedigree chains.

Let it not be thought, however, that John's collection was built only by the perspicacity of his benefactors. He has an uncanny eye for rarity, and fine feel for condition, and more important than all the others, a deep understanding of numismatics, both hobby and business. He learned a lesson early from F.C.C. Boyd, who showed the young John Ford that the best time to buy is when no one else has the money to. Boyd built his collection in the 1930's, as did Mrs. Norweb, and while their purchases did not mean sacrifices to them the lesson did not go unappreciated by the young man just recently back from the European Theater.

John's debt to Ryder and Boyd is seen most clearly in the state coinages. Elsewhere in his collection one sees his own hand, actively choosing pieces to add and others to sell off. Having bought the Maryland denarium from the Boyd Estate, to take just one example, John decided to add to it the Garrett sixpence with error spelling, at the time a unique coin. His love for what Larry Stack likes to call the transitional issues, the 1785-7 Immune, Immunis, and Confederatio coppers, will be seen in the correspondence about these issues we have included in this section of the catalogue. Written in 1949 to such luminaries as Wayte Raymond and Damon Douglas, they show John's early interest in one of the most sophisticated, and thus difficult, of all colonial series.

As in so much that he does, John quickly masters whatever he sets his mind to learning. In the beginning of the summer of 1949 John was asking around for what others knew about Confederatios; by the end of the summer he was telling Wayte Raymond how many types there were, how rare they were, and what Raymond should price them at in the Standard Catalogue. Readers of George Kolbe's upcoming catalogue of the first of the Ford library sales will find sentiments from more than one great numismatist expressing his gratitude to John for teaching him more than he knew.

John is the best teacher a serious student of coins can have. He has no patience for error and standards that are as high as they can be set. One either measures up or washes out, there is no middle ground. Not everyone responds to such hard and demanding pedagogy but those who do emerge like the Spartans did from their training, the best in their chosen field.

The selection of colonial coins from the Ford Collection featured here includes some of the rarest and least often auctioned coins in the whole series. The Maryland section is a nearly complete denomination set (lacking the Groat) but, as noted, includes the finest of the five known Denariums. The London and Carolina Elephant tokens are, in a word, superb. The seven Higley coppers are not only unusually high quality pieces, they are also the largest offering of this elusive series we can remember seeing in one auction. The Chalmers series includes the discovery Rings Shilling, the finest of five known. The Nova Eboracs and Excelsiors are magnificent and rare. The Immunes, Immunis, and Confederatios are either outstanding for quality or extraordinary for rarity. The Motts, Talbots, and assorted tokens are notable for similar reasons.

The arrangement of the lots to follow is the cataloguer's. It has been crafted with no particular precedent in mind, its only mission being to present John's coins in a way that lets each series complement the others.

## WASHINGTON TOKENS



Lot No. 249

- 249 **1783 Georgius Triumpho.** Choice About Uncirculated. Baker 7. 117.4 gns. 28.4 mm. About 1.3 mm. thick. Both the obverse and reverse are nicely toned in a pleasing, even olive brown shade. The fields are typically rough as usually seen on these. Center of the obverse a trifle rougher than the usual, some pitting visible on George's face. Slightly off center on both sides, to the right, but without affecting anything material. Struck from the typically seen, broken state of the reverse. There are traces of faded mint lustre in some of the letters in the obverse legend.



Lot No. 250

- 250 **1783 Georgius Triumpho.** Choice Extremely Fine for sharpness. B.7. 114.0 gns. 27.9 mm. About 1.3 mm. thick. A second example. This piece is slightly darker in color, being more olive brown than the preceding. Fairly typical surface quality, some roughness, a few areas rougher than usually seen, principally on Washington's forehead. Very early state of the reverse, the die apparently unbroken, quite unlike that seen on the preceding, and an interesting piece, accordingly. These are usually found in the broken state of the reverse, and to find one that is perfect is quite unusual, to say the least.



Lot No. 251

- 251 **1783 Georgius Triumpho.** Nearly Extremely Fine, for sharpness. B.7. 135.7 gns. 28.8 mm. 1.3 mm. thick. Struck on a slightly thicker but heavier flan than the preceding two. This piece is nicely toned in a rich, deep olive brown shade. The fields are very typical for the issue, being somewhat microgranular in appearance, particularly those on the reverse (accountable almost entirely to the late state of the die). Slightly off center on both sides, but without affecting anything material. Struck from a quite late state of the reverse, later than the first in this series, the central break stronger and some of the vertical bars behind which Liberty seems to sit beginning to fade.

*UNHOLED NORTHWEST COMPANY TOKEN*



*Lot No. 252*

*GEM CAROLINA PROPRIETERS ELEPHANT TOKEN*



*Lot No. 261*

## NORTHWEST COMPANY TOKENS

## REMARKABLE UNHOLED NORTHWEST COMPANY TOKEN

One of the Finest Seen



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 252

- 252 1820 Northwest Company or Beaver token. Plain edge. About Uncirculated for the issue. Not holed. Brass. 166.1 gns. Breen 1083; Breton 925. A remarkable example, sharp, fairly decently toned, free from serious planchet defects or flaws, and most importantly, not holed at the top for suspension, as they almost always are. **One of the finest seen.** Both sides are toned in a light golden brown shade. There are a few areas of blotchy dark toning and some that appear to be shallow deposits of active verdigris, but none of these are really important compared to the overall quality of the piece. Most of the hair detail in George III's figure can be seen on the obverse while there is considerable pelt detail showing on the beaver on the reverse, and even its whiskers and eyes can be made out. Warren Baker has pointed out the curiously late date of these as applied to the Northwest Company, which was taken over by the Hudson's Bay Company just one year later. **Extremely rare:** there cannot be more than 5 to 7 of these known unholed since they seem to have been issued with holes. Some 22 holed pieces were part of the famous Umpqua River hoard that was described in *Rare Coin Review* 31 (1978). A museum is said to have 14 strung on rawhide. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

*Ex H.D. Gibbs Collection (New Netherlands' contribution to the 1952 ANA sale, August 16, lot 906); Wayte Raymond; Raymond Estate.*

## EXTREMELY RARE BEAVER TOKEN WITH ENGRAILED EDGE



Lot No. 253

- 253 1820 Northwest Company or Beaver token. Engrailed edge. Brass. Very Good. 134.3 gns. Holed, as usual. Both sides are light golden brown in color, with some areas of darker toning visible. The piece has been neatly holed at the top, just above George's head, engaging the 'K' in TOKEN on the obverse. Some light porosity can be seen on both sides. **Extremely rare:** there are about as few of these with engrailed edges as there are pieces that are not holed. The last one the cataloguer can remember is the piece we sold in our 1998 inaugural Americana sale. Breen 1084 is described as a copper issue with a "security edge" but the specimens he listed in support were not catalogued as having any kind of unusual edge.

*Ex Ralph J. Lathrop, Carmel, N.Y. on August 23, 1967.*

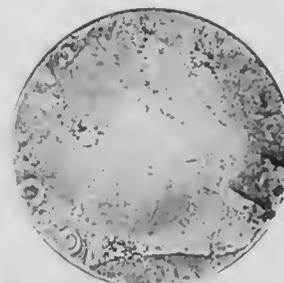
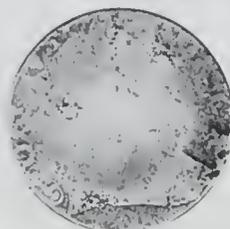
## CHURCH AND COMMUNION TOKENS

## MAGNIFICENT ALBANY CHURCH PENNY

## Variety with D



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 254

- 254 **Undated (ca. 1790 or later) Albany Church Penny. With D. Copper. Extremely Fine.** Br.1170. 112.5 gns. **Boldly overstruck on a counterfeit George III Halfpenny.** Both the obverse and reverse are a pleasing, variegated olive brown and pale golden brown. **Among the finest known** for the type and variety. We cannot remember seeing a nicer Albany Church Penny. The design was sharply struck, about centered in the middle of the reverse of the George III counterfeit halfpenny. The undertype's figure of Britannia is visible slanting down to the left. Full D, CHURCH clear, "Penny" bold. Remarkably, even the outer serrated border around the type is sharp. The undertype's George III bust is mostly obliterated by the Albany Church Penny overstrike but portions of the legend are still visible on the obverse and reverse. **Extremely rare** both as a type and as overstruck, the cataloguer knows of only five examples, including a fully struck piece in a Long Island collection that may qualify as the finest, one in a Providence, Rhode Island collection overstruck on a counterfeit George III halfpenny like this, Robison:211 to Roper:341, and Picker:275.

Albany Church pennies of both varieties are known over host coins but despite what Breen has to say, it is rare to be able to identify the host coin underneath one of them. There is a Without D variety known that shows incuse the Half Cent obverse type of 1809-32. Another Without D piece is known struck over (or by) a ca. 1891 Montreal jeweler's store card (the Picker coin). These Albany Church pennies were authorized on January 4, 1790 by the First Presbyterian Church in Albany, New York. The church decided to issue uniface copper tokens valued at 12 to the shilling, to be used by the congregation in lieu of the counterfeit and worn coppers they were putting in the collection plates. No one knows what the "D" stood for. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex George Fuld on August 19, 1961.*

## ATTRACTIVE ALBANY CHURCH PENNY

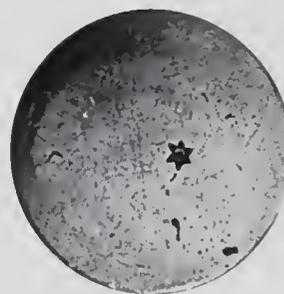
## Variety Without D



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 255



(Enlarged)

- 255 **Undated (ca. 1790 or later) Albany Church Penny. Without D. Copper. Very Fine.** 96.7 gns. Nice, light golden brown in color on both sides. Possibly struck on a host coin although no obvious traces of an undertype remain. Counter-stamped side fairly sharp, CHURCH clear and bold, "Penny" fully legible if soft at the bottoms, curl of 'y' quite soft. Partial serrated border most visible around the top, quite soft at the lower left. Interesting, small six-pointed molet (voided star) counterstamped in about the center of the reverse, whose function and meaning is obscure. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

1799 NEW YORK ASSOCIATE CHURCH COMMUNION TOKENS



Lot No. 256

- 256 **1799 New York Associate Church Communion token.** Cast pewter or lead. Choice Very Fine for one of these and nicer than others seen. Breen 1172. 113.3 gns. Oval 17.5 x 23.2 mm. Considerable, original surface lustre remains on both sides. Fairly well struck, all of the letters in the legends and date on each side fully visible. Planchet flawed at the top of the reverse, but without affecting anything other than the border on that side. Slightly darker in places on both sides.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 257

- 257 **1799 New York Associate Church Communion token.** Cast pewter or lead. Very Fine, overall. Br.1172. 121.3 gns. Oval 17.5 x 23.2 mm. A second example. This piece is a nice, fairly even pewter gray in color. There are slight surface disturbances on both sides, one on the reverse being somewhat deep and affecting the tops of "Asso". There are clear signs of the seam from the mold running around the edge of the piece.

LOVELY SILVER SOUTH CAROLINA CHURCH TOKEN



Lot No. 258

- 258 **1800 Presbyterian Church of Charleston, South Carolina silver communion token.** Choice Extremely Fine. Br.1181; Rulau E.SC8. 117.1 gns. 27.3 mm. Rims 2.5 - 2.6 mm. across. A really lovely example, nearly as pristine as the day it was made. Both sides are pale gray in color, with pleasing iridescent rose and very light blue toning on almost the entire surface on the obverse and reverse. All engraving sharp, bold, clear, including the Communion chalice and loaf on the altar on the obverse and the burning bush on the reverse. Full inscription on the edge PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHARLESTON SC 1800.

*Ex F.S. Werner on November 17, 1975, obtained in Great Britain.*



Lot No. 259

- 259 **1800 Presbyterian Church of Charleston, South Carolina silver communion token.** Choice Very Fine. Br.1181; R.E.SC8. 157.9 gns. 28.1 mm. Rims 2.4 - 2.5 mm. across. A second example and one that was clearly used for its original purpose, to establish membership in the communion of this church. Somewhat worn in the centers on both sides but the major design details are still clear and the inscriptions around the front and back and the all important one on the edge are fully legible.

*Ex Paul Koppenhaver's sale of October 1, 1977, lot 553.*

## THE UNDATED LONDON ELEPHANT TOKENS

There is really no justification for including the London Elephant tokens in the American colonial series, beyond the connection to the Carolina and New England tokens through a shared obverse die. Like their 1694 dated second cousins, these undated tokens are not mentioned in contemporary documents and nothing is known for sure about when they were made or by whom. Most of what has previously been written about them is hypothesis at best. They have been described as issues of the Royal African Company, intended as halfpenny tokens for English circulation, the thin flan variety meant to circulate in the English colonies. Their reverse type and inscriptions have been described as commemorative of the Great Fire and Plague (1665 and 1666) that swept through London and traumatized a generation of Englishmen.

The London Elephant tokens were struck using two different obverse dies, using a punch or device cut by John Roettier. On one, the elephant's tusks nearly touch the edge of the token. That obverse die also struck the Carolina PROPRIETORS and the New England tokens. On the other, the points of the tusks are farther away. This second die also struck the Carolina PROPRIETORS tokens. Four reverse London token varieties are known. On the first, there are no diagonal lines in the center of St. George's cross on the arms of the City of London and the dagger is in the first quadrant (viewer's left) of the arms; on the second, diagonal lines have been added but the dagger is still on the viewer's left; on the third, the dagger in the arms is incorrectly placed in the second quadrant of the arms (the viewer's right); on the fourth, the inscription around the shield has been shortened to LON DON (on the others, it reads GOD PRESERVE LONDON).

C. Wilson Peck suggested that the whole issue should be dated 1672-1684; the two specimens known overstruck on 1672 Carolvs a Carolo currency halfpence suggest that at least some of the no diagonals reverse variety were struck in 1672 or afterwards. The whole issue was probably not a large one (three of the four varieties are very rare) and it may also be safe to say it was not struck over a long period of time. The fact that one of the two London obverses was also used on the 1694 Carolina and New England tokens and the similarity of the weight, diameter and thickness measurements across all three types (London, Carolina, New England) has led modern numismatists to assume a common date for all, namely, 1694. The pieces may have had some semi-official status since the obverse device was by the Chief Engraver of the Mint and one obverse die was in the Tower Museum in 1769.

## LOVELY LONDON ELEPHANT TOKEN



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 260

- 260 **Undated (ca. 1694) London Elephant token.** With diagonals. Dagger in upper left quadrant. Nearly Extremely Fine. Dies 1-A. 187.3 gns. 29.0 mm. A very pleasing example of this very scarce variety. Both sides are nicely toned in a rich, fairly even deep olive brown. Well struck, the obverse slightly off center to the bottom but affecting only the denticles there; reverse much more pronouncedly off center towards the left, denticles at that position gone and a broad, raised rim showing on the right edge of this side. Good sharpness for the grade, some of the ear detail still shows, the trunk above the tusks is clear, and the ground on which the elephant stands is still mostly bold. All important diagonals on the reverse clear and still sharp. These are usually found on thin planchets. The present specimen is on the heavy side of thin. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

*Ex W.W.C. Wilson Collection (Wayte Raymond, November 16, 1925, part of lot 56); B.Max Mehl on December 8, 1925; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

## THE 1694 CAROLINA ELEPHANT TOKENS

Beyond the reference on the reverse to Carolina there is nothing else connecting these rare tokens to the American colonies. No evidence, either documentary or from hoards, suggests that they circulated in America or were intended to do so. No contemporary written evidence has yet been found which mentions them.

The token is dated 1694 on the reverse and there is no reason to doubt it was struck that year. Two different obverse dies were used to strike these tokens. The first was responsible for the extremely rare Carolina token with reverse misspelling PROPRIETERS. The second was used for the token with corrected reverse spelling PROPRIETORS (as well as the 1694 dated New England token and some London Elephant tokens). The second obverse die was also used to strike related London Elephant tokens and this die was said by Thomas Snelling (1769) to have been cut by John Roettier, Chief Engraver at the Tower Mint from 1670 to 1698 and Snelling said it was still in the Mint in 1769. Only one reverse die was used to make the Carolina Elephant tokens. When first engraved it misspelled the word Proprietors in the fifth line. Once the mistake was discovered a correction was made by punching an 'O' over the erroneous final 'E'.

The elephant device on the obverse of the Carolina tokens has been taken as the emblem of the Royal African Company (founded 1662, re-chartered in 1672 under that name) who are known to have had the right to coin at the Tower using the bullion imported from their monopoly on the African Gold Coast trade. Coins struck from their silver and gold bullion bore a small elephant, or an elephant and castle, beneath the royal portrait intermittently on Charles I coinage, but with regularity on the silver of Charles II and the gold and silver issues of William and Mary and William alone. It has been suggested that the Company imported the copper used to coin the Carolina and New England tokens, as well as the London Elephant tokens, arranged for them to be struck at the Tower, and circulated them in England and America, as well as in other British colonies. This suggestion is based upon Peck's arguments and Peck, in turn, rests on Snelling's 1769 statements and Thoresby's 1713 description of the London Elephant token as the "African halfpenny". The argument rests, therefore, only on the iconography of the obverse type of the London token and its visual similarity to the elephant badge of the Royal African England tokens. The fact that the Royal African Company was in poor financial shape in 1694, that its elephant and castle coinage was more a publicity scheme to attract investment than a proclamation of wealth, and that West Africa imported copper rather than exported it in the late 17th c. all suggest that some other explanation for the elephant type needs to be found.

### GEM CAROLINA PROPRIETERS ELEPHANT TOKEN

The Finest Known



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 261



(Enlarged)

- 261 1694 Carolina Elephant token. PROPRIETERS. Gem Uncirculated, red and brown. Dies 1-E. 141.6 gns. An absolutely wonderful specimen. **The 1914 ANS Exhibition coin.** Both the obverse and reverse are toned in a very light, pleasing, golden brown shade. The fields on both sides are bright, reflective and some might call them semi-prooflike (Henry Chapman did in 1912). There is considerable original mint red remaining around the elephant's tusk, trunk, and tail; while on the reverse, mint red can be seen surrounding and within many of the letters and date numerals on the reverse. Partial obverse denticulated border, as expected; full reverse denticulation visible. Nicely sharply struck, the ear full, some inner detail visible on the front legs, trunk clear and bold, nostril sharp, head and ear definition clear. On the reverse, all of the letters and date numerals in the six-line inscription are sharp and bold. A wonderful specimen.

**Extremely rare:** the cataloguer knows of only eight specimens (the last of which is still unconfirmed): **this, the finest known;** Roper:142, sold to him by Mr. Ford, ex Ryder and Boyd; Robison:58; Norweb:1235; 1976 ANA:87; Newman Collection; *Rare Coin Review* 61; one said to be gilt, ex Brand Collection. Henry Chapman exhibited this piece to the members of the New York Numismatic Club at their March, 1912 meeting and described it as a Proof. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

*Ex Garrett Collection (Bowers & Ruddy, October 1, 1980, lot 1315); earlier, ex Henry Chapman, Colonel James Ellsworth Collection in March, 1923.*

## A NOTE REGARDING A CAROLINA PROPRIETERS ELEPHANT TOKEN

On December 4, 1978 John L. Roper, 2nd wrote to John Ford saying:

"Having heard nothing from you for eight months or so, I enclose my check in accordance with your invoice for the Elephant token from your collection you have so kindly let me have. It has been in my collection for almost a year now, but I have not felt free to sell my piece (No. 6 in your listing of these) until I paid or traded for yours—and, as I am 76 years old, I do not like to carry tentative or unfinished business too long from year to year. I would like to feel free to sell my piece while there is considerable interest in it, and I am still able to negotiate intelligently.

You also said something in our last communication about seeing what else you have that you might be willing to turn loose to me—that is, coins. I have about all the Colonial paper I want to acquire—except as perhaps on my last want list, which you have. I could even be talked into trading a few of my rare pieces of Colonial paper for rare coins I am missing—such as, 3d and large sail shilling—Sommer Island, 1785 Vermont Immune Columbia—equal to Redbook piece, George Washington 1792 'Eagle with Stars'—silver 1/2 dollar, Pine Tree XII—No.3—large tree—EF, or a few others on my want list.

I hear you are very busy cataloguing your Colonial paper collection, and wish you luck. Hope this finds you in the best of health and Christmas spirit, and brings you very best regards."

[John Roper's correspondence surrounding his purchase of the one-time Ryder-Boyd-Ford Carolina PROPRIETERS token will be sold as part of the Ford numismatic library.]

## LOVELY CAROLINA PROPRIETORS TOKEN



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 262



(Enlarged)

- 262 1694 Carolina Elephant token. PROPRIETORS. Sharpness of About Uncirculated. Dies 2-F. 145.7 gns. Both sides are a pale brown, with areas of **original mint lustre** remaining around some of the protected portions that lend the piece a light, golden iridescence. **Rare:** there is no accurate census of these but the cataloguer thinks he has seen fewer than a dozen. Struck on a fairly striated flan, particularly on the obverse, with some retained lamination visible, one prominently on the elephant's rump. Partial denticulated border visible on both sides. The piece slightly off center, to the upper left on the obverse. Very nice detail showing in the elephant's head, trunk, and ear, and all of the letters in the reverse legend clear and bold despite the softness visible in the center. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

THE LARGE FLAN CAROLINA ELEPHANT TOKEN

The Parmelee-Jenks-Wurtzbach Coin



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 263

263 1694 Carolina Elephant token. PROPRIETORS. Sharpness of Extremely Fine. Hillyer Ryder's "Large Flan" specimen. Unique as such. Dies 2-F. 145.0 gns. 30.7 mm. 1.5 - 1.6 mm. thick. Broad double struck, with denticles sharply doubled on both sides but not the central devices, the flan widened and the rim cracked in two places following the second strike yet the detail very strong as a result. Partial puncture at the top of the reverse, somewhat noticeable but not entirely disturbing. Good, deep olive brown color on both sides, nearly uniform save for one or two areas where the brass content of the piece is more pronounced, lending a golden tone there. Very nice central sharpness, the elephant's ear mostly bold, the detail in its trunk sharp, its nostrils individually separated, the ear clear, and the ground on which it stands sharp and bold. On the reverse, all of the letters in the six lines of the legend are fully legible, and the 'O' punched over the incorrect 'E' is clear and plain. Hillyer Ryder called this a large planchet specimen, and he is, of course, right, although the size of the flan was not intended by its maker. H.P. Smith described the coin in the Parmelee sale as both Uncirculated and exceedingly rare. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate; earlier, ex Lorin G. Parmelee Collection (New York Coin & Stamp Company, June 25, 1890, lot 273); John Story Jenks Collection (Henry Chapman, December 7, 1921, lot 5404); Carl Wurtzbach on April 27, 1923.*

PLEASING CAROLINA PROPRIETORS ELEPHANT TOKEN

The Allison Jackman Coin



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 264

264 1694 Carolina Elephant token. PROPRIETORS. Very Fine. Dies 2-F. 165.2 gns. Nice, very even olive brown color on both sides. Edges somewhat ragged, as made, particularly those at the top of the obverse and reverse. Partial outer denticulated border visible on both sides. Surfaces somewhat more porous than usually seen, under magnification a myriad of tiny pits is noted. Decent central detail, most of the definition in the eagle's head and ear is sharp and all the letters in the reverse legend are clear and fully legible. Graded Very Fine by Ryder. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex Allison Jackman Collection (Henry Chapman, June 28, 1918, lot 47); Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

## RHODE ISLAND SHIP TOKENS

The Rhode Island Medal shows on its obverse a British warship with her sails furled and a Dutch inscription around that means, in English, "The Admiral's flagship of Admiral Howe, 1779". The reverse shows the island of Rhode Island in the center dotted with small figures of American soldiers running towards the right coast. In the left field are three large British warships. In the right field are two rows of whaleboats ferrying soldiers away from the island. The Dutch inscription on this side can be translated as "The Americans running from Rhode Island August 1778."

On the night of August 28, 1778 New Hampshire General John Sullivan received communication from George Washington advising him that British Admiral Howe had put to sea and might be heading for Rhode Island to reinforce the British army on the island that faced Sullivan's men. Expecting to be both outnumbered and surrounded, Sullivan put into action his plans for an orderly withdrawal from the island. On August 29 the British advanced against his front but his line held. An all black Rhode Island regiment, The Rhode Island Black Battalion, anchored Sullivan's right against ferocious attacks and a naval bombardment and their resistance broke the British impetus. When night fell, Sullivan successfully withdrew his forces, baggage train and all, across the strait to the mainland. Nothing was left behind and all troops, sound as well as wounded, successfully escaped the British trap. On the 29th, Howe's fleet arrived off Newport and reinforced the British garrison with an additional 5,000 men, showing that Sullivan had made the right decision to withdraw.

The Continental Congress awarded a sword of honor to General Lafayette for his part in the Battle of Rhode Island. One of the decorative medallions on the sword guard is entitled "Retreat of Rhode Island."

The ship on the obverse of the token is *HMS Eagle*, Admiral Lord Richard Howe's flagship. Howe, 4th Viscount Langar (and nicknamed "Black Dick" from his complexion), was Vice Admiral of the Blue and commander of His Majesty's naval forces in America. His flagship was built at Wells, Rotherhithe in 1771 and was launched in 1774, so she was a new ship in 1778. *HMS Eagle* was a 64 gun two decker, a Third Rate of the time. In 1794 she was decommissioned, her masts and armament removed, and reduced to a hulk. She was used as a lazaretto (quarantine ship) until 1800, when the threat from France forced her back into service. She was refitted and renamed *HMS Buckingham* and served until being broken up in 1812.

These tokens were struck in a kind of brass that was only made commercially in two places in the world in 1779, Warnley in the United Kingdom and Zawar in Rajasthan (northwestern India bordering modern Pakistan). The token's designs and the type of brass it was made from clearly point to an English origin for the piece. Since it shows a British military and naval victory in 1778 and an obverse date of 1779, it is more than likely that the Rhode Island ship token was struck in 1779 as a propaganda piece. Its likely intention, given the Dutch legends, was to help persuade the Dutch not to join in a 1780 alliance against England that favored the rebellious 13 colonies. The tokens must have been made in fairly large numbers at the time since one made its way to closed Japan in 1785. At least one other was found in Holland in the 1830's.

There are three varieties of the Rhode Island Ship token. The first, known from only two specimens, has the word "vlugtende" in the die beneath Admiral Howe's flagship. These were struck first. The second variety shows a shallow depression beneath the ship and close inspection shows that the word "vlugtende" was scraped off the flan by a hand tool after striking. These were probably made second. The third variety has a small ornamental design punched into the die over the word "vlugtende" and the tops of the letters in that word can still be seen on these. Since these saved the labor involved in scraping flans, it is assumed they were struck last.

**GEM BRASS RHODE ISLAND SHIP TOKEN**



*Lot No. 265*

**LOVELY 1737 HIGLEY COPPER**



*Lot No. 267*

GEM BRASS RHODE ISLAND SHIP TOKEN

One of the Finest Seen



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 265

265 1779 Rhode Island Ship token. *Vlugtende* removed from the obverse. Gem Uncirculated. Brass. 144.2 gns. 32.0 mm. A remarkably sharp, highly attractive example, one of the nicest this cataloguer can ever remember seeing. Actually nicer than Norweb's. Both sides are toned in deep olive in the centers with brassy gold showing around the protected areas of the rim. There are light rose and purple iridescent highlights showing in the fields on both sides. Remarkably sharp, with all of the gunports in Howe's flagship clear and bold, its stern showing the ranks of windows, all the sea lines in which it rests sharp, rigging bold, while on the reverse each British battleship on the left has a full double rank of gunports and there are actually oars and bayonets visible on the fleeing Americans longboats on the right. Mast on bowsprit seems to fly the Union flag; foremast shows an admiral's anchor flag; mainmast also flies an anchor flag; mizzenmast seems to fly a George's Cross and another hangs from the stern. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.

A SECOND BRASS RHODE ISLAND SHIP TOKEN



Lot No. 266

266 1779 Rhode Island Ship token. Variety with *vlugtende* removed from the obverse. Sharpness of Uncirculated. Brass. 152.5 gns. 32.1 mm. A second example, this piece is darker olive brown in color on both sides. There are many iridescent purple, rose, and pale blue highlights visible from an old coating of lacquer. Coin was once lightly burnished, now retoned to a pleasing hue.

Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.

RHODE ISLAND SHIP TOKEN, HIGLEY COPPERS



265



267



268



269



270



271



272



273

MAGNIFICENT 1737 HIGLEY COPPER



Lot No. 270



## HIGLEY COPPERS

The Higley coppers are our first homegrown copper coins. Struck ca. 1737-1739 by Samuel Higley, this very rare copper coinage is more elusive than almost any other single series in colonials. Any sale with a single Higley copper in it is considered noteworthy. Two Higleys in one sale is remarkable. The Norweb sale in 1987 included three Higleys and it was considered unusually large. The Garret sale featured four Higleys and was described as a landmark. The Zabriskie Collection had six Higley coppers. The Ford Collection includes a full seven Higley coppers and is equalled only by the 1983 Roper auction, which had the same number.

Samuel Higley (1687-1737) was born in Simsbury, Connecticut and lived there most of his life. His father was well connected, having served in the local militia and as a local and county judge. Samuel went to Yale College and later learned medicine from local doctors, receiving a license to practice in 1717. In 1728, he bought land in Simsbury that included the site of a copper mine. The same year, he obtained a 10 year patent from the Connecticut General Assembly for making steel from cast iron. In May, 1737 Higley shipped a load of local copper ore to England but the vessel sank, taking Samuel Higley with it.

Higley struck his copper coins locally. The first issue is believed to have been the one dated 1737 with the threepence denomination, followed by the 1737 and the undated coins without a set denomination. The 1739 dated ones were last but since Higley died two years earlier, no one knows exactly who struck the 1739 pieces.

There are three major types in the Higley series: deer with hammers reverse, deer with broadaxe reverse, and wheel with broadaxe reverse. Only the first two are collectable as the third is unique. There are variations in the legends and dates on Higleys that expand the number of collectable types into the following seven:

1. Obverse: Deer, THE VALVE OF THREE PENCE. Reverse: Three crowned hammers, CONNECTIVT 1737.
2. Obverse: Deer, THE VALVE OF THREE PENCE. Reverse: Three crowned hammers, I AM GOOD COPPER 1737.
3. Obverse: Deer, VALVE ME AS YOU PLEASE. Reverse: Three crowned hammers, I AM GOOD COPPER 1737.
4. Obverse: Deer, VALUE ME AS YOU PLEASE. Reverse: Three crowned hammers, I AM GOOD COPPER 1737.
5. Obverse: Deer, VALUE ME AS YOU PLEASE. Reverse: Broadaxe, J CUT MY WAY THROUGH.
6. Obverse: Deer, VALUE ME AS YOU PLEASE. Reverse: Broadaxe, J CUT MY WAY THROUGH 1739.
7. Obverse: Wheel, THE WHEEL GOES ROUND. Reverse: Broadaxe, J CUT MY WAY THROUGH.

As noted, all Higleys are rare. The only published census of surviving specimens appeared in the 1994 ANS COAC volume on the token. Authored by Higley specialist Dan Friedus, it listed 63 different specimens spread across all the known varieties. The cataloguer extends his thanks to Dan for his assistance with the lots to follow. A few more pieces have come to light since but the total number is still comfortably within the cataloguer's guess of 60 to 80 published in the first Norweb catalog. Given the uncertain state of our knowledge about rarity and the more obscure question of condition census, no really useful estimates about either will be made. Since Higley coppers usually come on rough and worn planchets and grade Good to Fine, the quality of the Ford collection speaks for itself.

LOVELY 1737 HIGLEY COPPER  
The Parmelee Coin



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 267



(Enlarged)

- 267 1737 Higley Copper. Deer, THE VALVE OF THREE PENCE; Three crowned hammers, CONNECTIVT 1737. **Extremely Fine** for the type. Crosby 18; Breen 238, Friedus 1.2-A. 132.7 gns. 28.7 mm. 1.0 - 1.4 mm. thick. Reverse die aligned coin turn. A difficult coin to grade, for the tendency is to use superlatives when dealing with a Higley of this quality. Described by Hillyer Ryder as "Fine. One of best known. Excessively rare, about 5 known." Catalogued by H.P. Smith in the 1890 Parmelee sale, the last time it was sold at auction, as "very good impression; fine for this rare piece; one other known." The legends on both sides, the central types, punctuation, strange "Masonic" symbolism, crowned hammers on the reverse, date numerals, and even portions of the outer denticulation around each side are fully present, struck up, and on flan!

It is almost unparalleled to see this much detail on a single Higley copper. In fact, in order to make up die diagnostics to allow for attribution, it is often necessary to combine photographs of two or three, or more, Higleys in order to come up with one composite photograph which reveals all of the inscriptions, types, and symbols. This piece is light golden brown in the centers, darker around the rims. The surfaces are lightly porous, granular in places, and there are some shallow hairlines in the left reverse. Needless to say, **extremely rare**. Friedus traced only five specimens in 1994. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex Lorin G. Parmelee Collection (New York Coin & Stamp Company, June 25, 1890, lot 274); Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

## PLEASING 1737 HIGLEY COPPER

An Addition to the Census



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 268

- 268 **1737 Higley Copper. Deer, THE VALVE OF THREE PENCE; Three crowned hammers, CONNECTICVT 1737.** Rough Very Fine, sharpness higher in places, lower elsewhere. Cr.18; Br.238, Fr.1.2-A. 130.4 gns. 30.2 x 29.0 mm. oval. 0.9 - 1.3 mm. thick. Reverse die aligned coin turn. Dark brown and light golden brown variegated planchet. Quite granular on both sides but not rough or flawed in any important way. Central devices bold enough to see the antlers and the crowns above the hammers, fields rough elsewhere. Obverse legend partial, roughened at the lower left and right but mostly still legible; reverse legend somewhat rough at upper right but entirely legible. Last two numerals of the date soft at their bases, but with imagination the "37" can be read. Struck slightly off center on both sides, to the bottom on the obverse and top on the reverse, leaving a pronounced lip and a raised border of metal at the bottom of the latter. Some minor rim tics, most noticeable on the obverse, but none that really detract from the value or importance of this remarkably preserved specimen. An addition to the census for this variety, not included in Friedus' 1994 list. The cataloguer has seen seven of these. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.

## AN INTERESTING 1737 HIGLEY COPPER



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 269

- 269 **1737 Higley Copper. Deer, THE VALVE OF THREE PENCE; Three crowned hammers, CONNECTICVT 1737.** Very Fine. Cr.18; Br.238, Fr.1.2-A. 116.4 gns. 28.9 mm. 1.1 - 1.2 mm. thick. Reverse die aligned coin turn. Dark gray-deep olive brown in color on both sides. Surfaces smooth and hard in places, somewhat rough and indistinct in others. Rims ragged, as made, particularly on the right on the reverse. Good detail still shows despite the central softness, the deer's figure is complete and the hammers can be made out without the aid of magnification. The lower left crown is soft and there are portions of the reverse legend that are essentially illegible. Date partially legible, but mostly obscure. Another addition to the census of seven known. Bought by Boyd from B.G. Johnson ca. 1948-1949 and described on the invoice as "1737 Horns of deer close together in high relief. Said to be only specimen of this die known. Newcomer paid \$450.00. Abt. fine. \$300.00." Boyd noted on his copy of the invoice "See" and his offer price of "\$150.00." (SEE COLOR PLATE)

Ex Waldo Newcomer, Colonel E.H.R. Green, F.C.C. Boyd Estate.

MAGNIFICENT 1737 HIGLEY COPPER

The Finer of Two Known



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 270

- 270 1737 Higley Copper. Deer, THE VALVE OF THREE PENCE; Three crowned hammers, I AM GOOD COPPER 1737. Extremely Fine, with claims for the type to a higher grade. Cr.19; Br.239; Fr.1.2-B.a. 161.8 gns. 28.0 mm. 1.5 - 1.8 mm. thick. Reverse die aligned coin turn. A remarkable Higley in just about every way. The finer of two known, the other being the Very Good in Norweb:1238. The surfaces are smooth, hard, and almost entirely porosity free on both sides. That should be enough to say about any Higley to make any collector realize that this is an important and remarkable survivor. Both sides are light olive brown in color, the tone uniform and undisturbed by flecks or toning spots.

The piece may be identified by a small planchet clip in the upper right on the obverse, more noticeable in the lower right on the reverse. Very good central sharpness, despite the failure in the center of the reverse, the leftmost hammer handle still sharp and the center of the deer's body still unaffected. A few minor rim imperfections, a couple of light hair-line scratches in the left obverse field require mention, but these really pale into insignificance compared to the eye appeal of the piece. The Bushnell specimen, described by the Chapmans as "Very fine. Light olive. Extremely rare, but two known; the other in collection of Mr. Parmelee." More than a century after the Bushnell sale there are still only two specimens known. The Parmelee coin wound up in Mrs. Norweb's collection where it was graded Very Good but not pedigreed. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

Ex Charles Ira Bushnell Collection (S.H. & H. Chapman, June 20, 1882, lot 190); Henry Chapman on February 10, 1923; Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.

A GOOD 1737 HIGLEY COPPER



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 271

- 271 1737 Higley Copper. Deer, VALUE ME AS YOU PLEASE; Three crowned hammers, I AM GOOD COPPER 1737. Very Fine/Very Good. Cr.22; Br.241; Fr.3.2-B.a. 111.3 gns. 28.7 mm. 0.9 - 1.3 mm. thick. Reverse die aligned coin turn. Both sides are toned in deep olive brown and pale green. The obverse surface is smooth and hard in the lower left, quite rough and granulated in the upper right, while the reverse is rough and entirely indistinct at the lower right. Both sides scratched. Partial central types visible, legends on each side partially legible, soft at upper right on obverse and lower right on reverse. No date. Another addition to the census, not on Friedus' 1994 list of five known. Dan noticed that this piece appears slightly double struck, in an effort to get as much of the detail in the dies onto the flan. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.

## REMARKABLE BROADAXE HIGLEY TYPE

## The 1908 Gschwend Sale Coin



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot Na. 272

- 272 Undated (1737) Higley Copper. Deer, VALUE ME AS YOU PLEASE; Broadaxe, J CUT MY WAY THROUGH. Very Fine. Cr.25; Br.242; Fr.3.3-C. 143.7 gns. 28.0 mm. 1.4 - 1.6 mm. thick. Reverse alignment uncertain, axe upside down when obverse rotated along its vertical axis (Dan Freidus believes the axe handle runs east-west). Nice, even olive brown in color on both sides. **Another remarkable Higley from this collection.** The obverse legend is complete around the rim, the central device of the deer is sharp and bold, the denomination below the exergual line is sharp. On the reverse, the legend is legible and the broad axe in the center is complete save for the lower right, which is almost always soft since the die was failing there. Surface quality much higher than usually seen on a Higley, light porosity visible but nothing really disturbing to the planchet. Well centered on both sides, free from important rim defects requiring mention. As noted, struck from the failing state of the reverse, the center sinking and a pronounced break running from the rim at about 2:30 through the base of 'T' and engaging the central failure. Another addition to the 1994 Friedus census, which lists just four specimens. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

Ex Peter Gschwend Collection (Tam Elder, June 15, 1908, lot 46); Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.

## ANOTHER BROADAXE HIGLEY COPPER

## Attributed for Hall by Crosby



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot Na. 273

- 273 Undated (1737) Higley Copper. Deer, VALUE ME AS YOU PLEASE; Broadaxe, J CUT MY WAY THROUGH. Overall Very Fine, as noted. Cr.25; Br.242; Fr.3.3-C. 137.5 gns. 27.9 mm. 1.3 - 1.5 mm. thick. Reverse alignment uncertain, axe upside down when obverse rotated along its vertical axis. Both sides are toned in a deep, rich and even olive brown shade. The surfaces in most places are smooth and hard, granularity being confined principally to the centers. Partial central detail showing, the top of the deer's figure soft, legend at lower left and pointing hand indistinct but sharp elsewhere. On the reverse, the broadaxe is about as bold as ever seen given the die failure on this side and the legend around is complete save for the last three letters, which are faint to indistinct. Struck on a flawed planchet, with linear defects showing at the lower left on the obverse. Reverse cut from edge into center, quite possibly to test the metal (these are said to have been used by jewelers because their copper content was said to be so pure and perhaps this was some form of a "test cut"). Another addition to the 1994 census and a nicer coin than Eliabserg:44 which was porous and dark. With Hall's ticket and Crosby's attribution. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate; earlier, ex Hillyer Ryder, Dr. Thomas Hall.



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## THE MARYLAND LORD BALTIMORE COINAGE

From 1649 to 1660 there was no king in England. Charles I had been beheaded and Oliver Cromwell then ruled England and her overseas dominions. During these 11 years of interregnum two numismatic developments occurred that have great importance to collectors of early American coins. In 1652 the colony of the Massachusetts Bay decided to strike its own coins and in 1659 Cecil Calvert ordered coins for his colony of Maryland.

Some numismatic historians have explained the origins of these two coinages similarly, theorizing that both Massachusetts and Calvert took advantage of the fact that since there was no king on the throne nothing could stop them from coining silver in their own names. Broader historical reasons were in play in both cases, however.

The colony of Massachusetts Bay was living through one of its irridentist phases in the 1650's. The Pequot War (1636-37) had expanded Massachusetts' claims to authority south into Rhode Island and Connecticut and west to the Hudson River and New York. In 1643 Massachusetts entered into the loose union called the United Colonies of New England, which it fully expected to dominate eventually. Three years later Governor Winthrop dared to defend his colony's legal system by writing that "Our allegiance binds us not to the laws of England any longer than while we live in England." Southern New Hampshire was effectively annexed in 1643. In 1652 Massachusetts Bay annexed southern coastal towns in Maine, established its own mint, and declared itself a commonwealth independent of England. Massachusetts' silver coins were an expression of sovereignty, of independence, and in 1684 its assumption of the coinage prerogative was one of the reasons given for the suspension of its charter.

Cecil Calvert, second Baron Baltimore (1606-1675) was an English Catholic who held his title in the Irish peerage. The charter that gave him Maryland had been drafted for his father George but signed by Charles I after his father's death late in 1632. In 1659, when Calvert had his coins struck, he lived in a fiercely Protestant country which abhorred both Catholics and all things Irish. Further, he exercised his rights over Maryland by virtue of a charter granted by the very king Cromwell's government had rebelled against, captured, tried, and executed. On its face, Calvert's position could not have been a very comfortable one. By what right did Calvert dare to strike coins? Was it really his own portrait on the coins that caused him trouble shortly after he began making them?

Calvert's charter for Maryland was granted on June 20, 1632. It was a long document, containing 22 chapters. It was the foundation upon which all of Calvert's rights and privileges in Maryland rested, and it was to his charter that Calvert appealed when his proprietorship was contested in the 1650's. Chapter IV of the charter concluded with these words: "...with all, and singular such, and as ample...rights, jurisdictions, privileges, prerogatives, royalties, liberties, immunities, and royal rights, and temporal franchises whatsoever...to be had, exercised, used, and enjoyed, as any bishop of Durham, within the bishopric or county palatine of Durham, in our kingdom of England, ever heretofore hath had, held, used, or enjoyed, or of right could, or ought to have, hold, use, or enjoy." Chapter VII gave Calvert "absolute power...to ordain, make, and enact laws, of what kind soever..." subject only to popular approval and the rights of Christians. Calvert was named captain general of the armies with full power to declare war, given the right to execute civil and criminal punishment including the capital penalty, and allowed to create his own orders of nobility. The charter concluded by saying that in any case where Calvert's rights were contested any interpretation of the charter's meanings should always be in Calvert's favor.

The charter created in Maryland a county palatine with all the rights and powers ever held by the palatine bishops of Durham. What was a county palatine? In 1765 the English jurist Sir William Blackstone defined an ancient county palatine as one whose owner had "...jura regalia as fully as the king hath in his palace..." meaning that the owner had full royal rights in his domain subject only to allegiance to the king. And among these rights, anciently, was the right to coin money. The bishops of Durham had struck coins bearing royal English types but also with the initials of the bishop incumbent until about 1544. Calvert's charter gave him all rights Durham had, ever had, or ought to have had. It seems that Calvert read this as giving him the right to coin in his own name.

Is there anything on Calvert's coins that suggests he did so interpret his rights as to include that of coinage? The title he styles himself by, "Dominus Terrae Mariae" (Lord of Mary's Land), is interesting in this regard. It was used in the same way that the kings of England had before 1541 when describing their position as lords of Ireland. The title "dominus" did not mean king. It implied an overlord, but in the case of the lordship of Ireland was broad enough also to allow sovereignty within the lordship. Calvert's choice of title would not have been made lightly since it was pregnant with legal implications.

On the reverses of his silver coins Calvert placed his personal arms. Above the shield of the Barony of Baltimore is a peculiar coronet. It was not the baron's coronet Calvert was entitled to wear. Instead, it was the coronet of an earl. Calvert was not an earl, but this form of coronet was the closest English equivalent to the shape of a coronet of a European count palatine. On the coins there are two arcs above the coronet surmounted by an orb and a cross (an orb crucifer). These were symbols of full sovereignty allowed only to a monarch in England or a palatine count in Europe. No mere baron commanded such regalia, nor was an English earl entitled to crown his coronet with an orb crucifer.

The story of Calvert's troubles in Maryland is too long to go into here. Suffice it to say that between 1651 and 1658 his rights were attacked by Virginia, which claimed parts of Maryland, by a local rebellion, and by radical protestants in England, who claimed that Maryland was a hotbed of "papistical plots" against Parliament. For a time Calvert lost control over his colony, but when Cromwell dissolved the Long and Barebones Parliaments and made himself Lord Protector, Calvert's palatine rights in Maryland were reaffirmed.

By 1658 Calvert was back in control of Maryland. The year following he ordered his coinage to be struck at the Tower Mint. The coins were as much a proclamation of his palatine rights as necessary for his colony's internal trade.

Calvert's coinage did not go uncontested, however. In October, 1659 he was brought before the Protectorate's council on information brought by Richard Pight, the Mint clerk who had charge of the dies cut and stored there. Crosby reprinted the council's order for a warrant against Calvert and the immediately following decision taken by the council. It has been said that Calvert's problem was that he had put his own portrait on the coinage in place of the king's, and that he was therefore guilty of treason and subject to execution. But, if we read the words of the council's order and decision, we find entirely different reasons given there.

"Tuesday, 4 Octobr, 1659. Ld. Baltimore to be apprehended Upon Information given by Richard Pight, Clerke of the Irons in the Mint, that Cicill Lord Baltamore and diverse others with him, and for him, have made and transported great Sums of mony and doe still goe on to make more, Ordered, That a warrant be issued forth to the said Richard Pight for the apprehending of the Lord Baltamore and such others as are suspected to be ingaged wth him in the said offense, and for the seizeing of all such moneys, stamps, tooles, & Instrumts for Coyning the same as can be met wth, and to bring them in safe Custody to the Counsell."

"Wednesday, 5 Octobr, 1659. Ld Baltimore to attend The Counsell being Informed that a great quantity of Silver is coined into peeces of diverse rates & values, and sent into Maryland by the Lo. Baltamore or his Order, Ordered, that the said Lo. Baltamore be Sumoned to attend the Comittee of the Councell for Plantacons, who are to inquire into the whole business and to report the State thereof to the Councell."

These records show that the order to arrest Calvert and his dies was issued because he was making money and shipping it out of the country. Nowhere does it state that the arrest was because Calvert's portrait appeared on the money made. The order issued from the council of the Protectorate because a crime of state was believed to have been committed: the unlicensed exportation of bullion. The second order from the council is more illuminating. It states that Calvert had been found making money that was not up to English standards and was exporting it out of the country. Calvert's coins were made deliberately underweight (but of good, sterling fineness) by about 30%, in an attempt to restrict their circulation to Maryland. Massachusetts had decided upon the same expedient for its silver seven years earlier.

More interestingly, the council did not decide that Calvert's actions were of immediate concern as a matter of state, since it referred the case to the "Councell for Plantacions", which had charge of matters colonial. Had Calvert been accused of a crime of state the case would have stayed with the council of the Protectorate. It appears from these records that Calvert's "crimes" were two: making money of rates different from the Tower standard, and exporting it out of England. We have a hint of the outcome of the proceedings before the Council for Plantations in Calvert's letters of October 12, 1659 to his governor and brother in Maryland. To the former Calvert asked that the coinage be made current in Maryland by proclamation and to advise him further about the coinage "...for, if encouradgement be given by the good success of it this yeare, there wilbe abundance of adventurers in it the next yeare." To the latter, in a more open communication, Calvert wrote that if the people accept the coinage "...there wil be means found to supply you all there with money enough..." but the coinage must not be imposed upon them. Rather, it should be accepted "...by a Lawe there made by their consents in a Generall Assembly...."

One of the few restrictive clauses in Calvert's charter required that laws and civil acts made for Maryland be by and with the consent of the colonists. If Calvert's case had been heard by the Council for Plantations and reported to the council of the Protectorate between October 5 and 12, then Calvert's letters of October 12 suggest that his coinage right was upheld, subject only to the charter's provision of acceptance by the people in general assembly convened. A week after he had been summonsed Calvert could write that he would ship coins to Maryland if the issue was accepted there. At the very least, it's clear that the coinage was not stopped in 1659 because it was found to be treasonous.

Calvert's letters also show that only samples of the coinage had reached Maryland by that date. Yet it is known that Calvert's coins were made current in 1661 and were in limited circulation in Maryland ten years later. Therefore, it is certain that the export of the coinage to Maryland ocured after Calvert had answered his summons.

Both Massachusetts and Cecil Calvert benefitted from the interregnum's unsettled state but neither struck their coins only because of it. Massachusetts's coins were part and parcel of puritan desire to establish the kingdom of heaven on earth. Calvert's were an exercise of a legal right which was a mediaeval holdover in a world rapidly outgrowing its roots.

By 1700, Calvert's coins were no longer in circulation. As Henry Phillips wrote for the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Philadelphia in 1865, "In order to send these coins into circulation, it was enacted, in the following year [1662], that every householder in the province should be obliged to take of them ten shillings per poll for every inhabitant within his dwelling, and to make payment therefor in tobacco, at twopence per pound. This law was confirmed and continued in 1676, but over the fate and termination of this coinage a mystery seems to hang: ten years later, when, by statute, the value of the coin then current in the Colony, was regulated, no mention whatever is made of these coins. New England shillings and sixpences were rated at their nominal value, though they were really only worth eightpence and fourpence. French crowns, pieces of eight and rix dollars were to pass for six shillings; ducatoons at seven shillings and sixpence; Spanish milled dollars previously rated at four shillings were now to pass current for six shillings. All other foreign silver and gold coins were to be estimated at threepence in the shilling over their value."

It is quite possible that Calvert's coins were considered rare and collectable even then, more so than coins meant to be spent. By 1714 they certainly were collectables. John Sharp (1645-1714), archbishop of York (1691-1714), who began collecting coins in 1687, had examples of Calvert's silver Groat and Shilling in his collection, along with Massachusetts silver coins and at least one James II One-Twentyfourth Real (sold by Stack's in September, 1993).

*THE CELEBRATED MARYLAND DENARIUM*



*Lot No. 274*



*EXTREMELY RARE MARYLAND SIXPENCE*



*Lot No. 276*



**THE CELEBRATED MARYLAND DENARIUM**  
**The Finest of Six Known**  
**The First Copper Pattern Struck for America**



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 274

- 274 **Undated (ca. 1659) Maryland Lord Baltimore Copper Denarium. Plain edge. About Uncirculated.** Crosby 27 (p.131); Breen 76 (**plate coin**); Hodder 1-A. 56.9 gns. 20.7 mm. **The finest of six known.** The obverse is mostly light golden brown save for an area at the top darker while the reverse is a pleasing, even golden brown. Some minor surface porosity, principally on the obverse, but really not disturbing to the types or the sharpness of the piece. Well struck, all of Calvert's hair detail is sharp and bold, the fold in his drapery clear and the inner detail in the ducal coronet on the reverse is sharp. Partial obverse, nearly full reverse beaded border visible. **Extremely rare:** there are just six known: **this;** Roper:46 ex Bowers & Ruddy sale (February, 1978); Boston Museum of Fine Arts, ex Dr. S.A. Green before March, 1917 in a donation of old coppers; National Numismatic Collection ex Brock; private collection; Maryland collection confirmed by the cataloguer in November, 1997.

**The first copper pattern struck for America** and so an important coin to both colonial and pattern specialists. An interesting piece from a technical point of view. In obverse legend, first 'R' of TERRAE double punched, first 'A' in MARIAE double punched, 'R' in that word over an uncertain, presumably erroneous, letter; first 'C' in CAECILIVS double punched, 'CIL' in that word shows traces of underlying letters (probably a smaller font than felt desirable). On the reverse, both M's composed of two letter I's with a small letter 'V' in between the two, creating the center, first 'A' of MARIAE double punched, both diphthongs hand engraved. These are curious dies for a Royal Mint product. Inner guideline, to anchor the letters of the reverse inscription, quite clear around. Both pennons on the ducal coronet uncharged (a 1622 grant of arms to George Calvert, facsimile in the Maryland Historical Society, shows as the crest two staves with pennons within a ducal crown). (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

Crosby says of the issue and this very piece: "A coinage of copper seems also to have been intended by Lord Baltimore, although we find no record referring to an issue of copper coin; but, if we may judge from the fact that but a single specimen is known of his coin in that metal, no large amount of it could have been put in circulation... Rev. Henry Christmas, of London, says of this piece, "The Maryland Penny was successively in the collections of Mr. Hodsol and of Mr. Martin; it is now no longer in this country, having been purchased at the sale of the last-named collection for the large sum of 75 Pounds, and sent to America." It was in the celebrated collection of J.J. Mickley, Esq., of Philadelphia, and at the sale of that collection was purchased at \$370 for an unknown buyer."

## PEDIGREE OF THE FORD MARYLAND DENARIUM

This is the longest pedigreed denarium with an unbroken chain of ownership that reaches back to 1819. The piece was written up, with its pedigree, in the January, 1868 issue of the *American Journal of Numismatics* in the review of the Mickley sale. Henry Chapman repeated the story in his January 18, 1916 address to the Rochester (NY) Numismatic Society.

The pedigree was fully developed by Walter Breen about 1952, using information derived from Edgar H. Adams' small notebook in the ANS library. As detailed by Breen for Mr. Ford, the pedigree reads:

"Crosby quotes a Rev. Henry Christmas to the effect that the first recorded owner of this specimen was a Mr. Hodsol, of whom nothing else is known; Christmas said that it was afterwards owned by a Mr. Martin, subsequently being bought (at an English auction) for an American account. From the Jan. 1868 issue of AJN (page 83) and the Bushnell catalogue it has become possible to reconstruct the full pedigree of this piece, which follows.

Unknown intermediaries. Hodsol, prior to 1819; James Bindley, M.A., F.R.S., Auction, London, 1819; £12 1s. (then an enormous sum); to Richard Miles (Bushnell cat. says Mills), dealer for account of; William Dimsdale Auction, London. £9 9s; to Matthew Young, dealer for account of; Rev. Joseph Martin, of Keston, Kent, England Auction, London, 1859. £75; William Webster, 1859; to Frederick Lincoln, dealer for account of; Joseph J. Mickley, 1859 Auction, cat. by W. Elliot Woodward, 1867, Lot 2307, at \$370; to 'Stevens' (i.e., Charles Ira Bushnell), Bushnell Estate; Lorin G. Parmelee, of Boston; 1881/2 Auction of the Bushnell Estate, cat. by S. Hudson & Henry Chapman, June 1882, Lot 184; Lorin G. Parmelee (bought in); Auction of the Parmelee collection, cat. by David Proskoy & H.P. Smith, NYC, 1890, Lot 296 at \$350; to 'Clay' (H.P. Smith), dealer for account of; Robert C.W. Brock, Brock Estate; University of Pennsylvania; P.H. Ward; C.J. Dochkus; H. Forman; New Netherlands Coin Co; F.C.C. Boyd."

When what later became the John L. Roper, 2nd coin was discovered in Maryland by a metal detectorist in 1977, Dave Bowers sent it to John Ford for authentication. Mr. Ford replied on November 10, 1977 in these words:

"I have your letter of the second, together with the newly discovered specimen of the (1659) Lord Baltimore Denarium or 'Penny', which you sent to me for examination and authentication.

Going to the bank, I removed my specimen for comparison. Mine is, of course, the Hodsol, Martin, Mickley, Bushnell, Parmelee, Brock, Boyd, et al, piece, which, at EF-40, is by far the finest of those (now four) known. It is on a considerably broader (20.40 mm.) and thinner planchet than your consigned coin, which was struck on a slightly smaller (19.90 mm.) but considerably thicker flan. Correspondently, the Hodsol-Boyd example weighs 56.95 Grains on my Sauter-Toppan projection scale, while the newly discovered 'Penny' weighs in at 66.25 Grains.

It gives me considerable pleasure to report that your piece is struck from the identical obverse and reverse dies as is my coin. The characteristics of all the recut and defective obverse letters are identical (repunched first C in CAECILIVS and recutting at the base of the L; recut first R in TERRAE-; overpunched R in MARIAE, etc.), and traces of the circular guide line below the reverse letters (most notably at top, between the cross and D and at bottom, between M : T) match up perfectly. Although not that strongly pronounced upon my specimen, they are clearly discernible upon your newly discovered, second finest known piece. Finally, the obv.-rev. die positioning is identical, indicating that both pieces were struck at the same time.

I have no hesitation pronouncing the 'Penny' consigned to you authentic, and thank you for sending it to me. It is not often that I am privileged to see a new example of a great traditional rarity, the importance of which cannot be overestimated. After all, you do have the only other specimen in private hands of the first copper pattern made for America. The piece is being returned to you herewith."

The coin was sold as lot 1 in Bowers & Ruddy's February 9, 1978 auction (Johnson and Meyer Collections). Bidding opened at \$4,000 and closed at \$28,000. The buyer was Jerry Cohen, with Lester Merkin the underbidder.

## ATTRACTIVE MARYLAND SIXPENCE



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 275



(Enlarged)

- 275 **Undated (ca. 1659) Maryland Lord Baltimore Sixpence. Small Head.** Stop after I. Normal reverse legend. Very Fine, sharpness in places higher, particularly on the reverse. H.2-B. 44.2 gns. 21.6 mm. Both sides are light silver gray in color, with considerable pale golden iridescence visible in the protected areas, and across the center of the reverse. Well struck, the obverse slightly off center to the lower right but affecting only the beaded border there. Obverse inscription complete, reverse likewise, central devices nicely bold for the grade. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.

EXTREMELY RARE MARYLAND SIXPENCE

Error Reverse Variety

The Garrett Coin



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 276

276 **Undated (ca. 1659) Maryland Lord Baltimore Sixpence. MVLILICAMINI error reverse variety. Extremely Fine**, with some claims to a higher grade. H.2-D. 44.4 gns. 21.4 mm. A very pleasing example of this **extremely rare** issue. Both the obverse and reverse are pleasingly toned in pale silver gray shades. There are traces of attractive iridescent rose and light gold in the protected areas, principally around the peripheries. **One of just three known**, the others being the Norweb and Morton & Eden sale coins. Good obverse sharpness, all of Calvert's hair detail clear and the encircling legend is bold and fully legible. On the reverse, despite the obvious central die failure, the peripheral legend is fully legible even at the upper left. Reverse struck slightly off center, towards the bottom, as seen on the others, but only the tops of 'M', 'V', 'L' are off the flan. Partial raised rim at the top of the reverse, in consequence. At the time John Ford purchased this coin from the Garrett sale it was unique. A second turned up in the Norweb collection, ex Parmelee. The third is a recent discovery, first appearing on the market in November, 2002 in a Morton & Eden auction. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

*Ex Garrett Collection (Bowers & Ruddy, October 1, 1980, lot 1230); earlier, ex Waldo Newcomer Collection.*

NICE MARYLAND LORD BALTIMORE SHILLING



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 277

277 **Undated (ca. 1659) Maryland Lord Baltimore Shilling. Large Head. Shield point left of M. Very Fine.** H.1-A. 66.5 gns. 26.0 mm. A nice example, bright silver gray in color with areas of attractive iridescent gold and blue showing on both sides. Centers fairly sharp, Calvert's stern features are fully visible on the obverse and the crown on the reverse is soft only at its lower center. Legends on both sides complete, if softly struck in places. Nearly full outer beaded border around the obverse, partial on the reverse. Fairly typical reverse state for this die, clearly clashed, with raised denticles visible below the 'II' in the denomination in the right field. Described by Hillyer Ryder as "One of the best impressions, the hair stands up, usually flat." (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

*Ex Henry C. Miller Collection (Tom Elder, May 26, 1920, lot 1567); Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

## THE SILVER COINAGE OF JOHN CHALMERS

John Chalmers' coinage were the first privately and domestically made silver coins to circulate in North America since 1652.

The best study of Chalmers and his coins is still Hank Schab's "The Life and Coins of John Chalmers" which appeared in *The Numismatist* of November, 1984. John Chalmers was born ca.1750 in Annapolis, Maryland. His father, James, was a well known silversmith of his day. Not much is known about Chalmers' early life. He made his first notable entrance onto History's stage in 1774, when he signed a patriot's petition addressed to "The gentlemen of the law of this province," asking that no Marylander be sued for any debt owing to a subject of Great Britain until the Boston Port Bill was repealed. Another signer of the petition was Thomas Sparrow, gold and silversmith of Annapolis, who may have engraved dies for Chalmers' coinage nine years later.

Chalmers had an active military career during the Revolution. On June 2, 1777, Chalmers volunteered as a lieutenant in the militia. He was ordered to raise men for the 19th battalion (Somerset County) of the Maryland militia. By August 19 he held the rank of second lieutenant in Q Company of Militia, Dorchester County, Colonel W. Richardson, commanding. On June 2, 1778 he was named militia captain commanding a party on anti-partisan operations. By January 18, 1780 he was a captain engaged in recruiting in Anne Arundel County. By February 1781 he was procuring supplies for the state on behalf of Washington's campaign in Virginia.

After the war, Chalmers returned to Annapolis, where in 1778 he bought a property lot in Annapolis for 330 Pounds. In 1783 he was elected common councilman in Annapolis. By 1791, he had moved to Baltimore, where he died in 1817 or 1819.

Chalmers coins were first mentioned within a year of their making. Johann David Schoepf, author of *Travels in the Confederation, 1783-1784*, wrote "Annapolis has the honor of setting up the first mint for small silver coin in the United States. A goldsmith here mints on his own account, but with the sanction of the civil authorities. After the decadency of the paper money, what with the general shortage of small coin, it became necessary all over America to cut Spanish dollars into two, four, or more parts and let the pieces pass as currency. This divisional method soon led to a profitable business in the hands of skillful cutters, who contrived to make five quarters, or nine and 10 eights, from a single round dollar, so that everybody soon refused to accept this coin unless by weight or opinion; the perplexity of how to get rid of this cornered currency is an advantage to the goldsmith mentioned, who takes them at a profit in exchange for his own round coin. On the obverse of his shilling and half shillings stands his name I. Chalmers, Annapolis; in the middle two hands clasped; on the reverse: One Shilling, 1783; and two doves billing."

Chalmers' issues were the most sophisticated of all the solutions to the problem of underweight or off-fineness specie coins in circulation in late 18th c. and early 19th c. America. Chalmers made his own coins. In New York, Ephraim Brasher would "regulate" silver and gold coins taken from circulation, bringing them up to full weight and value by inserting a plug. Later still, the Planter's Bank counterstamped cut fractions of Spanish silver coins, attesting to their weight. Brasher's and the Planters Bank's solutions seem almost clumsy compared to the simple elegance of Chalmers coinage.

The average Chalmers shilling weighs about 53 grains. On the 1783 Maryland exchange rate of 1 milled dollar being worth 7 shillings and sixpence, a "Maryland shilling" should contain about 56 grains of .917 fine silver. Thus, it seems that Chalmers' shillings were close in weight to what a Maryland shilling should weigh. In addition, a Chalmers shilling weighed close to the expected weight of one-eighth of a Spanish dollar. It is clear, then, that Chalmers' coins weighed what the public expected them to. The question arises, then, how did Chalmers make his profit on the coinage? Dr. Schoepf stated without further explanation that the profit came in the exchange of debased and worn cut fractions for newly minted Chalmers coins. Did Chalmers charge a fee for the exchange and is that how he made his money on the coinage? That was how Messrs. Hull and Sanderson profited from the Massachusetts silver coinage, on the seigniorage they charged their customers for the exchange. Alternatively, Chalmers could have lowered the finenesses of the coins he paid out in exchange for the ones he received, the difference representing his profit. Specific gravity tests on some Chalmers shillings yielded results in the 10. to 10.28 range, suggesting a fineness of .800 to .880, or a profit of 5% to 13% per melt of Spanish silver. Specific gravity measures are of uncertain value, however, and although Chalmers coins are essentially a unitary alloy (at worst, a binary one of silver plus the predominant trace element), specific gravity readings should not be by themselves dispositive. This is one of the unanswered questions about the Chalmers issues that needs to be worked on.

## ATTRACTIVE CHALMERS SIXPENCE



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 278

(Enlarged)

- 278 **1783 Chalmers Sixpence.** Large date. Stop divides 17.83. **Nice Very Fine** and a very pleasing example of this diminutive issue. **Crosby IX, 8; Breen 1013.** 26.6 gns. 17.4 mm. The obverse and reverse are both nice coin silver gray in color. The obverse is slightly off center to the bottom, with extra long denticles showing at the top and portions of Chalmers name running off the flan at the lower right. On the reverse, the denomination, date and maker's initials are clear, on flan, and fully legible. In the center, the devices are sharp and clear. The fields are smooth and hard, with some light reflectivity showing. Attributed to engraver Thomas Sparrow, initial 'T' quite visible in one crescent at the end of the major arms of the cross, no 'S' visible in the other, just a series of meaningless lines. The large and small date sixpences are about equally rare. As denominations go, the sixpence is about twice as hard to find as a shilling and a threepence is about as rare as a sixpence.

## A SECOND CHALMERS SIXPENCE



Lot No. 279

- 279 **1783 Chalmers Sixpence.** Large date. Stop follows 1783. **Very Fine. Cr. IX, 7; Br.1014.** 29.4 gns. 17.8 mm. A second high grade example of this issue. This piece is about as well centered as the preceding, the obverse being slightly off to the bottom right but all of the letters in CHALMERS are on flan. On the reverse, the central sharpness is more pronounced and there is an outer beaded border visible. Both sides are light silver gray, with areas of pale golden iridescence showing in the protected portions. Engraver initials 'TS' quite clear in the crescents at the ends of the major arms of the reverse cross, believed to stand for Thomas Sparrow. Some light hairlines on the obverse are noted.

## OUTSTANDING CHALMERS LONG WORM SHILLING



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 280

(Enlarged)

- 280 **1783 Chalmers Shilling. Long worm. Choice About Uncirculated,** with some claims to full Uncirculated status. **Cr. IX, 6; Br.1012.** 47.6 gns. 22.1 mm. A remarkable piece. Both sides are wonderfully toned in a combination of pale silver and iridescent rose and blue, while the obverse has also toned in a combination of pale gray and delicate gold hues. Struck slightly off center on the obverse, remarkably like the sixpences in the two preceding lots and possible a result of the coining process used to make these. All letters in the legend on this side are on flan, those at the upper left being somewhat tight. Reverse slightly off center to the upper left, but only the outer beaded border is affected there. Good central sharpness on both sides. Considerable original mint lustre can be seen in the protected areas and the fields are still somewhat glossy. These may need to be graded as if they were Massachusetts silver coins, rather than U.S. Mint steam struck issues. The Long worm shilling is about twice as rare as the short worm variety. **(SEE COLOR PLATE)**

## THE LEGENDARY CHALMERS RINGS SHILLING

The Finest of Five Known

The Mickley-Bushnell-Parmelee Specimen



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 281

- 281 1783 Chalmers Rings Shilling. As struck, sharpness of Choice Very Fine to Extremely Fine. Cr. page 328, fig. 68; Br.1010. 53.6 gns. 20.8 mm. **The finest of five known. Breen plate coin.** Pale silver gray on both sides, with the peripheries somewhat darker in tone. Obverse somewhat soft in the right center, portions of the Liberty cap pole, and inner ring indistinct, elsewhere the all-seeing eye, star below, the outer linked rings with central stars sharp and bold, full beaded outer border visible on this side. **The first appearance on an American coin of the 13 linked rings reverse type.** Center of reverse quite soft due to die failure there, legend almost entirely illegible, only 'E' of "Equal to 1 shi" visible in the beginning of that legend, "Shi" at its end. How Crosby was ever able to read the central inscription from this piece is beyond this cataloguer. **The discovery coin** for the variety. Described by Crosby in 1875, who said he knew it was ex the Mickley Collection but that he did not know its present owner (presumably, Bushnell never told Crosby he owned it).

Reverse slightly off center, to the upper right, but affecting only the narrower denticulated border on this side. The softness on the center of the reverse, affecting the legend, was a result of die failure, visible here as two pronounced die breaks, rather than wear. **Extremely rare:** only five pieces are known: **this;** Garrett:1313, Fine/Very Fine; Lauder:177, basal/Very Good; Eric Newman, holed; National Numismatic Collection, ex Norweb in 1983. In 1875, when Crosby saw this coin, it was unique. In July, 1902 a second specimen appeared in Lyman Low's sale of the Ulex Collection where it was bought by DeWitt Smith. In March, 1906 Henry Chapman discovered a third which he sold to John Story Jenks. A fourth turned up at the 1919 ANA convention. The fifth, and last, was found in 1939 by S.W. Freeman of Richmond, Virginia, said to have been lying unrecognized in an old accumulation of coins. It went into the Loye Lauder Collection. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

*Ex Joseph J. Mickley Collection (William E. Woodward, October 28, 1867, lot 2527); Charles Ira Bushnell Collection (S.H.&H. Chapman, June 20, 1882, lot 997); Lorin G. Parmelee Collection (New York Coin & Stamp Company, June 25, 1890, lot 297); Robert C.W. Brock; University of Pennsylvania; P.H. Ward; Harry Forman; John Ford.*

**LEGENDARY CHALMERS RINGS SHILLING**



*Lot No. 281*

**OUTSTANDING STANDISH BARRY THREEPENNE**



*Lot No. 282*

## THE STANDISH BARRY SILVER THREEPENCE

Born in 1763 in Baltimore, Maryland, Standish Barry apprenticed under David Evans of that town, a watchmaker and silversmith. Barry went into business on his own in 1784 as an engraver and watchmaker. A few months after the date appearing on his silver Threepence, Barry advertised in the *Maryland Gazette* (November 9, 1790): "Barry, Standish, Silversmith, Hath just received, from Liverpool, a very handsome assortment of patent-gilt and plain silver Watches, also, double-ground Watch Glasses; Silk Strings with Keys; Plated Tea and Cof-Urns; Tea Pots and Caddies; Sugar Basons; Cruet Frames and Salt Cups; which he will dispose of at a low advance. He makes all kinds of Silver and Gold work, in the newest and most fashionable manner, Hair Devices, neatly drawn for mourning or fancy Rings and Locketts. He assures the Public that strict attention will be paid to all Orders, he may be favored with. Balto. Nov.8, 1790."

Barry was a military man throughout his life as well as a silversmith. A youthful militia member during the Revolution, in 1794 Barry served under Washington against the Whiskey Rebels. In 1798 he was a lieutenant in the Sans Culottes, the Baltimore Independent Blues, from where he was later promoted captain. In the War of 1812 Barry was a major in the Fifth Regiment of Volunteer Infantry, serving at the battles of Bladensburg and North Point. Later, he became colonel of the regiment. Barry was described by a contemporary as "a strict tactician, upwards of six feet in height, martial and commanding in appearance, straight as an arrow, eye keen as an eagle's, he was every inch a soldier." In 1824 Barry served as Lt. Colonel of the First Rifle Regiment, Maryland Militia.

Barry's name appears on the reverse of his Threepence and the obverse portrait may be his or it may be of George Washington. The very specific date on the piece (the only colonial era American coin with a day, month and year date) and the low mintage all suggest that the Baltimore Town Threepence must have had a special purpose in mind when it was made.

Only one obverse and reverse die is known. They were too large for the size of the coins and many specimens show only partial legends. Standish Barry was not an accomplished coiner and many of his threepences are off center or weakly struck. The reverse die quickly broke and some specimens have a die bulge below the denomination. The edges are crudely reeded like the earlier Chalmers issues.

### OUTSTANDING STANDISH BARRY THREEPENCE

One of the Finest Known



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 282

- 282 **1790 Standish Barry Threepence. Uncirculated.** 13.1 gns. 14.5 mm. A lovely example, **one of the finest known.** The center of the obverse is toned in light iridescent blue, while the periphery is a pleasing russet. The reverse is mostly russet, with a couple of light blue highlights. Decent sharpness in the center of the obverse, the male figure is fully visible and its eye detail is clear and sharp. Some softness in the center of the reverse, as almost always seen, affecting the letters 'HR' in the first line and 'EN' in the second (visible even on the Uncirculated Garrett specimen). There are traces of attractive, original mint lustre visible in the protected areas, principally the letters of the legend around the periphery. Nicer than Eliasberg's, the 1976 ANA piece, the one in our December, 1993 sale, and the 1999 ANA coin. The finest seen is the gem in the Maryland Historical Society. Mr. Ford described this as "unusually fine." Pronounced die break through the right reverse center, running from the rim above 'T' down to the inner border below 'S'. The absolute rarity of these is not yet established but there may be as few as 15 known. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex Virgil Brand Collection on November 8, 1954, Brand inventory number 20760.*

## THE 1785 IMMUNE COLUMBIA, 1785 CONFEDERATIO, 1786 and 1787 IMMUNIS COLUMBIA COINAGE

As with so much in early American numismatics, there is no evidence that shows who made the Immune, Confederatio, or Immunis coinages. The generally accepted story, told by Walter Breen, attributes the Immune Columbia and the Confederatio dies to the Wyon family in Birmingham and says that they were brought over to America by Walter Mould in 1785. Breen believed Mould had worked for the Wyons in the early 1780's and when Mould came to America, Breen said he brought these dies with him. Breen felt that the die work on these two types was too good for an American engraver to have executed. He also believed that the Wyons had earlier cut the dies for the 1783 Nova Constellatio coinage and since the reverse type on the Immunes looks like a Nova Constellatio, this clinched the Wyon attribution for Breen. The 1787 Immunis dies Breen decided were made by James F. Atlee for Matthias Ogden and were intended as pattern dies for a federal coinage contract. The 1786 Immunis dies Breen was not so sure about, but based on their similarity of type to the 1787 dies, figured that Atlee had made them too.

Since we now know that Walter Mould had arrived in America in 1783, two years before the date on the Immune and Confederatio coins, it is clear that Mould could not have brought them over from England unless he had mastered time travel. We also now know that the Continental Congress was playing around with the idea of establishing a mint in 1785 and had come up with the reverse design for the Confederatio by the spring of that year. We also know that Gouverneur and Robert Morris had devised the obverse Confederatio type at that same time and the reverse type of the Immune Columbias in 1783 when they created the pattern Nova Constellatio set.

If there is no reason to go overseas to find inspiration for the designs on the Confederatios and Immunes, there equally is no need to hunt outside our own borders for the Immunis Columbia types, especially the reverses. The few broad planchet Immunis coins struck over New Jersey hosts show that they were not made as pattern proposals for a federal coinage contract as used to be thought. Rather, they were coined at the Rahway or Elizabethtown mint, probably by Matthias Ogden in 1788 or later, as another type for circulation.

It seems increasingly probable that the designs of all three of these rare issues were home grown, that all their dies were engraved here in America, and that they were all struck here and distributed in very low numbers given their rarity today (only the 1787 Immunis Columbia struck on a small flan is at all collectable). Except for the 1787 Immunis Columbia issues, we do not know why these coins were struck, by whom, where, or exactly when. These remain mysteries we just cannot answer given the state of our current numismatic knowledge.

### THE 1785 IMMUNE COLUMBIA COINS

Only one obverse die was used to strike the regular issue 1785 Immune Columbia coinage, married to three reverses. Two of the reverses have pointed rays while the third has blunt ones. The three regular Immune Columbia types may be described as:

1. 1785 Pointed rays, star and period in legend (called an "extra star" in the *Guide Book*). CONSTELLATIO. Crosby Plate VII, 30; Breen 1117, 1118. Known in gold (Breen 1118, unique in National Numismatic Collection since 1843) and copper (Breen 1117, rare with 15 to 20 known).
2. 1785 Pointed rays, without star and period in legend. CONSTELLATIO. Crosby Plate VII, 31; Breen 1119, 1120, 1121. Known in silver (Breen 1120 & 1121, rare with about 15 known with reeded edge, extremely rare with just 3 known with plain edge) and copper (Breen 1119, extremely rare with just 2 known: Garrett:1332 & Oechsner:1004).
3. 1785 Blunt rays, star and period in legend. CONSTELLATIO. Not in Crosby; Breen 1122. Known only in copper (extremely rare with just 2 known: Garrett:1335 to Roper:212; Parmelee to Brand to Norweb:2622).

In addition to the three regular Immune Columbia types there are two mules known, marriages to dies that one would not ordinarily expect to be mated to an Immune Columbia. These include:

4. 1785 CEORCIVS REX. Crosby VII, 32; Breen 1000. Known only in copper (rare with fewer than 15 known).
5. 1785 VERMON AUCTORI. Crosby p.186, n.36; Breen 734. Known only in copper (rare with about traced and about 10 more believed known).

Mr. Ford included a copper and a silver example of the regular Immune Columbia type and examples of both mules (his two Vermont mules were sold as Lots 11 and 12 with his Vermont coppers in October, 2003).

The best survey of the Immune Columbia regular and mule issues is still J. Bruce Jackson's essay that appeared in the January, 1992 issue of *The Numismatist*. Jackson provides census lists of the numbers of specimens known to him at the time and while they may need updating, they are largely accurate. His historical analysis depends heavily on Breen's work which, as we know, is flawed.

RARE SILVER 1785 IMMUNE COLUMBIA



Lot No. 284



## RARE COPPER 1785 IMMUNE COLUMBIA

## The Allison Jackman Coin



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 283

- 283 **1785 Immune Columbia. Pointed Rays. Variety with stop and star in reverse legend. Copper** Cr.VIII, 30; Br.1117. Extremely Fine and nice for the grade. 141.6 gns. 27.6 mm. An attractive specimen. Described as "Extremely Fine" by Ryder on his collector's ticket accompanying this lot. Very pleasing, pale golden brown in color on both sides. Surfaces smooth, hard, essentially porosity free. Very nicely centered, all letters in the legends, numerals in the date, and design types fully on flan. **Rare:** about 15 to 20 are believed to survive. Besides usually being well struck on good weight planchets, the variety is often found in high grade like this. Norweb's was a rough Choice About Uncirculated and Garrett's was Extremely Fine, for example. The 1785 Immune Columbia coppers may not have seen very much circulation, judging from how well they have been preserved over the years. A handful is known in heavily circulated condition, including Lauder's, the John Carter Brown coin, and the second piece in our November, 1990 fixed price list. Reverse die aligned medal turn. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex Allison Jackman Collection (Henry Chapman, June 28, 1918, lot 216); Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

## RARE SILVER 1785 IMMUNE COLUMBIA

## The Garrett Coin



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 284

- 284 **1785 Immune Columbia. Pointed Rays. Variety without stop and star in reverse legend. Silver.** Diagonally reeded edge. Cr. VII, 31; Br.1120. Toned Choice Very Fine. 87.2 gns. 27.1 mm. A lovely example, with spectacular iridescent blue, green and pale golden toning on both sides. Free from most signs of careless mishandling, small rim tic beside the 'E' of IMMUNE on the obverse and another in the space between NOVA and CONSTELLATIO on the reverse. Somewhat flatly struck on the obverse, as usually seen, Columbia's figure shows softness on its high points. **Rare:** about 15 are believed to have survived. The cataloguer has seen 13 of them. This example is nicer than the Very Fine in NN 60th:454, the Very Fine Roper:210 coin, Steinberg's holed and plugged piece, the one ex jewelry in EAN's June, 1989 sale, and is actually more desirable than the Brand:956 piece which was holed and repaired. Reverse die aligned close to coin turn. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex Garrett Collection (Bowers & Ruddy, October 1, 1980, lot 1333); obtained from Edouard Frossard on February 13, 1883.*

## RARE 1785 CEORCIVS REX IMMUNE COLUMBIA

One of the Finest Known



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 285



(Enlarged)

- 285 **1785 Ceorcivs III Rex/Immune Columbia.** Cr.VII, 32; Br.1000. **Very Fine/Extremely Fine.** 104.9 gns. 25.4 mm. No signs of careless handling, a remarkable specimen. **One of the finest known**, up there along with Garrett:1336 and Norweb:2623. Superior to nine others seen including NN 59th:1066, Steinberg:69, Roper:211, Park:125, Robison:100, Lauder:193, Oechsner:1005, and two in private hands. Nice, even pale golden brown in color on both sides. Surfaces somewhat roughened in the center of the obverse, smooth elsewhere, mostly smooth and hard across the entire reverse surface. Obverse legend fully on flan; reverse tight at the tops of IMMUNE COLUMBIA but full 1785 date shows in the exergue below. Reverse die aligned almost exactly coin turn, as expected from one of these. (*SEE COLOR PLATE*)

## THE 1785 CONFEDERATIO COINS

Mr. Ford enjoys a life long passion for the 1785 Confederatio coppers. They were among the very first coins he researched and bought. Luckily for later generations of collectors, Mr. Ford has preserved some of the correspondence of the earliest times about his collecting, and much of it concerns Confederatio coppers. His correspondence with Wayte Raymond from the late summer of 1949 shows a brash and forthright young man who is not afraid of Raymond because he has recently spent two years walking through Europe with a Thompson submachine gun on his shoulder, looking for Nazis. One wonders what Raymond thought of this youngster telling him why the Standard Catalogue is broken.

The correspondence with Damon Douglas is remarkable. On Mr. Ford's side, it illustrates most succinctly the then current state of knowledge about early American coins. In many ways what John knew then is what most collectors still believe, today, nearly half a century later. On Mr. Douglas' side we see a researcher who has already realized that the standard stories are not satisfactory any more. Douglas' recently published manuscript on New Jersey coppers elaborates on the new understandings but it also shows just how far advanced Douglas was even in 1949.

From an undated letter (probably August 26, 1949) from Mr. Ford to Wayte Raymond:

"Recently, I obtained a 1785 Inimica Tyrannis America-Confederatio Cent, the variety with the large circle of stars reverse.

The acquisition of this coin brought forth a great interest in the entire 'Confederatio' series-the three main varieties and the various mulings.

At the present time, I am trying to obtain the history of-and the location of-all of the known specimens of each variety. I have checked through countless Auction Sale Catalogs and have tried to obtain information concerning as many coins as possible.

Corresponding with Mr. R. Prann of San Juan, P.R., has put me on the trail of an Inimica Tyrannis Americana-Confederatio, also with the large circle of stars reverse. Mr. Prann advises me that he purchased this coin from you in May, 1939, for the sum of Two Hundred dollars. He further states that you gave him some information at that time concerning the actual rarity of this particular variety, and the number of specimens known.

Perhaps you can recall the history of this coin. Also, you may be able to advise me concerning the relative rarity of each variety. Undoubtedly, you have handled many specimens of the various 'Confederatio' series.

The Standard Catalog ignores and does not actually list both varieties of the large circle of stars reverse. One seems to be considerably rarer than the other. Perhaps I am wrong.

In any event, I would appreciate any help and information you could give me. I am trying to compile an article for the 'Numismatist'.

I believe we met, several years ago, when Mr. Stuart Mosher was in your employ. At that time I was rather young and greatly appreciated the assistance and information your office provided me on Saturday afternoons."

From a letter dated September 3, 1949 from Wayte Raymond to Mr. Ford, evidently in reply to the preceding:

"Am afraid I can't tell you very much in regard to the Confederatio cents. Would suggest that you write to F.C.C. Boyd, Ringoes, N.J. and Eric P. Newman 6450 Cecil Ave., St. Louis 5. Mo. Both of these collectors have specimens and may be able to tell you something of the comparative rarity."

From a letter to Wayte Raymond from Mr. Ford dated September 7, 1949:

"Many thanks to your prompt reply to my letter dated August 26th concerning the 'Confederatio' Cent series.

I have been corresponding with F.C.C. Boyd concerning my proposed article and am obtaining photographs of the two coins he possesses. Today, I wrote to Mr. Newman in St. Louis.

Research in the library of the A.N.S. as well as correspondence from many collectors and dealers has given me a pretty fair picture of the comparative rarity of the three main varieties.

The Standard Catalog illustrates two of the three main varieties, and mentions the third. I sincerely believe that the three entirely different varieties should be illustrated and that the valuations as given should be changed.

I suggest the following:

1785 Cent. AMERICANA. Small circle of stars. \$600.00

1785 Cent. AMERICA. Large circle of stars. \$800.00

1786 Cent. AMERICANA. Large circle of stars. \$1000.00

Of the first there are 5 to 7 specimens known, of the second, but 4 or 5, and of the third about 3. Shortly, I believe that I will have almost exact figures on these coins as well as on the mulings.

If you desire photographs of any of the mulings, or of the 'America' variety, I would be glad to be of assistance.

The various mulings could, and I believe, should be illustrated and specifically priced and listed.

A few other changes could be made in the Colonial section, particularly concerning various varieties and rarities.

Perhaps I am letting off a little steam, but I have often thought of many changes that would enhance the value of the U.S. collector's bible.

Several years back, the Standard Catalog included 'Hard Times Tokens' and various 'Merchant's Tokens'. The latter were extremely well handled and particularly well illustrated with line drawings. The former were intelligently priced and also well illustrated and handled.

I went away to War and upon my return found the Standard Catalog stripped and an aimless list of Patterns and Trial Pieces substituted.

The Patterns are well planned, but offer little to the collector, as no degree of valuation is offered.

Your fine handling of the New York Merchant's Tokens prompted me to collect these historical and highly American coins. I sincerely believe that they belong in the United States series more than the coins struck under foreign rule for the Danish West Indies, Philippine Islands, etc.

There is a decided possibility that I may be all wet. There may be many good and sufficient reasons for the changes and lack of changes in the Standard Catalog.

When you find a minute I would really appreciate hearing from you."

From a letter dated November 10, 1949 from Wayte Raymond evidently in reply to Mr. Ford's of September 7:

"Your recent letter received and I am glad you have been able to get some of the information you wanted from Mr. Boyd and Mr. Newman.

The Confederatio cents have never been very popular pieces among American collectors, probably due to their rarity and to the fact that they definitely were not struck in this country. The interest in rare early American pieces has slumped so badly that we have thought it wise to omit valuations in the 1950 catalogue on a number of coins of this character. For instance, you suggest a valuation of \$1,000.00 on one of the Confederatio varieties. Personally, I do not know of any dealer or collector who would pay even half that sum for such a piece.

In regard to the tokens formerly listed in the Standard Catalogue, it was found necessary to omit these several years ago as the cost of publication of the catalogue must be kept at a definite price in order to retail it at a reasonable figure. We still have all the token material formerly listed in the catalogue and intend to publish it with some additions as a separate pamphlet."

From a letter dated August 18, 1949 from Mr. Ford to Damon G. Douglas:

"Recently, I purchased for my collection, an 1785 Inimica Tyrannis America 'Confederatio' Cent. (Large circle of stars reverse). Finding the coin an interesting one, I decided to do a little research on the entire 'Confederatio' series, in the hope of preparing a complete article for the Numismatist.

Mr. Homer K. Downing, a very good friend of mine, suggested that I contact you. He said that you had made a detailed study of Colonial Mints in New Jersey, New York, etc. Perhaps you can help me.

As you probably know, the dies for the Inimica Tyrannis-Confederatio coins were cut in England by Thomas Wyon. Both reverse (Confederatio) dies appeared in America where they were muled with various obverses. These obverse dies include several New Jersey and New York dies.

Perhaps you can tell me something about the striking of these pieces-or something about the Mints they were probably struck at.

I have a copy of the New York City Directory of 1786 which may cast some light on where who lived and why.

In any event, I would like to hear from you at your convenience.

We met in the early fall of 1942, when I was employed by the Stack Brothers. At that time you were a keen student of 1817 and 1851 Cents. Upon my return from service I lost interest in coins, but have returned to the fold in the last six months. You may, or may not remember me, but I have keenly followed your adventures in many, many phases of American Numismatics."

From a letter from Damon G. Douglas to Mr. Ford dated August 25, 1949 (evidently, replying to Mr. Ford's letter of August 18):

"Of course I remember you and am mighty glad to hear from you again. Am also glad to know that you are researching the copper of the 1780's.

The whole story of the die sinkers and the mints where these dies were used is still a long, long way from being unraveled. I still have faith that it is a possible job but am beginning to have some doubts. The traces left are so meager and so widely scattered that their discovery may never come to pass.

For instance, Crosby's suggestion that Thomas Wyon cut some of the dies seems to be only a suggestion, totally without documentation. The fact that it has been repeated and restated in more positive fashion by later writers still leaves it only a guess.

As for proof that will positively identify the work of the many known lads that were cutting dies over here at the time, James F. Atlee, Walter Mould, Abel Buel and his son, John Bailey, and others including the Massachusetts mint pair, it is pretty hazey.

As for the actual coining, the job is pretty nearly as tough. About as far as I've gotten is some reasonable circumstantial evidence for attributing three batches of New Jersey coppers to three New Jersey mints leaving at least one other group to guess at.

A similar job remains to be done for the Connecs and Vermons as well as the so called 'pattern' issues that you are after and the numerous American made Georgius III-Britannia's.

The design for the Confederatio dies appears to have originated here in 1785 and I've never seen any evidence that would give any reason to believe the dies themselves to have been made in England.

How about visiting the New York Numismatic Club some 2nd Friday and having a go at it together? No. 2 Park Avenue, 26th Floor, dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Lots of Luck.

P.S. Walter Mould was listed in the 1786 Directory on Williams St. occupation unstated. He left his traces in various suits in the Mayor's Court and in the Supreme Court. Bailey, my memory says, is also listed. He ran a cutlery establishment advertized in the New York papers and appeared in the court records."

The types and legends chosen for both sides of the Confederatio coppers are better documented than are most of the other "transitional" issues of the years when the Continental Congress held sway.

The obverse legend Inimica Tyrannis comes from the Latin phrase Manus Haec Inimica Tyrannis (meaning "This hand is an enemy to tyrants"). It is derived from a 1660 poem by Algernon Sidney (1622-1683), an English republican tried and condemned by Justice Jeffries (the "Hanging Judge"). The first line of Sidney's poem reads "Ense petit placidam sub libertate quietam." Collectors of colonial currency will know that this line was adopted by Paul Revere for his 1775 Sword in Hand currency notes. The second line of Sidney's poem reads "Manus haec inimica tyrannis."

This line appeared as a motto on the flag raised at the siege of Yorktown by James Duncan, a captain from Pennsylvania in Moses Hazen's 2nd Canadian Regiment (known as "Congress' Own"). When the first trench was opened against the beleaguered British in Yorktown, military ceremony required the Americans to plant a standard on its parapet to announce their intention to complete the encirclement and so bring the British army in Yorktown under formal siege. The line also appeared on uniform buttons worn by a Massachusetts regiment raised in 1776.

Particularly interesting for collectors is the fact that in the papers of Thomas Jefferson (volume 7, p. 202), is the report of the Grand Committee of the Congress set up to consider what kind of coins should be struck for the new country. Attached to the report is a letter in the handwriting of Gouverneur Morris. Morris was the brains behind the 1783 Nova Constellatio pattern coinage. In his letter, dated May 13, 1785, Morris describes the obverse design for a gold coin he called a "crown". It shows an Indian with his foot on a fallen crown and the legend *Manus Haec Inimica Tyrannis*. Also accompanying the report of the Grand Committee is a hand drawn sketch of the reverse of a coin design suggested by Robert Morris (but probably suggested by Gouverneur) that showed a large circle of rays surrounding 13 stars in the center, with the word "Confederatio" around the top and the date 1785 at the bottom.

It is clear that the *Inimica Tyrannis* inscription was very familiar to folks in the government and the army as a standard, accepted patriotic expression. The Indian standing on a fallen crown was one of the types for a gold coin suggested to Congress in 1785. Put these two together and you have the whole obverse type of the 1785 Confederatio coppers. It is also obvious that the Confederatio reverse inscription and the large circle type were part of Congressional deliberations about what kind of coins we should have in 1785.

Like the Immune Columbia coins, the Confederatios can be a confusing subject for collectors, especially those just starting to consider these challenging issues. There are two regular types showing America on the obverse and a circle of stars on the back. They are easily told apart, by the different obverse spellings (AMERICA on the first, AMERICANA on the second) and the different sized circles on the back (large or small). Although Crosby (and Mr. Ford in 1949) listed a third type (AMERICANA with a large reverse circle) we know that Crosby's specimen was actually a worn Bolen copy. In addition, there are four mulings using one or the other Confederatio reverse. It is interesting that there are no known mules with the Confederatio obverse. Beyond these seven, there are mules of the Confederatio mules (like Breen 1126 and 1130) which have not been included here since they are already one step removed from the Confederatio types. The Confederatios can be described as:

1. 1785 Confederatio. AMERICA on obverse. Large circle of stars on reverse. Crosby VII, 13; Breen 1123. Known in silver (unique, Stack's June, 1995, lot 18) and copper (very rare with 9 to 12 known).
2. 1785 Confederatio. AMERICANA on obverse. Small circle of stars on reverse. Crosby VII, 12; Breen 1124. Known in copper (very rare with 9 to 12 known).
3. 1785 Confederatio reverse. Washington obverse. Large circle of stars on reverse (die of No.1). Crosby VII, 14; Breen 1125. Known in copper (very rare with only 7 traced).
4. 1785 Confederatio reverse. 1785 Nova Constellatio reverse. Crosby VII, 10; Breen 1127. Known in copper (unique).
5. 1785 Confederatio reverse. Large circle of stars (die of No.1). 1786 Immune Columbia obverse. Crosby VII, 16; Breen 1128. Known in copper (extremely rare with just two known, Eric Newman Collection and 2002 ANA [Superior] Lot 57).
6. 1785 Confederatio reverse. Large circle of stars (die of No.1). 1787 Heraldic eagle. Crosby VII, 15; Breen 1131. Known in copper (extremely rare with just two known, private collection and ANS).
7. 1785 Confederatio reverse. Small circle of stars (die of No.2). 1787 Excelsior reverse with correct arrow placement. Crosby VII, 21; Breen 1133. Known in copper (unique, Norweb:2627).

### VERY RARE SMALL CIRCLE CONFEDERATIO

One of the Nicest Seen



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 286



(Enlarged)



- 286 **1785 Confederatio. Small Circle of Stars.** Cr.VII, 12; Br.1124. Very Fine. 147.4 gns. 27.9 mm. Nice, deep mahogany brown and red toning on both sides, the color even. **One of the nicest seen** by the cataloguer. Obverse perfectly centered with legend INIMICA TYRANNIS AMERICANA fully present on flan. Standing figure of the Indian is fairly clear, the quiver behind her back is present, the crown on which she stands is outlined, and her bow and bowstring are sharp. Center of reverse quite soft, left side of central circle indistinct and stars at that position soft, as well. CONFEDERATIO and 1785 fully legible and on flan. One or two minor rim dings, none seriously detrimental. **Very rare:** the cataloguer has traced only 8 of these (the piece once believed to be in the MHS is untraced there). Norweb:2625 at Extremely Fine is probably the finest known, followed by the sharp example in NN 51st:198. Mr. Ford's specimen is not as sharp as the 1976 ANA coin but it is free from the flaws that plagued the obverse of that coin. (SEE COLOR PLATE)



286



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NOVA EBORAC AND EXCELSIOR COPPERS



301



307



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312



313



## VERY RARE WASHINGTON CONFEDERATIO

One of the Nicest Seen



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 287



(Enlarged)

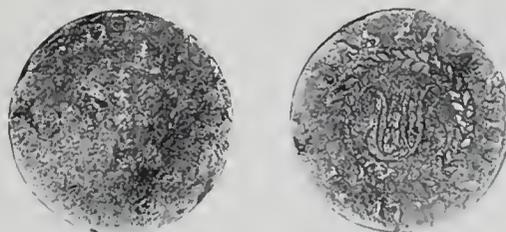
- 287 **1785 Washington Confederatio. Large Circle of Stars.** Cr.VII, 14; Br.1125, Baker 9. 131.6 gns. 28.8 mm. **Choice Very Fine**, with some claims to Extremely Fine status, particularly on the reverse. Even, pale golden brown and olive toning on the obverse and reverse. Obverse about perfectly centered, just slightly tight at the upper left, but all of the letters in GEN. WASHINGTON. are fully present on flan. Some hair detail can be seen on Washington's head, his facial features are bold and his uniform has most of its detail showing, also. On the reverse, the central circle around the stars is clear and sharp, the rays of glory emanating therefrom are bold, and the legend and date CONFEDERATIO 1785 are sharp. **Very rare:** the cataloguer has traced only 7 of these, the piece thought to be in the MHS is untraced there. Mr. Ford's example is nicer than Roper's, Garrett's and Norweb's. There are examples in Eric Newman's and Bill Anton's collections. The earliest reference to one of these is dated to 1820. A Mr. T.G. Frothingham wrote to the *American Journal of Numismatics* in April, 1889 saying he had a Washington/Confederatio copper coin, obtained from a Richard Frothingham, who got it in 1820 from an old toll collector on Boston's Charleston River Bridge (it later became the Parmelee coin).

The first specimen to come on the numismatic market was the piece Captain Haseltine sold to Crosby in 1884. Haseltine told a reporter for the *Philadelphia Times* that the coin arrived in an accumulation of 1,000 old coppers brought to him by an old lady grocer in the city. Haseltine said he offered the piece to Edward Maris for \$40 (or \$50, both prices have been recorded), but Maris refused, offering instead \$30. When Haseltine declined to lower his price, Maris stalked off. The next Monday Maris returned and told Haseltine he had thought things over and wanted to buy the coin for the asking price. Haseltine replied that he had also thought things over and had decided the coin was really worth \$100. At that point Maris got angry, probably thinking that Haseltine was playing games with him, and he walked out of Haseltine's office. Two weeks later, Haseltine said, he sold the coin to Sylvester Crosby for \$150 and when he auctioned Crosby's collection the coin realized \$640. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

Ex Lyman Low's 201st sale (May 28, 1920, lot 20); Hillyer Ryder, Wayte Raymond, F.C.C. Boyd Estate.

## UNIQUE 1785 CONFEDERATIO MULE

With Double 1785 Date



Lot No. 288

- 288 **1785 Confederatio/1785 Nova Constellatio Mule. Copper.** About Good/Very Good. Breen 1127 (5-D); Crosby VII, 10 (1-C). 102.9 gns. 27.3 mm. **Unique**, with no other specimen even rumored in the past 150 years. Dark brown in color, verging on black. Surfaces on both sides very granular and porous with some pitting. A couple of rim flaws and depressions one of which serves to identify the piece as the **Crosby plate coin**. Nova side easily identifiable with the first three digits in the date clear, last faint but legible nevertheless, bold large script US, JUSTITIA clear. Confederatio side very faint, 'FED' legible, rays of the large central circle visible and some stars inside it clear, date illegible. A curious muling of two dated dies from two otherwise unrelated series. An important coin for several reasons, not the least of them being that there is no other one known.

The existence of this piece raises an interesting question. How does one account for it? It seems that the possibilities include the following: (1) the Nova die travelled here, (2) the Confederatio die travelled to England, (3) both dies were made here, and (4) both dies were made in England. If the Confederatio die was American made, as the evidence seems to suggest, then possibilities (2) and (4) are eliminated and the muling must have been an American made product. But then we are faced with asking why and when a Nova die would have been shipped over to America. It seems to the cataloguer easier to suggest that the Nova die was always here and that the evidence of this unique muling supports an American origin for the Nova Constellatio series.

Ex Hiram Shurtleff; Sylvester S. Crosby; Lorin G. Parmelee Collection (New York Coin & Stamp Company, June 25, 1890, lot 591); Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.

**VERY RARE WASHINGTON CONFEDERATIO**



*Lot No. 287*

**EXTREMELY RARE 1786 IMMUNIS COLUMBIA**



*Lot No. 289*

### THE 1786 and 1787 IMMUNIS COLUMBIA COINS

The type showing Columbia seated on a globe, holding the scales of justice and a flag with the legend *Immunis Columbia* seems to have been very popular with coiners in the 1780's. There are many different examples that cross type boundaries. In consequence, standard listings of the *Immunis Columbia* series such as the *Guide Book's* and *Breen's* are disorganized and confusing. Making matters worse is the fact that under the *Immunis* rubric are issues made at different times by different coiners in different mints. Although there is one obverse type and legend there are several really different kinds of *Immunis Columbias*. These may be described as follows:

1. 1786 *Immunis Columbia*. New Jersey reverse *Maris C. Crosby VII*, 17; *Breen* 1129; *Maris* 3-C. Known in copper (very scarce with perhaps as many as 20 surviving).
2. 1786 *Immunis Columbia* (die of No.1). 1785 *Confederatio* reverse. Large circle of stars. *Crosby VII*, 16; *Breen* 1128. Known in copper (extremely rare with just two known, *Eric Newman Collection* and 2002 ANA [Superior] Lot 57).
3. 1786 *Immunis Columbia*. Heraldic eagle reverse. Transposed arrows. Unknown to *Crosby*; *Breen* 1135. Known in copper (extremely rare with just two known, *Ford Collection* and *Roper:213*).
4. 1787 *Immunis Columbia*. Heraldic eagle reverse. Normal arrow placement. *Crosby VIII*, 8; *Breen* 1136, 1137. Known in copper on broad flans (*Breen* 1136, extremely rare, only four known and all overstruck on New Jersey *Maris* 26-S hosts) and narrow flans (*Breen* 1137, usually with partial dates, somewhat scarce; one known with ornamented edge ex *Garrett:604*).

There are two *Immunis Columbia* dies dated 1786. They are different in style and seem to have been executed by different artisans. One of them was married to regular *Confederatio* and New Jersey reverses, strongly suggesting a link of as yet unknown nature between the two issues. *Breen* assumed the link was *Wyon's* mint in England but while we know that was incorrect, he was correct to see some sort of connection between the large circle *Confederatio* reverse and an early New Jersey reverse. It is very tempting to suggest that the 1786 *Immunis/Confederatio* and 1786 *Immunis/New Jersey* reverse types were made to support *Matthias Ogden's* proposal to the Continental Congress for a coinage contract early in 1787. The other 1786 dated *Immunis Columbia* obverse die is the right size for a *Rahway Mint* product but that is about all that one can say about it with any degree of confidence.

Of the four reverse dies seen on the *Immunis Columbia* marriages one is with the 1785 large circle *Confederatio* which has already been discussed in this catalog. A second is with New Jersey reverse C, a workhorse die that shows no traceable signs of deterioration over its life. This New Jersey die was one of the earlier ones engraved for the state's coinage and was married to seven different New Jersey obverses, including the Washington obverse also found in the *Confederatio* series. These two still inadequately explained die linkages between the New Jersey and the *Confederatio* series underscore just how little we really know about the Confederation period copper coinages. The third of the *Immunis Columbia* reverses is the ragged looking heraldic eagle with the arrows that should have been in its left claw (the viewer's right) incorrectly shown in its right one. This die does not really resemble any other eagle type from this period and its odd appearance was what led one dealer to say it was fake when *Maris* announced its discovery in 1885. Today, we know the coin is absolutely genuine but it still stands apart from its fellows. The last of the *Immunis Columbia* reverses is the heraldic eagle with the arrows correctly placed in the left claw. This is a fairly well executed die that seems to have been made for use by the New Jersey coiners late in 1788.

If the *Immunis Columbia* dies are mysterious, an even deeper mystery surrounds most of their makers and mints. The *Immunis-Confederatio* marriages (*Washington/Confederatio*, *Washington/New Jersey C*, *Immunis/Confederatio*, *Immunis/New Jersey C*) suggest that they may have been struck by the New Jersey coiners, possibly at the *Rahway Mint*, but lacking conclusive evidence, proof of this will always elude researchers. The odd ball 1786 *Immunis Columbia* with transposed arrows reverse is the sort of coin one just has to live with as it seems there will never be an answer for its origins. The mystery surrounding the 1787 *Immunis Columbias* was solved thanks to the New Jersey 26-S undertype found on the broad planchet variety. The die states of the 26-S showed they were struck late and other evidence dated the late state 26-S to 1788 or later. Since the broad planchet *Immunis* were in earlier die states than the narrow planchet ones, it was clear that the entire 1787 *Immunis Columbia* issue was struck in 1788 or later, not 1787 as had been thought. It appears that it was not pattern proposal for a confederal coinage contract after all.

**EXTREMELY RARE 1786 IMMUNIS COLUMBIA**

**Dr. Edward Maris' Discovery Coin**



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 289

289 **1786 Immunis Columbia. Transposed Arrows. Choice Very Fine.** Plain edge. Unknown to Crosby in 1875, authenticated by him in 1886; Breen 1135. 137.4 gns. 28.5 mm. The eagle side is toned in a rich, deep olive green and gold while the Columbia side is a slightly lighter shade of the same color scheme. The fields on both are smooth and hard to the naked eye, showing only microgranularity under magnification. Eagle's breast and legs flat at the top, detail elsewhere quite sharp, even though very clumsily done in the die. Branch and arrow bundle clear and bold, as are the talons by which they are grasped. Full New Jersey style legend E PLURIBUS UNUM around, the coin struck slightly off center to the right, affecting only the denticles there and leaving a fairly broad band of unstruck metal at the left portion of this side. On the obverse Columbia's figure is flat on its highest points, as struck, the die very obviously failing in its center, resulting in the softness in the strike. Liberty cap and pole sharp, scales clear, flag and drapery mostly bold, longitudinal and latitudinal lines on the globe sharp, date distinct. Struck slightly off center, to the right, affecting only the very tips of the denticles there.

**Extremely rare:** just two pieces known, this and the Extremely Fine Roper:213 coin. **The discovery coin** for this 1786 Immunis Columbia type. Dr. Edward Maris, the authority on New Jersey coppers, announced the discovery of this coin in the July and September 1885 issues of Ed Frossard's *Numisma* and more fully in the October, 1885 issue of the *American Journal of Numismatics*. Maris wrote that he had found the coin in a group of 16 coppers said to have been owned by a Vermont resident whose father had owned them for many years before that. Maris said that among the other coins in the group were three Vermont coppers all of the same variety, a 1787 Immunis Columbia (Crosby VIII, 8), and a 1786 Immunis Columbia with New Jersey reverse (Maris 3-C). When an unnamed dealer heard about Maris' discovery he condemned the coin and a letter writing campaign began that lasted years. Maris enlisted the support of Sylvester Crosby, Lorin Parmelee, DeWitt Smith, David Proskey, and Ed Frossard, all of whom wrote letters authenticating the coin to Dr. Thomas Hall, the Connecticut coppers authority, who had bought the coin from the Maris sale in June, 1886.

Matters had not been helped by H.P. Smith who catalogued the Maris sale. Smith put the coin in a lot at the end of the sale and ended his catalog description by writing "In fine condition; unique. (Plate). N.B.-This piece does not belong to Dr. M., but is placed in the sale with his consent.", probably hoping thereby to avoid tainting the whole sale by the presence of a coin in dispute. The Hall correspondence was published in the July, 1901 issue of the *American Journal of Numismatics* and it makes great reading. The reverse shows clear clash marks in the legend at the right which do not correspond to the obverse design of this coin, suggesting that the reverse clashed with another die of different design, a variety not presently known to collectors. Here is an interesting area for future research by a dedicated numismatist. Struck from a die different than Maris' obverse 3 although both M.3-C and this coin are 1786 dated Immunis Columbia types. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex Dr. Edward Maris Collection (H.P. Smith, June 21, 1886, lot 501); Elmer S. Sears via private treaty on February 12, 1915; Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

A CHOICE 1787 IMMUNIS WITH FULL DATE



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 290



(Enlarged)

- 290 **1787 Immunis Columbia.** Small Flan. Plain edge. Not overstruck. **Choice Uncirculated.** Crosby VIII, 8; Br.1137. 182.3 gns. 26.5 mm. **Full date shows.** A remarkable specimen, with some fading mint color still visible in the letters of the reverse legend. Very attractive, rich olive brown color on both sides. Very smooth, hard, and essentially porosity free surfaces. A remarkable specimen, one of the finest this cataloguer has ever seen. (*SEE COLOR PLATE*)

*Ex Tom Elder's 53rd Sale (October 13, 1911, lot 472); Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

A SECOND, NEAR-CHOICE 1787 IMMUNIS



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 291



(Enlarged)

- 291 **1787 Immunis Columbia.** Small Flan. Plain edge. Not overstruck. **Uncirculated,** nearly Choice. Crosby VIII, 8; Br.1137. 160.6 gns. 26.2 mm. Nearly full date. Dark olive brown in color on both sides. Smooth, hard and essentially porosity free surfaces. Typical die states (as the preceding), obverse clashed at left, broken from beak to wing root, from rim through third 'U' to wing joint below. Nearly full date. (*SEE COLOR PLATE*)



Lot No. 292

- 292 **1787 Immunis Columbia.** Small Flan. Plain edge. Not overstruck. Nearly Extremely Fine. Crosby VIII, 8; Br.1137. 152.8 gns. 26.0 mm. A third example. Nearly full date. This piece is a lighter olive brown in color than the preceding two. With this example the fields are microgranular, and there are one or two minor marks, principally on the reverse. Small planchet clip when viewed from the obverse at about 1:00, as seen on more than just a few of these.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

## THE 1786 NON VI VIRTUTE VICI COINS

The Non Vi Virtute Vici coppers of 1786 are collected both as Washingtoniana and as New York colonials. Baker listed them as Washington pieces starting in 1885 because he felt the obverse legend could only refer to George Washington, his hero. He also noted that others collected them as New York issues. Since the Latin can be translated as "I conquer not by force but by virtue" the "I" can refer to the person whose bust is on the coin as well as to the coin, itself. The obverse is of a military man, not necessarily Washington, so that does not help. Later varieties of the Higley copper have on their obverses "I am good copper" but no one thinks that it is the deer on the coin who is talking. It seems safest to go with what is sure about the coin, found in its reverse legend, Neo-Eboracensis which means "New York", and include the Non Vi Virtute Vici coppers in the New York colonial series.

The question of who made them, where, and for what purpose are all unknown. Breen attributes them to James F. Atlee and says they were struck by Atlee in a private mint in New York City but the only evidence he has for this elaborate theory is punch linkages and these, by their nature, are unreliable and inconclusive. He accepts their obverse date of 1786 on the strength of an obscure story in a Massachusetts newspaper. It seems, however, that more is needed to attribute an important series like the Non Vis than this.

There are three types in the Non Vi series that may be described as follows:

1. Undated Large Head Non Vi Virtute Vice. Undated New Jersey shield style reverse. Not in Crosby; Baker 12; Breen 1134. Known in copper (unique, Garrett:1388).
2. 1786 Large Head Non Vi Virtute Vici (die of No.1?). Not in Crosby; Baker 13C; Breen 976. Known in copper (extremely rare with just two known, Ford Collection and Parmelee:450).
3. 1786 Small Head Non Vi Virtute Vici. Crosby VIII, 4; Baker 13; Breen 977. Known in copper (rare with 25 to 35 believed to survive).

There are three obverses and three reverses found on the Non Vi coinage, a remarkable number considering that the total population of all known survivors is not higher than 40 coins. The six dies are known in only three combinations, meaning that there was no intermarriage among them. This strongly suggests three distinct issues and less forcefully supposes more than one mint. The engraving styles point to at least two engravers, and if the two Large Head obverses are different dies, maybe to three.

The first is a real mystery. Its obverse die may be that of the Large Head type in the Ford Collection but this has never been firmly established. They look similar but there are enough differences in the spacing of some letters to hold a final decision until a close comparison of the two can be made in the copper. The reverse of the first looks like a New Jersey shield but as early as 1883 Maris decided that it was not a known New Jersey reverse die. It clearly copies one and its lack of a date on either side suggests it is a muling of two, otherwise unrelated dies.

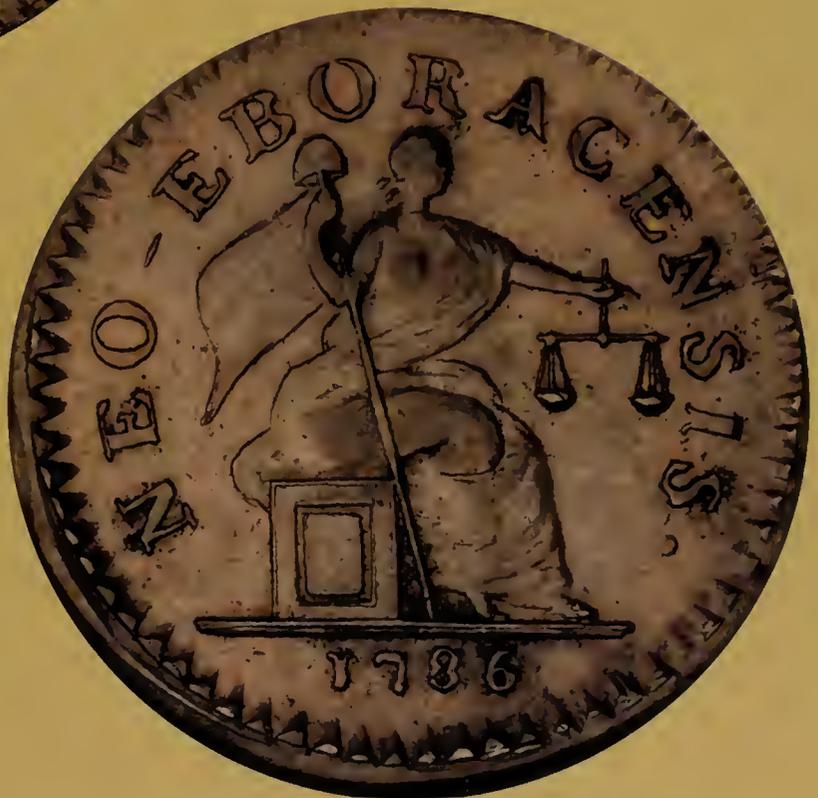
The 1786 dated Large Head type is a well executed pair of dies. The portrait side shows embellishments in the uniform and neckband that only a skillful engraver could accomplish on such a small module. Likewise, the reverse figure of Commerce or Columbia or even New York is well drawn and the design of this die is decently balanced. It closely resembles the 1785 Immune Columbia type but whether it copied the type is debatable. Both of the surviving specimens are on round flans.

The 1786 Small Head type is the one with which sophisticated colonial collectors are most familiar. The obverse and reverse are not as skillfully engraved as the 1786 Large Head types. Like the 1787 Miller 1.1-A Connecticut coppers of about the same size, this Non Vi variety is very often found on clipped flans but also ones with good, deep olive brown color and smooth surfaces. This variety was once described as being very rare and is so listed in Breen's Encyclopedia. However, the late Carl Carlson, in his prime one of the best researchers we have ever had, pedigreed 19 different specimens in his article "Tracker" published in the ANA Anthology in 1991 and suggested that there must be close to 25 known. Ten years on, we know that there are more than 25 in existence and the number may be as high as 35.

1786 LARGE HEAD NON VI COPPER



Lot No. 294



## 1786 SMALL HEAD NON VI COPPER

One of the Finest Seen



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 293

- 293 **1786 Non Vi Virtute Vice. Small Head. Choice About Uncirculated.** Cr.VIII, 4; Baker 13; Br.977. 133.5 gns. 28.5 mm. An absolutely wonderful example of this popular and quite rare issue, nicer than any other seen recently. Both the obverse and reverse are deeply toned in a rich, even and somewhat glossy olive brown. There are traces of original mint lustre, in the form of faded color, in some of the letters of the obverse legend. The fields are smooth, hard, and essentially porosity free save for a small area of disturbance in the right obverse field.

Obverse slightly off center to the upper right, but affecting only the denticles there; reverse just about perfectly centered, a slight lip at the base may be noted. Obverse center clearly convex, reverse somewhat concave, the dies failing in their centers, accounting for the rarity of the issue. Effigy's features flat on the top of his head but the face and profile are clear, as are the uniform details. Seated figure of Commerce/Columbia/New York fairly clear, soft in the center due to die failure, but scales bold, Liberty pole mostly complete, and cap sharp. Full obverse and reverse legends, full date. Shallow planchet flaw across effigy's neck, joining a depression below the letters 'NO' in the obverse legend. Small rim clip at 4:30 when viewed from the obverse. Inconsequential rim tic above 'VI'. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

## 1786 LARGE HEAD NON VI

The Finer of Just Two Known



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 294

- 294 **1786 Non Vi Virtute Vice. Large Head. Very Choice About Uncirculated,** a piece with essentially no signs of real circulation wear. Unknown to Crosby; Baker 13C; Breen 976. 139.8 gns. 29.1 mm. Lovely, deep olive brown with some attractive "woodgrain" surface effect on the reverse. **Extremely rare:** one of only two known and the **finer of the two**, the second being the Parmelec:450 piece graded "Fair" at the time. **Breen plate coin** for the variety. Obverse and reverse surfaces clear, smooth, hard, and basically porosity free. Obverse and reverse types very well centered on flan, reverse being slightly off to the upper right but affecting only the denticles there. Traces of original mint lustre can be seen in some of the protected areas, principally the letters 'O' on each side. Effigy's (Washington's?) features are clear, its chunky face sharp, profile distinct, hair detail partial, uniform detail full, including the diminutive epaulet. Seated figure of Commerce/Columbia/New York sharp, remarkably so for such a very rare variety, with full drapery detail, scales complete including their pans, flag on staff and drapery surrounding the figure's body distinct and showing full inner detail. In fact, her profile can be seen without the need for magnification. A couple of very minor rim flaws are noted, none really important. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

## THE 1787 DATED COPPER COINAGE OF NEW YORK STATE

New York state never authorized or struck its own copper coinage during the Confederation period so the title given above to this section of the catalogue is not historically accurate. It may serve, however, as a description for the series of copper coins bearing 1787 dates that also seem to carry some reference to New York, in their types, their legends, or both.

Why New York state never authorized its own coinage is a bit of a mystery we are likely never to solve. As one of the richest and most powerful of the states in the new confederated United States it would seem New York would have been more likely to have its own copper coinage than most other members of the new union.

Yet, while New Jersey, Connecticut, and Massachusetts all took advantage of the coinage right under the Articles of Confederation and either allowed or authored their own coppers; and even tiny Vermont, while not yet a state but nevertheless a neighbor, had its own small copper issue; New York state sat on the sidelines watching others struggle with the problem of local copper coins. Perhaps New York was wise to do so, at least in hindsight. No state that struck or allowed a copper coinage made much money from the business nor much convenience for its population.

The series of coins that bear references to New York state include the 1787 Nova Eboracs, the 1787 Excelsiors, the 1787 George Clintons, the 1787 Indian and Eagle on Globes, and the 1787 Brasher gold coins. These are among some of the rarest of all early American coins. They are also some of the most difficult of all to put into their historical and numismatic contexts. It is not known who made them (save the Brashers, of course), where they were made, how many were made, or even if they were really made in 1787. Apart from their rarity and their common 1787 date, there appear to be more dissimilarities than links among the different types and varieties.

The New York state series has always been a major challenge to collectors and very few have ever met it head on. In recent memory, Garrett's and Norweb's holdings are remembered as being superb, as was Roper's. It will soon become clear that Ford's collection will join their ranks.

The order in which the series is presented here is the cataloguer's. Since there is no single reference on the subject there is no reason not to create one's own sequence. References are given to Crosby and Breen, in the case of the New York series both indispensable guides to its complexity. Crosby is to be preferred in most matters save those of known varieties and populations, where Breen excels. Unfortunately, Breen's attributions and comments will mislead the novice, who will not know they are based on nothing numismatically substantive. It is safest to say that the state of the art of our knowledge about the New York series has not progressed much beyond what Crosby knew more than a century ago.

### THE 1787 NOVA EBORAC COPPERS

Neither the mint nor the minter of the Nova Eboracs is known. Breen attributed most of them to John Bailey with the help of Ephraim Brasher but was forced to admit that those betray an inexperienced hand in their design and striking, an odd characterization of skilled engravers like Bailey and Brasher, to say the least. Breen attributed the Small Head type to Gilbert Rindle at Elizabethtown, a man anonymous to Breen except for a name on one delivery record of coppers to the New Jersey state treasurer. Since he based all his attributions of the Nova Eboracs on the evidence of punch links, his conclusions show just how uncertain such evidence can be.

On the basis of style it seems safe to say that one hand cut the Large Head with reverse figures left, another did the Medium Heads with reverse figure seated left or right and a third was responsible for the Small Head type. We do not know who they were, nor is it fair to history to confine our choices only to those names that have by chance come down to us from the past, ignoring all those others whose memories have not been preserved. The obverse legend on all three types clearly refers to New York so it may be safe to say they were meant to have some connection to New York City. It is not safe to assume that they were intended to pass in New York as "New York coppers" since the number of persons who might have handled coppers in their business and could translate the Latin was not very much smaller than the number who could read, at all. It is especially unsafe to assume that any of the Nova Eboracs had official state or city approval. They may have, but we just do not know that for sure.

Likewise, we do not know how many were struck, whether they were really coined in the year on their reverses (1787) or later, in how many batches, or where they were made. Of the four types in the series the Small Head is rarest, with 10 traced by the writer. Next follows the Large Head type, with at least 15 known (there are three in the lots to follow) and a probable census of 20 to 25. The two Medium Heads are about equally rare. Condition on the Nova Eboracs is often a problem as the average specimen seen is Very Fine to Extremely Fine with off-centering being typical. Color is usually brown to dark brown. Many come clipped and the Medium Head with reverse figure right usually comes with a big rim cud at lower right. The Large and Small Head types are too rare to really worry about grade, getting one is a big enough achievement without worrying about its condition until after the purchase. The best Large Head is the Garrett coin that Tony Terranova showed the writer in November, 1990. The best Small Head is probably the Bushnell coin. The finest Medium Head piece I have seen was Norweb's, an Unc. that sold for \$6,160 to an astute New Jersey collector, although the Bushnell-Winsor-Mills coin to come rivals it.

A very few Nova Eboracs are found as parasites on host coins. The cataloguer has seen one Medium Head with figure seated left struck over a counterfeit Irish halfpenny. The Medium Head with figure seated right in the Ford Collection is struck over a 1785 Nova Constellatio copper. These probably represent pieces struck in 1789 or later and suggest that the Nova Eboracs had higher market credibility at the time than Nova Constellatio or Irish halfpennies. Overstruck specimens are extremely rare and are great prizes for the specialist.

The Ford Collection of Nova Eboracs is probably the finest and most comprehensive ever to cross the auction block. It qualifies for that distinction on the basis of both rarity and condition. It certainly eclipses both the Garrett and Norweb Nova Eboracs, the latter being one of the finest ever sold until now.

## OUTSTANDING LARGE HEAD NOVA EBORAC

## The Crosby Obverse Plate Coin



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 295



(Enlarged)

- 295 1787 Nova Eborac. Large Head. Cr.VIII, 9; Br.985. Choice Extremely Fine to About Uncirculated. 151.9 gns. 28.3 mm. 1.5 - 1.6 mm. thick. Not overstruck. One of the finest known. Crosby obverse plate coin. Both the obverse and reverse of this important specimen are toned in a light olive shade. The obverse legends are fully on flan and the central devices are sharp and bold. On the reverse, the legend is tight at the top right but the central device is complete and sharply struck up. Short planchet cutter clip on obverse at about 9:00; rolled over planchet cutter lip along the bottom edge of the obverse. Struck from a severely failing obverse die, cracking around, center sinking and causing the softness in the tops of the letters in EBORAC. Described in the Bushnell catalog as "Strong impression. Extremely fine. Light olive. See plate. Excessively rare." and later by Ryder on his ticket (accompanying this lot) as "Extremely Fine. Strong impression. Light olive. Bushnell Coll. No. 895." **Rare:** there may be only about 20 to 25 of these surviving in all grades and in all collections, public and private. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex Charles Ira Bushnell Collection (S.H. & H. Chapman, June 20, 1882, lot 895); Harlan Page Smith Collection (S.H. & H. Chapman, May 8, 1906, lot 128); Virgil Brand; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 296

- 296 1787 Nova Eborac. Large Head. Cr.VIII, 9; Br.985. Extremely Fine to About Uncirculated. 148.2 gns. 28.5 mm. 1.2 - 1.5 mm. thick. Not overstruck. Light golden brown with considerable reddish color showing from an old cleaning, now naturally re-toning. Well centered on both sides, with decent central sharpness even given the late states of both of these dies. Obverse failing more severely than seen on the preceding specimen, the circular disintegration around the effigy's face here has engaged the ribbon and its bow behind its head. In addition, there is a linear break on the reverse from the rim at about 11:00 running through the tops of ET and engaging the very topmost hair bow on Columbia's head. **Rare:** as noted, the entire population of this type may be no larger than 25 specimens.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 297

- 297 1787 Nova Eborac. Large Head. Cr.VIII, 9; Br.985. Sharpness of Very Fine in places. 124.7 gns. 28.4 mm. 1.0 - 1.2 mm. thick. Not overstruck. Dark brown on both sides, surfaces very porous and granular, particularly on the reverse. Planchet cracked at base of obverse into effigy's neck, showing on the reverse from the rim behind Columbia's head running down across her neck. Obverse surface peppered with many circular dings, some rim ties visible on both sides. Possibly saved by Ryder-Boyd-Ford as an example of an early obverse die state, but given the surface quality of the piece this is not entirely certain since the exact die states of this piece cannot be ascertained with accuracy. **Rare:** there may only be about 25 of these in existence.

*Ex Richard Bostwell Winsor Collection (S.H. & H. Chapman, December 16, 1895, lot 165); F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

CHOICE UNCIRCULATED RED NOVA EBORAC COPPER



Lot No. 298



## CHOICE UNCIRCULATED RED NOVA EBORAC

## Reverse Figure Left



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 298

- 298 1787 Nova Eborac. Medium Head. Reverse Figure Left. Cr.VIII, 11; Br.986. Choice Uncirculated. 133.8 gns. 27.7 mm. 1.3 - 1.7 mm. thick. Not overstruck. An absolutely remarkable specimen of this issue with distinct claims to Gem status. Both the obverse and reverse are light golden brown in color. There is considerable, **original mint red color** showing in the protected areas of the obverse and reverse and across portions of the obverse surface. Very sharply struck in the centers, all of the detail in the effigy's head, its wreath, and hair is visible and on the reverse Columbia's drapery is sharp and bold. Soft at the top of the reverse, her head indistinct, ET very faint. Slightly off center on both sides, to the upper left on the obverse and lower left on the reverse, but without serious major effect. Short area of planchet rim beveling at the base of the obverse, caused by the planchet cutter as it stamped out the blank for this piece. Very shallow rim clip on the obverse at the upper left. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex Lorin G. Parmelee Collection (New York Coin & Stamp Company, June 25, 1890, lot 461); Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 299

- 299 1787 Nova Eborac. Medium Head. Reverse Figure Left. Cr.VIII, 11; Br.986. About Uncirculated. 140.2 gns. 27.4 mm. 1.5 - 1.6 mm. thick. Not overstruck. Pale golden brown in color on both sides. Obverse and reverse surfaces quite porous in appearance, roughened in places. Very nicely centered, however, with all of the obverse and reverse legends on flan, sharply struck in the centers, full detail showing in Columbia's figure and even her face bold (which looks an awful lot like Washington's).

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 300

- 300 1787 Nova Eborac. Medium Head. Reverse Figure Left. Cr.VIII, 11; Br.986. Extremely Fine. 136.6 gns. 27.4 mm. 1.5 - 1.6 mm. thick. Not overstruck. Pale golden brown in color on both sides, with some traces of faded purple iridescence suggestive of old lustre on the obverse. About as well centered as these usually come, the legends somewhat tight on the flan at the left on both sides. Types and date on flan.

*Ex a Mr. Brown in May, 1919; Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

## UNCIRCULATED MEDIUM HEAD NOVA EBORAC

## The Bushnell-Winsor-Mills Coin



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 301

- 301 **1787 Nova Eborac. Medium Head. Reverse Figure Right.** Cr.VIII, 10; Br.987. **Uncirculated.** 116.2 gns. 26.9 mm. 1.1 - 1.4 mm. thick. Not overstruck. Described by the Chapman brothers in 1882 as "Uncirculated. Sharp, strong impression. Light color, showing traces of bright red. Mr. Bushnell had this piece covered with a thin coat of shellac to preserve its color. Very rare in such fine state." We note that the piece was once cleaned but both sides have retoned in a rich, attractive natural brown shade with traces of coppery red showing on both sides. Ryder described this as "Uncirculated. Beautiful specimen" at the time of the Mills sale in 1904. Both sides are pretty well centered on the flan, the reverse being slightly off at the top as often seen on this type. Small area of rim irregularity at the lower left on both sides. Obverse slightly off center, to the right, tops of 'BORAC' partially off flan. Usually seen reverse state, a pronounced cud formed on the rim beside the effigy's foot. Types almost completely on flan. Reverse rim cud at feet runs to 'B' but slight off-centering obscures the total length of the break. These Medium Head Figure Rights are the lightest of all the Nova Eboracs. The Medium Head Figure Lefts are heavier, thicker, and wider. The metrological evidence suggests a difference between these two that may best be explained by different stock struck at a different time in different mints. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

*Ex Charles Ira Bushnell Collection (S.H. & H. Chapman, June 20, 1882, lot 893); Richard Boswell Winsor Collection (S.H. & H. Chapman, December 16, 1895; lot 166); John G. Mills Collection (S.H. & H. Chapman, April 27, 1904, lot 352); F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

## A SECOND PLEASING MEDIUM HEAD NOVA EBORAC



Lot No. 302

- 302 **1787 Nova Eborac. Medium Head. Reverse Figure Right.** Cr.VIII, 10; Br.987. **Extremely Fine.** 114.9 gns. 26.6 mm. 1.2 - 1.3 mm. thick. Not overstruck. Rich, pleasing golden brown on the obverse, lighter on the reverse. Center of the obverse somewhat granular, microporous elsewhere; reverse field quite smooth and hard, very attractive to the naked eye. Obverse about perfectly centered; reverse slightly off to the lower left, bases of the date numerals partially off flan. Struck from a much later state of the reverse die than seen on the preceding specimen, here the cud on the rim having marched up to engage the field above 'B'.

*Ex a Mr. B.C.G. on March 29, 1915; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

## MEDIUM HEAD NOVA EBORAC

## Struck Over a Nova Constellatio



Lot No. 303

- 303 **1787 Nova Eborac. Medium Head. Reverse Figure Right.** Cr.VIII, 10; Br.987. Sharpness of Extremely Fine. 136.6 gns. 27.7 mm. 1.3 - 1.5 mm. thick. Variegated light olive and brown on both sides. Planchet surfaces somewhat rough in appearance, but quite sharp in the centers, particularly on the reverse. Some porosity visible around the reverse rim. Struck from a near perfect state of the reverse, without sign of a break at the lower right. **Clearly overstruck on a 1785 Nova Constellatio**, pointed rays and script US type, with the host's date showing faintly at 'ETLIB' of the parasite's legend. **Extremely rare:** actually, rarer than a George Clinton struck over an Immunis Columbia or an Immunis Terranova struck over a Maris 26-S. The cataloguer is aware of only three Nova Eboracs struck over host coins: this, the piece Tony Terranova discovered struck over a counterfeit Irish halfpenny, and one owned by Mike Ringo.

Given the ordinarily low weight of the Medium Head Nova Eborac, the decision to overstrike the type on a heavier Nova Constellatio shows that the coiner had not placed his hopes for a profit on the amount of copper in the coin. It should be clear from this, and other evidence, that weight was not the factor governing market acceptance of coppers in the late 1780's. It is more likely that the reputation of the type had much more to do with how well coppers circulated in the period 1787-90 and how much profit a coiner could make out of his product.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate*



Lot No. 304

- 304 **1787 Nova Eborac. Medium Head. Reverse Figure Right.** Cr.VIII, 10; Br.987. Choice Very Fine for sharpness. 113.9 gns. 26.9 mm. 1.2 - 1.3 mm. thick. Not overstruck. Very pale golden brown obverse, slightly darker reverse color. Obverse surface somewhat microgranular in appearance, as often seen; reverse sharper, smoother and not quite so grainy in appearance. Slightly off center on the obverse, to the top, on the reverse to the bottom, bases of date numerals off flan. Old obverse scratch. Reverse die broken and the rim from foot to close to 'B'. Reverse rim cud reaches to above 'B'.

*Ex Henry Chapman; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 305

- 305 **1787 Nova Eborac. Medium Head. Reverse Figure Right.** Cr.VIII, 10; Br.987. Choice Very Fine. 110.8 gns. 27.0 mm. 1.2 - 1.3 mm. thick. Not overstruck. Both the obverse and reverse are toned in a pale golden olive shade. There are traces of very pale, possibly faded mint lustre in some of the letters of the legends of both sides. Somewhat granular surfaces, those on the obverse more so than on the reverse, as usual. Obverse slightly off center to the top; reverse slightly off to the bottom, bases of the date numerals off flan. Planchet cutter clip on the top of the reverse. Reverse die broken on the rim from foot to just above B.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 306

- 306 1787 Nova Eborac. Medium Head. Reverse Figure Right. Cr.VIII, 10; Br.987. Nearly Very Fine. 110.5 gns. 26.8 mm. 1.0 - 1.2 mm. thick. Not overstruck. Pale brown on both sides. Much better centered than those preceding it, the obverse type fully on flan with just the tops of 'EBO' running off; reverse about perfectly centered with a full date showing. Struck from a fairly early state of the reverse, the die clashed but not apparently broken. Small rim dent beside the last numeral in the date.

*Ex Tam Elder's sale of April 8, 1916, lot 889; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

### VERY RARE SMALL HEAD NOVA EBORAC

#### The Parmelee-Mills Coin



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 307

- 307 1787 Nova Eborac. Small Head. Cr.VIII, 12, Br.988. Fine or so/Very Fine. 142.3 gns. 28.7 mm. 1.4 - 1.6 mm. thick. Not overstruck. Both the obverse and reverse are deep brown in color. The fields are microgranular in appearance, particularly in the center of the obverse. Both sides struck slightly off center, to the lower right on the obverse and lower left on the reverse, but only the denticles are off the flan in those positions. Obverse and reverse legends complete, date fully on flan. Center of obverse soft, due to the die failure in the lower right field and on the effigy's neck, the profile soft but the eye bold, mouth mostly visible, nose partially so, full hair detail and all leaves in the wreath show. Partial detail shows in the cuirass. On the reverse, Liberty's figure is mostly bold, the branch is clear, her profile sharp and her mouth visible without the need for magnification, and the longitudinal and latitudinal lines on the globe are sharp. Small tic above effigy's head, two parallel scratches down behind its jawline, short, new scratch across Liberty's chest on the reverse.

**Very rare:** Crosby knew of only three specimens in 1875: Appleton's, Bushnell's, and Parmelee's (this coin). This piece looks much like the Crosby plate coin in terms of its off-centering on both sides, but it is a very much sharper coin. The Parmelee cataloguer described this as "...very good; exceedingly rare. (Crosby, pl. VIII, No.12; but this piece is in much finer condition; page 341; only 3 known.)" Breen (1988) correctly guessed eight to 10 known. The cataloguer can revise his own census listing of seven published in Norweb II (1988), lot 2679 to include the following: (1) **this coin**, ex Parmelee:462; (2) Norweb:2679, ex Mehl in 1937; (3) NN 51st to Bowers' New York Public Library sale (1982) lot 2087 to Stack's sale of January 1992 lot 170 to Coin Galleries' sale of July 1992 lot 3125; (4) the piece graded Very Fine that was sold as lot 3 in Bowers' auction of August, 1999; (5) Crosby:1233, probably the Bushnell coin; (6) Roper:270; (7) Taylor:2099; (8) one the late John Pittman exhibited at the June 15, 1954 meeting of the Rochester (NY) Numismatic Association; (9) Eric P. Newman Collection; (10) MHS, ex Appleton, the Crosby plate coin. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

*Ex Lorin G. Parmelee Collection (New York Coin & Stamp Co., June 25, 1890, lot 462); John G. Mills Collection (S.H. & H. Chapman, April 27, 1904, lot 356); Virgil Brand; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

## THE 1787 EXCELSIOR COPPERS

Herewith begins what may arguably be called the most enigmatic and difficult of all early American coins. From the standpoint of numismatic history all we can say is that we know nothing about who made these coins, where, why, in what quantity, or even really when during the 1787-90 period they were made. They obviously refer to New York state since they bear the state's arms or motto (EXCELSIOR) in their types. Beyond this observation, however, confidence in other statements about their origins falls off to zero.

This series includes the pieces with the arms of New York state on the obverse and an heraldic eagle on the back; those with a standing Indian on the front and New York state's arms on the back; those with a standing Indian on the front and an eagle on a half globe on the back; and the Clinton Cents. All have the word EXCELSIOR in their legends but this is really the only factor that seems to unify them. In other respects, such as weight, diameter, planchet thickness, skill of engraving, and so on, they differ among themselves.

They are almost all rare to extremely rare and with two exceptions virtually never come in superior grades. Because so few specimens survive, most collectors know them only from photographs in auction catalogues. They have always been considered to be the ultimate prizes in colonials.

Commonest of all the types is the one with the New York state arms on the obverse and an heraldic eagle on the back. Of this, the variety showing the state arms with a small eagle on top that faces left (Breen's confusing "eagle on globe sinister") is the commonest. There are several of these, maybe as many as 35, so they can at least be called very scarce. When offered for sale they are usually ballyhooed by cataloguers as great rarities, which they certainly are not. Condition is tough on these. Eliasberg's was only Choice Very Fine and Garrett's About Uncirculated was outstanding.

Next in rarity in this type is the variety showing the state arms with a small eagle on top facing to the right (Breen's "eagle on globe dexter"). The population of this type is much lower, on the order of half of the former's, or slightly less (the cataloguer has seen 13 different specimens). VF is a great grade for one of these.

The rarest variety of the New York state arms/heraldic eagle type is the one with the arrows transposed to the eagle's left claw instead of the right (as viewed, that is, but the opposite from the eagle's point of view). It is also the rarest of all the Excelsior types. There are only six confirmed specimens of this type. EF is a magnificent grade for one of these. The U.S. Marshall's sale piece was VG. In 1916, when the Matthew Adams Stickney coin was sold, it was considered unique. Eric Newman owns the Parmelee specimen. John Ford's is the John Story Jenks coin.

There is only one variety of the type showing a standing Indian on the front and the New York state arms as the reverse. This is a very rare coin with about 12 known. In the past 25 years three magnificent examples have come on the market: the Eliasberg, Garrett, and Breen plate coins in descending order of grade.

Likewise, there is only one variety of the type showing a standing Indian on the front and an eagle on a half globe on the back. The cataloguer has seen nine of these. It is the second rarest of all the Excelsior types and it is the only one of them that comes fairly frequently in high grade. One of the Brand sale coins was Unc, Garrett's was a lovely AU with some faded color that young Eric Streiner snapped up at the 1989 Steinberg sale, and Roper's was EF. The Ford coin is also a nice piece. From the grades of the survivors it is likely that the type never circulated much.

The Clinton Cent, the last of the Excelsior types, is also very rare. There are about a dozen known of this, too, and some are quite nice, including two that qualify as Uncs. John Ford authored a monograph on the Clintons, which is adapted elsewhere in this catalogue, a much better description than we can attempt here.

## ATTRACTIVE NEW YORK ARMS, EAGLE REVERSE

## Small Eagle Faces Left



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 308



(Enlarged)

- 308 **1787 Excelsior. New York State Arms obverse. Heraldic Eagle reverse. Variety with small eagle on obverse facing left.** Cr.VII, 22; Br.979. Choice Very Fine with sharpness in places of an Extremely Fine coin. 141.1 gns. 28.2 mm. 1.4 - 1.5 mm. thick. grains. Both sides are toned in rich olive brown. The fields are smooth, hard, and basically porosity free save around the reverse periphery. Obverse type and legend fully on flan, bases of 'SIOR' soft, as struck. Reverse type and legend also fully on flan, tops of some letters rough due to planchet irregularities. When this piece was cut from the strip a planchet cutter lip was left around portions of the reverse rim and when the piece was struck those portions either partially detached or their roughness obscured upper portions of some of the letters in the legend. **Rare:** while there is no exact census of the number of survivors the cataloguer notes he has seen 13 of these and suspects there are another 7 to 10 he has missed.

Breen not very helpfully used the Latin word "dexter" for right and "sinister" for left. To further confuse matters, in his *Encyclopedia* Breen 979 is described as eagle faces left but is listed above the photo of Breen 980 with the eagle facing right. Conversely, Breen 980, described as eagle facing right, is above the photo of Breen 979 with the eagle facing left. The reverse legend E PLURIBUS UNUM on this type is the same seen on the New Jersey coppers, the legend adopted for that state's coins by its supreme court. The Excelsior coiners probably adopted the legend after seeing it on their Jersey counterpart's coins. It is very tempting to suggest that the Excelsiors were struck by the New Jersey coiners, but there is no real evidence other than the identity of legend to support such speculation. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

Ex Tom Elder's sale of December 16, 1916, lot 531; Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.

## ANOTHER SMALL EAGLE FACES LEFT VARIETY



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 309



(Enlarged)

- 309 **1787 Excelsior. New York State Arms obverse. Heraldic Eagle reverse. Variety with small eagle on obverse facing left.** Cr.VII, 22; Br.979. Very Fine, or slightly better. 147.4 gns. 28.0 mm. 1.5 - 1.6 mm. thick. Both sides are toned in a light olive gold. The fields are smooth and hard, showing just microgranularity principally on the reverse. The obverse is well centered, with the eagle's head and the tops of its wings still on flan. The reverse is slightly off, to the top, but only the tops of a few of the letters in the legend run off the flan. New York Arms side fairly well struck, center of shield soft as usual; eagle side similarly well struck, center of shield soft, as made. Clear planchet cutter lip visible on the obverse at the left, partially at the right. Graded Very Fine by Ryder. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate; earlier, ex Hillyer Ryder, Henry Chapman on February 16, 1909.

## OUTSTANDING NEW YORK ARMS, EAGLE REVERSE

Small Eagle Faces Right

One of the Finest Seen and the Crosby Plate Coin



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 310



(Enlarged)

- 310 1787 Excelsior. New York State Arms obverse. Heraldic Eagle reverse. Variety with small eagle on obverse facing right. Cr.VII, 23 (this coin); Br.980. **Extremely Fine**. 145.3 gns. 28.4 mm. 1.5 - 1.6 mm. thick. The **Crosby Plate Coin**. Both sides are toned in a very dark mahogany verging on charcoal. The fields are microgranular on both sides, with some consequent loss of definition in the types. Centers better struck than almost ever seen, the New York Arms on the front are bold with a full sun rising over mountains above waves on the front and complete vertical shield lines on the reverse, partial horizontal ones. These features are almost never found fully struck up on one of these. Types well centered on both sides, being only slightly tight at the top on the reverse and bottom on the obverse. No signs of extraneous damage or careless handling, a remarkable piece with noteworthy sharpness. Small planchet depression on reverse between 'LU'. **One of the Finest Seen**, superior to Eliasberg's and Norweb's, the slabbed Extremely Fine piece with a dig in the shield that's been on the market for the past five years, and both the Garrett and Roper coins. The finest is a red Unc. Struck from the same obverse die as used on the Transposed Arrows variety (see next lot and Breen 978). Note: the reverse eagle dies for this and the preceding varieties are different. Thus, there were two obverses and three reverses for this type. Why so many dies were needed for a coinage known today on about 60 specimens is another of the mysteries about the Excelsior type that may never be solved. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

*Ex Lorin G. Parmelee Collection (New York Coin & Stamp Company, June 25, 1890, lot 455); Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

## EXTREMELY RARE NEW YORK ARMS, EAGLE REVERSE

Transposed Arrows Reverse



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 311



(Enlarged)

- 311 1787 Excelsior. New York State Arms obverse. Heraldic Eagle reverse. Transposed Arrows. Cr.VII, 24; Br.978. Nearly Very Fine. 122.8 gns. 28.7 mm. 0.9 - 1.2 mm. thick. **The rarest of all the Excelsior types**. Pale golden olive color on both sides. Surfaces somewhat porous in places, principally in the centers and around the reverse periphery and the eagle's head. Some scratches in the center of the New York Arms side. All design details fully on flan, including the diminutive eagle's head on the half globe on the New York Arms side. Few minor signs of handling, but none significant enough to detract from the importance of this piece. Some scratches. **Extremely rare**: the cataloguer knows of only the following six specimens: **this**, ex Jenks:5495, possibly the third finest; Norweb:2683, graded Very Fine; Stickney:460, looks Fine to Very Fine; Garrett:600 graded Very Fine; July 28, 2000 Manheim U.S. Marshall Service sale:32 graded Very Good, ex NN 35th:177, bought by Stack's; Eric P. Newman Collection ex Parmelee:456, graded Good. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

*Ex John Story Jenks Collection (Henry Chapman, December 15, 1921, lot 5495); Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

STANDING INDIAN, NEW YORK ARMS EXCELSIOR COPPER



Lot No. 312



## ATTRACTIVE STANDING INDIAN, NEW YORK ARMS REVERSE

One of the Nicest Seen



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 312

- 312 1787 Excelsior. Standing Indian. New York State Arms reverse. Cr.VIII, 6; Br.990. **Extremely Fine** and nice. 158.6 gns. 27.4 mm. 1.7 - 1.9 mm. thick. Both the obverse and reverse are deeply and evenly toned in a rich olive brown shade. The color is essentially undisturbed save for a few tiny darker flecks at the bases of some letters in the obverse legend. Both sides are nearly perfectly centered, the obverse being slightly tight at the bottom but all of the letters are fully legible and almost all of them are fully on flan. Standing figure of the Indian sharp and clear, some internal detail visible, his hatchet and bow sharp, his feather headdress clear, profile distinct, and even the arrow fletches sticking out of the quiver can be seen. On the reverse, the arms of New York are clear and bold, the rising sun shows its two eyes, and the lines on the globe on which the eagle stands are sharp and clear. A remarkable piece, free from signs of mishandling, no significant edge dings requiring mention, one very shallow clip on the obverse at about 2:00 requiring mention.

**Extremely rare:** there are about a dozen known, as Breen suggested. The cataloguer has seen 10 of them. **One of the nicest seen**, this superior to all but three. The obverse legend means "Free-born, I defend freedom." An Indian as a symbol of freedom was a curious choice by an immigrant culture determined to wipe them out and take their land. The following are research notes on this issue by Mr. Ford dated January 24, 1955 (with additions as late as 1980): "The nine pieces are listed in order of quality: 1. Bushnell 888 (1882), EF, ex Mickley Sale, 1867, \$90; later in Brand Coll.; 2. Parmelee 457 (1890). VF; later in H.P. Smith 124 (1906) as 'Extremely Fine'. Garrett I, 601; 3. Gschwend 87 (owned by Woodin) (1908). Fine. Obtained from FCCB 4/25/58; 4. Mills 348 (1904), Fine, but different from #3; 5. Jenks 5493 (1921). Very Good; 6. Ten Eyck 816 (1922) Fine but flan filed at l. obv. & rev.; 7. Warner 2094 (1884). 'Poor'; 8. New Netherlands 44th Sale, 1954, No.71. Plugged. 9. Stickney 240 (1907). Holed.

Mrs. Norweb has one (V.G. corroded) that is apparently lacking from this list. (British Museum has Extremely Fine to About Uncirculated specimen, some spots of original red showing, acquired in 1855), (New Netherlands obtained Boyd's original specimen 4/25/58 also, it is Fine to Very Good, the obv. shows denticles from 1:00 to 4:00, there is a tiny pit at top r. side of 'N' in NATUS. The rev. has two edge bruises opposite head & cap of figure at right as you look at coin.)" (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

## EXTREMELY RARE STANDING INDIAN, EAGLE ON HALF GLOBE



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 313

- 313 **1787 Excelsior. Standing Indian. Eagle on Half Globe. Cr.VIII, 7; Br.991. Choice Extremely Fine. 130.5 gns. 27.1 mm. 0.8 - 1.6 mm. thick.** A remarkable example of this, the **second rarest of all the Excelsior types**. Both sides are nicely toned in a pale golden brown shade. The surfaces are smooth, hard, and show just a few spots. Both sides about perfectly centered, the obverse and reverse legends and date somewhat tight at the right but otherwise fully on flan. Figure of the standing Indian sharp and clear, portions of some details in his skirt visible, hatchet very clear on this example. On the reverse, the lines in the globe on which the eagle stands are mostly sharp, its wing detail clear, and there are some feathers showing in its neck. Struck from a failing state of the obverse, the die beginning to sink in the lower left field, as seen on the piece in the preceding lot, also. The reverse die appears to be perfect, and there is no obvious technical explanation as to why this type should be as rare as it is.

**Extremely rare:** the cataloguer knows of only nine different specimens. Three years ago only seven were known: Garrett:602; Groves:337; Roper:276; Brand II:958, 959; MHS; Long Island specialist. The eighth was discovered in England and was sold by us in our 2002 Americana Sale as lot 234. A fairly rough looking piece confidently graded Extremely Fine, it sold for a respectable \$43,700. The present specimen (the ninth) is superior in every respect save for the corrosion spot under the eagle's right wing. (*SEE COLOR PLATE*)

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



## THE 1787 CLINTON CENT

[Please note: Mr. Ford's own Clinton Cent, the lovely Uncirculated specimen to which he refers in the following article, once owned by F.C.C. Boyd, was sold privately in 1973 and is therefore **NOT INCLUDED IN THIS SALE. NO LOT.**]

The 1787 Clinton Cent is one of colonial numismatics' great rarities. The total population of all known examples regardless of grade is probably no greater than 20 and may actually be half that number. Breen suggested between 8 and 10 known and he may well have been correct. There are a series of copies, notably Bolen's, and other forgeries, including die struck and electrotype pieces. Most are not really deceptive but it is helpful to have a set of diagnostics to hand when examining a possible Clinton Cent.

Mr. Ford authored such a study more than a half century ago and despite its age, it is still the best descriptive article on the Clinton Cent that has ever been written. As was the case with other articles written by Mr. Ford, this one was inspired by a coin he had recently come across. In this instance, he had found a Clinton Cent overstruck on a 1787 Immunis Columbia copper, ex Prime and Dr. Edwards Collections. Mr. Ford showed the find to members of the New York Numismatic Club during their June 9, 1950 evening meeting in the course of preparing his article for the press.

Originally published in *The Coin Collector's Journal* (September-October 1950, pp. 85-94), its text and illustrations provide collectors advanced enough to consider adding a Clinton Cent to their holdings, as well as those simply interested in the issue, with the surest footing for their knowledge of the type. As we did in the first Ford sale, we are pleased to adapt here an article by Mr. Ford that deserves to be more widely known than it is, simply because it is the best done on its subject. The all important halftone illustrations were poorly screened in the original and do not reproduce well, so they have not been included, below. Copies of the original 1950 publication are occasionally available through numismatic book-sellers.

## AUTHENTICATION OF COLONIAL COINS

### The Clinton Cent

John J. Ford, Jr. and Richard D. Kenney

Several months ago, a friend of ours unearthed a cigar box full of "junk." The lot contained the usual and conventional: a few ancients, a number of miscellaneous foreign coins, and what appeared to be worn "Bungtown" coppers. Several of the latter turned out to be well circulated Connecticut and Vermont Cents. At the very bottom of the box, badly discolored and hardly presentable, was the find of a lifetime. Our collector had discovered another specimen of the Clinton Cent.

Not being too well versed in U.S. Colonials, our fortunate friend carefully leafed through the latest edition of the *Standard Catalogue of U.S. Coins*. On page fifteen, in the first column, he found the Clinton Cent valued at \$250.00 in Good condition and \$600.00 in Fine. Highly elated, the owner made his way to the emporium of a well known dealer. After carefully examining the rarity, and listening attentively to the story of its discovery, the dealer carefully relit his cigar and raised a very pertinent point. His asking if the coin were genuine started the ball rolling and the net result is this article.

Was this coin genuine? Unable as we were to pass immediate judgment, the only recourse was to study and pry into that wonderful world of U.S. literary numismatics...standard works as well as sales catalogues.

Our initial reaction, of course, concerned one John Adams Bolen, a Springfield, Mass. Die Sinker who, during and after the Civil War, struck a number of what he called "Facsimiles". Mr. Bolen made copies of a number of the rarer Colonials and these are all listed in a small booklet entitled "Bolen's Medals" published by Bolen himself in 1905. Under No. 37 we find the Clinton Cent. Bolen cut the dies for the copy in 1869, struck his coins, and then cancelled the dies. These, in turn, were later presented, with others, to the Boston Numismatic Society. According to Bolen, two copies were struck in Silver, forty in Copper, and five in Brass. Eleven red Uncirculated copper pieces were listed under Lot 1406 when Haseltine sold the Crosby collection in June 1883.

Bolen was a master craftsman and almost all of his "Facsimiles" are clever copies. After careful examination it is clearly apparent that the Clinton Cent is probably one of his best works. Bolen made his copies with no fraudulent intent. Quoting from the preface of his booklet: "...Although I never thought or tried to pass one as genuine, I have often regretted having issued them as I have been informed that they have been worn or rubbed and made to look old, then sold as genuine.... They were not a financial success to me...." Over the years various people, who should have known better, carried these pieces about in their pockets and, as Bolen declares, the copies were eventually pawned off as genuine. A Bolen copy, in fine condition and particularly one of the Clinton Cent, is extremely difficult to detect.

Checking through earlier volumes of *The Numismatist*, it seems that the famous collector and student, Edgar H. Adams, writing under his byline "Live American Numismatic Items," mentions the Bolen copy of the Clinton Cent. In the August 1912 issue, on Page 253, Adams illustrated both original and Bolen specimens. He commented only briefly upon the differences and gave the number of copies that Bolen had struck. Adams made it very clear that the Bolen was a very clever imitation.

Realizing that Edgar Adams was seldom wrong we wrote to several important collectors and finally obtained two beautiful specimens of the genuine Clinton Cent for study. Upon comparing these to the Bolen copy we realized that the differences were relatively minor and that these differences could only be bared by photographic enlargements.

On Page 86 [of the original-ed.] the obverses of both a genuine coin and a Bolen copy are shown and the minor variations of each die are carefully compared. To begin with, Bolen made slight errors in copying the lines of the hair. These could be discerned, however, only upon superb genuine specimens, very few of which remain to be discovered. Bolen's odd carelessness in engraving the first two letters of GEORGE are quite apparent and would identify even a slightly worn copy; the 'GE' on the genuine is fairly well formed and presents a clean, sharp appearance. An almost certain point of comparison is the result of Bolen's meticulous and painstaking regard for detail. In this instance, however, he overdid it. On the copy we find strong serifs on the right uprights of both N's in CLINTON. Any indication of a serif on the right side of the right upright on either of these N's is lacking in the genuine.

In addition, Bolen made one major error. He misplaced the star that follows CLINTON and we believe that this ensures positive identification of his work even on a badly worn specimen. Adams mentions the placement of the star as means of detection, but his wording seems obscure. We spent several hours devising ways and means of spotting this star placement. We finally hit upon placing the straight edge of a sheet of paper directly under the side of the second 'G' in GEORGE and aligning it with the bottom of the ear. In doing so, the paper would continue down to the lower right edge of the coin. If the star following CLINTON is in perfect alignment with the side of 'G' and the bottom of the ear, the coin is then a copy. The star being out of line, and higher, would denote a genuine and authentic specimen. The lower cut [in the original-ed.] clearly illustrates the alignment method of positive detection.

The reverses of the two coins are somewhat more difficult to compare. The two points of comparison are relatively weak on worn specimens, but are discernable on sharp ones. The oval shield on a genuine has a double line border that is continuous all around. Bolen, in copying this, became a little confused, and permitted the outer line to break at the bottom where it meets the upper horizontal base line. Secondly, the left foot of the female figure on the left is directly above the highest point of the 'E' in EXCELSIOR on the genuine coins. Bolen, on the other hand, moved the foot slightly to the left and away from the highest point of the 'E'.

Simple as these descriptions and comparisons may sound, let us return to our...Very Good specimen that we had to authenticate. Conclusive proof of the genuineness of this coin was made via the alignment method on the obverse. The star, which was clearly visible, was high and could not be lined up with side of the letter 'G' and the bottom of ear.

Although weight is another factor to consider, it does not apply to the Bolen copies vis-a-vis the genuine Clintons. The worn coin mentioned early in the article weighed 164 Grains (10.65 Grams). Other genuine pieces examined weighed 166 Grains, 158 Grains, 163 Grains and one, the property of Mr. Eric P. Newman, weighed but 148 Grains. Bolen's copies average 157 Grains which about equals the average weight of the original coins examined.

Of the two pieces said to have been struck by Bolen in silver, one is now in the cabinet of the American Numismatic Society and it is visibly struck over an 1822 Quarter. It weighs only 103 Grains, the average weight of the Twenty-Five Cent piece.... It proves conclusively that Bolen overstruck his copies upon other coins. This intelligence, then, would remove absolute proof of authenticity from the sole basis of an overstrike. If having overstruck one piece, did he, then, overstrike others? It would have been just as convenient to place a worn Colonial copper in the die as it was to use a choice condition early Quarter.

We mention this, as several of the George Clinton Cents examined bear evidence of having been struck over other coins, the most noteworthy being the Immunis Columbia Cents of 1787. However, several I.C. overstrikes are mentioned by W.C. Prime in his "Coins, Medals, and Seals" (N.Y., 1861) eight years before Bolen struck his Clinton copies.

The piece that inspired our research...is struck over an Immunis Columbia. While not visible on the photograph, the letters 'MB' can clearly be seen on the reverse of the piece to the right of the figure on the right. There is indeed a good possibility that our cigar box specimen may have been sold as Lot 2642 in the sale of the Dr. Francis S. Edwards collection. This collection was sold by Bangs, Merwin & Company on October 16, 1865. The coin in that sale was catalogued as having come from the W.C. Prime collection, sold December 19, 1864, in Fair condition and very rare. It brought \$25.00. (Fair condition as used in 1864 would be about equal to today's Very Good). For the record, Dr. Edwards, born in England and a physician by profession, was responsible for the appearance of several counterfeit pieces of rare U.S. coins and medals, the most notable being his well executed 1796 Half Cent.

In December of 1947, at the sale of the Grand collection held by Stack's of New York City, Mr. F.C.C. Boyd, the famed collector and authority on U.S. Colonials, purchased a Clinton Cent overstruck on an Immunis Columbia.... This identical coin was catalogued and sold in the Warner collection, Lot no. 2093, in June 1884. It may be identified on number VIII of the superb Chapman plates. At that time the piece realized \$55.00, while in 1947 the same coin sold for \$230.00.

While Clinton Cents are known with the *Immunis Columbia* undertype, at least one is known under the impression of a New Jersey Cent. This "unique" specimen is a very clear overstrike and is in Mr. Boyd's unsurpassed collection of New Jersey Cents [sold last October as lot 182 for \$23,000 in the first Ford Sale-ed.]... Because of the unusual coin it is struck over, this 1787 New Jersey Cent is probably the rarest in its series. At any rate, regardless of the classification it is placed in, it is a most desirable coin.

Another engraver, aside from Mr. Bolen, struck copies of the Clinton Cent. Edgar Adams, in his August 1912 article in *The Numismatist*, illustrated another piece...struck by a person or persons unknown. Adams said: "This illustration shows an entirely different cent from the Bolen imitation and was struck from dies. The piece is known only in copper, and nothing can be learned regarding its origin. Evidently, judging by the few specimens that seem to be extant, it is quite rare, and the issue was quite limited." Obviously, from its crude style, this piece can never deceive. Its average weight is 158 Grains.

On the bottom of Page 88 [of the original-ed.] the obverse of a very dangerous cast is shown.... The surface betrays a number of bubbles and other defects. One of these, below the star following CLINTON, is quite large and apparent. While this cast may be easy to detect when sharp, worn copies may present some problems. The slightest wear would remove the casting flaws and would present a very dangerous and clever counterfeit. The redeeming feature, however, is the weight which is decisive. This cast weighs but 136 Grains.

Two of the finest specimens known of the George Clinton Cent are owned by Messrs. F.C.C. Boyd and Eric P. Newman.... After careful examination, it would be safe to state that both are almost identical in condition. The...Boyd specimen...originally came from the collection of Dr. Thomas Hall. It later appeared as Lot no. 142 in the catalogue of the Jackman collection, sold by Henry Chapman in June 1918 where it brought \$470.00 [Mr. Ford bought the Boyd Collection, including this very same Clinton Cent, about 20 years after he wrote this article. In 1973, he sold it to a well known east coast collector-ed.]. Mr. Newman's piece came from dealer Jim Kelly of Dayton, Ohio who undoubtedly acquired it from B.G. Johnson of St. Louis. Before Mr. Johnson owned the coin, it came either from the Brand, Green, or Newcomer collections.

The first known Clinton was almost a Proof. At least that was the opinion of W. Elliot Woodward who catalogued and sold the piece in the sale of the Rev. J.M. Finotti collection, November 1862. The Clinton Cent appeared as Lot No. 1521 in the Finotti sale and it sold for \$115.00. We believe that either a Mr. LeRoy or a R.L. Stuart bought the piece. Woodward's description of the coin is interesting.... "1787 George Clinton Piece; obv. name and bust of George Clinton; rev. arms and motto of State of New York, with the date. The piece is almost proof condition. Apart from its excessive rarity, it possesses a peculiar interest, from the fact that it was the first one of the kind discovered, and was for a long time considered unique. But four others are known, and it is believed that no one of them is quite equal to this." W. Elliot Woodward, born on Nov. 29, 1825, lived for many years at Roxbury, Mass. where he maintained an apothecary. Originally a collector, Woodward bought and sold a number of collections in his search for fine pieces. At one time or another, he owned the Finotti, Colburn, Emery, McCoy, and Mickley cabinets. After his sale of the Mickley collection, he turned to Boston Real Estate, and for several years was the largest operator in Boston, laying out many streets and erecting several hundred buildings. The Finotti collection was Woodward's first New York sale.

Another superb Clinton Cent appeared a year after the Finotti specimen. In fact, judging from William Strobridge's description of the piece, it may have been the same coin. Appearing as Lot no. 1185 in the sale of the William A. Lilliendahl collection which was sold by Bangs, Merwin & Co. in December of 1863, it fetched the high price of \$275.00. Strobridge's description is worthy of note and we reproduce it here..."George Clinton. Obv. bust of the first Governor of the State; rev. *Excelsior* 1787; a coin of rare beauty. The superiority of the workmanship on this coin, over any of the coins of the period, is very striking; viewed as a work of art, it is a gem; but it is chiefly interesting because it bears the head of the good George Clinton. As a numismatic treasure, it will undoubtedly be appreciated when seen; but to such as are denied this privilege, it will be interesting to know that the specimen here described is not only entirely Uncirculated, but a very perfect and beautiful impression, most excessively rare." Mr. Lilliendahl was the fortunate possessor of more than one fine collection, another having been sold in May of 1862. Strobridge was an antiquarian of varied taste. Born in 1822, he early became interested in fine coins. He sold his collection of Ancients to Lilliendahl and later became a dealer in Antiques, Coins and Bric-a-Brac. He is noted for his catalogues of the Middleton, Gay, Stenz, Holley collections as well as those of Lilliendahl.

In the spring of 1864, another fine Clinton Cent was offered at Public Sale. This coin appeared as Lot No. 1760 in the collection of John F. McCoy of New York. We may rest assured that the specimen listed here was not the Lilliendahl piece as intimated by Woodward in his catalogue, viz..."George Clinton Copper, 1787; obv. bust of George Clint; rev. arms of the State of New York, with motto, *EXCELSIOR*. This piece is in perfectly Uncirculated condition, second only to the one sold in Mr. Lilliendahl's collection, and inferior to that only in this particular, that instead of remaining bright it has become perfectly patinated. The value and rarity of the 'George Clinton' are too well understood to require any explanation."

The McCoy specimen sold for \$126.00 to a Mr. Putnam. This coin may have subsequently been purchased by Lightbody. In any event, the Lightbody specimen sold for \$92.50 and appeared in the Ely sale, Lot no. 1014, catalogued and sold by Woodward in January 1884. The piece brought \$135.00 in the Ely sale and was described as Very Fine.

Other early records of the Clinton cent include the Jeremiah Colburn coin sold in October 1863 and also catalogued by Woodward. This coin was formerly from the Haines collection and as Lot No. 2625 was sold to a Mr. Harris for \$110.00. In March of 1865, Woodward sold a number of coins at auction including selections from the Lightbody and Lilliendahl cabinets. Lot no. 2629 in this sale was a Very fine Clinton and it was purchased by a Mr. Irwin for \$85.00. The coin in the celebrated Mickley collection was also Very Fine and it sold as Lot no. 2452 to a Mr. Wall. This last named gentleman obtained a very good buy as he paid only \$32.50 for the piece. The Mickley collection was dispersed in October 1867.

Lot no. 887 in the celebrated Bushnell collection, sold by the Chapman Brothers in 1882, was a Clinton Cent catalogued as Uncirculated, Olive Brown color, and resembling a proof. The Chapmans called it "A most splendid specimen of this extremely rare piece, of which but five are known in any state." This coin brought \$135.00 and it even may have been the Finotti, Lilliendahl, or McCoy specimen, assuming, of course, that the Finotti and Lilliendahl pieces were not one and the same.

Lot no. 5492 in the huge John Story Jenks collection, catalogued and sold by Henry Chapman in 1921, was a Very Good Clinton Cent which sold for \$200.00.

In 1922, B. Max Mehl sold the James Ten Eyck collection. Lot No. 817 in that sale as a Fine (catalogued as Fine to Very Fine) Clinton Cent which was struck over another Colonial. From the plate in the Ten Eyck catalogue, it may be assumed that this piece was struck over an *Immunis Columbia*. \$205.00 was the successful bidding figure.

In 1947 the Unique collection of Robert R. Prann was offered at the A.N.A. Convention sale, catalogued and sold by the Numismatic Gallery. Mr. Prann owned two George Clinton Cents which were catalogued as Lots Nos. 602 and 603. Both were supposedly in Fine to Very Fine condition and originated from the Col. Green collection. Lot No. 602 sold for \$250.00 and no. 603, which was little off center, sold for \$225.00. From the illustrated No. 602 we find an edge bruise on the Obverse above the 'C' in CLINTON and on the Reverse below the 'C' in EXCELSIOR.

In 1875 Sylvester Sage Crosby compiled his monumental work. On pages 319 and 321 he listed and discussed the Clinton Cents. Crosby, because of the general fabric and appearance of the Clinton Cents, assumed that they were struck at Machin's Mills for Major Eli Leavenworth. The Major undoubtedly was responsible for a number of other pattern pieces including the *Liber Natus Libertatem Defendō*, *Non Vi Virtute Vici*, and the 1787 *Immunis Columbia*. It is generally believed that James F. Atlee actually struck the Clinton Cents. The letter 'G', on the obverse, was first stamped in with a 'C' punch and altered, in the die, to a 'G'. This little handiwork is quite similar to the CEORCIVS \* III \* REX muling with the 1785 IMMUNE COLUMBIA and CEORCIVS muling with the *Liber Natus*. Both of these mulings as well as a number of New Jersey and Vermont coins were identified with Atlee because of the identical letter punches. It is entirely possible that the Clintons struck over the *Immunis Columbia* pieces of 1787 were made almost immediately after the *Immunis Columbia* coins left the die.

Crosby identified the weight of the Clinton as 157 Grains. Speaking of the existence of not more than five specimens, he stated that the two finest were owned by Mr. Appleton and Mr. Parmelee. Crosby listed the Clinton Cent on his plate VIII, no. 5. The Uncirculated Parmelee coin sold for \$150.00 when his collection was sold by H.P. Smith and David Proskey in 1890. It was Lot no. 452 and it was illustrated on plate 2.

There is a very good possibility that Crosby overlooked the Bushnell specimen when he wrote his book; Bushnell was reticent about exposing his coins to admirers and students. Of the three choice specimens mentioned earlier, from the Finotti, Lilliendahl, and McCoy collections, we can only guess that they ended up as the Bushnell, Appleton, and Parmelee specimens. On the other hand, the Finotti and Lilliendahl pieces may be identical, and Parmelee may have purchased his coin in the Bushnell sale. This would leave but two Uncirculated coins available today, one of Mr. Boyd's and the other belonging to Mr. Newman. Again, the Appleton specimen may repose in the Massachusetts Historical Society, which would leave three superb pieces [the Appleton-MHS piece was sold by Stack's in 1973-ed.]. Since plates were not available in the early catalogues, it is extremely difficult to positively identify various specimens. One dealer we spoke to mentioned the existence of a "red" piece. Both the Boyd and Newman specimens are an iridescent olive. There may even exist four Uncirculated Clintons, but we have not verified their existence due to the lack of precise information.

Offhand, we feel that there are about twelve known pieces. According to John W. Haseltine, the famous Philadelphia dealer of old, there is a specimen in the British Museum from which electrotypes were taken. This coin is supposedly in the finest possible preservation.

Regardless of the exact number known, the George Clinton Cent is both a desirable and an exceedingly rare coin. We would revise the Standard Catalogue values slightly, closing the gap between the "Good" and "Fine" valuations. Any Clinton Cent is worth \$250.00 today. If a specimen can be acquired for a lesser sum, it is only because of a lack of appreciation for fine historical coins.

The authors respectfully solicit any further information from students and collectors. Such will be published in future issues of the Journal. The coins illustrated in this article are from the collections of the American Numismatic Society, F.C.C. Boyd, Eric P. Newman, Clarence Edgar, and the writers.

NUMISMATIC AMERICANA:

The Early Coins of America - S.S. Crosby. 1875.

There is no single volume more indispensable to collectors of colonial coins than Sylvester S. Crosby's *The Early Coins of America*. There has never been a better written nor more comprehensive volume on the coins we all love to collect and study than Crosby's. Originally done in 1875, it is still unsurpassed even 125 years later. One of Mr. Ford's best essays is his appreciation of Crosby and its editions, which was published in the *Coin Collectors Journal* (September-October 1951) and updated nearly 25 years later. Numismatic bibliophiles actually prefer this and Mr. Ford's 1951 review of the Chappans' Bushnell sale over all of the other essays and sketches he wrote in the 1950's.

We are happy to adapt Mr. Ford's original work on Crosby here, so that it may become known to a generation of collectors to whom the *CCJ* is not even a memory.

In the American colonial series, there is only one superlative reference work that adequately covers the subject in its entirety. Early in the summer of 1875, Sylvester Sage Crosby, a Boston Jeweler, finally completed a book that has never been surpassed, or even equaled, in the seventy-six years since its publication. The full title of this *magnus opus* was "THE EARLY COINS OF AMERICA; and the laws governing their issue. Comprising also descriptions of the Washington Pieces, the Anglo-American Tokens, many pieces of unknown origin, of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and the first Patterns of the United States Mint." It contained 384 pages and was extensively illustrated by 110 wood cuts, 10 coin and 2 manuscript plates.

The history of "The Early Coins of America" is quite interesting. The publication of a standard work on colonial coins was originally suggested to the New England Numismatic and Archaeological Society by one of its officers, Vice-President Charles Chaplin. The society seized upon the idea with considerable enthusiasm and organized a committee to prepare the work for publication. Mr. Crosby, who commenced collecting in 1857 at the tender age of twenty years, was appointed chairman, the other gentlemen being Messrs. Dudley R. Child, Charles Chaplin, Charles S. Fellows, T. Edward Bond and James E. Root. Before the work had progressed to any great length, Mr. Fellows left the group.

In November, 1872, the remaining members of the publication committee announced formally, the purposed work on the early coinage of this country. This was accomplished with the aid of a circular that was liberally distributed in numismatic circles. It is reproduced [here]:

"The Early Coins of America.

BOSTON, MASS., NOV. 1st, 1872.

DEAR SIR:

The Committee of Publication of the NEW ENGLAND NUMISMATIC AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY purpose publishing a work on the early coinage of America.

It will include the Sommer Island pieces; all the silver coinage of New England; the Rosa Americana coins; the Granby tokens; the colonial pieces of Virginia; the early coins of Vermont, Connecticut, New Jersey, and Massachusetts; the Washington issues; together with the pattern pieces of the Mint previous to its regular issues of 1793; also many tokens struck in Europe for circulation in this country, etc., etc.

It is the intention of the Committee to make it a more complete and thorough work on the early Numismatic history of America than has ever been published; and to accomplish this, time, labor and money have been freely given, as the book will abundantly testify.

The work will necessarily embrace much of the early history of this country—a great deal of which has never been published; and will therefore commend itself to many antiquarians and historians outside of the Numismatic ranks.

An edition of but three hundred and fifty copies will be printed, and issued to subscribers only, in a series of about ten numbers, containing 32 quarto pages each. It will be printed on fine tinted paper, with new type, and each number will contain at least one full page of accurate illustrations.

Price, one dollar per number. Owing to the heavy outlay attending its production, subscribers are required to accompany their orders with Five Dollars, one-half the estimated amount of subscription.

Receipts for payments in advance will be sent with their first number, which will be ready in the early part of January next, and followed by the others in monthly parts till the work is completed.

The names of the subscribers to this work will be published in the last number.

The copy being now ready to be placed in the hands of the printer, its publication will be commenced forthwith, and the Committee respectfully solicit your subscription prior to January 1st, 1873.

All communications relating to this matter should be addressed to SYLVESTER S. CROSBY, 240 Washington Street, Boston, Mass.

Hoping to receive an early and favorable response, we remain,

Very truly yours,

SYLVESTER S. CROSBY, Chairman.

CHARLES CHAPLIN,

DUDLEY R. CHILD,

JAMES E. ROOT,

T. EDWARD BOND,

Committee of Publication."

The original idea was to print "The Early Coins of America" in a series of ten numbers, each to contain thirty two quarto pages. These numbers were to contain at least one full page of accurate illustrations each, meaning of course, a plate reproduced from the coins themselves. As published, the book did contain a plate for each section or number, but these were not equally divided and two reproduced documents rather than coins. However, the plates were of extremely high quality for the period, as they were made by the Heliotype process and are comparable with the finest, fine-screen half tones used today. The work was finally completed in twelve sections instead of ten, but the contemplated size of each part was adhered to and the final work consisted of exactly 384 pages, or twelve parts of thirty-two pages each.

For various and sundry reasons, the members of the original publication committee dropped out, and Crosby was left with the work entrusted to the group. It seems a foregone conclusion that he was quite bitter about the final turn of events, and he stated, in no uncertain terms, that he would have never attempted the job had he even remotely entertained the idea that the whole labor and responsibility would be left entirely to him.

The asking price of "The Early Coins of America" was One Dollar per number. It was issued to subscribers on a Five Dollars down basis, the balance being paid as the subscriber received the sixth and subsequent sections. Payments were handled by the New England Society as a receipt, in the collection of the author, indicates. In all, twenty two Societies, Libraries and Colleges, together with one hundred and thirty eight individuals initially subscribed to the publication. A complete list of subscribers was included with the eleventh and twelfth numbers which appeared simultaneously. It is believed that Crosby had T.R. Marvin, the noted numismatic printer, issue three hundred and fifty complete copies. The copies that remained unsold upon completion of the work, were offered for sale at \$12.00 per set of twelve parts in paper. Copies bound in cloth, with beveled boards, uncut, the sides gilt, were available at \$15.00. All available copies were soon distributed and the edition exhausted.

In the April, 1876, number of the "American Journal of Numismatics" (Vol. X, No. 4), Dr. Edward Maris, the noted Philadelphia numismatist, advertised a plate of 48 varieties of Connecticut, Vermont and New Jersey Cents, which were described but not illustrated in the Crosby book. Maris prepared this plate for inclusion in "The Early Coins of America" and made it as uniform as possible to the ten original coin plates. The price was fifty cents. The Maris plate can be readily identified by the words "Woodburytype Process" which appear at its base. Copies of Crosby are found with and without it. Many individuals have erroneously over-emphasized the value of this extra illustration. Actually, it consists mainly of the good Doctor's fine Jersey Cents, almost all of which are better illustrated in his famous work on the subject published in 1881.

"The Early Coins of America" was reviewed in the October, 1875, issue of the A.J.N. (Vol. X, No. 2), by Dr. Maris. A review, contemporary with the publication, seems to us of extraordinary interest and value. We reproduce it.

"There is much that may be said in commendation of this elegant volume. The typographical execution, from the press of the well-known house of the Messrs. Marvin, is very handsome. The paper, which is slightly tinted, is of excellent quality. The wood cuts are very accurate, and the heliotypes familiarize numerous pieces, known only to the many by description. But the merit that overtops all others to whom it may rightly lay claim is its reliability. This, for a historical work, is indeed all-important; and the one before us is very largely made up from official records.

True it is, there is an incompleteness, but this was unavoidable for two reasons. One of these was because it was commenced too late. Silver money had ceased to circulate for a decade, and the old coppers, from amongst which so many colonial pieces and tokens were supplied to our cabinets, had almost wholly disappeared. The other reason had not been insuperable, it was the want of the co-operation which it was in the power of many collectors to have furnished. Our author fully acknowledges by name those who have rendered him service. But in the collection of material for such a work as this, diligent co-workers in all parts of the New England and Middle States more especially, were needed. No two-penny collection, however small, however poor, should have been despised by these assistants, without examination to see what it contained. The writer has many times been rewarded by observing this rule, a single find of something new being to him a sufficient reward for the nine and forty failures. A case in point may be mentioned. An acquaintance had occasion to revisit his early home in Mifflin County, among the mountains of Central Pennsylvania. He was asked to look out for old coppers, and succeeded in finding four. One of these proved to be a colonial, that in the "Early Coins" is rated at the sixth or highest degree of rarity.

It may be thought a largely disproportionate space is devoted to the author's State. But there was much to be said on this subject, and the official documents were here accessible. We note that South Carolina is not given a plate in the Index (though mentioned in the Table of Contents.) Doubtless that and other omissions, were unintentional.

Then, the reason why some pieces are not even mentioned, we cannot at all understand, the Castorland and Pitt token, for instance, which certainly had as much reference to America as had the New England elephant; and the Church Penny, struck in 1790, over worn English half-pence, circulated as money, just as truly as did the Granby and the Newby coppers. Although the Peace and Kitanning medals are not coins, is not their historical importance such as would have justified a few observations respecting them—the earliest Medals ever struck in America? The author probably was not aware that J.J. Mickley is possessed a 'Half Disme' in copper. He supposes it to be unique in this metal.

On page 181 mention is made of a Vermontis copper, 'too much worn to represent satisfactorily', of which he has seen 'but one impression', that owned by J.C. Brevoort. There is, it is believed, in the cabinet of Lyman Wilder, of Hoosic Falls, N.Y., a Vermontis, in good condition, that if not a duplicate of the above, is wholly differ-

ent from the variety described and figured on page 180. The cabinet of the late Jacob G. Morris, who was drowned on the occasion of the wreck of the steamship Arctic, mention of whom is made on page 318-is now in the possession of his sister, Caroline W. Pennock, of Howellville, Delaware County, Pennsylvania.

S.S.C. says: 'It is difficult correctly to estimate the rarity of the different varieties, as it sometimes happens that one which is very rare in one section of the country, is not so in another. Possibly the entire coinage of some dies may have been sent to distant parts, and there remained until thrown out of circulation; thus many specimens from these dies might be found in those localities, though almost entirely if not quite unknown elsewhere.' The force of these remarks is illustrated in the experience of the writer. A variety of a Connecticut cent is spoken of as so rare that Mr. Crosby knows 'of but one specimen'. Not long since, three or four were seen by the writer in one day in this city.

Very great is the amount of time and labor necessarily bestowed in the preparation and publication of this work. The author is to be congratulated that it is now completed, and that he has succeeded so well. While he has his theories-not in all cases those which will be adopted by all his readers-there is an absence of random assertion, calculated to commend the work to confidence. It is not likely to receive or to require any corrections other than those which the light that subsequent discoveries may throw upon the subject, show to be needed. The numismatist especially, must hereafter regard it as an authority not to be questioned when brought into conflict with previous essays, excepting upon evidence of the most satisfactory character."

The editors of the A.J.N., among them, William Sumner Appleton and Jeremiah Colburn, were not in full agreement with the collector from the Quaker City. They commented upon the Maris review as follows:

"The editors have much pleasure in printing this review, and heartily endorse most of it. In regard to the omissions mentioned in the fourth paragraph, it so happens that they are in a position to speak with knowledge and authority. One of them, Mr. Appleton, was in constant consultation with Mr. Crosby during the printing of his work, and particularly urged the omission of the Pitt token, which Mr. Crosby had some thought of inserting; Mr. Appleton gladly assumes the responsibility of its non-appearance. Mr. Crosby announced a work on the Coins of America, and would have made a great mistake in inserting Medals or Medalets, however interesting; besides, where would he have drawn the line of interest? It is to be hoped that some one will soon give us an equally complete work on Medals, in which undertaking he may also depend on the willing assistance of the Editors."

After seventy six years, whatever we may add to the above exchange of ideas, seems of relatively little consequence. However, we have long echoed Dr. Maris in a few salient instances.

Crosby's work is not complete. For reasons unknown to us, a number of well known colonial items were excluded. In a very few instances the author offers partial explanation in the text. Other than these, the few excuses offered originate with Crosby's contributors and are contemporary with the publication. We have always felt that a gradual decrease or waning of interest was evident toward the end of the book. This "tapering off" is particularly apparent in the Washington series, which is obviously incomplete. Perhaps, the extremely heavy burden of a thankless and arduous task became more and more intolerable as the author progressed.

While not quite complete and perfect, so little has been discovered since its publication, that no authority has ever attempted to rewrite, revise or issue a complementary work to "The Early Coins of America."

It must also be remembered that what information the book does have is all highly authentic. While generally regarded as strictly a numismatic publication, the "Early Coins of America" is also a noted and highly reliable historical work of no little merit. For this reason, if for no other, the book is an excellent primer or bible and if only one volume is to be considered, it is the book on colonial coins.

Since the appearance of the master work on colonials coins, several other students have made noteworthy strides, particularly in reference to the various state coinages. The publication of this material, often highly specialized, in some instances only supplements Crosby. In others, the discovery of new information and the application of modern methods of study, has superseded the "Early Coins." We will take up the relative value of these later publications at an early date.

The question of what to pay for a copy of Crosby is a difficult one. During the last two or three decades, at least up to 1945, copies have sold at an average of \$40.00. On occasion, volumes have sold as high as \$75.00 and as low as \$22.50. This variance reflects not only the interest of the purchaser, but the condition of the book, its binding and the possible absence of one or more plates. While complete copies were once available in paper, we have never seen an unbound volume. Bindings range from cheap cloth, to buckram, to hand tooled morocco. Condition is often a prime factor, as many of the old bindings, particularly leather ones, have deteriorated to such an extent that the books cannot be handled. After all, a numismatic book, or any book, is meant to be read, and we may add, read wisely.

In 1945, R. Green, a Chicago dealer, reprinted Crosby, reproducing the entire book, including the twelve original plates together with the Maris "Woodburytype." Green bound his reprint in green fabric and we understand that the edition was limited to 500 copies. The reprint, a fair replica of the original, was first offered in September, 1945, at \$20.00. Subsequently, dealer Green advertised the contemplated publication of a supplement to Crosby, listing all of the known major varieties of colonials discovered since 1875.

## THE 1789 DATED MOTT TOKENS

Although dated 1789, the exact date the Mott tokens were struck has come under debate by some numismatists. There are two sides to the issue. One, the traditionalists, respect the 1789 date and accept these tokens as products of New York City merchants William and John Mott. The other, the revisionists, assert that the tokens were really struck in the 1830's and therefore do not belong among tokens of the colonial era.

Opponents of the 1789 date point to the similarity of the eagle on the Mott reverse to the one designed by William Kneass for the federal gold coinage in 1834. Supporters of the 1789 date point to the same eagle style on military uniforms from the 1812 period and the rare 1808 Quarter Eagle by John Reich.

The argument is destined to continue for years to come. Directory searches have yielded no definitive evidence for either side and nothing has been uncovered in newspapers of the time that would settle the argument. Collectors must make up their own minds. If they include a Mott or two in their holdings of colonial era coins and tokens they can take comfort knowing they are in the company of Mr. Ford, Charles Bushnell, Emery May Norweb, Lorin Parmelee, and Sylvester Crosby.

The Mott token comes in two basic varieties, struck either on a thick or thin flan. These two are probably all most collectors need to represent the issue. Other collecting variations might include a die state set, showing the growth of the obverse failure and cud. More advanced additions would be the very rare pieces with ornamented edge (the regular issue has a plain, uncollared edge). They are known in copper and tin, the latter of which, possibly unique, will be found at the end of this section of the catalog. One is said to have a lettered edge but this has not been seen publicly for 84 years.

### UNCIRCULATED MOTT TOKEN



Lot No. 314

- 314 **1789 Mott token. Thick planchet.** Plain edge. **Uncirculated. Jumbo 231.0 gns.** 28.6 mm. 2.4 - 3.2 mm. thick. A wonderful example. Both sides are nicely toned in a rich, even brown shade. The fields are smooth and glossy in places on the obverse, most everywhere on the reverse. Broadly double struck on a wider than usual and thicker than often seen flan. With doubling in the legends, particularly on the obverse, some words missing on that side but the center clear and bold, full raised rim around on both sides with extra metal showing beyond the beaded border, particularly on the left of the reverse, and right on the obverse. Struck from the buckled state of the obverse, the die very clearly failing, but no cud yet formed on the corner of the clock.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 315

Lot No. 316

- 315 **1789 Mott token. Thick planchet.** Plain edge. Choice About Uncirculated. 166.6 gns. 26.4 mm. 2.2 - 2.4 mm. thick. An example with definite claims to a higher grade. There are traces of original **mint red color** remaining around some of the letters on the obverse and reverse. The surfaces on both sides are quite rough and granular in appearance and the reverse center is extremely soft, due principally to the failure on the obverse. Struck from the severely buckled state of the obverse, with the remarkably large cud formed on the upper left corner of the register's case, reaching into the legend beyond.

- 316 **1789 Mott token. Thick planchet.** Plain edge. Choice About Uncirculated. 194.4 grains. 27.6 mm. 2.1 - 2.4 mm thick. An attractive example, with glossy fields, nice light brown color and very pleasing sharpness visible on both sides. Same die state as the first, obverse buckled but no cud yet formed on the clock case.

*Ex New Netherlands stock on September 4, 1958.*



Lot No. 317

- 317 **1789 Mott token.** Thick planchet. Plain edge. About Uncirculated. **Jumbo 226.9 gns.** 27.2 mm. 2.7 - 3.2 mm. A pleasing specimen, with smooth glossy fields which are hard and disturbed by only a few areas of porosity, principally on the reverse. Struck from the buckled obverse die, but the cud has not yet formed. Good central sharpness on both sides. Remarkably heavy weight for one of these. Breen called these jumbo pieces "cent weight" and thought they circulated after 1793 as cents. There is no evidence for this.

*Ex George Fuld on August 8, 1955.*



Lot No. 318

- 318 **1789 Mott token.** Thick planchet. Plain edge. About Uncirculated. 201.2 gns. 26.4 mm. 2.6 - 3.1 mm. thick. Pale golden brown in color on both sides, with some very faint tinges of original mint red on the obverse. Roughened surfaces, this is clearly due to the die state and not to wear, as the piece has the same sort of appearance as that in the preceding lot and is in about the same obverse die state.

*Ex Tom Elder's sale of March 22, 1924, lot 2461; Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 319

- 319 **1789 Mott token.** Thick planchet. Plain edge. About Uncirculated. 162.9 gns. 26.2 mm. 1.8 - 2.3 mm. thick. Struck on a very rough and granular planchet from the late obverse state with consequent loss of definition in the center of the reverse.

*Ex New Netherlands stock on September 14, 1961.*



Lot No. 320

- 320 **1789 Mott token.** Thick planchet. Plain edge. Extremely Fine, with some claims to a higher grade. 165.2 gns. 27.0 x 27.5 mm. oval. 1.8 - 2.2 mm. thick. The obverse and reverse fields are bright and glossy, free from most of the roughness seen on very late states of this issue. Struck from the buckled obverse, with a cud beginning to form on the register that still shows good central sharpness. Rim dent at upper left on reverse, old scratch and linear flaw.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 321

- 321 **1789 Mott token.** Thick planchet. Plain edge. Choice Very Fine. 169.2 gns. 26.4 mm. 2.1 - 2.4 mm. thick. Medium chocolate brown in color on both sides. Quite rough in appearance, struck from the late state of the obverse, heavy cud on the upper corner of the clock and die buckled below. Clearly, these dies had rusted considerably by the time the cud had formed on the obverse.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 322

- 322 **1789 Mott token.** Thick planchet. Plain edge. Choice Very Fine. 169.8 gns. 26.1 mm. 1.9 - 2.4 mm. An interesting piece, the obverse light mahogany, the reverse slightly paler in color. Two areas of discoloration, one on each side. Rim dent on obverse at about 10:00. Struck from the broken state of the obverse, with a pronounced cud on the register's corner.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 323

323 **1789 Mott token.** Thick planchet. Plain edge. Technically Extremely Fine. 200.9 gns. 26.2 mm. 2.3 - 3.0 mm. thick. Struck from the very late state of both dies and consequently rough and granular in appearance. The center of the reverse is peppered with a number of tiny tics.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 324

324 **1789 Mott token.** Thick planchet. Plain edge. Very Fine. 167.4 gns. 25.9 mm. 1.9 - 2.4 mm. thick. The obverse is a nice rich tobacco brown in color while the reverse is lighter brown. Struck from a late state of the obverse with consequent cud on register case, roughness below, and the reverse quite indistinct and granular in appearance.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

RARE ORNAMENTED EDGE MOTT TOKEN



Lot No. 325

325 **1789 Mott token.** Thin planchet. **Ornamented edge.** Choice Very Fine. 106.9 gns. Small, 25.3 mm. diameter and 1.3 mm. thick flan. An interesting piece. Both dies are those of the regular Mott token. The obverse die state is fairly early, showing a beginning stage of the buckling that runs diagonally across the bottom of the clock but no trace of the cud on the upper left corner. In addition, the surfaces are smooth, hard, and show none of the porosity or die rust seen on late states of the Mott token. Clearly, therefore, this piece was struck early in the life of this die. The edge is ornamented with a zigzag style design which is unlike that seen on other colonial coppers and close inspection might reveal its identity to the edge device seen on other pieces, say, Conder tokens. Both sides are a reasonable olive brown in color, with some lighter areas in the protected portions suggestive of old, faded mint color. **Rare:** while there are no exact, published accounts of the number surviving with ornamented edge, the variety is known on thick as well as thin flans and in all is probably very rare at the least.

MOTT TOKEN STRUCK IN TIN

Possibly Unique



Lot No. 326

326 **1789 Mott token.** Thin planchet. **White metal (tin or pewter).** **Ornamented edge.** About Uncirculated. Breen 1027. 99.2 gns. 25.3 mm. 1.8 mm. thick. Bright silver gray in color on both sides with original mint lustre remaining around the peripheries. **Extremely rare:** the cataloguer is unaware of another and Breen also lists just this one, so **the piece may be unique.** This is just the second time in history this rarity has been sold at auction. It was first published in a 1938 Morgenthau sale. Struck on a severely constricted flan, the obverse showing portions of the outer legend, the reverse quite off center to the bottom with a significant portion of the legend on that side missing. Surfaces rough and granular in places but struck from about the same die state as seen in the piece in the preceding lot, without the cud on the corner of the register case and just a trace of buckling along the base of the case.

*Ex Jascha Heifetz Collection (J.C. Morgenthau, March 15, 1938, lot 343); F.C.C. Boyd Estate. The cataloguer thanks P. Scott Rubin for tracking down this auction citation.*

THE THEATRE AT NEW YORK TOKENS

There is little dispute about the origin and purpose of the Theatre at New York token any longer. John Kleeberg showed definitively in his 1994 ANS study "The Theatre at New York" that the token was one of the so-called Conder series popular in Britain in the 1790's and portrays on its front the Park Theater which opened in New York City on Monday, January 29, 1798 with a performance of "As You Like It".

The token is one of the nicest of the Conder series, being struck on a wide and thick flan. Most known are in higher grades with good color and reflective fields. They were clearly not admission tickets, as Kleeberg showed, but rather, were made for collectors, accounting for their present condition when found. The reverse die failed fairly early on in its life and most specimens known show varying stages of buckling, the later ones being severe and interesting in their own right. There is just the one variety and it is rare. A census of only 13 different pieces was published by Don Scarinci in the *Colonial Newsletter* in February, 1993.

LOVELY THEATRE AT NEW YORK TOKEN



Lot No. 327

327 **Undated (ca. 1798) Park Theatre at New York token. Choice Uncirculated, red and brown.** Usual promissory edge. 398.1 gns. 35.3mm. A really lovely example of this popular Conder token. The obverse shows about 50% of the original mint red around the theatre building and the periphery while the reverse has traces of mint color in the protected areas. Elsewhere, the obverse is a light brown while the reverse is darker in the center. Nice and sharp, with the brickwork inside the arches on the theatre building showing clearly, the eagle on the pediment bold and the gunports of the vessels in the distance on the reverse quite clear. Struck from a fairly early state of the reverse, the die quite clearly buckled on the right and sinking, but FLOURISH still fully legible and the surface not raised very high.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

A SECOND PLEASING THEATRE AT NEW YORK TOKEN



Lot No. 328

328 **Undated (ca. 1798) Park Theatre at New York token. Uncirculated.** Usual promissory edge. 406.5 gns. 35.2mm. A second. This is a pleasing, even brown specimen with one area on the obverse slightly redder in appearance. Both surfaces are reflective and show some subdued mirror brilliance. Good sharpness on both sides, as expected from these very well made pieces, some of the obverse beaded border soft but elsewhere the piece quite bold. Struck from a slightly earlier state of the dies in the piece in the preceding lot, the reverse buckling not as pronounced and the planchet surface on the right not raised up as much.

## THE 1794 AND 1795 TALBOT, ALLUM &amp; LEE CENTS

These combine pieces made in 1794 and 1795 for the New York City merchant firm of Talbot, Allum & Lee and others made a bit later by muling for sale to collectors of Conder tokens. The former have more claim on the collector's attention but including the latter has always offered an additional challenge.

The Talbot, Allum & Lee firm ordered a large quantity of tokens from the British maker Kempson & Company of Birmingham in 1794. They were to be valued at one cent each. The first batch Kempson sent over was dated 1794 but left off the New York name. These are very rare, today. They were quickly rejected and a second 1794 batch was made with New York added to the reverse. A third minting followed in 1795. These had the denomination removed from plain sight on the reverse, instead being added to the edge inscription. It may be that the U.S. Mint objected to the private issue of coppers bearing federal denominations. Thousands of 1795 dated TALs were bought up by the Mint to use as planchet stock for its own coppers. Few 1795's seem to have shown up in collections in the U.S. before 1945, when a quantity of unreleased Uncs. was discovered in the basement of an English coin dealer's shop. It may be that most of the 1795 issue was never released or shipped to America.

Some TAL tokens are found with anomalous edge devices, like the ones to be found in the Ford Collection, below. These appear to be real errors, caused by accidentally selecting pre-edged blanks meant for one customer's tokens and using them as planchets for TAL's. They are all quite rare and highly collectable, if a bit obscure. The contemporary British craze for collecting copper tokens led Kempson & Company to capitalize on their Talbot, Allum & Lee tokens by issuing a series of mulings with unrelated dies. Some others are struck off metal, in silver and brass. These are extraneous to the TAL series but, as noted, are also highly collectable and some are quite rare. One, catalogued as Breen 1048, is both unique and false; it is a drop in electrotype and should be delisted.

The Hillyer Ryder, F.C.C. Boyd, John J. Ford, Jr. Collection of Talbot, Allum & Lee cents and their mulings is the largest and most complete of any the cataloguer has had the pleasure of describing. It includes all the types and mules, one of the silver off metal strikes, and numerous edge varieties some of which are extremely rare if not unique. The collection is also noteworthy as it formed the basis for George and Melvin Fuld's study of the series that originally appeared in the September, 1956 issue of the *Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*. The first of the lots to follow was the plate coin in the Fulds' study.

## LOVELY 1794 WITHOUT NY TAL CENT

## The Fuld Plate Coin



Lot No. 329

- 329 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. Without New York. Normal lettered edge, PAYABLE AT THE STORE OF. About Uncirculated, prooflike. 156.2 gns. A lovely specimen and certainly one of the finest known. Fuld Plate Coin, illustrating F.1. Both sides are light olive brown in color. There are traces of original mint lustre remaining in the protected areas on both sides. The fields are bright, semi-reflective, and partially prooflike. One small obverse rim ding above 'B' is noted. Struck from the unbroken state of the obverse. A remarkable example. These are quite rare and when found, are often black and granular and in low grade. This piece is definitely going to be the highpoint of its new owner's collection of Talbot, Allum & Lee Cents.



Lot No. 330



Lot No. 331



- 330 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. Without New York. Normal lettered edge. Choice Very Fine. 144.9 gns. An interesting, variegated specimen toned in dark and lighter brown shades. The fields are somewhat reflective, smooth and hard. Small rim clip on obverse at about 11:30. Struck from the broken state of the obverse, the die cracked in the right field.
- 331 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. Without New York. Normal lettered edge. Very Fine. 159.9 gns. Both sides are deeply toned in a dark brown shade. A couple of minor rim tics on the obverse are noted. Struck from the broken state of the obverse, as the preceding.



Lot No. 332



Lot No. 333

332 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. Without New York. Normal lettered edge. Very Fine. 153.3 gns. Dark brown on both sides. Mostly smooth and hard with some porosity visible in the upper right obverse and reverse fields. Struck from a later state of the obverse die than seen on the preceding specimen, the break probably ground off but another one has arisen from the rim above second 'E' and running down through the field below to the ground line, ending at the rim to the right of '4' in date.

333 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. Without New York. Normal lettered edge. Very Fine. 154.5 gns. Dark brown on both sides, the color not unpleasing. Surfaces microgranular in appearance. Small rim tic on obverse at about 12:00. Struck from the broken state of the obverse, later than the preceding, the break described there seems to have been ground off but the first break that arises from the base of 'M' to the field below has here grown again, and the die is breaking across Commerce's feet and beginning to engage the final numeral of the date.

EXTREMELY RARE 1794 PLAIN EDGE TAL CENT



Lot No. 334

334 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. With New York. Plain edge. 163.3 gns. Essentially Uncirculated. Pale golden yellow in color on both sides, with some areas darker on the reverse. **Extremely rare:** Breen reported there were only three or four known. The cataloguer has seen five different pieces and this is the **finest seen** by a mile. Others include Picker:281; Rosa Americana 12 and 15; and EAN (one specimen, most recently in the February, 2004 sale). Obverse and reverse surfaces appear microgranular to the naked eye. Sharply struck, not doubled but with considerable pressure causing radial outflow lines visible at the tops of most letters on both sides and in the denticles around the rims. Fairly thick flan, about as robust as the piece in the next lot, somewhat thicker than seen on the variety without New York. Apparently perfect dies. Good sharpness on both sides, the ship's riggings clear, its gunports are bold, and most of the detail in Commerce's clothing can be seen clearly.



Lot No. 335

335 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. With New York. Plain edge. Very Fine. 167.5 gns. A second example of this **extremely rare** variety. Softly struck in the centers on both sides, probably due to concern for the continued usefulness of the reverse die which here is severely broken at the left and could not have lasted for many more rounds of striking. Light brown on both sides. Considerable loss of definition in the centers due to the late state of the reverse die. Light scratches visible on the reverse.

A SERIES OF PROOF 1794 TAL CENTS



Lot No. 336

- 336 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. With New York. Normal lettered edge. **Gem Proof.** 165.9 gns. Both the obverse and reverse enjoy considerable original mint red color. On the obverse, the mint red is confined principally to the protected areas, while on the reverse it is seen around the periphery and in the center. Sharply struck, with nice, bright surfaces. Some light ticks, small spot on the obverse.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 337

- 337 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. With New York. Normal lettered edge. **Gem Proof.** 163.0 gns. A very attractive piece, toned in pale gold and brown shades with traces of iridescent green around the protected areas. The fields on both sides are bright, reflective, and semi-mirrorlike.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 338



Lot No. 339

- 338 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. With New York. Normal lettered edge. **Gem Proof.** 157.8 grains. Another very attractive example. This piece is toned in pale brown, with iridescent blue and rose highlights. The fields are bright, reflective, and semi-mirrorlike. Sharply struck, as expected.

- 339 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. With New York. Normal lettered edge. **Choice Proof.** 152.8 gns. A nice example, somewhat softly struck but with considerable mint red remaining on both sides. The fields are bright and somewhat reflective. There is a small cluster of light verdigris spots on the obverse at about 5:00.



Lot No. 340



Lot No. 341

- 340 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. With New York. Normal lettered edge. **Choice Uncirculated,** red and brown. 159.9 gns. A very nice example, with considerable mint red remaining on both sides. The centers are toned in a medium brown shade. Pleasing mint lustre can be seen within the mint color. Softly struck in the centers, due to the late state of the reverse die.

- 341 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. With New York. Lettered edge. **Choice Uncirculated.** 156.7 gns. Light brown on the obverse, the reverse mostly brown but with some interesting blue-green iridescent tinges. There are traces of original mint color in some of the protected areas. Struck from a similarly late state of the reverse, but with considerably more sharpness showing on the vessel's hull on the back and in the center of the obverse.



Lot No. 342



Lot No. 343

- 342 **1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. With New York.** Normal lettered edge. **Uncirculated.** 143.1 gns. Medium brown on the obverse, darker patches visible on the reverse. Good central sharpness, struck from an unbroken state of the reverse, all of the detail in the ship shows, as a result.

*Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

- 343 **1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. With New York.** Normal lettered edge. Extremely Fine. 150.7 gns. Both sides are somewhat spotty. Rub shows on the vessel's sails on the reverse. Intermediate state of the reverse, the die broken but not as severely as seen on the second piece in this series. Some loss of sharpness on the vessel's hull, in consequence.

EXTREMELY RARE TAL CENT STRUCK IN SILVER



Lot No. 344

- 344 **1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. With New York.** Normal lettered edge. **Silver. Choice Proof.** Breen 1034; Fuld 4. 179.6 gns. A magnificent specimen of this **extremely rare** token with **just three known** according to Breen (British Museum, New York collector, **this**). Both the obverse and reverse are beautifully toned in iridescent rose, blue, purple, and pale green shades. The surfaces are brightly reflective and have full mirror flash showing. Very sharply struck in the centers on both sides, Commerce's clothing is complete and every single gunport can be seen to full advantage on the vessel on the reverse.

*Unpedigreed, but said by Breen and Fuld to be ex Murdoch:934, Chapman, Hillyer Ryder, F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

GEM PROOF 1795 TAL CENT



Lot No. 345

- 345 **1795 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent.** Normal lettered edge **WE PROMISE TO PAY THE BEARER ONE CENT. Gem Proof.** 136.8 gns. An absolutely amazing example, with full mint red, brilliant, bright surfaces with mirror flash and a needle sharp strike. The piece is about as it was made the day it left the dies, and it is wonder that something of this quality managed to survive the intervening two centuries. Clearly, this is a specimen which has been cared for since it first was issued. It has been in the care of just three collectors over the past century.

*Ex Richard Collection (New York Coin & Stamp Company, June 30, 1899, lot 544); Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 346

- 346 1795 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. Normal lettered edge. **Choice Uncirculated**, red and brown. 148.0 gns. A wonderful specimen, with just about full mint red showing on both sides. Bright lustre cartwheels can be seen when the piece is angled in the light. There are one or two spots of verdigris on each side.

**IMPORTANT 1795 TAL CENT**

**With Unique Edge Lettering**



Lot No. 347

- 347 1795 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. Edge lettered **CURRENT EVERY WHERE**. Choice Extremely Fine. Breen 1037; Fuld 1795 1A. 131.7 gns. **Unique**. This edge lettering unknown to Crosby. The obverse and reverse are deeply toned in a rich, attractive brown shade. The fields are fairly smooth and hard on each side. The planchet is somewhat constricted for the size of the dies, resulting in some letters on the ship side partially off flan at the bottom, on the dated side at the top. One short scrape across top portion of the obverse, between the cap and Commerce's face, otherwise the piece is free from signs of careless mishandling and has a pleasing, overall appearance. Seemingly struck from nearly perfect dies, some rust showing in the space between the beginning of the obverse legend and the bale behind the standing figure of Commerce.

*Ex Lorin G. Parmelee Collection (New York Coin & Stamp Company, June 25, 1890, lot 470); John Story Jenks Collection (Henry Chapman, December 7, 1921, lot 5504); Hiller Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

**THE TALBOT, ALLUM & LEE MULINGS**



Lot No. 348



Lot No. 349



- 348 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. 1793 Birmingham mule. Copper. LONDON edge. **Very Choice Proof**. 145.7 gns. Both the obverse and reverse have about 50% original mint red remaining. Elsewhere, the coin is toned in dark brown shades. The fields are bright, reflective, and some semi-mirrorlike.

- 349 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. 1793 Birmingham mule. Copper. LONDON edge. **Very Choice Proof**. 147.6 gns. A second. This piece is toned in an even medium brown shade, with traces of iridescent blue, rose, pale green and gold. The fields are bright and reflective, with semi-mirrorlike qualities.

POSSIBLY UNIQUE TAL BIRMINGHAM MULE



Lot No. 350

- 350 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. 1793 Birmingham mule. Copper. Plain edge. Choice Proof. Breen 1041; Fuld 1A. 147.9 gns. A brilliant, bright specimen. Both the obverse and reverse show original mint color around the protected central devices. The fields elsewhere are toned in an amazing iridescent blue and rose. Both sides are bright, reflective, and show nearly full mirror flash. **Possibly unique:** Fuld lists only this specimen while Breen notes it as extremely rare.

*Ex Charles Ira Bushnell Collection (S.H. & H. Chapman, June 20, 1882, lot 903); Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*



Lot No. 351

- 351 1795 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. 1793 Blofield Cavalry mule. Copper. Ornamented edge. Choice Proof. 171.9 gns. Rich golden brown in color on both sides, with considerable faded mint red showing in the protected areas. The fields are somewhat subdued in color, but have some original flash when angled in the light. Struck from the severely failing state of the Blofield die, the rim crumbled at the left with a high raised lip formed on that side. The Tal. side is still sharp in the center and shows a full date.

*Ex Wayte Raymond Estate.*



Lot No. 352

- 352 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. John Howard mule. Copper. LONDON edge. Uncirculated. 119.8 gns. Nice olive brown in color. The surfaces are smooth and hard, given the fact that these dies were nearly worn out when employed. Very typical lack of definition in the centers, due to the advanced state of the dies.



Lot No. 353

Lot No. 354

- 353 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. John Howard mule. Copper. LONDON edge. Uncirculated. 118.4 gns. A nice example, the obverse olive brown, the reverse mostly darker. A few spots of verdigris are noted on the Howard side. "960" painted in black in the left obverse field.

- 354 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. Earl Howe mule. Copper. LONDON edge. About Uncirculated. 123.6 gns. Light olive brown and gold on both sides. Struck from worn out dies, centers soft, Howe side broken at upper left.



Lot No. 355

- 355 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. 1793 Stork mule. Copper. LONDON edge. **Gem Proof**, red and brown. 150.8 gns. A brilliant specimen. The obverse is bright red in color, while the reverse is a subdued red, brown, and iridescent blue combination. The obverse fields are brightly reflective, showing nearly full mirrors and pleasing flash.

*Ex Fred Baldwin on July 2, 1971.*



Lot No. 356

Lot No. 357

- 356 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. 1793 Stork mule. Copper. LONDON edge. **Choice Proof**, red and brown. 151.6 gns. An interesting piece, with two-tone toning, a combination of faded mint red and iridescent rose and purple. The fields are bright, reflective, and semi-mirrorlike with pleasing flash showing.

- 357 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. 1793 Stork mule. Copper. LONDON edge. **Choice Proof**. 148.8 gns. A pleasing specimen, the obverse with original mint red around some of the protected areas, the fields iridescent blue and brown; the reverse a nice combination of iridescent blue, rose, and pale brown, with areas of mint red in the lower left portion. The fields are brightly reflective and have pleasing flash.



Lot No. 358

Lot No. 359

- 358 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. 1793 Stork mule. Copper. LIVERPOOL edge. **Choice Uncirculated**, red and brown. 156.1 gns. Both sides are mostly a rich brown, with original mint red color remaining around the protected areas. There are a couple of reverse spots.

- 359 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. 1793 Stork mule. Copper. LIVERPOOL edge. 152.9 grains. **Choice Uncirculated**. Nice, fairly even light brown in color with some iridescent blue tinges on both sides.



Lot No. 360

- 360 1795 Talbot, Allum & Lee cent. 1795 York Cathedral mule. Copper. FEAR GOD AND HONOUR THE KING edge. **Gem Uncirculated**. 150.7 gns. Both the obverse and reverse have considerable original mint red remaining in the protected areas. The fields are bright, smooth, and somewhat reflective. The TAL side is fairly well struck, with considerable sharpness showing. Its state suggests that it is later than seen on most of the 1795 TAL currency issues. The York Cathedral side was clearly struck from a failing die, accounting for the lack of definition on the two towers at the top. Elsewhere, the design detail on this side is sharp and bold and the flash in the fields is brighter than that seen on the obverse.

*Ex A.H. Baldwin & Sons, Ltd. on November 15, 1920; Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

PRIVATE AND TERRITORIAL GOLD COINS



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## PRIVATE AND TERRITORIAL GOLD COINS AND GOLD ASSAY BARS

### PRIVATE AND TERRITORIAL GOLD COINS

Mr. Ford's collection of western territorial and private gold coins has been a legend among collectors and dealers for decades. Its contents have been speculated upon, great rarities have been presumed to be hoarded in its depths, hidden mysteries were believed to be revealed once its contents were made known. Specialists assumed that anyone who sold Henry Clifford so much great stuff must have kept back even more wonderful things, especially someone like Mr. Ford, who was known not to surrender anything he did not have either a better duplicate of or a couple of triplicates he could trade up for the finest known.

Collectors will be surprised, therefore, when they finally discover the scope and depth of Mr. Ford's Collection. There are only eight territorial gold coins described in the lots, below. Five of them are 1853 USAOG \$10's and \$20's. Mr. Ford wrote about them to Henry Clifford in November, 1963, saying "I purchased the 1853 USAOG \$10., 884 Fine, at the Walton sale for myself. I already had the similar \$20., and purchased the \$10., 900 Fine last Spring from the Gaylord coll. My personal pioneer holdings are down to only a few pieces, and I did want to complete the set of 1853 USAOG pieces.... I now have the whole 1853 set, and would like to sit and enjoy it for awhile. I made very special arrangements to get the coin at the Walton auction, that is, I got all of my friends to sit on their hands, which you probably observed."

The other three pioneer coins to be offered here are wonders and more than make up for any surprise on finally looking into the Ford Collection. The third specimen known of the 1849 Bowie \$5 is one of these, a piece Mr. Ford has owned since 1956. The second known example of an 1852/1 Augustus Humbert United States Assay Office of Gold Proof \$20 is another, a piece that traces its pedigree back to our own 1944 J.F. Bell sale. The third great rarity is one of five known 1849 Cincinnati Mining & Trading Company \$10, bought in 1963 from the Brand hoard.

There are territorial pattern coins in the Ford Collection, along with a substantial selection of western mining receipts, bank notes of extreme rarity, ephemera, and the finest series of western assay bars ever assembled. These are the true strengths of the Ford holdings of western Americana. They will be offered at a later date.

Early in the 1950's, Mr. Ford wrote a series of manuscripts on his favorite subject, territorial gold coins and ingots. They were never published, probably because they never were as perfect as he wanted them to be. We are happy to reproduce one, here, slightly redacted from the original. A close reading of this survey of private coiners in the west will show just how much Mr. Ford knew about territorials half a century ago, and just how little has changed since then.

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### PRIVATE GOLD ISSUES

by

John J. Ford, Jr.

The very first American private gold coins were the famous "Brasher Doubloons," issued in limited number by goldsmith Ephraim Brasher of New York City in 1787. These have long been grouped with the Early American Coins of the States, having been issued before the adoption of the Constitution and prior to the establishment of a federal mint. For the sake of tradition, we continue to list the Brasher gold pieces with the Colonial issues, and under this heading commence with the proprietary issues of Georgia and North Carolina.

#### Georgia

The coins struck in Georgia were issued by Templeton Reid, who operated a private minting establishment near the gold mines of Lumpkin County, Ga. Little is known of Reid, except that he was a gunsmith, that he styled himself "Assayer" upon his coins, and that he contemplated continuing his activities as a coiner in California during the gold rush. Most of Reid's Georgia coins were dated 1830, and it is believed that they appeared immediately prior to the Bechtler coinage of North Carolina.

#### North Carolina

The Bechtlers, a family of German metallurgists, son and nephew, operated a private mint near and in Rutherfordton, North Carolina, from 1831 to about 1852. They issued their gold pieces from the bullion from the local placer mines, which were the center of the gold producing area of the United States from 1790 to 1840. The Bechtler operations represented a true necessity coinage, as did the issues of Reid, this invariably being the case with most privately made gold coins. Their coinage was accepted and passed at face value in all of Western North Carolina, South Carolina, Western Tennessee, Kentucky, and parts of Virginia. Numerous types and varieties of coin were manufactured by the Bechtlers, who in their first nine years of operation alone, turned out some \$2,241,850.50 worth. Weights and sizes and fineness of Bechtler coins differ somewhat, mainly from the varying quality of gold bullion provided, and initially from a too small supply of the acids used for the refining of the gold to the 916 2/3 fineness used by the Mint. Later variances resulted from the fact that the youngest of the three Bechtlers debased his coins slightly. The private North Carolina coinage is distinctive because its manufacture was indirectly responsible for the establishment of the two branch U.S. mints for coining gold, located at Charlotte, N.C., and Dahlonega, Ga., both of which opened in 1838. In addition, Christopher Bechtler issued the first gold dollar coined in the United States (Gobrecht's patterns came early in 1836, and Longacre's design was not even thought of before 1849).

## California

The largest division of this series, California Gold, comprises all of those issues put forth as a result of the discovery of gold in that territory in 1848. Most, if not all, of the private California mint (and similar) endeavors were established to provide a quick and realistic substitute for both gold-dust and "quicksilver gold" currency. Both forms of raw gold had become the only practical medium of exchange on the west coast, due to the almost total absence of regular U.S. gold and silver coin. The only "American" gold coins in California arrived there in the pockets of the immigrants, and what little this represented, certainly didn't have a chance to circulate, commanding as it did, a premium for the payment of custom duties. United States silver coin, arriving on the coast the same way as did the gold, quickly left California for China, the Chinese insisting upon silver for trade payments. Some foreign gold and silver coins managed to circulate, in fact they were imported in limited amounts for this purpose, but never proved popular. The general use of raw gold, and gold-dust in particular, as a medium of exchange, was not only impractical and inconvenient for both miner and businessman, but proved to be a real irritant to the miner and laborer, who received low prices for their raw metal to the advantage of the brokers and traders.



1849 Bowie Half Eagle

The opening of private mints was the only obvious solution to a pressing problem, particularly in view of the anticipated sluggishness of Congress to respond to popular demands to alleviate the strain occasioned by the lack of coined specie. The "private mint solution" was well known even back East, where numerous companies were organized to go West not to mine gold, but to convert it into money. Many of the minting companies projected did not get to California, others broke up before they completed the trip or else they discarded their cumbersome minting equipment en route, while still others changed their minds about opening mints after arrival in the "Land of Gold." The Jewelers, Bankers, Assayers, and others, who finally got to engage in the manufacture of proprietary money, centered their activities mainly around the mercantile Mecca of San Francisco, although a few establishments were situated in Sacramento and other towns closer to the gold fields. Their produce, made to an almost continuous immediate and crying need for convenient hard money, consisted of bars and ingots as well as coin. Coins were easier to circulate, but bars and ingots were easier and quicker to manufacture.

The various private California mint issues can be divided into groups or categories of items actually used as money in the emergency period, 1849-1856. Arranged for better technical understanding of a highly complex subject, these are:

(1) Pattern and proposed issues, made either in the East or in California, in limited quantity. These were coins struck in gold, as samples, which were often used to promote stock or share schemes, most pattern issues for this purpose utilized impressions in silver or copper. Regardless of the intent of issue, most of the pattern coins ended up in circulation like the 1792 Half Dimes and other early Philadelphia Mint patterns. While the majority of the pieces in this category were made at the beginning of the private California mint period, a few were made towards the end. (See 1849 Cincinnati Mining & Trading Co. coins, and the 1849 Massachusetts & California Co. five dollars).

(2) Ingot and bar mintages. These, of necessity, must be divided into sub-categories.

(A) Ingots or bars initially issued by private coiners, in an even amount or denomination, in lieu of regular struck coins. (i.e., \$16 Moffat & Company issues, 1849).

(Aa) Ingots or bars issued as last, but in odd denomination, the result of an ingot chopped off the end of a rolled strip and being short of standard size and/or weight.

(B) Ingots or bars continuously issued by private coiners, usually against deposits of raw gold for assay and/or refining. These converted returns of deposited gold, being of odd weight, were of odd denomination. This limited their widespread circulation, unless the stamped value was moderately low (i.e., \$9.43, \$14.25 Moffat & Company issues. Often returns against deposits were made mostly in gold, the odd amount ingot representing the depositor's change).

(C) Ingots or bars manufactured by or for banks. Banks invariably dealt in or accepted payments in gold-dust, nuggets or "quicksilver gold." For purposes of order and convenience, they converted this raw gold into units of easily identifiable and handled bullion. Bank ingots or bars probably enjoyed limited circulation, unless perhaps of even amount, for the same reasons as did those in the previous sub-cate-



1852/1 Humbert  
\$20.00

gory. However, the bank issues were undoubtedly among the most highly respected type of exchange, most banks not wishing to place their name on pieces of lesser value than the denominational stamp would indicate. (i.e., \$20 James King of William & Co. issue).

(D) Ingots or bars continuously issued by assayers. These are on the same general order as the pieces in sub-category "B", except that they were made by firms who did not commercially issue coins. Possibly this group enjoyed less general usage than did any of the three preceding sub-categories.

(3) Coins of standard denomination, \$1 to \$50, issued by private mints who were engaged in coining as a business. These were mainly struck by jewelers, banks and assayers, the coining operation usually superseding the original occupation of the mint master. (Most of the private California mint issues fall under this category).

(A) Coins struck for merchants, and bearing advertising, but suitable for regular circulation. (Only one item is known of this type, a twenty dollar piece of Diana, a notorious gambling hall, operated by Williams, Webster & Whipple).

(4) Coins of special denomination, 25c to \$1, issued principally by jewelers and gunsmiths. Most of these small pieces were issued towards the end of the private California mint period (as well as considerably later), and few were actually employed as currency. The genuine ones all bear the denomination spelled DOL. or DOLLAR. Imitations of these pieces are quite common, and lack any mark of denomination such as the above, or only have a fraction. This series is quite complicated, many issues having been restruck, and others actually outright fabrications made long after the dates they bear. It, like the series of pattern and trial pieces struck in metals other than gold, can only be adequately handled in a highly specialized work.

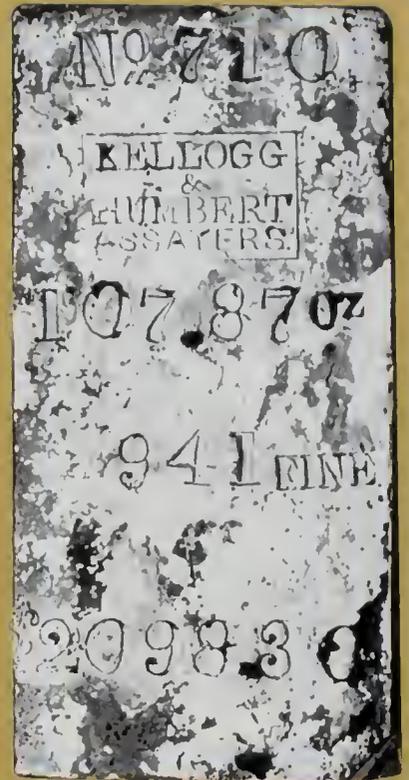
Each of the first three types of private California mintage enumerated above were used as money to a considerable degree at some time during the seven year period, 1849-1856. Perhaps we are being unfair in not including the fourth type, the fractional California gold coins, with the others, but to date positive evidence does not exist to show that these circulated to any notable extent.

The produce of the private coiners was not always looked upon favorably by the people who were forced, by necessity, to use it. At various times during the years that the proprietary coins were uttered, they were condemned by the bankers, the business community and the newspapers, only to slowly return to favor in a sort of uneasy truce. The avalanche of private coins in 1849, a

large number of which were of comparatively low intrinsic value, forced passage of the prohibitory Act of April 6, 1850 by the State Legislature. The main provision of this Act read as follows: "Any person who shall stamp or impress, or shall cause to be stamped or impressed, upon any

piece of gold of less than four ounces Troy weight, whether pure or alloyed, any figures, letters or marks, indicating or purporting to indicate its weight, fineness or value, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished as provided in the preceding section."

On April 20, 1850, the Act establishing the office of State Assayer was passed. Coupled with it was another law, which compelled private coiners to redeem their issues on demand, at face value, in legalized coin of the United States. This really stringent law also set penalties for the issuing of any "coin, or piece of gold or silver of less value than its marked or nominal value," and in a real slap at the makers of coin, also required that the day, month and year of manufacture be stamped upon anything issued. The provisions of this law virtually put the private coiners out of business. However, as the months passed, the public clamor for coined specie was such that coiners gradually returned to life. By the first quarter of 1851 they were back in business in full swing, producing more coins than ever. Early in March 1851, the Heydenfeldt bill, repealing the Act of April 6, 1850, prohibiting coinage by individuals, passed the State Legislature, and only needed the Governor's signature to become law. Whether or not he signed it is elementary, as the coinage figures for the first quarter showed that Moffat & Co. issued \$89,000 dur-



Kellogg & Humbert  
"Gold Brick"



1849 Cincinnati  
Mining & Trading Co.  
\$10.00

ing the first twenty-seven days of 1851, Shultz & Co., \$93,000 in the first ninety days, Dubosq & Co., \$150,000, and Baldwin & Co. a staggering \$590,000, in the same period. In the spring of 1851 it was conservatively estimated that some \$2,000,000 in private coin was in circulation. Soon after the flood of new coin from the private mints, the bankers and merchants found themselves cold to the whole idea or principal of private coinage.

In early April 1851, the bankers refused to receive deposits either of ingots of gold or any other California coin except that of Moffat & Co. A committee of merchants passed a resolution on April 9th, which stated "That no coin of private coinage be received as currency by the mercantile community." The result of this embargo by the bankers and merchants was the virtual abandonment, for the second time, of private coinage. The coiners again laid low, but this time it was a question of "survival of the legitimate." Only coins of full weight and honest value would be tolerated. Accordingly, early in 1852, the new but highly respected firm of Wass, Molitor & Co. commenced to issue coins of good quality, which were well received and quickly followed by a coinage of ten dollar pieces by Moffat & Co. From early 1852 to 1855, the only coiners in real operation were these two firms and Kellogg & Co., the latter commencing coinage operations in February, 1854. Permission for these firms to operate was granted solely by widespread public acceptance of their coin. It is interesting to note, that ingots and bars were on the whole more favorably thought of than coin, probably because less of them were made and circulated. On the other hand, ingots and bars were much more difficult to misrepresent than coins, easier to test assay, and more susceptible to careful scrutiny.

The variety and amount of private California mint issues is almost incalculable, which is amazing considering the rather short length of time in which they were manufactured. Coiners and assayers totally unknown today almost surely struck and issued coins and ingots, while numerous numismatic items of California proprietary manufacture, known to have been made from contemporary accounts, have never been seen. A realistic idea of the wide variety of pieces actually struck and used, can be gained from examination of the new discoveries brought to light within recent years as a result of systematic search.

There is little doubt that additional types and varieties, generally of limited original issue, remain to be discovered. The total extent of private California mintage can be partly illustrated by citing the assay of 111 five dollar pieces of Dunbar & Co. by Philadelphia Mint assayers Eckfeldt and DuBois in 1851. If the Philadelphia Mint received one lot of 111 of these coins, in one day, how many thousands upon thousands could have been made in all? Since there are no more than half-a-dozen Dunbar five dollars presently known, would it be too much to assume that private coiners of which hundreds of specimens are known today might have been coined in the millions? Another illustration of the volume of what was made and circulated can be gained by the fact that in 1856 it was reliably estimated that some \$8,000,000 in private coin was still in active use. This figure did not include the ingots and bars held by banks as bullion reserves, nor the private California mintage used and held in other parts of the west.

In 1856 the San Francisco branch mint had already been in operation two years, and had coined several millions of dollars in gold monthly during that time. Much of these new United States coins were struck from bullion obtained from the melting of privately issued coins. Still, there remained this tremendous amount of proprietary money in everyday use. Huge amounts of private mintage had been exported, equally large quantities were melted soon after issue if either underweight or overweight in comparison with the U.S. Standard. What was originally made, how much was melted and destroyed, will never actually be known.

Some of the coins, ingots and bars of the California gold-rush period undoubtedly circulated in remote areas of that state, as well as in adjacent territories for years after 1856. Private gold issues were not uncommon in the mining areas of the west until after the turn of the century, other localities having also issued their own coins, ingots and bars. While hardly as extensive in variety and volume as the issues of California, these are not of inconsequential interest.

### Oregon

Soon after the discovery and subsequent mining of gold in California, gold-dust became the most important medium of exchange in Oregon Territory. Almost simultaneously with their neighbors to the south, the settlers in Oregon developed a need for gold coin to replace the hard to handle dust. Petitions were made to the provincial legislature, and early in 1849, an Act was passed establishing a mint in Oregon City, the largest town. At about the same time, Oregon was formally brought into the Union as a Territory. When the new territorial governor arrived on the scene, he prudently declared the coinage act unconstitutional. Following this set-back, a private organization was formed called the Oregon Exchange Company, which promptly made arrangements to strike five and ten dollar coins, as originally contemplated. This company was formed of eight prominent citizens, named William K. Kilburne, Theophilus Magruder, James Taylor, George Abernethy, William H. Wilson, William H. Rector, H. Campbell and Noys Smith. The private mint was erected at Oregon City, a blacksmith, Thomas Powell, making the necessary coining apparatus from scratch. Partner Hamilton Campbell engraved the dies for the five dollar denomination, which were crudely executed, containing minor errors upon both obverse and reverse. A different engraver, Victor Wallace, was employed to make the ten dollar dies, which were of clearly superior quality, resulting in coins of more finished appearance. Both Oregon gold coins portrayed a beaver upon the obverse, and have long been designated "Beaver coins of Oregon" for this reason. The private Oregon mint coinage was issued in limited quantity, and a considerable number were bought up and remelted, undoubtedly because of their high intrinsic value.

### Utah

All frontier communities were short on cash, but the Mormon settlers in early Utah were particularly destitute. They had been driven from their settlement in Nauvoo, Illinois with such speed that few of them were able to salvage anything from the property they left behind. What little specie they did have was used for the purchase of supplies needed for the great trek across the plains. According to historian H.H. Bancroft, "about \$50" brought by Brigham Young in 1847 was at that time virtually "the only money in Utah." The 1848 Mormon Companies and groups arriving later increased the monetary funds on hand, but always by small amounts. Trade was mainly carried on by barter, until gold-dust became the circulating standard, after the discov-

ery of gold in California in 1848. Members of the Mormon battalion who had volunteered for service during the Mexican border disputes and who had been discharged in California, introduced gold-dust into Utah. The Mormon Church aided in the transfer of gold-dust by setting up an office at which the dust of Battalion members and others was weighed and placed in small paper packages containing an inconvenient "necessity medium" of exchange. As in California and Oregon, the settlers managed to tolerate the use of gold-dust, but were generally dissatisfied with it. Before too long, the builders of Zion decided that every advantage was to be gained by converting the dust into coins of uniform weight, fineness and value. The Church, being the sovereign political authority, could not shirk its temporal duty to provide a sound and practical money medium. Therefore, in November 1848, Brigham Young commissioned one John Kay to commence coining operations. Dies were engraved by a Robert Campbell, and a limited number of ten dollar pieces were struck in mid-December 1848. Edgar H. Adams, and other authorities, claim that these dies were soon broken, but we believe that at least one pair survived, or that almost identical ten dollar dies were made and used in 1849. In any event, this first effort at coinage failed for technical reasons. Church leader Young then turned to paper currency, backed by gold-dust, as a quick and feasible substitute for hard specie, until such time that coinage could be resumed with superior equipment obtainable in the East.

The Latter-Day Saints issued Valley Paper Money in three series and four issues from December 26, 1848, to mid-April 1849. The first two series were of handwritten notes dated January 2nd and 5th, 1849. The third issue consisted of revalidated 1837 Kirtland bills, which were countersigned and put into circulation on January 10th. The third series and fourth issue was printed, and represented the first printing of the Inter-Mountain West. The printed notes were dated January 20, 1849, and ranged in denomination from 50c to \$3.00. Their issue continued until April 23, 1849. Although the great majority of colonists were satisfied with the gold backed paper, they, like all westerners, undoubtedly preferred hard money. Accordingly, when the Church Mint was being readied for coinage in September 1849, most of the paper money was redeemed and destroyed.

In the spring of 1849, the Church First Presidency ordered crucibles and acids for coinage from Orson Hyde, Church agent in Iowa, which arrived in September. In the meantime, dies were prepared by a local dentist, James M. Barlow, for \$2.50, \$5 and \$20 pieces. Free and unlimited coinage commenced on September 12, 1849, and continued well into 1851. It has been estimated that Thomas Bullock, who kept the accounts, and John Kay, who did the mechanical part of the work, struck approximately \$75,000 in gold coins during the two years or so that they operated the Mormon Mint. It is alleged, that in 1852 or 1853, John and Enoch Reese, gold miners from Nevada, bought the press and dies of the Church coiners, and proceeded to mint coins from gold obtained in the Carson Valley. Contemporary accounts state that the Nevada gold was worth only \$11.50 per ounce, compared with \$16-18.50 per ounce for California gold, and that the Reese brothers minted the Carson Valley gold with the same weights as had been used for California metal. The story goes that, Church President Young, angered by the possible fraud involved, called in and redeemed the Reese issues, and had the dies destroyed. This action, plus a decline in the amount of raw gold imported, presumably accounted for the failure of the Church to engage further in coining activities until well after the Utah War of 1857-58.

The last coining of gold by the Church Mint took place in 1860, when five dollar pieces only were minted. These were of different design and type than the earlier "Half Eagles," the dies having been cut by different engravers. The issue of these pieces ceased soon after it had begun, as a result of a prohibitory order by the new territorial Governor, Alfred Cumming, in 1861. The 1860 coins were struck by the Deseret Assay Office, which also apparently issued a small quantity of twenty dollar ingots, and it is quite conceivable that similar pieces were manufactured of the ten dollar denomination.

The earlier Mormon coins, in particular, had a bad reputation for quality. Eckfeldt and DuBois, the Philadelphia Mint Assayers, in the third edition of their *New Varieties of Gold and Silver Coins*, etc., already referred to, described the 1849-1850 Utah coinage as follows: "Although there is much irregularity both in weight and fineness, the denominations are tolerably in proportion to each other. A parcel made up of all sizes, and counting \$562.50, yielded at the mint \$479.20; say \$8.52 to the ten-dollar piece. The fineness was 886." From other accounts, the early Mormon issues were found to be of fineness close to that of the U.S. Standard (900/1000), but considerably underweight. An Assay of a specimen of the 1860 five dollars revealed the fineness to be 874, approximating that of regular California gold, and the weight to be 116 grains (compared to the U.S. Standard of 129 grains). The variance in both weight and fineness of the 1849-50 issues reported by several authorities can be credited to the operations of the infamous Reese brothers. On the other hand, one writer, Dean E.E. Ericksen, in notes taken from a manuscript on Utah by Marcus E. Jones, stated that E. Reese got possession of the dies from which the 1860 five dollar pieces were made and coined some himself. This would account for the lower fineness of the 1860 coins, but the "Jones theory" has been considered improbable for other reasons.

Several writers have attempted to rationalize the underweight Church Mint issues in different ways. The most popular of these is the "relative fineness" argument, as advanced by Sheridan L. McGarry in *Mormon Money*, reprinted from *The Numismatist*. McGarry conjectured that the Mormons based the worth of all gold upon the purity of California gold," or in other words, that native California gold was pure or 1000 fine. From what we can gather, the actual church intention was to issue coins of absolutely pure gold of 1000 fineness (or as close as they could come to that goal with their limited knowledge of refining and primitive equipment), adjusting the weights of their coins downwards in compensation. That this was done when coining commenced during the early fall of 1849 is well known, but the unalloyed coins wore very quickly. In November 1849, six hundred dollars worth of silver was purchased for the purpose of alloying the coins minted to improve their wearing qualities, after which the early pieces averaged a little under 900/1000 Fine. It is hard to understand why the weight of the coins was not increased after November 1849, to make up for the alloy admittedly added to the coins, or why such little improvement was shown in the weight and fineness of the 1860 five dollar issues. It has always seemed very strange to us why errors in arriving at good value by so many private coiners were always in favor of the mint operators. The Mormon Church issues do little to allay our misgivings.

*1849 BOWIE HALF EAGLE  
The Discovery Specimen*



*Lot No. 361*



## THE CELEBRATED 1849 BOWIE HALF EAGLE

## The Discovery Specimen



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 361



(Enlarged)

- 361 1849 J.H. Bowie Half Eagle. PCGS AU-50. 133.4 gns. Kagin 1, Owens pp. 106-7, Breen 7771, *Red Book*, p.293, unknown to Adams, Mehl, Green, or Raymond. Medium yellow gold in color on both sides, with rich coppery red overlying paler gold in the fields. There are traces of deep russet toning around portions of the reverse rim. The fields show a myriad of tiny tics. **Extremely rare**, one of only three 1849 Bowie \$5 specimens known, including: **this, the discovery coin for the issue**; the piece featured on the cover of the September, 1983 issue of *The Numismatist*, later graded PCGS AU-55 and sold to a prominent western specialist; and 3) a recently discovered example, graded PCGS AU-58 and sold by us our in January, 2001 Americana sale for \$253,000.

The present example was found in 1956 in a Phoenix, Arizona antique shop and was bought by Mr. Ford on August 24 of that year for \$11,970, an extremely high price to pay for any coin at that time. Until 2001, the 1849 Bowie \$5 had been missing from all the great collections of territorial gold coins ever assembled and sold at auction, including such notable auctions as the Gibson, Garrett, Clifford, and Eliasberg sales. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Bought in Phoenix, Arizona on August 24, 1956.*

## NOTES ABOUT THE 1849 BOWIE HALF EAGLE

This specimen had long been on display at the California Coinage Museum in the Bank of California's San Francisco offices. As we wrote in our cataloguing of the 2001 Americana sale piece, at that time it was considered to be unique and was so listed in Don Kagin's *Private Gold Coins and Patterns of the United States*. Then, in 1983, Kagin announced the discovery of a second specimen in the September issue of the *The Numismatist*. At Kagin's suggestion, the piece had been submitted to ANACS (as it was called, then) for authentication. After ANACS had officially authenticated the coin it was considered important enough to be featured on the front cover.

The three known 1849 Bowie \$5 gold pieces were all struck from the same pair of dies. The obverse design shows a large pine tree in the center with CAL.[IFORNIA] GOLD around the top and the date 1849 around the bottom. The reverse has J.H. BOWIE at the top, the denomination 5 DOLLARS in the center, and the intended fineness 879 and weight 137 GR[AIN]S. at the bottom.

Two of the three known specimens have had metallic analyses done on them and the results show the AU-55 coin contains 88.4% gold and 11.6% silver and weighs 135 grains while the AU-58 piece contains 86% gold and 12% silver and weighs 138.4 gns. These analyses indicate that the 1849 Bowie \$5 gold pieces were struck from native California gold that still had not been parted from its considerable silver content. While no one knows how many \$5 gold pieces Bowie may have made the number was certainly very small since only three survivors are known, today. It is possible that most of the Bowie \$5's were melted to make a profit because they contain slightly more gold than a federal standard \$5 gold piece should.

The story of Joseph Haskins Bowie and how he came to California was featured in our 2001 Americana sale catalogue and is adapted here. Based upon research by Kagin and Dan Owens, it appears that Bowie was born in Georgetown, D.C. in 1816. He was raised on his family's plantation in Montgomery County, Maryland. When he was in his early 30's he worked as a gold and silversmith in Baltimore, Maryland and his name is listed in that city's directories from 1840-45. After that date nothing is heard of J.H. Bowie until he is listed as a passenger, along with two of his cousins, aboard the *St. Andrews* bound March 12, 1849 for Chagres in Panama. From there, the Bowie party crossed the Isthmus to Panama City on foot since there was no rail crossing yet built. On the Pacific side the party could only find passage on a whaler out of Fairhaven, Massachusetts named the *Sylph*. She carried them to San Francisco, where they landed late in June, 1849.

In San Francisco, J.H. Bowie stayed with another cousin, Augustus Bowie, who ran a medical practice out of his home on the corner of Dupont and Clay Streets. This was across the street from the offices of Moffat & Co., the well known coiners. In June, 1849 Moffat & Co. were still making their \$16 ingots but two months later the first of the Moffat \$10's began appearing, soon to be followed by the first Moffat \$5's. It is possible that Joseph H. Bowie became inspired to make his own \$5 gold pieces after seeing one of Moffat's coins sometime in August, 1849.

We do not know if Bowie's dies were made locally in San Francisco, as Moffat's were. Bowie may have brought the dies with him from Baltimore. Either way, Bowie joined the ranks of the very few coiners who operated in the west in the very beginning of the Gold Rush era.

1849 CINCINNATI MINING & TRADING CO. \$10.00



Lot No. 362



1849 CINCINNATI MINING & TRADING CO. \$10.00

The Jacob Fishel-Virgil Brand Coin

An Extraordinary Rarity



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 362

- 362 1849 Cincinnati Mining & Trading Company. \$10.00. Reeded edge. Extremely Fine. 258.9 gns. Breen 7773, Kagin 24. Very pale yellow gold in color with some faint traces of original mint lustre in some of the protected areas. No important marks requiring specific mention. Not overstruck. Struck from a perfect obverse die but a fatally broken reverse, the die with five different breaks running into the center from the rim. It is clear that one reason why these are so rare is that the reverse could not have struck very many before it broke apart. **An extraordinary rarity.** The cataloguer can trace just seven examples (including one with plain edge, private collection ex Charles M. Williams, Abe Kosoff): **this**; Garrett:885 (257.6 gns.); Brand II:1539 (overstruck on a J.S. Ormsby \$10, 256.7 gns.); private collection, a Very Fine ex Charles M. Williams, Abe Kosoff (258.2 gns.); two pieces in the Smithsonian, one ex Mint, the other ex Lilly, both with reeded edges (there is no plain edge specimen in the Smithsonian and so Breen 7774 and Kagin 2 should both be delisted).

Edgar H. Adams knew of three specimens in 1909 but by 1912 he could list four: one in the Mint cabinet, the piece Brand owned that was struck over a JSO, Garrett's which he knew was ex Zabriskie, and another one Brand had exhibited at the June, 1908 meeting of the Chicago Numismatic Society. Virgil Brand owned three specimens in 1920 (the presently offered Jacob Fishel piece, the JSO overstrike, and a third). Unaccountably, Breen listed only three known in 1988 although the Brand II cataloguer noted he knew of five in 1984. The Cincinnati Mining & Trading Company \$10 is the only gold issue of this maker that is at all collectable, since the \$5 is unique. There could not have been very many made to begin with since this firm was very short lived. It is believed that the firm's coins were actually struck by Broderick & Kohler in San Francisco between August and December, 1849. The fineness of the pieces was subpar, however, and the majority of those struck were probably melted during the course of their circulation lives. The ones we know of, today, were most likely saved as souvenirs. Breen wrote, correctly, that "Survivors are so rare that grade is irrelevant."

As if to underline this statement, we note that when the Mint received a Cincinnati Mining & Trading Company \$5 in 1851 it was decided not to assay the coin "on account of their rarity." **This coin has an unbroken pedigree back to the very firm that made it.** When Brand bought the presently offered coin from Jacob Fishel in 1908, he paid \$1,750 for it, the highest price he had paid for any coin up to then. Fishel told Brand that he was actually a descendant of one of the members of the Cincinnati Mining & Trading Company. Struck from the broken state of the reverse, in about the same degree as the Garrett and Brand II coins. The ex Mint Collection piece is severely broken into six distinct segments. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex Virgil M. Brand Collection via Harace Louis Philip Brand on August 18, 1963; obtained by Virgil Brand from Jacob Fishel in Philadelphia in 1908.*

PROOF 1852/1 AUGUSTUS HUMBERT DOUBLE EAGLE



Lot No. 363



PROOF 1852/1 AUGUSTUS HUMBERT DOUBLE EAGLE

The 1944 Bell Sale Specimen



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 363

- 363 1852/1 Augustus Humbert United States Assayer of Gold \$20.00. NGC HUMBERT PF-64. Breen 7710, Kagin 9. 525.4 gns. Both the obverse and reverse of this important piece are beautifully toned in a deep, rich yellow, the color of federal gold. The central devices on both sides are sharp everywhere save on the very highest point in the center: the arrows and talon on the obverse at the peak of the shield are somewhat soft, the central letters on the tablet on the reverse are a trifle weak at their highest portions. Elsewhere, all design details are clear and sharp, and the feathers in the eagle's wings are bright and bold. Full mirror brilliance on both sides in the fields, near full mirror brilliance in the protected areas, with some mint frost remaining around the eagle's neck and its tail on the obverse, very faint frost in the center of the reverse. Very sharp elsewhere, all the letters in the obverse and reverse legends, and the numerals on both sides are clear and distinct. **Extremely rare:** one of only two Proofs listed by Breen in his *Encyclopedia*, the other being the more celebrated Humbert-Zabriskie-Garrett piece that sold for \$325,000 in 1980.

**This specimen** was owned by Jake Shapiro (J.F. Bell) and was sold by Stack's as lot 1058 in our December 7, 1944 sale of the Bell gold coins. Described in part as "Struck in Brilliant Proof...Excessively Rare." it was mispedigreed as the Humbert-Zabriskie piece, which at the time was believed to be unique. In the 1944 Bell sale it sold to Alfred Walter for \$850. It appeared back on the auction block in December, 1960 when it was sold as lot 574 in New Netherlands Coin Company's 60th sale. At that time it realized \$3,200 and was bought by Mr. Ford. Struck from the broken state of the obverse, the die lightly cracked through the tops of TWENTY, the bottoms of UNITED to its left, the break then running into the top of the first 'S' in STATES, continuing through the bases of those letters, bases of OF and AMERICA, ending below the uppermost stop following the word DOLS, which is unbroken. The reverse die appears to be unbroken. Both sides show the remnants of polishing marks in the fields, suggesting that the dies were polished prior to being employed to strike this piece. Under magnification, the obverse surface shows some roughness and there are some light hairlines in the fields on both sides. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex Adams & MacMillan Collections (Superior, October 11, 1992, lot 1737); earlier, ex Superior's sale of October, 1990, lot 2338, New Netherlands Coin Company's 60th sale (December 3, 1960, lot 574, J.F. Bell Collection (Stack's, December 7, 1944, lot 1058).*

### ADDITIONAL NOTES ON THE 1852/1 AUGUSTUS HUMBERT DOUBLE EAGLE

Mr. Ford wrote the 1960 New Netherlands catalogue description of the lot and the cataloguer is happy to adapt it here: “**1852 over 51. Twenty Dollars.** Eagle device similar to that on last [1851 \$50 in the previous 1960 sale lot] but of entirely different execution, the base not as high and wider, olive branch with berries; 884 THOUS: on scroll above; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA around, TWENTY DOLS. below. Rev. Engine-turned design surrounding a rectangular tablet bearing four line inscription in very small letters: AUGUSTUS HUMBERT./ UNITED STATES ASSAYER/ OF GOLD. CALIFORNIA./1852 (over 51). Much space between engine turning and border. Edge reeded from normal collar having 150 reeds. Adams 17. Mostly brilliant **Proof.** Struck from the regular dies after they had cracked, rusted, been worked on, and partially polished (as has the other specimen known to us [the Garrett coin-ed.]). The flan is minutely granular, spotted, defective. Pristine save for a few microscopic handling marks, the most apparent of which can be found on the obv. border and the rev. rim. Of unquestioned authenticity. Not a restrike made outside California in later years, as it is obviously of California gold. The exact time of issue is unknown, but this piece was presumably made some time after the production coins in 1852. A very important item with surfaces and fabric in all respects similar to the other Moffat-Humbert-USAOG proofs known, including those from the recently controversial 1853 dies, Purchased as lot 1058 at the 1944 Bell Auction by Alfred Walter under the name ‘Major’.”

The coin sold for \$3,200 to Mr. Ford, who enjoyed it in his collection for the next 30 years. In October, 1990 and 1992 he offered it at auction but neither time did it meet his reserve (the coin is sold here without reserve).

To Mr. Ford’s description the cataloguer can only add that the dies are in quite late states and have been reworked. The obverse is broken around, though the bases of the letters in the legend. There is some mint frost to the right of the eagle’s figure, by its tail. LIBERTY on the ribbon in its beak and some other areas of this side appear to have been defaced in the die, as if some letters had been erased. ‘U’ in THOUS double cut. On the reverse, heavy die polish lines can be seen on the table of the central tablet, one reaching from the base of ‘E’ in HUMBERT to the tops of ‘AY’ in ASSAYER. There is a linear patch of rust between final ‘S’ in AUGUSTUS and ‘H’ in HUMBERT. The reverse rim is squared off save for a small area of softness at the upper left. The obverse rim is not squared off, at all, and is rounded like a production run coin’s. There is proof flash everywhere, including in the first five engine turned lines on the back.

The dies were obviously worn before being polished and repaired in places. It is certain that they had already seen one polishing since they struck the Garrett proof when they were in earlier states. It seems they were polished again at a later date and used to make one more proof impression. As Mr. Ford pointed out in 1960, the coin they made on that second occasion was made from pale yellow gold and the collar used was the correct 150 reed one. Mr. Ford felt that this piece had been struck in San Francisco in the 1850’s using USAOG dies, collar, press, and planchet stock.

The 1980 Garrett cataloguer described the Humbert-Zabriskie-Ellsworth-Garrett specimen as a Proof but noted that some felt the only “true” proofs were those struck at the Philadelphia Mint. Since then, that coin has been certified graded as PCGS PR-65. The 1960 New Netherlands sale cataloguer called this coin a proof and it has since been certified and graded NGC HUMBERT PF-64. It is clear that the state of numismatic grading art has progressed considerably in the past four decades.



Lot No. 364

- 364 **1853 United States Assay Office of Gold \$10.00.** 884 THOUS. 261.3 gns. Nearly Extremely Fine. Light yellow gold in color on both sides. Some original mint lustre can be seen in the protected areas, principally in the letters of the obverse legend. Some light handling marks, small rim scrape on one side.

*Ex George O. Walton Collection (Stack's, October 4, 1963, lot 2204).*



Lot No. 365



Lot No. 366

- 365 **1853 United States Assay Office of Gold \$20.00.** 884 THOUS. 525.9 gns. About Uncirculated. A really lovely example. Both sides are very pale yellow gold in color, the hue typical of California gold. There is considerable mint lustre remaining in the protected areas on the obverse, and a partial cartwheel visible on that side. On the reverse, there is a full cartwheel visible inside the tablet in the center of the design. There are some stray marks, here and there, including an area of light handling on the obverse rim above 'AME', but otherwise the piece has a very pleasing appearance and would make a very nice example for a type collector. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex Stack's on September 17, 1959; earlier, ex Harry Forman, Dochkus.*

- 366 **1853 United States Assay Office of Gold \$20.00.** 884 THOUS. 524.9 gns. About Uncirculated. Both the obverse and reverse of this lustrous piece are bright, pale yellow gold in color. Near full mint lustre cartwheels can be seen on the surfaces of each side. There is considerable mint frost still remaining in the protected areas, as well. Nicely struck, with near full detail visible, just light softness on the highest points. A pleasing piece, clearly well cared for. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex Max Kaplan on February 23, 1965.*



Lot No. 367



Lot No. 368

- 367 **1853 United States Assay Office of Gold \$20.00.** 884 THOUS. 524.6 gns. Extremely Fine. Light yellow gold in color on both sides. Slightly better condition than usually seen for this variety, the centers much sharper than often found with portions of the arrows clear and the eagle's eye still visible. The center of the reverse slightly soft but all letters legible, there. No extreme signs of handling on either side, small rim bruise above 'RICA'.

*Ex Arthur Roman on December 9, 1966.*

- 368 **1853 United States Assay Office of Gold \$10.00.** 900 THOUS. 257.3 gns. Extremely Fine. Very pale yellow gold in the centers, slightly dark around the peripheries. Some handling marks, light pits in the lower right obverse field, some signs of light field repair below UNITED.

*Ex Emerson Gaylord Collection (Mayflower, May 18, 1963, lot 433).*

## GOLD WESTERN ASSAY BARS

### The First Matched Set of the Five SS Central America Assayers To be Offered at Public Auction

Mr. Ford's interest in western assay bars spans more than half a century, beginning before many of today's collectors of these rare objects were even born. His own collection of what the cataloguer has named western assay bars began early in the 1950's with the purchase of the first Parsons & Company gold bar ever discovered. When he realized he held in his hand a piece of western numismatic history about which no one seemed to know much of anything, Mr. Ford found his collecting passion. From then on, he collected western assay bars wherever and whenever he found them. The bars offered Mr. Ford the two things he treasured most about numismatics: a new and complex series which promised to tax his research abilities to their fullest, and a market niche he could control through his superior knowledge.

When the wreck of the *S.S. Central America* was recovered and her treasures announced, Mr. Ford was engaged as an independent expert to advise the salvors and their commercial agents. Years later, when the miasma of claims and counterclaims about the ownership of the treasure finally cleared, Mr. Ford determined to buy one of each of the five assayers whose bars had been found in the wreck. He was not looking to buy ones almost too heavy to pick up. Rather, he wanted the smallest bars because they were, as he said, "sexy," real collectibles and not just trophies.

Mr. Ford's sense of market timing can be exquisite and it was when he came to buy his set of the five *S.S. Central America* assayers. He quickly saw that the most desirable bars, in his opinion, were the ones that were scheduled for sale by Sotheby's in December, 1999 in New York City (re-scheduled to June of the following year). But he knew that the sale would generate a lot of market hysteria because so much important material would be on offer for the first time. Patience seemed called for. So, he decided not to participate in that sale in any serious way, but just in case prices were lower than he expected, he had his interests covered by a friend. As it turned out, the best bars in the sale made solid prices, as Mr. Ford had expected they would, and only one was purchased at what seemed a justifiable price, the Kellogg & Humbert No.710 piece, a magnificent and manageable specimen. One year later, nearly to the day, the best of the 1999 sale bars were reoffered for sale by the same firm that had sold them earlier. Once again, Mr. Ford had his friend at the sale, this time authorized to "buy" the lots Mr. Ford wanted. Patience turned out to have been the best tactic, for Mr. Ford finally bought the four bars he had his eye on one year earlier, and at advantageous prices.

The pieces Mr. Ford purchased from the June and December, 2000 auctions are listed, below. Their auction and price histories attest to his business acumen and uncanny sense of timing. Their remarkable quality, small and collectible size, and completeness as a set testify to the other side of Mr. Ford's professional character, that of the consummate collector.

This is the first time a matched set of the five assayers has been offered for auction sale. The bars to follow were chosen for their look and/or small size. The 4 oz. Blake & Co. bar is the smallest found in the ship and was the 2001 *Red Book* plate bar. The 13 oz. Harris, Marchand bar was specifically mentioned in the same edition of the *Red Book*. The 22 oz. Henry Hentsch and 5 oz. Justh & Hunter bars are each the second smallest recovered. The 107 oz. Kellogg & Humbert bar is the biggest in the collection and was chosen as the nicest of all that assayer's bars; it was plated on the cover of the 2000 Sotheby's auction catalogue. The nicknames were given to the bars by the cataloguer.

Other western assay bars from Mr. Ford's collection will be sold in upcoming sales. No dates have been determined at this time.

BLAKE &

7.95 FINE  
\$ 81.34

NO 5190

4.95 OZ

369

\$ 225.54

NO 6488

HARRIS MARCHAND & CO  
NEW YORK

807. FINE

13.52 OZ

370

## A WONDERFUL BLAKE &amp; COMPANY ASSAY BAR

"The Pee Wee"



Lot No. 369

369 **Blake & Company. 4.95 ounces. 795 Fine. \$81.34. Serial No.5190. "The Pee Wee".** Columbus-America inventory number: CAGB.006. Measurements: 1.5 x .9375 x .5 inches. Actual weight: 4.95 ounces. **Essentially as made.** A wonderful little bar and a real collectable. **2001 Red Book plate bar.** Specifically mentioned in the **2002 Red Book.** Plated in *The Numismatist* and *America's Lost Treasure*. In his monumental *California Gold Rush History* legendary author Dave Bowers called this the "Double Record Bar" for having the smallest weight and lowest dollar value of any bar found in the wreck of the S.S. *Central America*. Bright yellow gold in color. This is really a wonderful little bar. The maker's name, Blake & Co., was too long to fit on one edge or top face of the bar so the assayer's punch continues the name from one long onto one short side. Assayer's corner clip visible at the bottom left corner when viewed from the top. Interestingly, the top face, that which would have ordinarily been seen first, bears the fineness and dollar value, while the assayer's name is placed across the top and right edges and to be legible the bar had to have been turned.

For some reason Blake & Co. decided to bevel the rim around the top face of the bar to make it look prettier, but why he would have gone to the additional trouble to enhance a bar which was destined, inevitably, to be melted in the Philadelphia, London, or Paris mints, is a mystery. Fineness and dollar value in logotype and individual punches on the front; assayer's name punched on top edge, continued on right edge, weight on bottom edge, all accomplished in individual punches; serial number on back in logotype and individual punches; left edge blank. This is the best looking of all the Blake & Company bars sold at auction, in Mr. Ford's opinion. The bar first sold in 1999 for \$39,600. When it was re-offered the following year Mr. Ford bought it for \$41,250. **(SEE COLOR PLATE)**

*Ex Sotheby's New York sale of December 14, 2000, lot 325; earlier, ex Sotheby's sale of June 20, 2000, lot 16.*

A PLEASANT SMALL HARRIS, MARCHAND ASSAY BAR

“The Jewel Box”



Lot No. 370

370 **Harris, Marchand & Company. 13.52 ounces. 807 Fine. \$225.54. Serial No.6488. “The Jewel Box”.** Columbus America inventory number: CAGB.117. Measurements: 1.9375 x 1.25 x .6875 inches. Actual weight: 13.53 ounces. Essentially as made. Very bright yellow gold in color. A nicely presented bar, the top face showing the maker’s name in logotype arching above the centrally placed stamp that Marchand obtained from the Paris Mint, proving that he was a qualified assayer (that word spelled here, in the French form, “essayeur”.) Assayer’s corner clip on the bottom left edge as viewed from the top. All four edges bear some information about the bar. Minor cooling flaws in the edges, deep shrinkage hole in the center of the bottom face.

**This bar specifically mentioned in the 2001 Red Book.** Assayer’s name, Marchand’s French assayer’s seal punched on the front in logotypes. Serial number punched on top edge (“No.” in logotype), fineness punched on bottom edge, weight on left edge, dollar value on right edge, all accomplished by individual numeral punches. Back blank. This is the best looking of all the Harris, Marchand & Company bars sold at auction, in Mr. Ford’s opinion. The bar first sold in 1999 for \$52,250. When it was re-offered the following year Mr. Ford bought it for \$44,000. *(SEE COLOR PLATE)*

*Ex Sotheby’s sale of December 14, 2000, lot 327; earlier, ex Sotheby’s sale of June 20, 2000, lot 33.*



371



372

## A NICE LOOKING SMALL HENRY HENTSCH ASSAY BAR

"The Slab"



Lot No. 371

- 371 **Henry Hentsch. 22.60 ounces. 862 Fine. \$402.71. Serial No.3229. "The Slab".** Columbus America inventory number: CAGB.231. Measurements: 2.625 x 1.75 x .625 inches. Actual weight: 22.59 ounces. Essentially as made. Bright yellow gold in color. All of the letters, numerals well struck up and nearly perfectly placed on the bar. Upper left corner (as viewed from the front) clipped for assay, as usual. Reverse side somewhat rough, this was the face that was uppermost in the mold, and shrank inwards as the ingot cooled. The second lightest of all the Henry Hentsch bars recovered from the wreck of the Central America. Serial number, assayer's name, fineness, weight, and dollar value punched on the front in a combination of logotype and individual numeral punches. Serial number repeated on the back. All four sides left blank. This is the best looking of all the Henry Hentsch bars sold at auction, in Mr. Ford's opinion. The bar first sold in 1999 for \$60,500. When it was re-offered the following year Mr. Ford bought it for \$49,500. *(SEE COLOR PLATE)*

*Ex Sotheby's sale of December 14, 2000, lot 329; earlier, ex Sotheby's sale of June 20, 2000, lot 55.*

A SATISFYING JUSTH & HUNTER ASSAY BAR

“The Chunky Bar”



Lot No. 372

372 **Justh & Hunter. 5.56 ounces. 854 Fine. \$98.15. Serial No.4270. “The Chunky Bar”.** Columbus America inventory number: CAGB.326. Measurements: 1.327 x 1.0625 x .4375 inches. Actual weight: 5.57 ounces. **Essentially as made.** Light yellow gold in color. A nicely presented bar, with the serial number above the arching Justh & Hunter logotype, the value of the bar carefully placed along the bottom edge of the top face. Assayer’s clip at the lower left corner when viewed from the top. Center of bottom shows cooling shrinkage in the center below the serial number. Interestingly, the reverse serial number “70” includes only the last two digits of the longer control number which appears on the top face, “4270”. Since the abbreviated form was likely not used because the back face was too small to accommodate all four numerals, the abbreviation might have been some kind of internal, office shorthand.

**The second lightest of all the Justh & Hunter bars recovered from the wreck of the Central America.** Serial number, assayer’s name, and dollar value punched on the front in a combination of logotype and individual numeral punches. Fineness punched on one edge, weight on another, “70” (partial serial number) punched on the back, all effected by individual numerals. This is the best looking of all the Justh & Hunter bars sold at auction, in Mr. Ford’s opinion. The bar first sold in 1999 for \$35,750. When it was re-offered the following year Mr. Ford bought it for \$29,700. (**SEE COLOR PLATE**)

*Ex Sotheby’s sale of December 14, 2000, lot 326; earlier, ex Sotheby’s sale of June 20, 2000, lot 24.*



373

A SUBSTANTIAL KELLOGG & HUMBERT ASSAY BAR  
 "The Golden Brick"



Lot No. 373  
 (Reduced)

373 **Kellogg & Humbert. 107.87 ounces. 941 Fine. \$2,098.30. Serial No.710. "The Golden Brick".** Columbus America inventory number: CAGB.541. Measurements: 4.375 x 2.250 x .1.1875 inches. Actual weight: 106.89 ounces. **Essentially as made.** A massive bar. All sides bear the unmistakable signs of red rust from the wreck of the S.S. *Central America* as her superstructure dissolved in the icy ocean depths, a feature characteristic of this vessel's treasure. Like the other bars described herein, a very nicely presented bar. Given the size and weight of the bar, all the bar's relevant information was confined by the assayer to the top face, thus removing the need to turn this heavy bar over to read it. The back face contains the bar's serial number, but that is all. Assayer's corner clip visible at the lower right when viewed from the front. A thoroughly satisfying bar, it was also described by the Sotheby's cataloguer as "A most attractive and substantial bar."

**Cover plate bar** on the December, 1999 Sotheby's sale catalogue. Serial number, assayer's name, weight, fineness, and dollar value punched on the front in a combination of logotype and individual numeral punches. Serial number punched on the back in individual numerals. All four sides blank. This is the best looking of all the Kellogg & Humbert bars sold at auction, in Mr. Ford's opinion. It realized \$52,250 in 1999. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

*Ex Sotheby's sale of June 20, 2000, lot 120.*

END OF PART II OF THE JOHN J. FORD, Jr. COLLECTION SALE

This session will continue with the sale of The John J. Ford, Jr. Collection of Colonial Paper Currency, Lots 501-850, offered in a separate catalogue (Ford Collection, Part III).

# JOHN J. FORD, Jr. COLLECTION

## COINS, MEDALS AND CURRENCY

### Part II

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# TERMS OF SALE

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(b) These conditions are binding and absolute unless varied in writing by a principal of STACK'S or if the bylaws, rules or regulations of the Professional Numismatists Guild, Inc., provide for a longer period, or give the Buyer a greater right, in which case such bylaws, rules or regulations shall prevail. Any and all claims of the Buyer made in violation of the Terms of Sale shall be deemed waived, and the Buyer shall be without further recourse.
24. If STACK'S, in its sole discretion, determines that any numismatic property is substantially and materially different from that represented in the catalogue of sale, or in any written advertisement or material, the sale shall be cancelled and STACK'S shall refund the purchase price to the Buyer. Unless provided otherwise in these terms or the PNG bylaws, that shall be STACK'S sole obligation to Buyer.
25. The auctioneer and cataloguer, STACK'S, reserves the right to include its own material in any auction sale. The auctioneer may have direct or indirect interests in these, and other items (other than its commission), and may collect a minimum price in addition to the selling commission. This paragraph shall be deemed a part of the description of all lots contained in the catalogue. The catalogue shall also be deemed a part of any invoice issued by the auctioneer. The auctioneer may make loans or advances to consignors and/or prospective purchasers. The Consignor may be permitted to bid on his, her or their own articles and to buy them back at the sale. Any Buyer who bids on or purchases their own goods is required to pay for them, in full, as the terms of sale provide for together with the full buyer's commission, and any other applicable surcharges, postage, handling, insurance fees and taxes, without rebate of any kind whatsoever, unless provided for otherwise by contract with the auctioneer. The auctioneer reserves the right to make accounting adjustments in lieu of payment. Settlement will follow the auction. The prices realized reflect the final price called by the auctioneer and may include a bid of a consignor reacquiring their lot.
26. STACK'S, the auctioneer, and employees are "insiders" and may have access to confidential information not otherwise available to the public with respect to value, provenance, availability, and other factors. Purchasers should make themselves acquainted with the numismatic items that they are purchasing and avail themselves of the services of outside consultants prior to engaging in any purchase. Bids are so much per LOT. No lots will be broken up unless otherwise stated.
27. No bidder shall have any claim against the auctioneer, or STACK'S, for improper sequence of offering a lot.
28. On bullion items, bullion-like items, and encapsulated items graded by a grading service, Buyer agrees that there shall be no right of return for any reason whatsoever. Buyer further agrees that due to market volatility, in event of non-payment, STACK'S shall be entitled to damages that are the greater of selling price or market, together with any supplementary or additional costs.
29. STACK'S at any time may rescind the sale in the event of non-payment or breach of the warranty of title.
30. The sole remedy that any participant in the auction shall have, whether bidding in person, by mail, or through an employee or agent, for any claim or controversy arising out of the auction shall be a refund of the original purchase price and premium paid, if any. Interest shall be paid by STACK'S at a rate of no greater than nine per cent (9%) per annum, up to a maximum of six (6) years, unless the rules of the Professional Numismatists Guild, Inc. provide for a higher rate of interest or a longer period of time, in which case such rules shall prevail. A lower rate, or shorter period, may be decided by the arbitrators. Upon payment as determined by the arbitrators, or in full at the maximum rates set forth above, or at an agreed rate, STACK'S shall be deemed released from any and all claims of the bidder arising out of or in connection with the sale of such property. Purchaser agrees to execute prior to delivery of any refund any documents reasonably requested to effect the intent of this paragraph. By bidding in this sale, all bidders consent to these terms and all other terms of these conditions of sale.
31. **STACK'S hereby disclaims all liability for damages, incidental, consequential or otherwise, arising out of or in connection with the sale of any property by STACK'S to Purchaser.** All bidders, even if unsuccessful purchasers, agree to abide by this condition, and all other conditions of sale.
32. All rights granted to the Purchaser under the within terms of sale are personal to the Purchaser. Purchaser may not assign or transfer any of these rights to any other person or entity, whether by operation of law or otherwise. Any attempt so 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 Sale and terms of warranty on any bidder or Purchaser.
33. "Purchaser" shall mean the original purchaser of the property from STACK'S and not any subsequent owner or other person who may have or acquire an interest therein. If Purchaser is an agent, the agency must be disclosed at the time of sale, otherwise the benefits of the warranty shall be limited to the agent and not transferable to the undisclosed principal.
34. Should any third party attempt to utilize any warranties contained herein, they shall first give STACK'S thirty (30) days written notice by Registered Mail or Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested during which time STACK'S may,

should it choose to contest the third party's claim, ask the Professional Numismatists Guild, Inc., or the American Arbitration Association to appoint a panel of three arbitrators skilled in the field to make such a determination at New York, N.Y. By seeking to use such remedy, the third party unequivocally and without reservation consents to binding arbitration, and its conclusive and binding determination of any alleged damages as a sole remedy. With respect to any other pertinent notice requirements, venue and personal and subject matter jurisdiction, said third party is bound to the provisions pertaining to bidders, buyers and purchasers, as otherwise provided for in these Terms of Sale.

35. In the event STACK'S shall, for any reason, be unable to deliver the property sought to be purchased, its liability therefore shall be limited to the rescission of the sale and refund of the purchase price and buyer's premium. **STACK'S hereby disclaims all liability for damages, incidental, consequential or otherwise, arising out of its failure to deliver any property purchased, and all bidders agree to this disclaimer.**
36. If it is determined that a bailment relationship exists while the material purchased is being held by STACK'S, for Purchaser, said relationship constitutes a gratuitous bailment only, solely for the benefit of the purchaser/bailor, as defined by the laws of the State of New York.
37. As a condition of bidding, bidder acknowledges that numismatic auction sales are unique in terms of their tradition and industry practices. Each bidder agrees that **any claim or controversy whatsoever arising out of this sale shall be settled as follows:** if demanded by either buyer, or STACK'S by binding arbitration at New York, New York, under the rules then obtaining of the Professional Numismatists Guild, Inc., or as PNG rules may provide, the American Arbitration Association. In the event that a dispute arises between STACK'S and a non-member of the PNG, this means that the American Arbitration Association, at New York, N.Y., shall have exclusive jurisdiction over the controversy. In any controversy concerning non-payment, STACK'S shall have the right to proceed by arbitration or by a proceeding in any court of competent jurisdiction in the City, County, and State of New York, whichever is first commenced by STACK'S. The arbitrator shall not have the power to alter the terms of condition of sale. Judgment on any award may be entered in any court of competent jurisdiction. The arbitrators, and any court, shall award the prevailing party costs and reasonable attorney fees. By bidding in this sale you agree to be bound by the arbitration provisions of the PNG as described above. Commencement of an arbitral proceeding, or confirmation of an award, as well as any notice requirements connected with such proceeding, and any other required service of process, may be made by STACK'S upon all bidders by registered or certified mail directed to the address of the bidder or purchaser as listed on the bid sheet or application or form required at the time that a bidder number is issued, or by facsimile transmission with proof of receipt. Bidder agrees that such service shall constitute full in personam jurisdiction. The venue for such proceedings shall be the City of New York, State of New York and each bidder agrees to in personam (personal) jurisdiction of the City of New York, State of New York. In all cases, the maximum liability of STACK'S for any item sold shall be limited to the official price of record of the item at this sale, without provision for consequential damages, or any other damages of any kind whatsoever, unless the PNG rules provide otherwise.
38. If the Purchaser fails to comply with one or more of these Terms and Conditions of Sale then, in addition to all other remedies which it may have at law or in equity, STACK'S may, at its sole option, either (a) cancel the sale, retaining as liquidated damages all payments made by the Purchaser, it being recognized that actual damages may be speculative or difficult to compute, or (b) sell some or all of the numismatic property and some or all other property of the Purchaser held by STACK'S, in a quantity sufficient in the opinion of STACK'S to satisfy the indebtedness, plus all accrued charges. More than one such sale may take place at the option of STACK'S. Such sale may take place without notice to Purchaser; if STACK'S gives notice, it shall be by regular mail to the address utilized on the bid sheet, consignment agreement or other address known to the firm. Such sale will be at STACK'S standard commission rates at public or private sale, within or without the City of New York, at which time (if the sale be at auction) the defaulting party shall not bid. The proceeds shall be applied first to the satisfaction of any damages occasioned by Purchaser's breach, and then to the payment of any other indebtedness owing to STACK'S, including without limitation, commissions, handling charges, the expenses of both sales, reasonable legal fees and collection agency fees and any other costs or expenses incurred hereunder. If a lot or numismatic item is not paid for, and is sold by STACK'S for Purchaser's account, in accordance with the Uniform Commercial Code, STACK'S shall not be required to account to the Purchaser for any excess proceeds. Purchaser is also liable to STACK'S if the proceeds of such sale or sales is insufficient in the opinion of STACK'S to cover the indebtedness. If other property of Purchaser is also sold, any excess of proceeds will be remitted to the Purchaser after first deducting the expenses set forth above. If Purchaser fails to remit sums due to STACK'S, Purchaser grants to STACK'S a lien with respect to such sum, with interest to accrue thereon at the judgment rate, until actually paid, which lien shall apply against any property of Purchaser, including any future goods of Purchaser coming into possession of STACK'S. **Purchaser hereby waives all the requirements of notice, advertisement and disposition of proceeds required by law, including those set forth in New York lien law, article 9, sections 200-204 inclusive, or any successor statute, with respect to any sale.** Purchaser waives a right to redeem.
39. The auctioneer reserves the right to postpone the sale by auction for a reasonable period of time as a result of any significant event which, in the sole discretion of the auctioneer, makes it advisable to postpone the event. No bidder or prospective bidder or purchaser or prospective purchaser shall have recourse as a result of any postponement. In any event, no person may bid without registering, and ALL REGISTERED BIDDERS including mail bidders and agents by registering or bidding **agree to all of the above Terms and Conditions of Sale.**
40. By bidding or offering to bid, bidders acknowledge that they have read all of the Terms and Conditions of Sale and warranty contained herein and that they accept these terms and conditions without reservation. STACK'S reserves the right to vary the Terms and Conditions of Sale by rider or other means communicated to bidders. By purchasing from STACK'S, whether present in person, or by agent, by written bid, telephone or any other means, the bidder agrees to be bound by these Terms and Conditions of Sale.
41. **ALL ITEMS ILLUSTRATED ARE OF THE ACTUAL ITEMS BEING SOLD.**

## Notes





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