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July 15, 1984

Welcome to P-W's biggest ever July issue! WOW! It's a humdinger! In fact, this issue contains a bit of something for everyone and a lot of everything for all - plenty of good reading, lots of information, interesting news, provocative essays, and enough material to keep you busy throughout the summer! I

I won't begin to list all the articles - you can look at the Table of Contents to get that information - but there's at least something on each and every section, viz. Colonials, half cents, large cents, even an article on some Hard Times tokens.

We think that you will find Roy E. Bonjour's and Gary A. Trudgen's articles on Colonials to be especially interesting - their articles are well-written, informative, and closely related as to facts. Read them and enjoy!

There is also a great bit of nostalgia included in this particular issue of P-W. EACer Joe Rose, President of Harmer, Rooke Numismatists, Ltd., was kind enough to provide us with a report on coinage that was written by the Secretary of State, Thomas Jefferson, and published in 1790. We found it to be a rather unusual and interesting report, and we hope that you do too.

Naturally, since all the talk lately has been about the auction sale of the Starr estate collection of large cents, we lead off the issue with an article by Denis Loring, titled "Starr Wars".

John Wright has provided us with two interesting questions and their answers in his "Ask John" column. And you'll find some interesting reports on regional meetings, thanks to Doug Bird, Frank Stillinger, and Peter Neptune. All in all, it's a MS70 issue - one that we know you're going to like! And it keeps up the tradition that each additional issue is always a little bit better than the preceding one!

We want to thank all of those who have contributed to this issue. We're most grateful to you for providing us with such excellent material and for getting it to us early this time. It has helped us a lot in this issue's preparation.

Remember, though, that P-W 104 will be coming up on September 15. So keep your articles and letters coming! Deadline for material to be included in the September issue is August 31; and don't forget that it takes at least 4 or 5 days between mailing your article and our receipt of it. So, don't wait until the last day to mail your material if you want to see it in the September issue.

Now, it is time to take off your shoes, put on your glasses, lean back in your favorite chair, and read and enjoy. And if you haven't been a contributor to this issue, how about being one for the next one?

Warren A. Lapp
Editor & Publisher
and
The Staff of PENNY-WISE

EAC DIRECTORY

- | | | |
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PENNY-WISE



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Roger Cohen called and apologized for not having his article on "The Top Ten" ready for publication in this issue. He advised that it will be ready for publication in the September P-W.

This page has been purposely left un-numbered, so that you can insert it wherever you wish.

The reverse side of this sheet has been left blank intentionally.

STARR WARS

Denis W. Loring

We'd been waiting for this one for a long, long time!

The legendary Floyd Starr collection. All the '93's, a sprinkling of choice early date, and just maybe the best late date collection ever formed. Newcomb intact, plus Hines intact, plus others as they came along. New Netherlands was supposed to get the collection after Starr's death. Breen and Hanson made an inventory, then - nothing. We wait. Five years. Ten. Then I get a call from Norman Stack. So do Jules Reiver and Doug Smith. We all go buggy for the next few months. The boxes go on endlessly. Attributing, grading, describing, degreasing (do you know how much dirt can accumulate since 1945?), cataloguing, editing. Suddenly (or so it seems), the writing's over.

June 12, 1984: Our pre-sale reception is just right: collectors and dealers, talking together, enjoying the anticipation of it all.

June 13, 5:30 P.M. - a small group gathers in the viewing room above Stack's: Del Bland, Doug Smith, Jack Robinson, Frank Stillinger, the Great Shal. A pre-sale dinner at the Carnegie - where else?

June 13, 6:30-7:00 P.M. - the auction room fills. I'll try to set the scene: I'm in a left rear aisle seat. Jack's to my right. Dick Punched (with instructions from Wes Rasmussen to "buy 'em or else!") and Fred Borchardt are beyond, Dan Holmes ahead. Behind me, the unholy trio of Gene Sanders, Tony Terranova, and Ken Goldman (the latter having taken up residence in Loring's Loft, as usual). The rear wall finds Doug Smith, Del Bland, and John Nicholas. Del and John have enough paddles between them to fan a harem. Ted Naftzger (wonder if he'll buy anything?) and Jerry Bobbe are up front. Lots of other EACers scattered about. I'm bidding for Larry Knee (he wants one coin), Lillian Willins (wants two coins), and Robbie Brown (ha ha ha ha). The tension is palpable.

June 13, 7:10 P.M. - it begins. I can't possibly recall all the highlights, so here's a not-so-random sampling from one very turned-on collector. Follow along in your programs..... (all prices plus 10 per cent).

S-2 AU55 - \$42,000. to a mystery man along the right wall. A fair price for a lovely coin.

NC2, BS1: after \$30,000., it's down to two bidders, Tony T. and an unknown. Except for the auctioneer, the room is dead quiet. On and on it goesand Tony wins, at \$46,000.

NC3, V.Fair-3: same game, same players, different ending. \$47,000. to the stranger. We'll meet him later.

S-7, VF20: to Big Jack at \$9,000. He turns to me and grins, "I came to play."

S-7, VG8: \$4,500. to Del for Lee Kuntz. His magic number is down to three. Go G. Lee!

S-7, G4: I sneak it away for only \$1,400. Poor little sister, indeed!

NC4, G5: \$4,750 to Jack. He can't believe it.

S-13 and S-14: both to me. A few days after the sale, the S-7, S-13, and S-14 all find their way to a happy Michigan home.

S-15 and S-16: both to Jack. I think he's in pretty good shape on '93's for now.

S-32, MS60: an unknown bidder, for \$9,000. The '94 nuts can now go home.

S-123, MS65: as lovely a Nichols find as I've ever seen. Opens at \$4,500., mine for \$4,750. Oh boy! This could be some night. To Jack: "So did I."

1800 S-205, MS63: the trio behind me is hungry. Fine, they won't have to own it for long. At \$3,000., there's plenty of room for everyone.

1801 S-223, MS63: for some reason, I ignore my \$5,000. limit, and Del buys it for the Birdman for \$3,400. Why did I do that?

1805 S-269, AU55: Doug's number 1 target. He takes it home for \$2,800.

1809 S-280, MS60: Gene and I agreed to buy this coin together, then decide who gets it. Tell you what, Gene - you get to bid it in, I get to keep it. Seems fair.

1811 S-287, MS60+: mine for \$4,750. I'm having a wonderful time!

The miscellaneous early date lots provide a little breathing space. Then it's on to the main (?) event - the Starr late dates. The very first one sets the tone for the whole night: 1816 N-1, MS63 - \$4,000. And, remember, folks, they're all plus 10 per cent.

1817 N-8, proof-like gem: C. Douglas takes the plunge for \$3,800.

1817, N-16, XF45: a twin to the EAC '84 coin at \$375. This one sneaks by for \$200. Gonna have a few like that in every sale.

1818 N-4, G6: unique in 1945, lots more now, but still \$375. worth of history.

1820 N-14, VF30: a mere \$750. to Big Jack. It'll seem cheap as the night goes one.

1821 N-1, Proof-65: a real knockout! Mine is the last hand up at \$13,500. Tony gives me a big smile; he thinks I did OK.

1822 N-10, Proof-65: out to California for \$17,000.

1822 "N-13", F12: a long fight, with Jack prevailing for \$1,500. This all-time record for a circulated middle-date cent will last for a full half hour.

1823 N-1, Proof-63: \$15,000. Glad that I have one already.

1823 N-2, Proof-65: I love this coin, like \$26,000. worth. Unfortunately, ted loves it \$1,000. more. Oh well, gives me something to think about for the future.

1824 N-1, MS65: everyone predicted that Ted and Gary Fitzgerald would bang heads again, just like the Masters (3,400.). So they did, this time to \$11,500. Score: GFF 2, REN 0. When is Round 3?

1824 N-2 and N-4, both choice MS. Same buyer, naturally.

1826 N-8, MS63: Ted and I seem to have similar task. Unfortunately, his bids always seem to be higher.

1827 N-11, MS63: at last, an MS 1827 for my date set!

1827 N-12, VF2-: I knew there'd be a battle here, but not an all-out war! Wes Rasmussen wins at \$2,600., shattering the mark set by the 1822 "N-13". Good for another half hour.

1828 N-5, Proof-63: Tony's in at \$19,000. Whee!

1828 N-12, VG7: a pitiful \$40. to the book. Guess the whole room fell asleep for a minute.

1829 N-4, VF30: Larry Knee gets his coin for \$900. One paddle gets put away.

1830 N-9, F15: if 27N12 was a war, this was a duel to the death. After a couple of thousand (!!), it was down to Dan Holmes, in person, and Wes Rasmussen, in Punchard. When the smoke cleared, Dan was down, Punchard was punchy, and Rasmussen had the record: \$5,000.! That one should stand for quite a while.

1831 N-14½, VG35: Fred Borchardt snags a biggie: \$1,600.

1832 N-2 and 1836 N-2, both MS60: Lillian Willins goes two for two. Another paddle goes.

1833 N-4, MS63/65: the rarest 1833, the overdate visible, billed as 'finest known' - so what's it doing at \$475? Going into my set, that's what!

1834 N-7, two Proof-63's, one dark, one bright: Robbie wants either one. Ted wants both. Sigh. A lovely set of cuff-links, at \$18,000. the cuff.

1835 N-1 and N-2, 65- and 60+, with magnificent color. Large and small dates, a great pair. They'll stay together for a while longer. At the risk of repeating myself, I'm having a wonderful time.

1838 N-2, MS60: Robbie Brown finally comes to life. His big day is tomorrow anyway.

1838 N-14, G6: the discovery coin, with the rim break: a whopping \$950., to California. I think that this variety will always have a two-tier pricing structure: the rim break multiplies by 5.

1838 "N-15", XF45: Jack's back, for \$2,200. He certainly did come to play!

1839 N-2, 3, 4, all MS65: \$2,500., \$4,400., \$3,600. Definitely, a 'better date'!

1839 "N-15", XF45: Wes closes the show at \$1,150.

The night is over. Nothing more need be said, except to solve one little mystery: the unknown Strawberry buyer is none other than Tad Starr, son of Floyd T. What a memento!

June 14: I won't even try a blow-by-blow. It was a replay of the previous night, in a slightly lower key. The proofs generally brought \$3,000.-\$5,000. There are indeed some serious late date variety collectors out there - like 1846 N-21 for \$2,500.! The super gem full-red MS70's went for \$2,000.-\$3,000.; so much for the Gray Sheet. I picked up 1843, 1844, and 1854 for the date set, and I bought a whole bunch for Robbie. The encounter of the evening featured Ted and Jack squaring off for the 1848 Small Date, with Jack victorious at \$5,000. The auctioneer made some comment. Jack responded with his battle cry once more. This time, his voice rang throughout the room. He seemed to speak for all of us, summing up the entire experience: "I came to play!"

We certainly did!

* * * * *



TO THE MEMBERS OF EAC:

Thank you so much for participating in our recent Auction Sale of the Floyd T. Starr collection. Our sincere hope is that our services to you will enable you to continue to trade with us, and that our business relationship may be long and mutually satisfactory.



123 West 57th Street
New York, N.Y. 10019

AMERICA'S OLDEST AND LARGEST RARE COIN DEALERS

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FINDING A FUGIO

Steve Brinkman

Several years ago, I wrote a basic historical sketch about the Fugio cent for presentation before the local coin club here in Greeley, Colorado. Although I had never actively collected pre-U.S. Mint American coppers, the work that I did on this paper stimulated my desire to own an example of this interesting and significant issue. My efforts were casual, because my major collecting interests were already somewhat diverse, viz. U.S. large cents, English coins, and Roman Imperial coins. Nevertheless, I found myself looking into the Colonial sections in catalogues and at price lists with great fascination.

Nowadays, I take at least one day each year to visit ANA headquarters in Colorado Springs; and, on my way home, I usually drop in on a coin dealer or two in Denver or Boulder. It was on one of these occasions last summer that I stopped in on one of the larger, more respected coin dealers in the state.

As I was peering through the glass in the display case, I thought to myself that there wasn't much to get excited about today, at least in the areas of my interest. I was about ready to head for home, when I noticed a Fugio cent hidden among some old, fairly low-grade Colonials. It's no wonder that I nearly missed it, for when I asked to see it, I was handed a very dirty coin. There was quite a bit of crud in the devices and fields. The insert in the flip holder said 'Fugio cent, XF40'.

The price was about what I would expect to pay for an XF and the sharpness of the piece tended to corroborate the grade. Admittedly, I had not examined many high grade Fugios first hand, but this coin appeared to have an abundance of detail. I was especially impressed with the intricacy in the motto 'MIND YOUR BUSINESS'. It seemed to be minutely engraved into the die rather than just punched. When I turned the coin over, I realized that this coin was different from other Fugio coppers of which I had seen photographs, but I wasn't sure what the difference was. I made a mental picture of the coin, thanked the lady, and was on my way.

I should explain that at nearly any other time there might have been no question whether or not this was the coin for me. The piece seemed just what I thought I would want in a Fugio and at a price that I could afford, but I was six weeks away from a planned trip to Europe and I had been having visions of trays and trays of magnificent Roman and English coins being set before me in the great numismatic firms in Europe. So I hesitated.

When I arrived home, I pulled out the RED BOOK from its shelf in my library. Looking through the section on Fugios, I found it: "Reverse label with raised rims (simply two concentric circles)." My heart jumped a beat. The Guide Book value was fully 3 times the value indicated for the common varieties. I closed the book without looking further through the listings.

The next day, the coin wouldn't leave my mind. A good portion of my conversation with my wife, Gwen, was about the Fugio I had seen. Eventually, Gwen suggested that we drive back down and take another look. An hour later we were in our car and on our way to re-examine the coin.

Once we arrived at the dealer's shop, I asked to remove the coin from the flip holder and examined it under a glass. Joy! the surfaces seemed to be at least partially glossy, underneath what looked to be removable dirt. I opened my Guide Book to verify the attribution. After the listing for the "Label with raised rims" variety that I had looked up before, there was a note indicating that all of the preceding Fugio cents with pointed rays were punctuated with four cinquefoils. I checked the obverse - there were none. There was only a crosslet after the date. What did we have here? Looking further, I found the listing for "no cinquefoils, cross after date", then further "reverse labels with raised rims". The Price column had no prices, just "(Ex. Rare)". I wrote the dealer a check, picked up the coin, and we were off. I had found me a Fugio.

Over the next few days, I carefully removed the dirt from the coin's surface and I found an About EF coin on a smooth planchet, with only microscopic striae in some isolated areas. In the weeks that followed, I pursued every bit of information and literature that I could find on the Fugios and this particular variety (10Z.1). Mr. Kessler, in his book "The Fugio Cents", assigns a rarity of high R7 overall, and R8 above F to this variety.

During our European visit, I saw no numismatic items nearly as exciting as my early American copper prize. I suppose that anticipating numismatic events can be pleasurable, but rewarding discoveries such as my Fugio often lie around the most unexpected corners.

* * * * *

NEW CANDIDATES FOR EAC MEMBERSHIP

The following persons have applied for membership in EAC since the last issue of P-W. Provided that no adverse comments on any particular individual are received by the Membership Committee before the September issue of P-W, all will be declared elected to full membership at that time. Chairman of the Membership Committee is Rod Burress, 9743 Leacrest, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45215.

Member Number

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| Krause, David | E. Hanover, NJ | 2132 |

THE REPUBLIC OF VERMONT - FROM LANDSCAPE TO BUST! WHY??

Roy E. Bonjour

Back in the 'dim ages' of our Revolutionary period, there existed a small republic which was much abused by its neighbors. The republic was poor little Vermont, caught in the middle of a fierce territorial dispute between New York and New Hampshire, both of whom claimed its land. Undeterred, however, Vermont declared itself a republic and proceeded to help its sister colonies in their battle against the Crown. The bitter dispute continued, even after independence had been achieved; and it kept Vermont from joining the first United States - The Articles of Confederation.

During the American Revolution and the immediate post-war period, there existed a scarcity of specie throughout the colonies. This, of course, was not surprising because British mercantilistic policies had deprived the colonies of coins throughout our colonial period. So great was the shortage of specie that, during the Revolution, the Vermont legislature authorized the payment of debt in kind.

In June, 1785, the Vermont Legislature authorized Reuben Harmon, Jr. to set up a mint and produce coppers. Shortly afterwards, Connecticut, New Jersey, and Massachusetts also passed legislation authorizing the coinage of coppers in their own states. It would seem that the shortage of coins was acute almost everywhere.

The design selected for the Vermont coin was both appropriate and beautiful, and the obverse was truly a tribute to Vermont. The design featured a mountain range with a stand of pine trees on it. Just behind the mountain was a magnificent rising sun, full of hope and promise. In the foreground, there was a plow which was symbolic of Vermont's agricultural life. The American spirit radiated forth in this early primitive design. The legend in Latin (there were three different versions) said "Republic of Vermont".

The reverse was not as original as the obverse - in fact, it was borrowed from a popular token, the *Nova Constellatio*. What the reverse lacked in originality was more than made up by its appropriateness. The legend, again in Latin, said the "14th Star", a direct reference, of course, to Vermont's desire to become the 14th star in the flag of the United States. Vermont wanted to become a state in the union.

Within a short period of time, however, a strange event occurred - the design on the coin was changed to a more mundane version, copying the British half-penny. Over the years, a widely held and seemingly unquestioned explanation has been accepted by the numismatic community - basically, it was felt that the landscape design had not been accepted by the people of Vermont and the neighboring states.

Neither Sylvester Crosby nor Edmund Slafter were able to uncover the reason for the change. In *THE NUMISMATIST* for May, 1947, John Richardson published an article on "The Copper Coins of Vermont". The article contained an introduction by Howard H. Kurth, who wrote:

"We are not certain of the reason for this change (the change from landscape to bust type), but it is quite apparent that the type and legends of this second series were suggested by the Coppers of Connecticut. It was probably decided that it would be to the advantage of trade to issue this old familiar type of coin in that it would gain a wider circulation, and would be more readily acceptable in neighboring states than a coin of local character."

I do not know if Kurth originated the rejected design theory, but it is the earliest reference to it that I was able to uncover. The most important thing which you, the reader, must keep in mind is that there is no factual evidence available to validate the theory. However, I do not accept this supposition, for the reasons explained below.

By 1786, the United States was mired in a deep depression. The central government, having few powers, was unable to solve its domestic and foreign problems. The debtor classes bombarded the state legislatures for relief; and due to their pressures, half of the states issued paper money. The results of this fiscal irresponsibility were to drive the remaining specie out of circulation. Stepping in to fill this shortage of small change, the states of Vermont, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Connecticut issued their own coppers. Also rushing in to fill this void were local counterfeiters.

Sixteen months after Harmon had been given permission to coin coppers, there was still a scarcity in Vermont. When he petitioned the Vermont Legislature for an extension of his contract (October 23, 1786), he stated:

" . . . your Petitioner (Harmon) conceives that in the present scarcity of circulating medium the coinage of coppers within this state may be advantageous to the Public - "

With such a shortage of coins still present, why then were the people of Vermont so persnickety? The coins had been approved by their state legislature and they certainly had more legality behind them than the coppers issued by the counterfeiters or the tokens which were circulating at the time. Throughout the whole United States, there were cries for more money to be put into circulation. Why would Vermont reject something for which there was a burning need?

It has been stated that the design on the Vermont coppers had been found to be objectionable - that it did not contain the familiar style of the British half-penny. An obviously overlooked point, however, was that both Massachusetts and New Jersey issued coins which bore no resemblance to the British coin - yet the Massachusetts and New Jersey coppers seemed to have no difficulty in circulating. It could be said that they were accepted because they were heavier. This is true, but Vermont changed the design, not the weight.

Evidence seems to support the conclusion that the Nova Constellatio coppers saw extensive circulation during this period. Since they were imported for American circulation as a private business venture by Gouverneur Morris of New York, would it not be reasonable to assume that this part of the United States saw more than its fair share of them? The Nova Constellatio pieces were light in weight; and as mentioned previously, had the same design that was used on the Vermont reverse. Why would people accept the Nova pieces and reject the Vermont coppers? It doesn't make sense.

In colonial times, an era marked by a shortage of coins, specie also circulated which bore no relationship to British coins. The whole New England series ranging from the New England pieces to the Pine Tree coinage were accepted readily by the people. In Connecticut, the Higley coppers were used by the people in that area, as proven by their extensive wear. In later years, the Hard Times tokens also were circulated, seemingly pointing out that people will use anything for money when times are bad and coins are scarce. (Some Hard Times tokens were similar to U.S. coins, but many more were not.) Our history seems to prove that people will use whatever coins are available when there is a need to do so. Were the people of Vermont that much different from other Americans? I don't think so.

As mentioned previously, the Vermont coppers supposedly were not accepted by neighboring states. The following item appeared in the April 14, 1787 edition of "The Massachusetts Sentinel". After giving the description of a Vermont landscape-type coin, one writer concluded: "The coinage is well executed; and the Device is sentimental, ingenious, and beautiful!" Does this sound like a coin that had been rejected by the populace? Inasmuch as the article was written in 1787 after the design had been changed, the writer should have been aware of any adverse popular reaction to the coin - yet there was no hint of rejection in his article.

Another article which was favorable to the landscape-type coin appeared in the April 20, 1786 issue of "The New Hampshire Gazette". The article said:

"New York, Connecticut, and Vermont have authorized a person in each of these states to coin coppers - numbers of them are now in circulation; they are in general well made and of good copper, those of New York in particular. Was a person authorized in this State for the same purpose, it would undoubtedly prevent the manufacturing of these made of base metal."

I have read many contemporary newspapers from the states surrounding Vermont, constantly hoping to find some definitive answers. Never have I found any words which were critical of the Vermont coins, although this does not mean that they did not exist. In my search, I used the newspaper collections in the New York Historical Society and the New York Fifth Avenue Library. Neither of these collections contain any newspapers from Vermont which represent this particular period.

I hope that I might have started some of you into thinking. If I have, then why not start digging? You might even find the proof that I am looking for! In the next part of my article, I will advance my own theory as to what may have happened. This part of my article can well be titled "The Connecticut Connection".

Part 2.

Reuben Harmon, Jr. was a business-man who obviously felt that he could make a profit from minting coins. The profits, however, did not flow in as rapidly as he had hoped; and 16 months into his two-year contract, he petitioned the Vermont Legislature for a renewal. He stated in his petition of October 23, 1786 that he:

". . . has at very great expence in erecting works and procuring a quantity of genuine copper for the Purpose . . . and that . . . by reason of the shortness of said Term, will

be unable to indemnify himself for said expences . . . Your Petitioner therefore prays this Honorable assembly to grant him the privilege of coining copper for a farther term of ten years . . . "5

In acting upon Harmon's petition, the Legislature extended his term for an additional eight years and furthermore granted him an exemption from any duty whatsoever to the state of Vermont for three years, starting July 1, 1787. All Harmon had to do was to make the coins.

It is generally accepted that the dies for the landscape-type obverses were made in New York City by William Coley. He produced eleven dies (6 obverses, 5 reverses) during the sixteen months that the landscape-types were the approved design. However, none of these dies seem to have lasted for a long run. This is not surprising when you consider the poor quality of the local copper which was used. It must have had disastrous effects upon the dies. Thus, it would seem that if Harmon were to recoup his money, he would have to find a way of acquiring more dies at a faster pace.

James C. Spilman, the editor of THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER, has written many excellent articles on the process of making coins. He has stated "that die making was a considerable part of the overall effort in an early American mint. Without dies, there was no coinage; and the cost of the dies. . . must have been tremendous."

At the same time that Harmon was producing the Vermont landscape-type coins, Abel Buell was making dies for the Company of Coining Coppers in Connecticut. Buell had developed a new technique which was years ahead of its time. The dies that he produced in 1786 were complete in all respects, i.e. they contained all the design features including the legend and the date.² Undoubtedly, the cost savings could be great, if the technique was perfected.

I believe that Harmon had learned of Buell's method and had envisioned its application to his own operation. The only problem was that the coins of Connecticut were different from those of Vermont - they were of a more conventional design, i.e. resembling the British half penny. Harmon would have to have a design change if he were to receive Buell's assistance (Buell might have even agreed to produce the dies). I feel that this, then, was the primary motivation for the new design which the Vermont Legislature approved on October 24, 1786.

The fact that there was such a connection between Harmon and Buell is irrefutable. Shortly after the Vermont legislature had approved the design change, William Buell (the son of Abel) arrived in Rupert, Vermont with dies made by his father. Exactly how or when the relationship between Harmon and Buell had been established is not known, but two possible links could be explained as follows. Nathaniel and Lemuel Chipman provided the sureties for Harmon's second contract. Both men were politically powerful in Vermont, and they were responsible for making Thomas Chittenden the first governor of the state. Chittenden's sister Mary has been reported to have been the first wife of Abel Buell. A brother, Ebenezer Chittenden, was the man under whom Abel Buell had once been apprenticed. A second possible connection was the marriage of Mary Buell (the daughter of Mary Chittenden and Abel Buell) to Grove More, on whose property Reuben Harmon built his first mint. In either case, a more-than-casual relationship can be established.¹

The sequence of events could have unfolded in the following manner. The local copper was wrecking the dies produced by Coley. If Harmon were to make his operation profitable, he needed more dies, and faster. Having learned of Buell's new technique, Harmon felt that this was the answer to his problem. When he petitioned the Vermont legislature for an extension, contacts were made within the legislature to approve the design change which was necessary in order to use Buell's dies. Such approval came on October 26, 1786. Harmon immediately sent word to Buell, who then dispatched his son, William, with the dies. William arrived in Vermont in late 1786. I believe that his arrival at this time was not a coincidence, but was the direct result of the design change and Harmon's newly-established connection with Abel Buell.

Something, however, went wrong. We know that Abel Buell eventually abandoned the master complex hub and returned to the more conventional means for producing his 1787 dies. Whether or not it was Harmon's intention to get complete hubs from Buell is unknown. We do know that William Buell arrived in Rupert, Vermont with dies which had to be finished. Coley left New York City in late 1786 or early 1787, and Coley's date and letter punches were used to finish the dies for the Ryder 10, 11, and 15. It is quite possible that Buell had agreed to only produce the major designs and that Coley had intended to finish them at Rupert. At any length, the only dies which came from Buell were the above-named three. Conceivably, Abel Buell got into trouble with his partners for supplying the Vermont mint with dies and had to invent a reason for his son's trip to Rupert. Basically, the story stated that William had been erroneously accused of killing an Indian and had to flee from New Haven in order to keep his scalp. Of course, despite his great haste, he also had managed to take the dies with him.

On April 21, 1787, the Congress of the United States issued a committee report on the coinage of coppers. Inasmuch as the report was issued on this date, it would not be unreasonable to suggest that Congress had been talking about such coinage before this date. Eventually, the coinage was approved and the Fugio coppers came into being. Abel Buell made the dies for the Fugios. It is quite possible that this arrangement could have forced Buell to back out of any agreement that he might have made with Harmon.

When Coley was in Rupert, he started to produce dies for the 1787 Vermont coppers. This effort turned out to be unsatisfactory, however; and Harmon then turned to Machin's Mills as a source of the much needed dies.

I believe that William Buell, while at Rupert and before the arrival of Coley, attempted to use the skills he had learned while apprenticed to his father. In the process, William completed the die for the very famous "Baby Head", which is known for its amateurish appearance. One must remember that William was born either in 1771 or 1772^o, making him only 14 or 15 years of age at the time - hardly the age for a skilled craftsman. Why did William create a bust right, instead of left? I believe that William wanted to differentiate his work from that of his father, who was producing bust left coins in 1786. If you have any teenage children, you will recognize the trait. William was now on his own and he wanted to create as much distance between his work and his father's as possible. It might have been William Buell's poor attempt that caused Harmon to realize the inexperience of the younger Buell, and this might have hastened Harmon's call for Coley to come to Rupert from New York.

Unfortunately, there is no factual information available to support the rejected design theory. I have not found a document which supports my supposition.

However, I have used all the material that is currently known and I have reconstructed the events as I believe that they transpired. I feel that the circumstantial evidence gives greater credence to my supposition.

It is quite possible that this article will encourage the numismatic community to do further research on the case cited. Too often prestigious American organizations give grants for research that cover ancient and medieval history, but they fail to realize how little we really know about our own past from a numismatic standpoint. Maybe it's about time that we encourage people to research our own history.

I have not documented every source of information which I used for this paper. Much of the material is well known to the Vermontophiles. The footnotes above used refer to the following sources:

1. THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER - Serial Number 13.
2. idem 39.
3. idem 48.
4. idem 65.
5. Crosby, Sylvester, THE EARLY COINS OF AMERICA
6. Welles, Albert, THE HISTORY OF THE BUELL FAMILY

* * * * *

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Upstate New York Regional EAC Meeting to be held in September, 1984:

The Empire State Numismatic Association will hold its Fall convention at the Sheraton Inn, 200 Genesee Street, Utica, New York on September 28, 29, and 30, 1984. This will be a fine opportunity for EAC members to get together.

There will be a regional EAC meeting at 2 P.M. on Saturday, September 29, at the Meeting House of the Munson-Williams-Proctor Institute, 310 Genesee Street (just a few blocks south of the Sheraton Inn). The Meeting House is located adjacent to the parking lot at the rear of the Institute.

The topic for the meeting will be "Attributing Half Cents and Large Cents". It is hoped that members will contribute hints, clues, keys, shortcuts, suggestions or whatever for attributing early coppers. A slide projector, screen, and overhead projector will be available. Refreshments will be served.

Any one desiring additional information, transportation fliers, or hotel/motel reservation cards may contact:

Ron Janowsky, 58 Pearl Street, New Hartford, NY 13413. Phone: 1-315-724-0471.

* * * * *

EAC at ANA:

For those of you who will be attending the annual ANA meeting to be held this summer in Detroit, Michigan, don't forget to attend the EAC meeting which has been scheduled for July 29 at 9:30 A.M. Check your convention program for the site of the meeting.

* * * * *

THE NEWEST EARLY AMERICAN SERIES

Gary A. Trudgen

One decade ago, a new early American series of copper coins was born. Actually the coins themselves have been in existence for nearly two centuries, but it wasn't until recently that they were attributed, thus making them a collectable series. These early American coins were minted during the Confederation period of the United States at the same time as the popular state coinages. By now some of you probably know that I'm referring to the "Early English Counterfeit Halfpence Struck in America" series that was attributed by Bob Vlack in 1974 when he published a set of photo plates and rarity guide. Today these coppers are usually referred to as Machin's Mills imitation British halfpence or just simply Machins. The reason for this is that most of this series is thought to have been minted at Machin's Mills, an early American mint located on the eastern shore of Orange Lake just west of Newburgh, New York.

Thomas Machin formed a company to coin copper in early 1787 with the hope of obtaining a coinage grant from New York State or even the Continental Congress. Machin was an ingenious man. During the Revolutionary War, while fighting for the American cause, he was an artillery expert, civil engineer, surveyor and map maker. He is probably best known for his efforts in supervising the making and placing of the Great Chain and boom across the Hudson River at West Point in 1778. The purpose of the chain and boom was to prevent the British from sailing up the river. Machin was hard working, plain, honest and he held the admiration of his peers. He also held the confidence of men in high command, such as George Washington and George Clinton.

The coinage mill and Machin's home were located on land owned by his good friend George Clinton, then the Governor of New York State. One of his partners, David Brooks, was in the New York Assembly and was at the time dealing with coinage legislation. With these connections it is difficult to imagine why Machin did not receive a grant to coin copper for the state when he applied for a grant in early 1787. The answer no doubt lies with Alexander Hamilton who was one of our great American statesman. The committee appointed to investigate the establishment of a copper coinage within the state consisted of Machin's partner David Brooks, Alexander Hamilton, and John Lansing who was a staunch supporter of Governor Clinton. One may conjecture that Brooks

would, of course, have been in favor of a copper coinage for the state and that Lansing would probably have been also because of his political ties with the Governor. George Clinton was an opponent of the Constitution and would have thus favored any legislation which would have given more power to the state, such as their own coinage. This leaves Alexander Hamilton who was a zealous Federalist and thus would not have been in favor of a state coinage. Somehow Hamilton won out and New York State never issued a coinage grant.

Lacking a grant to coin copper for New York State, Machin's company quickly formed a partnership with Rueben Harmon's company who had a grant to coin copper from the state of Vermont. James F. Atlee, another of Machin's business partners and well experienced die sinker, immediately began engraving the much needed coin dies for the Vermont enterprise. Machin's Mills was operational by July 1787 in compliance with the articles of agreement between Machin's and Harmon's companies. However, Machin still lacked authority to coin copper. Since there was no law in New York State prohibiting the private coinage of copper and since the public normally accepted copper coins in circulation whether they were authorized or not, Machin and his partners began production of their version of the British halfpence which was then widely circulating in the state.

This was the beginnings of the Machin's Mills imitation British halfpence series. To date, 34 die varieties are known with dates including and scattered between 1747 and 1788. Irrespective of their dates, all of the varieties are thought to have been minted during the years 1787 through 1789. Probably the most favorite regular issue from this series is the 1776 large date (Vlack 6-76A). This is because of the importance of the date, the year that the American colonies declared themselves independent from England, and because it is a common variety which makes it relatively easy to obtain. Some of these varieties are collected with other state coinages because of muled dies. One such example of this is the popular



Vermont Britannia (RR19). This series can offer the same lore and challenges as the other state coinages to anyone interested in early American coppers.

Even though a collector base has started to build for this series, it is not as avidly collected as the other state coinages. This is no doubt due to the fact that it is a newly attributed series, and that information on the series is not readily available. My personal interest in the series is high and I hope to help alleviate this information shortage sometime in the future by publishing information on each die variety. Of course, in order to compile this type of information I must rely upon input from collectors, institutions and dealers who own these coppers.

I would be pleased to hear from those of you who own these coppers. Any information that I receive from you will be held in the strictest confidence. When writing please consider the following list of items when describing your holdings:

- (1) Variety
- (2) Grade of coin based on wear
- (3) Type of strike - weak, strong, uneven
- (4) Planchet information - color, weight, defects, clips, rim burrs, incomplete planchet cuts
- (5) Die state - cracks, buckling, clashes
- (6) Multiple strikes
- (7) Off center strikes
- (8) Overstrikes - underlying coin
- (9) Obverse/reverse die orientation

Machin's Mills imitation British halfpence are sometimes confused with other American or English made counterfeit British halfpence, some of which have the same dates. For those of you who own a British halfpence and are unsure if it is a Machin's Mills product, the following may be of some help. The Machin's Mills series is distinguished by:

- (1) Crude die work
- (2) Large triangular denticles
- (3) A single outline in the crosses (British Union) of Britannia's shield
- (4) Planchets that are lightweight (111 grains average) and are usually of poor quality.
- (5) All varieties are George III issues except the 1747 date which is George II

Also, the genuine George III British halfpence are dated 1770 to 1775 inclusive. If you feel that you do own a Machin's Mills imitation British halfpence, but have no means to identify its die variety, I would be happy to assist you.

At this point I cannot be sure as to when the information will be published or what form it may take. My desire is to make it as comprehensive as possible. So make a note to take some time in the near future and drop me a line. My address is: Gary A. Trudgen
3103 Chatham Road
Endwell, N.Y. 13760

* * * * *

In submitting the above article, Gary sent a covering letter, as follows:

"This is an article which I have specifically written for PENNY-WISE. The information concerning the committee appointed to investigate the establishment of a copper coinage in New York State is original and, to my knowledge, has never been published before.

Also enclosed are two photos, the obverse and reverse of Vlack 6-76A, that I wish to be used with this article.

I have been researching the operations at Machin's Mills and have been studying the imitation British halfpence for the past few years. I have had one article published by THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER, with another soon to appear."

* * * * *

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THE LAST EARLY CENT REVISION UPDATE

Denis W. Loring

Jeff Oliphant and I have agreed that Del Bland and Walter Breen will assume primary responsibility for drafting the text for the early cent revision. My non-numismatic activities (i.e. the re-insurance business) are simply not allowing me to get the job done. I will still be active in the revision process: collecting Condition Census states, working with Del and Walter, and serving in a general editorial capacity. Jeff and I feel that this shift of responsibility is best for EAC and all individuals concerned.

Co-incident with this transition, I will begin a new series of updates in P-W. Rather than simply going through the varieties chronologically again, I will attempt to highlight significant changes that have occurred since the publication of PENNY WHIMSY. With any luck, the title of this article (note the second word) is for real!

Values Not Listed in Sheldon - Part 1

- 1798 C-18 NC6 Obverse new, Reverse L (S-13). Discovered by Ted Naftzger in 1978. Unique, VG8. Identification points:
Bead just left of center of I in LIBERTY
Bases of BER in line; ER nearly touch
Pole points directly at a bead.
For full details, see P-W 65 (March, 1978), pp 54-59.
- 1794 C-9 NC8 Obverse 8 (S-25), Reverse new. Discovered by W. C. Blaisdell in 1965. Two known, 15-8. Identification points:
Leaves 13-18, berries 6-8
Group of 4 berries below R of AMERICA
Diebreak from rim to right arm of first T of STATES, foot of A, into field.
For full details, see P-W 8 (September, 1968), p. 163.
- 1794 C-38 NC9 Obverse 21 (S-47), Reverse new. Discovered by Chuck Furjanic in 1974. Unique, AG3. Identification points:
Leaves 14-18, berries 7-6
Hugh bisecting die break 12:00 to 6:00 on reverse.
For full details, see P-W 41 (March, 1974), p. 78.
- 1795 C-5 NC2 Obverse new, Reverse C (S-76). Discovered by Walter Breen in 1969. Unique, G4. Identification points:
Date spaced 1 79 5, very closely spaced
Top of 5 buried in bust
For full details, see P-W 11 (March, 1969), p. 57 and Lester Merkin's March, 1969 auction catalogue.

- 1795 C-6 NC3 Obverse 3 (S-76), Reverse new. Discovered by Jack Beymer in 1980. Unique, Fair2. Identification point: T of CENT rests on pair of leafs below. For full details, see P-W 81 (November, 1980), pp. 237-9
- 1796 C-38 NC6 Obverse 25 (S-118), Reverse Y (S-117). Discovered by Denis Loring in 1970. Unique, AG3. See P-W 21 (November, 1970), p. 202.
- 1797 C-29 NC7 Obverse 11 (S-138), Reverse S (S-142). Discovered by Jules Reiver in 1968. Unique, VG10. See P-W 9 (November, 1968), pp. 216-8.
- 1800 C-1 NC5 Obverse 1 (S-190), Reverse new. Discovered by Dr. Stanley Q. West in 1965. Unique, VG10. Identification points:
 Leaves below T in CENT stemless
 Stem to third outer left leaf pair joined to adjacent berry
 Rim break from top of F to border above R
 For full details, see P-W 8 (September, 1968), pp. 163-4.
- 1800 C-2 NC6 Obverse 1 (S-190), Reverse new. Discovered by Ted Naftzger in 1969, confirmed by Herb Silberman in 1970. Six known: 25-7-7-7-4. Identification points:
 Lower half of F double-punched
 First outside left berry stemless
 Stem points toward inner curve of C
 For more details, see P-W 25 (July, 1971), p. 125.
- 1801 C-13 NC4 Obverse new, Reverse H (S-222) First identified in the Dupont sales catalogue, 1954. Three known: 10-5-4. Identification points:
 First 1 pointed
 Date well curved, 0 low
 For full details, see P-W 8 (September, 1968), p. 163 and P-W 16 (January, 1970), pp. 29-30.

SUMMARY: 10 new varieties, total of 18 specimens
 8 new dies: 3 obverses, 5 reverses
 2 new mules

(To be continued)

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AT WHAT RARITY IS A PREMIUM JUSTIFIED?

John G. Fettingner

Fewer than 300 members attended at least one EAC meeting in 1983. Those who did attend are listed in Volume XVII of P-W. As Casey Stengel used to say, "You could look it up." Despite this appalling record, those present probably included the most serious collectors of early American copper. Some absentees may challenge my criterion for a serious collector; but how do we know, if they don't show? More importantly, what is the composition of this valiant 300?

With no offense intended to fellow Colonial, half cent and token collectors, a polling of these 300 members would likely reveal a majority interest in large cents. A division of this majority by early, middle and late dates and by Sheldon and Newcomb varieties suggests individual group maximum of about 75 to 100. Interestingly, if the response to John Wright's recent survey of major middle date collections was considered to represent a quarter to a third of all middle date variety collections, the total would also fall within a 75 to 100 range. OK, so these guesstimates don't prove anything; but let us pursue the matter a bit further.

In the July 15, 1983 issue of P-W, I proposed a rarity value table which presented the R4 level as follows:

| | | | |
|--------|----------------------|----------|--------------------|
| R4 (-) | 145 to 200 Specimens | Valued @ | X (Common Variety) |
| R4 | 105 to 144 | " " | @ 1.3X |
| R4 (+) | 76 to 104 | " " | @ 1.8X |

Current values were based on the number thought to be extant, geographical distribution, and the present level of demand. I also stated that R4 @ 1.3X and R4 (+) @ 1.8X were consistent with values indicated in the respective studies of Denis Loring and John Wright.

If a variety is rated R4 (-), even though the 145 to 200 specimens extant may be widely distributed, the supply would seem adequate to meet the demand of 75 to 100 collectors without causing a premium. However, when these same 75 to 100 collectors seek a variety at the R4 level, wide distribution of the 105 to 144 specimens does effect demand, which in turn supports the 1.3X premium. In like manner, an R4 (+) variety with a specimen count of 76 to 104 is under even greater pressure reflected in the 1.8X premium. It is no coincidence that the 75 to 100 collectors accommodated within the specimen count-range of R4 (-), R4 and R4 (+) have generated the value premiums of X, 1.3X and 1.8X respectively. Eventually, even the R3 level may be subjected to a premium as the number of early, middle, and late date variety collectors increases. Although some demand resulting from wide distribution is neutralized by modern communications, if one considers the reduced supply of desirable specimens available and some collector-preference to see the copper before buying, distribution is definitely a factor of value.

What we really have here is a constantly changing relationship between the number of specimens reported known for a variety (rarity), the number of collectors seeking a specimen (demand), and the premium (value) which results as a consequence of market activity. If the rarity of a variety is determined to be at a specific level and at a later date more specimens are discovered, the rarity is reduced and the premium drops accordingly. If the variety's rarity level remains constant but the number of collectors seeking a specimen increases, the premium value will rise to reflect the greater demand.

Therefore, a premium of 1.3X appears to be justified for the R4 level if 75 to 100 can be accepted as the present number of collectors creating demand for a variety at this level. Indeed, it is unlikely that the 1.3X premium now demanded at R4 could be supported if buyer interest were at a lower level. On the other hand, if 100 to 150 collectors were currently active, the 1.3X premium would start at R4 (-) instead of R4 and the premium for higher rarity levels would be proportionately greater. The law of supply and demand governs large cent values, just as it does most other commodities.

We must also consider that demand may be greater in one collecting area than another, thus necessitating different value premiums for early and middle dates. However, this presently does not appear to be the case. The pressure which was mounting on early dates seems relieved by the growing interest in middle dates, and value premiums for both periods now appear more or less in balance. Attribution and demand for late dates continue to grow as a result of Jules Reiver's study; but, except for rare or popular varieties, support for premiums seems to be marginal.

Of course, if you prefer Jack Robinson's "Copper Quotes", there is no need to consider these complex problems. I must admit that these quotation tables are very convenient and it is difficult to refute the market results on which they are based. Nevertheless, lest these quotes tend to be regarded as absolute, let us remain alert to the potential gap inherent therein between what a specific variety brings at auction as opposed to value based on rarity, distribution, and demand. Discrepancies can be just as fallacious as the high prices demanded for popular, low rarity, error varieties discussed in previous P-W articles. If someone is impatient or foolish enough to pay a ridiculous amount for a variety, such folly should not be permitted to inflate the current price level. Judgment and discretion are still important no matter what system is employed.

Oh yes, good luck to you other 950 (1250-300) members who are reported to be active in EAC. If just 4 per cent of you were to become more active, the cost of large cents would be much higher than it is today. Although no one welcomes the prospect of higher prices, your participation in the fellowship of EAC is much more important than any financial impact that my result. Hope we see you soon!

* * * * *

If you think education is expensive, try ignorance. THE RAT FINK

ANA VERSUS EAC GRADING STANDARDS

Phil Abel

Perhaps this article will make me an EAC outcast! Every one has opinions regarding grading, and mine might as well be heard. All of the "old-timers" in EAC seem to feel that the Sheldon system must be maintained, and Denis Loring's article in P-W 101, titled "Grading the Sheldon Way", reinforces that policy.

For years, the Sheldon grading system was the only well-documented grading guide in numismatics. Dr. Sheldon's basic premise was that the grade assigned to a coin should reflect its value, and Mr. Loring's article was simply a restatement of that policy. If color and surface conditions (other than wear) are part of assigning a net grade, then that grade, multiplied by some factor, should yield value.

In 1977, the ANA published its "Grading Standards for United States Coins". These standards, as we all know, use Dr. Sheldon's numbering system. There, the similarity stops. The ANA standards address surface wear only - color, texture, strike, planchet defects, etc. are not considered. ANA wear standards also differ from the Sheldon system by approximately 1/2 to 1 full grade. XF in the Sheldon system is AU in ANA; VF20 in Sheldon is approximately VF30 in ANA; etc. This system is universally accepted in the ANA, but EAC remains steadfast in the Sheldon system. Yet EAC is ANA-affiliated!

I believe that it is time to consider joining ANA "all the way". We should cease being elitists and should adopt the ANA grading system. VF30 should mean the same throughout the numismatic fraternity, and EAC should not maintain separate standards. When the grade is affected by color and surface properties other than just wear, there will always be a larger difference of opinion among graders than if just wear alone is considered. A description such as "VF20, light obverse pitting, dark" tells me much more than a net grade of "VG10", and value is always a matter of opinion. The need for an EAC grading guide would still be necessary, since only a copper expert would know of those die, planchet, or strike problems which others might confuse with wear.

When the benefits are considered, the change of grading standards with respect to previous publications would appear to be a small price to pay. It is high time that grades assigned by every one in the ANA should have the same meaning. Would we prefer to be considered snobs?

* * * * *

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* * * * *

William T. Jones, Jr.

Beginning with the 1809 half cents, my collecting objectives were upgraded to EF for the common coins, VF for the scarce pieces, and anything I could find for the rarities. Therefore, I have spent very little time looking at low grade common varieties. This is not a fatal flaw, however, because many of those coins to be considered herein are in at least VF condition.

1809. There are 6 varieties of this date: one is rare, one is scarce, and 4 are common. I have seen one example of the rare Cohen-1, a cleaned VG. Several examples of C-2 ranging in grade from G to F were available at the 1982 ANA convention, but I have not seen any others before or since.

The remaining 4 varieties are all obtainable if one is willing to attribute all of the 1809 half cents that are offered. The scarcest of these is the circle with-in the zero, C-4. Although this coin is difficult to find in choice VF or better, G to F examples are often available unattributed. This variety usually has a die break just below the chin of Miss Liberty which adversely affects the striking of the hair detail in that area. It is interesting to note that the same sort of break appears on the 1810 half cent as well, indicating that there may have been a mechanical problem with the production of the early years of the Classic Head design.

The remaining 3 varieties, C-3, 5, and 6, are all quite common. These coins are fairly easy to find in VF and EF condition although they are often poorly struck, especially C-6. It has been my experience that C-6 is the most common 1809, followed by the overdate C-5, and then C-3.

1810. There is only 1 variety of this date, and it is somewhat easy to locate in G to F condition. However, EF40 coins are seldom available and very much in demand. These coins, when offered on fixed price lists, sell instantly for several times the value of their catalogue listings. Most of the specimens which I have seen were the late die state with the die break at the neck and with poorly struck hair in that area. This die state, as on the 1809 C-4, gives the illusion of more wear than is actually on the coin.

1811. This date is particularly exasperating to the collector who enjoys attractive copper because most 1811's are worn, corroded, or mutilated, or a combination of the three. I have seen 2 of the Condition Census EF coins, and even these pieces had a "steely" color to them which was not quite like the warm, brown, copper color that collectors prefer.

It has been my experience that C-1 is much scarcer than C-2. During 4 years of searching, I have seen only 2 specimens of C-1, 1 F and 1 VF. Each of these pieces were part of the stock of two prominent EAC member/dealers, and both pieces were the four-star-break die state.

In contrast, I have seen a large number of the C-2 variety, but most of them fell into the AG to VG category. Few if any of these coins had good surfaces or color. On the upper end of the grading scale, I can recall seeing 2 F, 2 VF, and 2 EF C-2 pieces offered for sale. If one were to include all of the low-grade 1811 C-2 half cents available, the variety could be a R2 rather than a R3, but the appearance of any attractive 1811 half cent is a numismatic event.

1825. This date is found in 2 varieties. The first, C-1, is quite scarce, but it can be found in low grade because most dealers do not attribute their 1825's. The finest example that I have ever seen was only a VF20.

C-2 is much more common and usually can be found in EF condition for about double the price of the other common varieties of the era. Although the 1825 is scarcer than the 1828 and the mintages from 1832 to 1835, it is no scarcer than the 1826 and the 1829. This pricing structure is probably based upon the published mintage for the date which is as low as the 1811 half cent. I agree with Mr. Cohen that many 1825-dated pieces were included in the 1826 mintage.

1826. This date also comes in 2 varieties; and, as in the 1825 variety, one is scarce and the other is common. The common variety, C-1, is available in any grade from AG to EF. Unlike many half cents, this coin was made from a very sharp die which produced well-struck coins. As a result, these coins often have a better appearance than their actual grade by wear would suggest.

The scarce variety, C-2, is a little more common than its 1825 counterpart, and it seems to come in better condition. The best examples I have seen were 2 VF30 pieces.

1828. 1828 is a very common date in the half cent series, and all 3 of the varieties are generally available. C-1 is said to be a R3 item, but I have had no problem locating several examples of this variety in EF condition. In my opinion, this coin is only slightly scarcer than the other 13-star variety, C-3.

The 12-star variety, C-2, is fairly common in G to F, but the coin is quite scarce in EF or better.

1829. This coin is no great rarity, but it is decidedly harder to locate than the 1828 and the dates from 1832-1835. Lower grade examples in G to F can be located if one looks at all the half cents offered at a major show, but the coin is tough to find in strictly EF. Some dealers charge a premium over the common price for this date; and, for once, that policy may be justified.

1831. This coin is very rare and seldom offered. I have never seen an example, but it deserves a "hole" in my collection because a few of these pieces were made for general circulation.

1832. This date is the scarcest of the group from 1832 to 1835. The statement really does not mean that much, because this era includes the most common of all half cents which, on the average, are in the best of condition. I have found that all three of this year's varieties are fairly common in VF condition, but locating strict EF examples is much more difficult.

1833 and 1834. These two dates are very common and are available in any grade better than F. Coins of this era seem to have been of little use to the general public at the time of their issue.

1835. There are 2 varieties of this date, and both of them are listed as common. C-1 is very common in all grades from VF to choice brown Uncirculated, but I have found C-2 to be much harder to find in EF. After looking for this variety for three years, I located 2 of them within a single week. Although C-2 is probably a fairly common variety, I think it is under-rated relative to C-1.

1837 Token. This piece is not a half cent at all, but is a Hard Times token listed as Low-49. It is interesting that a private individual could find a need to issue this token when the government made half cents which were unwanted by the public.

Collectors who are interested in this piece should have no trouble finding it in any condition from VG to AU. The prices for this piece have fallen considerably since the Hard Times token promotion collapsed several years ago. Currently, the price spread for this piece in the VG to AU condition is \$30. to \$225.

(To be continued.)

* * * * *

SOME POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF COLLECTING LARGE CENTS

William L. Weeks

Collecting large cents is a part of numismatics which can lead the collector into numerous areas. For example, I started collecting the Late Date (1839-57) large cents and was fairly content when I finally found a nice 1857 cent which I could afford. I experienced the feeling of accomplishment which one gets from completing a set; but later on, I took a trip to The Hermitage near Nashville, Tennessee. This created a desire to learn all that I could about Andrew Jackson; and, while I was learning about him, I felt an insatiable urge to collect the coins of his era (1828-1836). I also developed a taste for collecting Hard Times tokens. Having large cents dated 1839-1857 and 1828-1836 filled me with an ambition to fill in the missing dates and to build an 1816-1857 set, which I did.

Later, I wandered into the local library and checked out a book about the French Revolution. In the book, there were some references about a second book which detailed the effects that the Revolution had on the early United States. While reading this second book, I had to have some coins from the 1790's and early 1800's. This resulted in my acquisition of all the early dates except the 1793's, the 1799, and the 1804. I haven't written these dates off, however; and I'm taking another look at my silver dollars and various other coins.

The experiences that I have just mentioned have been a relatively long series of events which have taken approximately 5 years, but they haven't ended here. For example, I recently started studying the economy of Colonial America; and, you guessed it, I felt that I had to have some Colonial pieces. This new endeavor has resulted in my purchasing a Massachusetts, a New Jersey, and a Connecticut Colonial piece. After studying a little further and learning that there are both Colonial pieces and state issues, I bought some of the former earlier issues dating from the 1600's and 1700's. Some of these included a Virginia half-pence, a pillar dollar, and two cobs.

I don't know where this is going to end. Oh, by the way, does anyone who is reading this know where I can buy some wampum?

* * * * *

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* * * * *



1953



1. Very fine line connects base of R
2. Very small dot inside R

3. lump top front of throat
4. small dot in front of forehead.
5. 3 dots around 13 *
6. 1 dot adjacent to top point of * 9.
7. Very small dot adjacent to ear lobe (the lady has earrings)
8. dot adjacent to left side of T.
 much smaller dot next to top left side of T.
9. lump above right side of left upright and left center of right upright in Y
10. lump below E adjacent to hair.
11. lumps below bun of hair.
12. approximate date reference number is 563857.
13. Rectangular lump inside top section of eight. 8 3
14. Dots around three.
15. Very fine line foot of V.

- a. Five lumps inside O in one and one rectangular lump outside on lower left center

- b. Fine line E thru C in cent
 CE
- c. Top of U in United Connected by a fine line
- d. Small dot below left foot of T in United. large lump above right edge of right foot of T

has to be one of the finest examples of Quality Control at its worst. Probably a very limited issue before corrective action was taken a possible new variety - might be a very early die state of N15 but why the heavy rusting of the die? a blank date die with hub defects 1, 15, # b, c?
 Ron Hjertson

AN ATTRIBUTION FORM FOR PERSONAL USE

Ron Gjertson

On the preceding page is an attribution form submitted to the Editor by Ron Gjertson with the following letter:

"This is an example of a form which I made up for help in attributing late date large cents. The form is easy to make and is very convenient for jotting down observed attributes. I use a date code-oriented number which is also placed on the back of the storage envelope. I thought that other EACers would be interested."

The Editor was confused by the attribution form and its purpose, so he wrote to Ron asking for additional information. Following are the Editor's questions and Ron's respective answers:

1. On your attribution form, under the obverse of the coin, you list 15 items. From where did you get this information to chart it, and what do the numbers 1-15 stand for, if anything? Surely they don't represent 1853 large cent varieties as there are 33 varieties of 1853 large cents.

ANS. The form shown is for a specific variety which I have in my collection. I use the numbers to indicate detailed observations that I noted about the cent for marking the obverse. I record specific identification marks as they are noted. In the specific example shown, all 15 items were observed on the cent being examined.

2. Please explain the 4 items, a through d, listed in the column below the reverse of the coin.

ANS. The small alpha numbers are sequentially assigned to cover each specific mark noted on the reverse of the cent being studied. If there are no significant marks noted, then a simple statement "Perfect" would be used.

3. What about the 'possibly new variety' which you mention at the bottom of that same column? And what do you mean by 'a blank date die with hub defects 1, 15, & b, c'?

ANS. I believe that the specific cent evaluated in the example could well be a new variety of 1853. There is a fair chance that the piece is an unknown early die state of N-12, but I have no detailed reference notes to make a sound decision of judgment. I suspect that the Mint may have cut the die (minus the date) and left it on the shelf for some period of time - hence, the rust pits. Later, the die was stamped with the date, and early runs resulted in the excessive dots and lumps. Very probably, these were quickly corrected. If one were to remove all the dots and lumps, one would be left with obverse marks 1 and 15. The reverse would be left with marks b and c.

4. In your covering letter initially, you mentioned a 'date code-oriented number' which is said also to be placed on the back of the storage envelope. Where do you get such a number or how do you determine it? Is '8406-121' in the upper left hand corner of your attribution form such a number?

ANS. I start out by inspecting the coin and listing the unique features on the attributes sheet. If I inspected the cent on June 12, 1984, I would use the number 8406-12x. If it was the first cent inspected that day, the X would

become a 1, the second a 2, etc. Hence the number 8406-121. That number is then entered on the back side of the coin's storage envelope. The attribution sheet is then 3-hole punched and filed with my attribution notes for the specific date involved. If there are any subsequent questions, one can readily identify the cent involved from the unique date-code mark on the envelope. Then the attribution sheet can be pulled from the file, using the same date-code number.

5. Do you make out such an attribution sheet for all the mintage years of the late date cents?

ANS. I hope to eventually make out an attribution sheet for every cent in my collection. My initial work is centered on those cents which have markings not discussed in the standard literature or those cents which appear to be unknown die states.

6. Do you cover all varieties for each mintage year, e.g. 33 varieties for 1853?

ANS. The attribution sheet is intended to document observed facts on any specific cent. A different cent - a new attribution sheet. The use of photography with blow-ups would be preferred to the simple markings on the obverse and reverse print-outs.

7. Under #12 in the left hand-column, you mention 'approximate date reference number is 563857'. Is this number obtained from Reiver's attribution book?

ANS. Yes.

8. I am sure that many EACers will be interested in your attribution form if you can provide sufficient information on its preparation and use.

ANS. It has often been said that "necessity is the mother of invention". Since some of the cents in my collection had markings which were not discussed either in Newcomb's book or Reiver's, I decided to put together a system which would identify and document these marks. I xeroxed the obverse and reverse of a late date cent from Newcomb's book, and pasted these onto a blank sheet of paper. After touch-up, the sheet was then reproduced in quantity on the Xerox machine.

I believe that many large cent collectors become very frustrated while trying to identify a late date Newcomb variety. The minor differences in just location of the date can quickly cause one to get a headache. It is interesting to note that many of the varieties can be identified without even looking at the date. This approach also minimizes the frustration while adding to the pleasure of enjoying one's collection.

* * * * *

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* * * * *

A LOT OF LITTLE THINGS

Pete Smith

For this issue of PENNY-WISE, I don't have enough of any one thing to make an article. So, I am including a lot of little things which I hope will be interesting.

1. Back in March, I talked with Clifford Mishler who is the publisher of NUMISMATIC NEWS (NN). We discussed the fact that EAC has gotten excellent coverage in COIN WORLD (CW), but no recent coverage in NN. Articles previously submitted to NN have not been acknowledged or published. He suggested that I write an article for submission to NN after our annual convention in San Mateo.

Following EAC '84, I felt that I only had enough time to write one article, either for P-W or for NUMISMATIC NEWS. I decided to try for the broader coverage offered by NN. Since then, I have been watching every issue of NN to see if my article gets printed, but so far I haven't seen it.

My congratulations go to Frank Stillinger who got his name and EAC mentioned in both CW and NN recently. I'll have to find out his secret.

2. In the March 15, 1984 issue of P-W, Charles Barasch asked about a 1793 NC5 that had been offered for sale. I also had attempted to buy the coin. I have had correspondence with the dealer who offered the coin for sale. It turned out to be a 1793 S-5.

3. The 1982 ANA Sale listed a 1793 S-7 (Steve Ivy, 08-82, lot 1490). It has been reported previously that this coin was incorrectly attributed. Recently, Coin Galleries (05-84, lot 942) also offered an S-7. Apparently, it too was incorrectly attributed. I do believe, however, that the three S-7's in the Starr sale were actually S-7's.

4. In the January, 1984 issue of P-W, I listed all the known specimens of the 1794 S-48 "Starred Reverse" cent. Since then, I have received enough additional information to justify this S-48 update:

a. The Starr estate did not have an S-48.

b. Coin 10C (Chatham, Smith, Bonard, Berube) listed as unconfirmed 83 has been confirmed and should now be listed as Known 84.

c. Coin 3B (Stack's 12-80) listed as unknown 83 has been identified and can be listed as Known 84.

d. A previously unknown specimen showed up in Florida in January. It was last known to be in the possession of a California dealer. (7D, Known 84)

e. Three additional pieces have been reported to me. However, I don't have enough information to confirm the existence of any of them. Stay tuned!

5. In the last issue of P-W, I described price inflation as illustrated by an 1810 S-281 which had been sold in December by an antique and furniture dealer. Now I would like to illustrate the other side of inflation. In that same sale was offered an 1824 N-3 in AU50 with an estimated value of \$1,000. to \$1,500. I assume that the coin did not receive a bid which met the dealer's expectations, so the coin was withdrawn. Now, in June, 1984, the dealer is again offering it at auction with an estimated value of \$100. to \$200. It is amazing how the market has collapsed in that area.

* * * * *

MINT DROP DIE VARIETIES

David M. Gale

Collectors of Hard Times tokens have always been fascinated by the MINT DROP reverse dies. The term "mint drop" is a derogatory slang expression for hard currency. President Andrew Jackson and his most avid supporter in the U.S. Senate, Thomas Hart Benton, were the targets of many vicious attacks, especially by the Whig political opposition, because their hard money policies were deemed to be the cause of the Panic of 1837 and of hard times. Benton's name appears in ridicule on all the MINT DROP dies, either as "BENTONIAN CURRENCY" (Low-37, 38, or 68) or as "BENTON EXPERIMENT" (Low-55).

Lyman Haynes Low, a well-known coin dealer and scholar, catalogued Hard Times tokens before the turn of the century. In the first edition of HARD TIMES TOKENS, Low suggested that there are only two MINT DROP reverse dies. The reverse of Low-55, with the famous "loco Foco" obverse, is unique and very different from the reverses found on Low-37, 38, and 68. It reads BENTON EXPERIMENT around a wreath, with MINT DROP within. There is a short line under DROP.

Low's original thought was that tokens 37 and 68 have very different obverses but share the same reverse, whereas token 38 has the obverse of 37, but the reverse is a late die state with a small break running from the stem (or string) of the left ribbon, through the top of the 1 in 1837, so as to make the legend apparently read "LBENTONIAN" and the date "837".

By the time that Low's second edition of the book was issued, he began to equivocate:

"I now incline to the opinion, that what I regarded, in my first edition, as a break in the die at the figure 1, is the engraver's extension of the string, - - - it is too delicate for a ribbon, - - - to correspond with the end at the right. Both, however, are so disconnected, that thoughts of broken die, parenthesis and quotation marks, are each suggested."

My own interest in the true origins of these MINT DROP reverses began when I came across a Low-68 which had a short line between MINT and DROP (see photo):



Could this be a new MINT DROP variety? Before trying to answer this intriguing question, let's return to the original issue concerning the origin of the Low-38 reverse. I believe that one additional bit of information will lend credence to a simple explanation for all the facts. The answer lies in the description which Low gave for the reverse of Low-68: "A very few specimens show a break through the letters in DROP". If Low was correct in this statement, the reverse die of 38 must be different from the reverse of 68 (= the reverse of 37), since 38 has no break through the letters in DROP.

One problem: except for the small difference between 37 = 68 and 38, the dies are absolutely identical. In today's context, no problem would exist. We would conclude that we were dealing with two or more dies made from the same hub. We have a problem only if we assume that hubbing came into widespread practice too late to have been used in the manufacture of these tokens (and, of course, we insist that the tokens in question actually were struck during the Hard Times period). We have a pretty good idea about when the U.S. Mint gave up cutting individual dies. I guess that I have no problem with assuming multiple dies from a single hub to explain the facts. The reverse of Low-38 was then "improved" by a human who didn't like the die as it was or who was just following the common practice of finishing the die by hand, and his hand slipped.

Finally, what are the possibilities for my MINT DROP variety? From the discussion above, I suppose that I could argue that the line between MINT and DROP was put there to "improve" the die before striking. Another explanation is that someone carefully scratched in the line with a sharp knife after the token was struck, so as to improve its appearance, to confound collectors, or to just have fun. A fine old scratch between the right side of the line and the top of P in DROP makes me favor the latter explanation - - - until, of course, someone finds another Low 68 with a line between MINT and DROP!

* * * * *

BILL PARKS DISPLAYS HIS EAC TOKENS IN CUSTOM-MADE HOLDER

Bill Parks, who has been printing and distributing P-W since its inception 18 years ago, is a Charter Member of EAC and holds membership number 32. In 1968, Bill purchased his numbered EAC token which was issued that year by EAC and which had been designed by Herb Silberman while he was EAC's president. In 1980, Bill purchased a bronze EAC token which was issued that year under Jeff Oliphant's direction. At EAC '83 in New York City, Bill was awarded a silver token similar to the bronze one in appreciation for his long-time service to EAC and to P-W. Chuck Funk also received a similar award at the same time.

Recently, Bill mounted his three tokens in a custom-made holder made by Capital Plastics, Inc. of Massillon, Ohio. The holder which measures 5 x 6 inches comes in three parts: the front and back pieces are of clear plastic, and between them is a white opaque piece in which the tokens are fitted. The holder cost \$35, and took 6-8 weeks for delivery. The final display piece is shown on the next page.

You will note that before mounting his tokens, Bill had his EAC membership number (32) engraved by a jeweller on the reverse of the two 1980 tokens. Bill feels that those members who purchased the bronze token issued in 1980 might want to follow his example by having their membership numbers similarly engraved on their tokens. When looking at the obverse of the holder, the silver token is on the right side and the bronze token is on the left.



CHARTER
MEMBERSHIP
TOKEN
1968



1798
S-187
ARC DIE
CRACK



LAUREL WREATH REVERSE



BITS OF NOSTALGIA

That which immediately follows is a copy of a report submitted to the U.S. Congress on April 14, 1790 by Thomas Jefferson, then Secretary of State. This report was printed in The American Museum's Universal Magazine, Volume VII covering January to June, 1790 and was published by Carby, Stewart & Co. of Philadelphia in 1790.

The article, as printed here, was transcribed by the Editor - not without some difficulty - from a Xerox copy made from the original book. The Xerox copy was forwarded to the Editor by Joe Rose, EACer and President of Harmer Rooke Numismatists, Ltd., 3 East 57th Street, New York City 10022, to whom we express our most sincere thanks. EACers will surely recall that Joe Rose has furnished us with previous such historical items on several occasions - and we at P-W are most grateful to him for doing so.

This particular report by Thomas Jefferson is an especially important one in our nation's numismatic history, and we're certain that you, too, will find it very informative and interesting to read.

* * * * *

A REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE, RESPECTING COINAGE

The Secretary of State, to whom was referred by the House of Representatives the letter of John H. Mitchell, reciting certain proposals for supplying the United States with copper coinage, has had the same under consideration, according to instructions; and begs leave to report thereon as follows:

The person, who wishes to undertake the supply of a copper coinage, sets forth that the superiority of his apparatus and process for coining enables him to furnish a coinage better and cheaper than can be done by any country or person whatever; that his dies are engraved by the first artist in that line in Europe; that his apparatus for striking the edge, at the same blow with the faces, is new and singularly ingenious; that he coins by a press on a new principle, and worked by a fire engine more regularly than can be done by hand; that he will deliver any quantity of coin, of any size and device, of pure unalloyed copper, wrapped in paper, and packed in casks, ready for shipping, for fourteen pence sterling the pound.

The Secretary of State has before been apprised, from other sources of information, of the great improvements made by this undertaker, in sundry arts. He is acquainted with the artist, who invented the method of striking the edge and both faces of the coin at one blow. He has seen his process and coins, and sent to the former Congress some specimens of them, with certain offers from him before he entered into the service of the present undertaker (which specimens he takes the liberty of now submitting to the inspection of the House, as proofs of the superiority of this method of coinage in gold and silver, as well as copper).

He is therefore of opinion, that the undertaker, aided by that artist, and by his own excellent machines, is truly in a condition to furnish coin in a state of higher perfection than has ever yet been issued by any nation; that perfection in the engraving is among the greatest safeguards against counterfeits, because engravers of the first class are few - and elevated, by their rank in art, far above the base and dangerous business of counterfeiting; that the perfection of

of coins will indeed disappear, after they are for some time worn among other pieces, and especially where the figures are faintly relieved, as on those of this artist; yet their high finishing, while new, is not the less a guard against counterfeits; because these, if carried to any extent, must be ushered into circulation new also, and consequently may be compared with genuine coins in the same state; that therefore, whenever the United States shall be disposed to have a coin of their own, it will be desirable to aim at this kind of perfection; that this cannot be better affected, than by availing themselves, if possible, of the services of the undertaker, and of this artist, whose excellent methods and machines are said to have abridged, as well as perfected, the operations of coinage. These operations, however, and their expense being new and unknown here, he is unable to say whether the price proposed be reasonable or not. He is also uncertain, whether, instead of the larger copper coin, the legislature might not prefer a lighter one of bullion, or mixed metal, as is practiced with convenience by several other nations - a specimen of which kind of coinage is submitted to their inspection.

But the propositions under consideration, suppose that the work is to be carried on in a foreign country, and that the implements are to remain the property of the undertaker: which conditions, in his opinion, render them inadmissible, for these reasons.

Coinage is peculiarly an attribute of sovereignty. To transfer its exercise into another country, is to submit it to another sovereign.

In transportation across the ocean, besides the ordinary dangers of the sea, would expose it to acts of piracy by the crews to whom it would be confided, as well as by others apprised of its passage.

In time of war, it would offer to the enterprises of an enemy, what have been emphatically called the sinews of war.

If the war were with the nation within whose territory the coinage is, the first act of war or reprisal might be to arrest this operation, with the implements and materials, coined and uncoined, to be used at their discretion.

The reputation and principles of the present undertaker are safeguards against the abuses of a coinage carried on in a foreign country, where no checks could be provided by the proper sovereign - no regulations established - no police - no guard exercised - in short, none of the numerous cautions hitherto thought essential at every mint: but in hands less entitled to confidence, these will become dangers. We may be secured, indeed, by proper experiments, as to the purity of the coin delivered us according to contract: but we cannot be secured against that, which, though less pure, shall be struck in the genuine dye, and protected against the vigilance of government, till it shall have entered into circulation.

We lose the opportunity of calling in and recoining the clipped money in circulation, or we double our risks by a double transportation.

We lose, in like manner, the resource of coining up our household plate, in the instant of great distress.

We lose the means of forming artists to continue the works when the common accidents of mortality shall have deprived us of those who began them.

In fine, the carrying on a coinage in a foreign country, as far as the Secretary knows, is without example: and general example is weighty authority.

He is therefore of opinion, on the whole:

That a mint, whenever established, should be established at home; that the superiority, the merit, and means of the undertaker, will suggest him as the proper person to be engaged in the establishment and conduct of a mint, on a scale, which, relinquishing nothing in the perfection of the coin, shall be duly proportioned to our purposes.

And in the meanwhile, he is of opinion, the present proposals should be declined.

THOMAS JEFFERSON

April 14, 1790

Part 2.

Next is an excerpt taken from William Hessein's catalogue for a coin sale held on October 26-27, 1923 announcing a 'new' variety of 1794 cent. Those hand-written comments included on the borders around the lot description were made by George H. Clapp. And on the following page is a letter to William Hessein from George H. Clapp, discussing the same subject.

These items graciously were provided to PENNY-WISE by John Adams, for which we thank him sincerely. John noted that the two items showed George H. Clapp's meticulous attention to detail and his keen interest in pre-serving the record. John also noted that he has additional correspondence by Clapp in his possession, wherein Clapp tracked this particular coin backwards into the 19th century.

Sale of Oct. 26-27, 1923. William Hessein, Boston, Mass.
A Probable New 1794 Cent Number

1794 Cent like Hays No. 43, Chap. No. 6. In every particular like this number with the following exceptions numerator 1 very close to dividing line and curving towards the fraction 1-100 the last of which meets it. Minor other differences. The dividing line is entirely on a slant and the only cent of this date that I have ever seen with this peculiar difference.

Light olive Ex.fine. A very nice cent. Who is going to own this? Should be worth \$500.00. *Considered by C.S. for \$500.00. Sold for \$500.00.*

Selling it was not new. One of the best with me for \$250.00 - \$500.00
PROPERTY OF ED. L. READY, SEATTLE, WASH.

Miscellaneous U. S. Coins

- 541 1878 C.C. Mint. Trade Dollar Ex.f. Rare state
- 582 1866 1811 1/2 Dollars V. Fine & V. 2 pcs.

William Hessein purchased #580 at 1923 sale for \$24.50

Sold to C. G. Clapp for \$27.50, now in C. G. Clapp Collⁿ

(This is done to prevent later question as to this variety, etc.)

Examined 18th Cent very carefully and wrote Hessein on 10/26/23 that it is this variety. I have not seen the specimen but will check with J. Adams.


✓
7/21/24
J. Adams

Sept. 19, 1923.

Mr. William Hesslein,
Paddock Building,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of 13th Sept., duly to hand, but the cent did not arrive until yesterday afternoon.

I have examined the 1794, H-43, very carefully and must agree with my brother that the bending of the fraction bar was due to an injury. If you will hold the cent towards the light, tipping it slightly, and examine with a good glass you will see that there is a shallow dent between the 100 and the fraction bar which has crushed the top of the final 0 and has bent the bar up so that it touches the numerator. 

I have three H-43, one perfect die, that is struck before the Rev. die began to fail at the top and bottom of the wreath, and two showing different degrees of failure. One of mine is equal to yours and the others are only slightly more worn so I have had a good opportunity to compare.

I thank you for an opportunity to study this cent and am sorry that I cannot agree with you that it is "new".

Yours very truly,

Geo H. Eckart

*Offered to Chas. E. Clark for \$500.00
" " Geo H. Eckart " 4000.00*

*Sold at Mr. Hesslein's sale 10/26-27/1923 to Selling Bros for \$24.50
They sold to C. E. Clark for 27.50, now in Coll. Geo H. Eckart, which
was given to the A. N. S. in 1937.*

G.H.E.

Part 3.

Finally, P-W offers some examples of coins dealers' prices from 1909, seventy-five years ago. Peter Vaiksnoras recently discovered a manual issued that year by The Money and Stamp Brokerage Co., Inc. of New York City; and he thought that EACers would find the prices quoted therein for coins to be very interesting. P-W thanks Peter for this contribution.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA OFFICIAL COINAGE.

United States Half Cents.

COPPER COMPOSITION.—Coinage commenced 1793, discontinued 1857. None were coined in the years not mentioned in the following schedule:



| | A | B | C | D | E |
|--|-------|--------|--------|---------|-------|
| 1793—Small date | \$.40 | \$1.00 | \$2.50 | \$12.00 | — |
| 1793—Large date | .50 | 1.10 | 3.00 | 14.00 | — |
| 1794..... | .90 | 12 | .50 | 3.25 | — |
| 1795..... | .05 | 10 | .50 | 3.10 | — |
| 1795—Punctuated date (1795), lettered edge | .10 | .27 | .80 | 5.00 | — |
| 1795—Punctuated date (1795), plain edge | .05 | .10 | .55 | 3.15 | — |
| 1796—With pole | 2.50 | 7.50 | 20.00 | 52.50 | — |
| 1796—Without pole | 2.00 | 6.25 | 14.75 | 50.00 | — |
| 1797..... | .05 | .11 | .60 | 2.50 | — |
| 1797—Lettered edge, with pole..... | .40 | 1.00 | 2.10 | 10.25 | — |
| 1797—Plain edge, with pole..... | .06 | 12 | .65 | 2.55 | — |
| 1800..... | .05 | 10 | .25 | 1.00 | — |
| 1802—Date stamped over 1800..... | .40 | .50 | 3.50 | 5.00 | — |
| 1803..... | .04 | .05 | .50 | .70 | — |
| 1803..... | .03 | .07 | .15 | .50 | — |
| 1804 Several varieties | .03 | .07 | .15 | .50 | — |
| 1805 Two varieties | .03 | .07 | .15 | .50 | — |
| 1806—Two varieties | .03 | .07 | .15 | .50 | — |
| 1807..... | .03 | .07 | .15 | .50 | — |
| 1808—Date stamped over 1807..... | .03 | .06 | .13 | .51 | — |
| 1808..... | .03 | .05 | .10 | .52 | — |
| 1809..... | .02 | .05 | .09 | .55 | — |
| 1810..... | .04 | .06 | .20 | .50 | — |
| 1811..... | .04 | .16 | .32 | 2.10 | — |
| 1825..... | .04 | .10 | .15 | .40 | — |
| 1826..... | .04 | .07 | .12 | .33 | — |
| 1826—Twelve stars | .04 | .07 | .20 | .50 | — |
| 1829..... | .10 | .20 | .50 | 1.00 | — |
| 1829..... | .03 | .06 | .12 | .25 | — |
| 1831..... | .50 | 1.00 | 3.50 | 10.25 | 15.75 |
| 1832..... | .03 | .07 | .12 | .25 | 1.10 |
| 1833..... | .03 | .07 | .12 | .25 | 1.05 |
| 1834..... | .03 | .08 | .15 | .30 | 1.12 |
| 1836..... | .50 | 2.10 | 12.00 | 25.00 | 45.00 |

UNITED STATES HALF CENTS, CENTS.

| | A | B | C | D | E |
|-----------|------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| 1840..... | .75 | 2.50 | 10.50 | 20.00 | 37.00 |
| 1841..... | .40 | 2.25 | 9.00 | 15.00 | 22.50 |
| 1842..... | 3.00 | 10.50 | 20.00 | 40.00 | 120.00 |
| 1843..... | 1.90 | 4.00 | — | — | 11.00 |
| 1844..... | .50 | 2.00 | 3.50 | 6.00 | — |
| 1845..... | 2.50 | 10.50 | 30.00 | 50.00 | 100.00 |
| 1846..... | 1.60 | 3.70 | 8.15 | 21.00 | 60.00 |
| 1847..... | 1.90 | 4.15 | 8.20 | 22.00 | 48.00 |
| 1848..... | 2.00 | 4.80 | 9.35 | 24.00 | 51.00 |

NOTE.—Mint restrikes have been made of the half cents of 1831, 1836, 1840, 1841, 1842, 1843, 1844, 1845, 1846, 1847, 1848 and 1849 especially for numismatic purposes. They are distinguishable from the originals by a slight difference in the size of the berries in the design. These restrikes are worth from 50 cents to \$15.00, according to condition.

1849—Small date

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|------|------|-------|-------|
| | .50 | 1.00 | 3.00 | 10.25 | 15.50 |
|--|-----|------|------|-------|-------|



| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|------|------|-------|-------|
| 1849—Large date | .03 | .06 | .12 | .30 | .65 |
| 1850..... | .04 | .10 | .19 | .38 | .50 |
| 1851..... | .03 | .06 | .11 | .21 | .30 |
| 1852..... | .50 | 2.00 | 6.00 | 10.00 | 20.00 |
| 1853, 1854, 1855, 1856, 1857..... | .03 | .07 | .12 | .20 | .35 |

United States Cents.

Issued each year, beginning 1793, to the present time, excepting 1815. A copper series to 1857 inclusive, a special series in small size, of copper-nickel, copper oreide and nickel, from 1856 to 1865 inclusive; bronze series from 1864 to present date, inclusive.



1793—Head of Liberty to right, with hair flowing loosely, endless chain of 15 links... \$2.50 \$8.00 \$20.00 \$40.00 —

UNITED STATES CENTS.

13

14

UNITED STATES CENTS.

| | A | B | C | D | E |
|--|------|------|-------|--------|---|
| 1793—Head of Liberty to right, period after word Liberty, thirteen links, bars and flowering strawberry vine on edge | 1.00 | 2.50 | 10.00 | 31.00 | — |
| 1793—Similar style as foregoing, but no periods, date widely spaced and somewhat curved | 1.10 | 2.60 | 11.00 | 32.50 | — |
| 1793—Similar to foregoing, with <i>America</i> | 2.00 | 5.30 | 12.50 | 51.25 | — |
| 1793—Five other varieties | 1.00 | 2.00 | 6.00 | 35.00 | — |
| 1794—Double chin on Liberty | .50 | .85 | 2.30 | 6.50 | — |
| 1794—Double chin, but the N of ONE are widely spaced | .00 | 1.50 | 3.05 | 16.00 | — |
| 1794—Fifty-five other varieties | .30 | .50 | 1.10 | 5.10 | — |
| 1795—Five varieties | .10 | .20 | .80 | 5.00 | — |
| 1795—LIBERTY | .30 | 1.10 | 2.20 | 10.00 | — |
| 1796—Four other varieties | .15 | .30 | .90 | 3.20 | — |
| 1797—Four varieties | .05 | .25 | 1.20 | 3.00 | — |
| 1798—Three varieties | .02 | .04 | .13 | 3.00 | — |
| 1799—Stamped over date 1798 | 2.00 | 5.00 | 15.20 | 33.65 | — |
| 1799 | 2.25 | 5.50 | 16.80 | 37.50 | — |
| 1800—Four varieties | .00 | .15 | .50 | 1.42 | — |
| 1801—1600 LIMITED | .14 | .25 | .60 | 1.45 | — |
| 1801—Three other varieties | .02 | .04 | .12 | 1.00 | — |
| 1802—Five varieties | .02 | .03 | .15 | 1.05 | — |
| 1803—Six varieties | .02 | .03 | .15 | 1.05 | — |
| 1804—Two varieties | .10 | .30 | .90 | 10.00 | — |
| 1805—Bunt I in date | .02 | .04 | .00 | 4.95 | — |
| 1806—Related I in date | .00 | 1.00 | 8.00 | 100.00 | — |
| 1807 | .05 | .15 | .65 | 2.15 | — |
| 1808 | .03 | .05 | .25 | 2.05 | — |
| 1807—Four varieties | .08 | .18 | .75 | 17.50 | — |
| 1808—Two varieties | .20 | .35 | 1.60 | 4.50 | — |
| 1809—Stamped over 1808 | .02 | .04 | .25 | 2.00 | — |
| 1810—Stamped over 1809 | .02 | .03 | .10 | 1.65 | — |
| 1811 | .08 | .14 | .50 | 3.00 | — |
| 1812—Small date | .07 | .12 | .50 | 28.75 | — |
| 1812 | .05 | .12 | .50 | 6.00 | — |
| 1812—Large date | .05 | .13 | .25 | 1.80 | — |
| 1813 | .08 | .12 | .35 | 3.10 | — |
| 1813—Two varieties | .02 | .04 | .13 | 4.18 | — |
| 1814—Two varieties | .01½ | .02 | .05 | .80 | — |
| 1815—Fifteen stars | .03 | .06 | .15 | 3.00 | — |



| | A | B | C | D | E |
|--|------|------|------|-------|-------|
| 1817—Three other varieties | .01½ | .02½ | .08 | .55 | — |
| 1818—Two varieties | .01½ | .02 | .06 | .50 | — |
| 1819—Three varieties | .01½ | .02 | .06 | .40 | — |
| 1820—Four varieties | .01½ | .02 | .05 | .27 | — |
| 1821—Two varieties | .01½ | .02 | .05 | 3.00 | 23.40 |
| 1822—Two varieties | .01½ | .02½ | .10 | 1.65 | 30.00 |
| 1823—Two varieties | .05 | .12 | .20 | 3.00 | 9.25 |
| 1824—Compact date | .01½ | .04 | .22 | 10.50 | 16.10 |
| 1824—Stamped over 1822 | .01½ | .03 | .25 | 3.60 | 11.10 |
| 1824—Wide date | .01½ | .02½ | .12 | 2.10 | 5.70 |
| 1825—Two varieties | .02 | .04 | .21 | 2.50 | 6.15 |
| 1826—Wide date | .01½ | .02½ | .15 | 3.25 | 5.07 |
| 1827 | .01½ | .02½ | .14 | 1.80 | 3.85 |
| 1828—Compact date | .01½ | .02 | .11 | 2.30 | 4.80 |
| 1828 | .01½ | .02 | .10 | 2.60 | 4.00 |
| 1828—Three varieties | .01½ | .02 | .09 | 2.90 | 3.10 |
| 1829—Two varieties | .01½ | .02½ | .08 | 1.45 | 2.05 |
| 1830—Two varieties | .01½ | .02 | .08 | 1.00 | 1.85 |
| 1831—Two varieties | .01½ | .02 | .07 | .85 | 1.47 |
| 1832—Three varieties | .01½ | .02 | .04 | .62 | 1.38 |
| 1833—Three varieties | .01½ | .02 | .03½ | .85 | 1.20 |
| 1834—Three varieties | .01½ | .02 | .03 | .80 | 1.15 |
| 1835—Three varieties | .01½ | .02 | .04 | .75 | 1.05 |
| 1836—Two varieties | .01½ | .02 | .03½ | .70 | 1.00 |
| 1837—Three varieties | .02 | .03 | .11 | 1.00 | 1.50 |
| 1838 | .01½ | .02 | .04 | .75 | 1.03 |
| 1839—Stamped over 1838 | .01½ | .02½ | .10 | 1.30 | 1.95 |
| 1839—Boshy head | .01½ | .02 | .09 | 1.10 | 1.55 |
| 1839—Silly head | .01½ | .02 | .08 | 1.00 | 1.50 |
| 1839—Two other varieties | .01½ | .02 | .07 | .80 | 1.25 |
| 1840—Four varieties | .01½ | .02 | .07 | .80 | 1.25 |
| 1841, 1842, 1843, 1844, 1845, 1846, 1847, 1848, 1849, 1850, 1851, 1852, 1853, 1854, 1855 | .01½ | .02 | .03 | .12 | .25 |
| 1856—Large cent, same as all preceding | .01½ | .02 | .03 | .10 | .27 |
| 1856—Small size cent, flying eagle, in copper-nickel, pure copper or pure nickel | 1.00 | 1.50 | 2.50 | 4.00 | 7.50 |



1857—Large cent, same as old big series .01½ .02 .03 .15 .25



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CONFESSIONS OF AN (ALMOST) CHERRYPICKER

Jeff Rock

Recently, while attending a California coin show, I had the opportunity to scour the bourse looking for copper with virtually no competition since only a few collectors were present by the time that I arrived.

Colonial pieces, which are my first love, were rather scarce although there were many over-graded, over-priced, mis-attributed, and downright spurious pieces available. One example which really sticks out in my memory was an obvious electrotype of a 1737 Higley copper which had lead showing through at many points. The dealer only wanted \$2,000. for it, but he was willing to negotiate!

I had a list with me of half cent varieties which I kept an eye out for. Out of some 30 varieties, I did manage to find one - a 1794 C-2b grading a decent G, which is now resting happily in a midwestern collection. Looked like it was going to be a tough show.

With Colonials and half cents out of the way, it was time to check for large cents! Out came my dog-eared copy of PENNY WHIMSY, and the hunt was on!

One of my first stops provided three Late Date varieties which filled some gaps in my 1841's (and my, what gaps!). A moderately well-known copper dealer had a nice NC for sale which was market (and priced) as such, unfortunately. Another dealer who specialized in rolls of Morgan dollars and Lincoln cents (there's no accounting for tastes) had a nice 1793 Wreath cent, although it had been retooled enough to make attribution impossible.

By this time, I had neared the last of the bourse tables; and it looked as though I wasn't going to come away with any early date large cents. My last stop was a dealer who had some well-worn large cents lying on his table, some of which were early dates at least. I sat down and started going through them, picking out those which had enough detail to make attribution possible.

When I pulled out my copy of PENNY WHIMSY to check for varieties, the dealer, a large obese individual, got very red in the face and refused to let me use the book at his table. Someone must have cherrypicked something from him before! I tried explaining to him that I needed the book so that I could check which ones I needed, but it was to no avail. Normally when this happens, I get up and walk away from the table; but this time I noticed a nice 1796 in the pile, a mintage year which I had just started collecting.

Surely, that was the obverse 7, with the 9 and 6 almost touching and with the ER of LIBERTY connected at the bottom (it was barely visible). It must be the S-92, which was a variety that I needed. But wait - this wasn't the reverse H - the right branch had a double leaf at the end, whereas reverse H

has only a single leaf. Yep, this was the 1796 NC1 (Now Collectible); and since it graded G with some porosity - overall, a 3-coin - it was a new discovery - the worst known example of this variety, to be sure, but who cares?

I had left the bourse table to make sure of my attribution; and, as I went back, I tried my best to keep a poker face. I pulled out my check book and asked how much he wanted for the lot of 20 coins. His only answer was to scoop up all the coins in the pile, the precious 1796 piece included, throw them in a box, and then shove the box under his table. Obviously, no sale was going to be made.

As I got up again to leave, he called out that he wouldn't sell any coin to some one who carried that *!#&?* book around with him, along with a few other comments, equally unprintable.

Perhaps, at some future show, the dealer will come up against some one who has memorized the details on all the varieties - are you listening, John Wright? - wouldn't that be something to watch? Gee, I hope that the dealer doesn't buy a copy of Dr. Sheldon's book and read it in the meantime!

* * * * *

COUNTERSTAMPED LARGE CENTS WANTED

For Personal Collection

I enjoy collecting counterstamped large cents! When I was a kid I purchased Maurice M. Gould's personal collection - this was in 1956 - adding to it the Gildbody collection and, in the meantime, several hundred others. I desire large cents, any dates, counterstamped with name, or names and addresses, or logotypes (not stray marks or initials), including such often-seen items as VOTE THE LAND FREE, Dr. G. G. Wilkins, Devins & Bolton, and so on, as I collect these by dates as well. I also am desirous of purchasing any dates of Washington-Lafayette counterstamps on large cents. I am not looking for bargains and am willing to pay "retail" as these are for my own collection. Please describe and price, or just ship with an invoice to my personal attention. I will pay promptly for items purchased and will return postpaid any items not desired. Please help!

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VIGNETTES OF THE GNA

Jack P. Cunningham, Jr.

The Georgia Numismatic Association Convention was held at the Waverly Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia on May 18, 19, and 20. I had been looking forward to it for some time and had made up my mind to sacrifice my Indian Head cent collection in order to finance purchases of early copper among other things. I arrived late at the show on a warm Friday morning, May 18, and sold my set to a local dealer. Somewhat saddened by the sale of the set but considerably richer, I wandered into the bourse where my spirits were lifted by thoughts of what might be discovered therein.

One of the first tables at which I stopped was that of Paul Padget. Paul usually brings along lots of early type coins and he didn't disappoint me this particular day. Paul listened patiently to my theories on what was wrong with the coin market, why I was such a picky buyer, etc, etc. (One of the chores of being a coin dealer at a major show is that you are subjected to unsolicited lectures on a variety of topics by a prospective buyer.) After getting a lot of things off my chest, I bought several coppers from him, among which was a nice 1811 C-1 half cent with the four star break - it graded a strong VG.

Moving on to another table, I came upon a giant 1797 English copper two-pence piece which weighed two ounces. Turning the coin over in my hand, I wondered what might have happened if our own mint had issued stuff like this. Talk about large cents!

Additional circuits around the bourse failed to turn up an acceptable 1821 Matron Head cent, so I retired to the lobby and took a seat at the bar. After ordering a glass of wine, I spread out my acquisitions on a cocktail napkin; and I scrutinized each piece with a lens while ignoring the stares of the bartender. Self-congratulations were in order. Summoning another glass of chablis, I braced myself for the auction to come.

The auction was held that evening by Mid-American Rare Coins Auctions, Inc. I quickly snared a low grade Vermont copper at a fairly cheap price - it's really easy to do when no one bids against you! But the coin which I lusted after was an 1830 Newcomb-3 large cent in VG, struck 30 per cent off-center. Having made up my mind to go as high as \$100. for the piece, I watched as the bidding opened at \$150. and closed at \$170. A bargain for someone, maybe.

The next afternoon - Saturday, May 19 - I returned to the show to pick up my auction purchase and to make one last sweep of the bourse. It so happened that I arrived just at the time that a notorious "switcher" was caught. As the police led him away, the whole place burst into applause! I couldn't find any more copper; but, on the way out, I bought an 1820 half dollar to complete my date set.

Below is a short list of some of the copper auctioned and their hammer prices less 10 per cent buyer's fee:

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|---------|--------|
| 1787 Fugio cent | Newman 13-x | MS63/63 | \$600. |
| 1795 Talbot, Allum & Lee token | | MS63/63 | 400. |
| 1786 Vermont "Baby Head" variety | | F12/12 | 900. |
| 1802 C-2 half cent | | Good6/6 | 350. |
| 1808 C-2 half cent | "8 over 7" | EF45/45 | 5,500. |
| 1835 C-1 half cent | | MS63/65 | 550. |
| 1820 N-13 large cent | | MS65/65 | 1,000. |
| 1857 large cent | | MS63/63 | 325. |

* * * * *

REPORT OF WEST COAST EAC REGIONAL MEETING

Doug Bird

An EAC West Coast Regional Meeting was held on June 1, 1984 during the Long Beach Numismatic and Philatelic Exposition. The following members and guests signed the roster:

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Jeff Oliphant | Doug McHenry | Bill Weber |
| Phil Ralls | Marie McHenry | Stephen Fischer |
| G. Lee Kuntz | Renee Murray | Anthony Terranova |
| Daniel Presburger | Dan Demeo | Julian Leidman |
| Walter Breen | Bob Grellman | John Dantt |
| Mike Cozzolino | Cindy Grellman | Jack Beymer |
| Alan Meghrig | Doug Bird | Sandra Beymer |
| Jack Collins | Jim Bergman | G. F. Gilmore |
| Bud Schweigh | Jack Robinson | Jim McGuigan |
| Jim Matthews | Del Bland | John Boise |
| Randle Fairchild | John Bergman | Joel Harwein |
| | Sheridan Downey | |

The meeting was called to order by Phil Ralls, West Coast Regional Chairman. First there was a report on the highlights of EAC '84, the annual convention. The report was favorable and included the announcement of 166 attendees and that the convention did not lose any money. It was also reported that Chicago has been selected for the 1985 annual convention.

Next, there was a general discussion regarding the upcoming Starr estate auction and the superior accuracy in grading and pedigree information.

Phil Ralls featured a slide presentation on 1798 large cent varieties and a quick attribution guide.

Bob Grellman announced a new discovery and made it available for inspection. The coin is an 1831 N-14 in MS60, making it now the finest known of that variety.

The formal meeting was then adjourned. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the West Coast EAC Regional Section will be held during the next Long Beach Numismatic and Philatelic Exposition in October, 1984. The EAC meeting will begin at 7:30 P.M. on the Friday evening of the Show's weekend.

* * * * *

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REGIONAL EAC MEETINGS, NY-NJ SECTION

Frank H. Stillinger

The NY-NJ Section of EAC has held two local meetings subsequent to the exciting EAC '84 convention in San Mateo, CA. The first meeting occurred on Saturday, May 5, at the 12th Annual Greater New York Coin Convention in Manhattan. Those attending were:

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Paul W. Peterson | Denis W. Loring | Ed Janis |
| James Feehan | Doug Walcutt | Robert B. Slobins |
| Roger Geary | Joel Geoffrey | Jay Goren |
| Robert Martin | Robert Soltisiak | Burnett Anderson |
| Roy E. Bonjour | Milton B. Pfeffer | Frank H. Stillinger |
| Vincent W. Alones | Rob Pfeffer | |

As a result of the Convention's scheduling chaos, the originally agreed-upon meeting time set for 10 A.M. was cavalierly and without prior notification re-scheduled for 1 P.M., creating some momentary unhappiness. However, a combination of creative expediency and effusive EAC enthusiasm gave rise to two meetings, the first at 10 A.M. in a commandeered vacant board room and the second at 1 P.M. in the "officially designated" spot. That both sessions were successful and attended by many of the same persons speaks well for the depth of copper-collecting interest which exists in EAC.

The primary discussion topic was the die states of the 1803 large cents. Sheldon lists 24 die varieties (obverse-reverse combinations) for the date; but, without inordinate hair-splitting, these can be classified further as cracks, cuds, and clashmarks appear. A listing of 79 easily distinguishable die states for the 1803 large cents was given to participants. Examples of many of these die states were available for examination, covering all of the 24 Sheldon varieties. Some slides of the 1803's from the EAC Library were also shown, adding to education and pleasure.

The second local meeting transpired on Saturday, June 23 at the Garden State Numismatic Association convention in Cherry Hill, N.J. The attendance list showed the following names:

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Robert B. Slobins | Paul Paterson | P. Scott Rubin |
| Marc M. Calcinao | Bill Panitch | Leonard Cohen |
| Rod Widok | David Jones | Doug Walcutt |
| Harry W. Colborn | Kerry K. Wetterstrom | John Hay Pittman |
| Richard Korycki | Herbert A. Silberman | Vincent Manna |
| Bob Yuell | Karl Wysocki | Allen Brock |
| Enoch Blackwell | Mary Wysocki | David Gladfelter |
| Harry J. Rescigno | Burnett Anderson | Sal Zambuto |
| Craig McDonald | Thomas S. Katman | Jim Mace |
| Robert Schonwalter | Walter Breen | Frank H. Stillinger |

The first order of business was a reprise of "Starr Wars", the sale conducted by Stack's slightly more than a week earlier. Several of those present had attended the auction and they offered opinions on the often-surprising Prices Realized. Successful bidders had just begun to receive their lots by mail. As a result, lots 56, 79, 261, and 340 were circulated among the attendees for examination, as was the Hays 4 (1794 S-17a) with the pie-shaped beauty mark from the Adams' sale.

Walter Breen supplied the entertainment for the remainder of the Cherry Hill meeting. Proofs of his "Encyclopedia of Half Cents, 1793-1857" had been brought to the meeting for inspection, an event which excited the many half cent enthusiasts who were on hand. Walter generously and copiously answered questions about publication details and about a wide range of numismatic topics of special concern to copper collectors. One of the more intriguing opinions which he voiced was that reverses of the 1794 large cent varieties S-48 and S-63 were prepared from the same hub, the latter being prepared after the 94 peripheral stars of the former had been ground away. No doubt several listeners went scurrying home after the meeting to examine their own S-63's for traces of vestigial stars.

Two fall meetings are in the planning stages. One will take place in Utica, New York at the Empire State show, September 28 or 29. The other will occur November 3 in connection with the Grand Central Coin Convention in Manhattan. Details will follow later.

* * * * *

NORTHEASTERN NEW ENGLAND EAC REGIONAL MEETING

Peter A. Neptune

The Northeastern New England EAC Regional Meeting was called to order on June 2, 1984 at 1 P.M. by Peter A. Neptune, chairman. Those present were:

John Fettinger
Carvin Goodridge
Claire Goodridge
Dana E. Philippi

Peter A. Neptune
Chuck Funk
Greg Fitzgibbon
Russell Aldridge

The meeting at the waterfront Howard Johnson's Motel in New Haven was a great one even though the group was small and a lot of Connecticut was under flood waters. I don't know what happened to all of you boating enthusiasts, but Greg Fitzgibbon and Russell Aldridge were undismayed by the downpour and they drove over from Poughkeepsie, New York.

Chuck Funk was the winner of the middle date whist match with Carvin Goodridge. John Fettinger won the early date whist match with Dana Philippi. The match might have been a little closer if John hadn't bought all those large cents from Carvin's 'goodie box'. Seriously, though, every one enjoyed the meeting. Of course, Peter Neptune got to ride home in the Cadillac which was offered as the door prize. But everyone was a winner! - although you have to attend to learn what is going on! Too bad that the rest of you couldn't make it!

The next meeting is scheduled for September 8 at the home of Carvin Goodridge in Bristol, Connecticut. This meeting will be confirmed at a later date. The middle dates whist match will be continued at that time; and, if there is sufficient interest, a clinic on the care and restoration of early copper will be conducted. Why not plan to attend and bring your problem coins and a supply of Q-tips?

The rest of you Yankees who are SUPPOSED to be interested in early American copper but who can't find the time to attend the few EAC meetings scheduled - well - you sure must have some serious problems....good luck!!!

* * * * *

BLAND-LORING-ROBINSON GRADING COMMITTEE

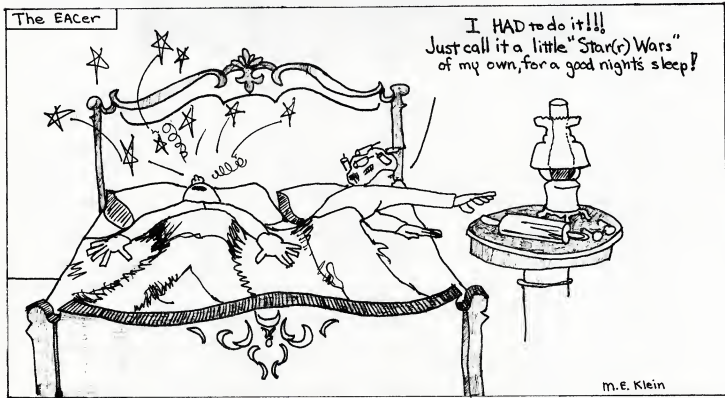
Jeffrey Oliphant

Through the last several issues of PENNY-WISE, EACers have learned of the formation of the informal Grading Committee. This group, composed of respected EACers DeI Bland, Denis Loring, and Jack Robinson, is offering to assist fellow EAC members by lending their knowledge to the grading of half cents and large cents. Their procedures, including photographic representation and grading only when all three members of the committee are together, as well as costs, are detailed in the last several issues of PENNY-WISE.

Although the Bland-Loring-Robinson Grading Committee is not a formal EAC committee, their efforts are primarily intended for our membership. You should feel comfortable in utilizing their services. DeI, Denis, and Jack are long-time active collectors and dealers who are intending to assist collectors by sharing their grading knowledge.

The Grading Committee can be reached at: Grading Committee
c/o Jack Robinson
P.O. Box 564
Vienna, Virginia 22180

* * * * *



I HAD to do it!!!
Just call it a little "Star(r) Wars"
of my own, for a good night's sleep!

Have you ever lain in bed, wide awake, and ALL you could do was toss and turn, wondering if your bid would win?

A FUN TIME WAS ENJOYED BY ALL

Joyce Kuntz

Friday, March 30, was the first day of planned activities for wives of EAC members attending the EAC '84 convention held recently at the Dunfey Hotel in San Mateo, California. A total of 16 wives and guests participated in the first day tour.



All 16 of us fitted snugly into our rental van which was capably driven by our volunteer driver, Honey Bland. Our first stop was at an orchid farm where we spent the next 2 hours touring acres of orchids filled with 80,000 plants which extended as far as the eyes could see. We watched how packer-shippers prepared budded orchid plants that were timed to bloom 'on cue' for those special occasions after they had been delivered all over the U.S. as well as foreign countries. We also saw experts, working in an ultra-sterile environment, cut tiny growing nodules into even smaller sections which in time would reproduce faithful look-alikes of the parent plants. Last of all, we visited the Gardenia House and saw how those flowers were made to bloom by hand.

Our next stop was Max's Sun where we enjoyed a lovely buffet luncheon. Then it was on to our afternoon tour of the Filoli mansion and gardens. This magnificent home and gardens - truly a gardener's paradise - is used as the opening shot on the TV series, "Dynasty".

The next day, Saturday, we had an all-day sightseeing tour of San Francisco which was enjoyed by 13 ladies and 2 male EAC members. We were aboard a bus that provided a tour guide who fully described all the things we saw - the Civic Center, Nob Hill, the Bay Bridge, Treasure Island, Golden Gate Bridge, etc. etc. We stopped for lunch and shopping at Fisherman's Wharf. Then it was on to the Cliff House, Twin Peaks, and finally back to the Dunfey Hotel

The planned two-days of activities were very busy ones, and we all had lots of fun and good fellowship. I personally got to meet ladies whom I knew by name only, and it was ever so nice to be able to put a face and a personality to each name.

I want to thank all of you ladies who participated for sharing these events with us. And I also want to extend a big thank you to Bill Weber, general chairman of the convention, for his help in our planning of the ladies day activities at the convention. We hope to see all of you again in Chicago for EAC '85.

Finally, I would like to share with you a letter which I have received from one of the wives who participated:

"Dear Mrs. Kuntz:

I just wanted to write you and let you know what a nice time I had in San Francisco during the recent EAC Convention. I can imagine all the work you had to do to arrange the tours, and I for one appreciated it. My husband and I stayed in San Francisco until Monday night, April 2, before we went on to Canada to visit my in-laws. I used the tour of San Francisco to familiarize myself with the city, and I then acted as my husband's tour guide.

We attended last year's convention in New York City, and I was bored the entire weekend. This year, however, I actually enjoyed going to a coin convention even more so than my husband did. Thank you again. Hope to see you in Chicago.

Sincerely,

Becky McDonald"

With other expressions of appreciation and the many thank you's that I have received, we all look forward to the next convention in Chicago which will be filled with hours of planned activities for the ladies while our husbands enjoy the convention and the bourse.

Signed,

Joyce Kuntz

Director of Ladies Activities

* * * * *

RE: EXHIBITS AT EAC '84

Many thanks are extended to the nine EAC exhibitors for sharing their coin exhibits with us at EAC '84. For those of you who were unable to get to the convention, you missed some real treats. There were a number of outstanding coins on display. Our thanks also go to Bob, John and son Jim, and to Cal for their assistance with the coin cases.

G. Lee Kuntz

Exhibit Chairman

* * * * *

ASK JOHN

John D. Wright, NLG

"Ask John" is a forum for all of your questions - great or small - about old coppers or EAC. Your questions will be answered eventually; and those of most general interest will be published in this column for the information of all. Do let me hear from you.

John D. Wright
1468 Timberlane Drive
St. Joseph, Michigan 49084

AJ48: I recently purchased an 1833 large cent graded VF35 and attributed it to be N-2. An R2 coin is not a great find, but this cent has a rotated die of about 30 degrees. Is this a common occurrence in the large cent series?

ANS. Rotations of up to 45° in either direction are fairly common for the whole series. Rotations begin to catch my fancy when they approach 90° or more - and I know 30 varieties in the 1816-1835 period that come that way. These are spread evenly across the series, with most years boasting at least one. For 1833, the year of your coin, the N6 occasionally comes with reverse crossways right. Your variety, the 1833 N-2, invariably comes with the reverse rotated right between 20° and 45°. I'm sorry that your cent is not highly unusual, but I'm pleased to see somebody who is interested in such close study of those fun old coppers. You deserve compliments on your keen eye and your active curiosity.

AJ49: Where can I find a current listing of how many varieties are known for each large cent date from 1793 to 1857?

ANS. The following list should answer your question. A 'variety' is all coins struck from a given pair of dies (head + tail).

An 'edge variety' is distinguished by a different edge device (plain/gripped, or large/small letters, or plain/lettered). Since the edge device is imparted by a third 'die', most people consider an edge variety as a true 'variety'.

Many also include the three most popular non-mint 'restrikes'.

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|------------|--------|--------------|
| The total count of varieties is: | 1793-1814 | 340 | + 8 EV | + 1 R |
| | 1816-1839 | 243 | | + 1 R |
| | 1840-1857 | <u>385</u> | | + 1 R |
| | | 966 | + 8 EV | + 3 R = 979. |

A quick, accurate statement must be 'almost a thousand'.

The counts pre-1840 include all new varieties that are different die states of other known varieties. For example, 1835 N-17 is a late state N-7. The counts after 1839 are based on Jules Reiver's study.

The complete list appears on the next page:

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1793--22 + 2 EV | 1815--None | 1836--7 |
| 1794--63 + 3 EV | 1816--9 | 1837--16 |
| 1795--11 + 1 EV | 1817--17 | 1838--15 |
| 1796--45 | 1818--10 | 1839--14 |
| 1797--31 + 2 EV | 1819--10 | 1840--13 |
| 1798--46 | 1820--15 | 1841--7 |
| 1799--3 | 1821--2 | 1842--9 |
| 1800--29 | 1822--13 | 1843--16 |
| 1801--16 | 1823--2 + 1 R | 1844--8 |
| 1802--20 | 1824--5 | 1845--15 |
| 1803--24 | 1825--9 | 1846--22 |
| 1804--1 + 1 R | 1826--8 | 1847--39 |
| 1805--3 | 1827--12 | 1848--44 + 1 R |
| 1806--1 | 1828--12 | 1849--27 |
| 1807--6 | 1829--9 | 1850--25 |
| 1808--3 | 1830--11 | 1851--43 |
| 1809--1 | 1831--13 | 1852--21 |
| 1810--5 | 1832--3 | 1853--33 |
| 1811--2 | 1833--6 | 1854--25 |
| 1812--4 | 1834--7 | 1855--12 |
| 1813--2 | 1835--18 | 1856--21 |
| 1814--2 | | 1857--5 |

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HENRY G. GARRETT

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* * * * *

PENNYMANSHIP TO THE EDITORS

From JEFF ROCK: "I received the May issue of P-W; and, as usual, it was excellent. There were a great many informative and interesting articles. As I was unable to attend EAC '84, the coverage of the convention was especially welcome. I have many more possibilities for articles regarding Colonial coins, but as such articles are of only minor interest to EACer's, I won't send them in for publication.

I have one question - on the frontispiece of P-W 100, Herb Silberman included no less than eight examples of Pine Tree colonial pieces. Why? Surely, with all the copper Colonials that were circulated, something more appropriate to the Early American Coppers could have been found!

Will EAC reprint further volumes of back issues of P-W? I ordered the first volume and was really pleased with its quality. I would definitely order other volumes of later issues.

I think that a good article to run in P-W would be on numismatic literature relating to large cents. I know that something like this was printed before; but with all the new members since that time, such an article is something that could be useful. Besides, there are many additions which can now be made such as auction catalogues on 'outstanding large cent collections', e.g. Dupont, Helfenstein, Pearl, Adams, Garrett, etc."

From DAVID M. GALE: "Just received P-W 102. Your Editor's Report made me realize that more than a year has gone by since I last sent in a contribution. I'm enclosing an article "Mint Drop Die Varieties" for your consideration.

I have a few comments about P-W 102. In addition to the usual fine technical articles, there were several things which caught my eye. It was a pleasure to see a contribution from Les Heilbronner. I've always thought that Les has an interesting point of view, and I hope that we see more contributions from Les in future P-W's. Also, I'm enjoying Harrold Hess' series for the novice collector. Harrold refers to collecting Civil War tokens as the 'last frontier', and I couldn't agree more. Most Civil War tokens are still available in average circulated condition for about \$5. retail. Patriotic Civil War tokens are particularly interesting because of all the die varieties and their historical significance. If there is a collectors' heaven, they probably collect CWT's.

As you can see from the full page ad I'm enclosing for the July P-W, my wife Charlotte and I will be putting out a Fixed Price catalogue this fall. Of particular interest to EACer's should be our Mint Drop Hard Times tokens from the Roper collection and a high grade N.J. copper, ex Bareford. In case that you haven't already guessed, there also will be several hundred Civil War tokens listed."

From COLONEL BILL MURRAY, dated May 15: "Issue No. 102 of PENNY-WISE has been received, devoured, ingested, and with luck, some of it will metabolize into impressions on the brain cells. Thanks to you, to the many contributors, to the typist Mrs. Margaret Beeler, and to the printer and mailer William J. Parks, we 'out here' have been informed, entertained, amused, and if we missed out in the auction we now know by how much - maybe. Your yeoman work for the many years - I'm not sure just how long - deserves considerable credit.

Here's a thought! - has PENNY-WISE ever been abstracted for the American Numismatic Society's publication, 'Numismatic Literature'? If not, it should be! Perhaps the Rat Fink's sagacity is too brief for abstraction (or is it too abstract for briefing?), but many of the articles are significant contributions to the numismatic literature. Perhaps other members might like to comment."

From MABEL ANN WRIGHT: "EAC '84 in San Mateo was really great, and attendance was good. I went on the bus tour of San Francisco that Saturday, and it was very interesting and worthwhile. That was one of the women's activities which was open to anyone, and Pete Smith and Lee Kuntz both went on it too. I think that the women enjoyed having some activities planned specifically for them, and they have requested that women's activities be planned for the show in Chicago next year. One thing which the ladies really liked was the Hospitality Get-Together on Thursday evening, because it gave them a chance to come with their husbands, to meet other women, and to get acquainted with each other. Pretty soon, the men were gathered on one side of the room and the women on the other. The wives really appreciated that time to share. From my own viewpoint, the convention was a success! The educational forum was very interesting and informative too."

From ERNEST J. MONTGOMERY: "During my recent perusal of catalogues, I discovered the following:

'Auction Sale/Colonial and/United States/Coins of/James S. Bryant/
Collection,/ Part One/Wednesday Afternoon, December 12, 1906/ at two
o'clock./ by Lyman H. Low.

page 7 Rare Half Cents

1831 to 1852 (excepting 1836 and 1849, small date). All brilliant proofs - none of the dull kind - a most exceptional group, with notations of color, shades, etc. The 1841 is original, with large berries in the wreath. The 1852 meets the simple requirements of originals, and doubtless belongs to that class; if the large berries were present, I should brand it as a re-strike. All of the remainder have the small berries and are re-strikes; they are from dies used on the second coinage of 1849 to 1857, during which period there is scarcely a perceptible difference, even if any at all.'

Mr. Low then made the following personal comment in small type:

'In my record of sales kept for the past fifteen years, it is worthy of note, and a subject for reflection, that only one-third of the specimens offered were re-strikes; it seems to be clear, therefore, that they are rarer than the originals and are fast climbing to the price and prominence of their predecessors. It is to be remembered also that they were struck upwards of fifty years ago. All dies in the United States Mint were destroyed in 1869, and they have been annually demolished since that time.

Since my recent writings regarding the Proof-only Half Cents, I am aware of several other collectors of these pieces. Perhaps one of them can explain why it took until 1953 that those pieces with small berries were found to be of two natures, viz. those with recut letters of HALF CENT and the recutting of the bow, first restrikes, and those having diagonal file marks over RICA, second restrikes. Again, I mention that only a magnifying glass is necessary to distinguish these separate groups.'

Finally, recording should be made of the recent sale of an 1852 proof half cent, reverse B, large berries (C.SR-1) of lot 316 in the December 15, 1983 of the Loye L. Lauder collection by William Doyle Galleries of Manhattan. This is indeed the rarest of the Proof-only Half Cents and now holds the record for the highest sale price. With a \$7,000. - \$12,000. estimate, the coin brought \$25,000. in the sale."

From JOHN BOISE: "To all EACer's: please drop by my table if you are in the area of Santa Barbara, California during August 25-26 at the Earl Warren show-grounds during the 26th annual Santa Barbara Coin Club show. I will be more than happy to spend most of the time with fellow copper crazies, discussing the epitome of numismatics. P.S. I'm still looking for 1803 C-8's in EF and other 1803's in various states. I will be promoting EAC at the show."

From ROGER S. COHEN: "Thought you might like to see the name of a new client of mine: PennyWise Enterprise, Inc. The company is inactive now, but formerly marketed novelty items of 1980 Lincoln cents."

From JOHN FETTINGER: "I really don't know if the subject of rarity is of interest to the majority of P-W readers, but it is sufficiently complex to warrant presentation in small doses. I have another article on the subject in work for future presentation which proposes alternative tables, but the current article in this issue is enough for the present. Although it does not present anything new, it does provide support for previous rarity statements which I have offered."

* * * * *

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* * * * *

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* * * * *

SWAPS & SALES

EAC members are invited to submit their ads for inclusion in this column. The first 12 lines, including line spacing, are free. If ad exceeds this limit, the treasurer will bill you for full ad on a pro-rated basis. Full-page ad is \$40. Deadline for receipt of copy is end of month preceding date of next issue. Ads must be sent directly to Warren A. Lapp, 6505 Newmarket Way, Raleigh, NC 27509.

* * * * *

RON TAYLOR 101 Queensgate Drive Coraopolis, PA 15108
(412) 262-3166

NEWLY DISCOVERED!

Very rare 1800 large cent, S-198, R6. 1984 ANACS authenticated and graded 12/8. Fourth finest known - best is VF20. \$825.

* * * * *

JEFF ROCK 10358 Buena Vista Santee, CA 92071

WANTED for private collection - ALL Connecticut coppers, error pieces from Machin's Mills, 'odd-ball' large cents, literature relating to Colonial coins and to large cents.

* * * * *

DENNIS RYNES 1711 Rondo, S.E. Grand Rapids, MI 49508
(616) 455-4254

| | | | | |
|-----------|------------------|------|--------------------------|--------|
| FOR SALE: | 1766 Pitt token | VF | with silvering | \$470. |
| | 1787 Conn. M.4-L | VF | Horned Bust, small flan | 100. |
| | Fugio 6-W | AG | | 22. |
| | 9-P | VG10 | straight clip above date | 88. |
| | 12-U | F | some planchet porosity | 88. |
| | 15-Y | F15 | 8-pointed stars on label | 200. |

* * * * *

BILL TIVOL 148 Lancaster, Street, Apt. 5 Albany, NY 12210
(518) 474-6646

| | | | | | | | |
|------------|-------|----------------|-------|--------|-----------|------------------|-------|
| 1796 S-81 | VG10 | rough, dents | \$80. | 1802 | S-239 F | corr.-overall G4 | \$13. |
| 1798 S-184 | VF20 | lt. pits | 170. | 1806 | S-270 F15 | lt. scr.obv. | 120. |
| 1801 S-219 | AG3 | | 21. | 1807/6 | S-273 | VG10 | 45. |
| 1802 S-225 | VG10 | wk.st. rev. K6 | 60. | 1808 | | VG8 lt. scr.obv. | 30. |
| | S-232 | VF20 | 160. | 1809 | S-280 | VG10/F15 | 105. |
| | S-239 | F15 | 100. | 1810 | S-283 | F12 lt.por. | 35. |
| | S-239 | F12 | 75. | 1812 | | VF20 lt.por.scr. | |
| | | cleaned | | | | tarnish | 85. |

* * * * *

STEVE LUND P.O. Box 6383 Santa Rosa, CA 95406

I would like to buy the following original issues of PENNY-WISE in order to complete my collection: #28 (Jan. '72); #34 (Jan. '73); and #53 (Mar. '76). I am also interested in a catalogue from the Stack's February, 1974 sale. Please quote price.

* * * * *

FOR SALE - large cents

| | | | | | | | |
|---------|-------|--------------------------------------|--------|-------------------------|-------|-----------------------|--------|
| 1793 | S-3 | G5 | \$995. | 1831 | N-11a | XF40 | \$120. |
| 1794 | S-26 | VF35 good strike | 975. | 1838 | N-1 | AU50 | 115. |
| | S-30 | VG8 VF detail but entirely porous | 95. | 1839/6 | N-1 | VG10 problem- free | 190. |
| 1800 | S-203 | VG10 | 70. | 1856 | N-2 | AU55 | 125. |
| 1820/19 | N-1 | XF45 very nice | 115. | Lot of 25 large cents - | | | |
| 1821 | N-1 | F18 | 55. | | | AG-VF | 180. |

* * * * *

BRUCE R. LONGYEAR, Numismatist P.O.B. 8922 Boston, MA 02114
(617) 367-0958

FOR SALE: 1808/7 C-2 half cent Choice VF+. Pleasing,
problem-free brown planchet. Well struck \$900.
1811 S-287 large cent. AU50 Choice brown planchet
with remaining iridescence. Condition Census -
as most Sheldon '60's' are today's AU's.
Problem-free 1,700.
1830 N-6 large cent with medium letters. Nice pleasing
VG with no-problem planchet and good color. 50.

* * * * *

ED SARRAFIAN 9414 Nashville Morton Grove, IL 60053

FOR SALE:- large cents

| | | | | | | | |
|------|------|---------------|-------|------|----|--------|-------|
| 1794 | S-22 | Fair2 No date | \$15. | 1803 | AG | smooth | \$13. |
| | S-30 | G/Fr | 45. | 1811 | G | smooth | 50. |
| 1802 | AG | smooth | 13. | | | | |

I am interested in buying your AG-F Vermont coppers.

* * * * *

RAYMOND SMITH P.O. Box 32145 Euclid, OH 44132

FOR SALE: half cents

| | | | | | | | |
|------|------|-------------------------------|--------|------|-----|--|-------|
| 1795 | C-6a | VG8/8 ANACS | \$175. | 1806 | C-1 | VF25 shattered die, rev. ribbon break | \$60. |
| 1797 | C-1 | VG10+ glossy, #3 rim marks | 225. | 1807 | C-1 | XF40+ glossy, fully str., 3 lt. rim nicks | 140. |
| | C-1 | F12/6 faintly por. | 250. | 1825 | C-1 | Choice 45+ | 140. |

large cents

| | | | | | | | |
|------|-------|---|--------|------|-------|---|------|
| 1794 | S-29 | VF20/12 50% full rim, from my own coll. | \$275. | 1813 | S-292 | F18/20 15% off- ctr. | 125. |
| 1798 | S-173 | Ch.45 ELECTRO nice | 125. | 1821 | N-2 | F12+ | 55. |
| 1803 | S-259 | MS63/60 full orig. mint red, nice, from my own coll. 10 years | 2,250. | 1823 | N-2 | VG10 | 55. |
| 1806 | S-270 | F12 | 85. | 1857 | N-4 | Ch45, clnd, but mark-free and retoned | 70. |
| 1811 | S-286 | AG3 strong date | 24. | | | N-4 AU50 some red, 2 very sm. rim nicks rev. 11-OC | 125. |

* * * * *

PAUL W. PATTERSON Tinton Falls, NJ 07724
(201) 741-1851

FOR TRADE: 1802 NC2 AG-G, Clear date, nice color. I need 1802 NC1,
1803 NC1, or S-264.

* * * * *

FOR SALE: -

| | | | | |
|------|-----------------|------|-----------|-------|
| 1837 | half cent token | EF40 | | \$80. |
| 1804 | C-5 R4 | VG8 | lt. scrs. | 45. |

* * * * *

BRUCE A. TUCKER 3747 Dover Drive Birmingham, AL 35223

LARGE CENTS For Sale

| | | | | |
|------|-------|----------------------------------|--|-------|
| 1803 | S-258 | Detail of VF20 but some porosity | | \$22. |
| 1822 | N-2 | Wright 2209 VF20 R4+ | | 30. |
| 1838 | N-9 | Wright 3804 VF20 R4 | | 24. |
| 1845 | | Possible Reiver 13, R6 F12 | | 10. |
| | | VF20 | | 10. |

Also buying attractive Mint State Late Dates.

* * * * *

GEORGE R. TROSTEL 49 Bristol Street Southington, Conn. 06489

| | | | | | | | |
|------|-------|------------------|-------|------|-------|--------------------------|-------|
| 1803 | S-253 | G R2 porosity | \$14. | 1805 | S-268 | G R5 just wear | \$24. |
| | S-255 | G R1 obv. & rev. | | 1807 | S-273 | Fr R1 | 4. |
| | | cuts | 10. | | S-276 | VG R1 pin mks., sl. | |
| | S-256 | F R4 sev. scrs. | 90. | | | off-center, rotated rev. | 38. |
| | S-260 | G R1 just wear | 10. | 1794 | S-55 | AG3 R3 some minor | |
| | S-261 | F R3 porosity | 90. | | | problems | 60. |
| | | | | 1795 | S-76b | Fr+ R1 some would | |
| | | | | | | grade higher | 40. |

* * * * *

PETE SMITH 2424 4th Street, N.E. Minneapolis, MN 55418

WANTED: HOLED Large Cents! They should have readable dates and a single hole at top of obverse (K-12). Only old holes, please - I can make new holes myself.

Also wanted: nice TurbenCents VF-XF with problem-free surfaces.

* * * * *

DICK PUNCHARD 8600 Queen Avenue So. Minneapolis, MN 55431

LARGE CENTS For Sale:

| | | | | | | | |
|------|-------|-------------------|--------|------|------|------------------|--------|
| 1794 | S-55 | VG10 | \$150. | 1831 | N-14 | F15 lt. porosity | \$175. |
| 1808 | S-279 | VF25 | 195. | 1833 | N-4 | VF30 lt. scrs. | 25. |
| 1810 | S-282 | F15 | 95. | 1834 | N-3 | EF40 | 95. |
| 1819 | N-4 | VF35 lt. scrs. | 105. | 1836 | N-2 | F12 | 15. |
| 1820 | N-15 | VG10 | 10. | 1835 | N-5 | F15 | 20. |
| 1824 | N-3 | VF20 lt. porosity | 25. | 1839 | N-13 | VG | 10. |

* * * * *

KEITH WOLFE

Rt. 2, Box 187-A

Dobson, NC 27017

(919) 374-5831

1785 Connecticut M.4,1-F.4 African Head VG Date not struck up.
 Strong central detail. \$25.

1787 Connecticut M.32,2-X,2 VF Flat strike. Nice planchet. 85.

1787 Connecticut M.33,7-r,2 VF Sharp. 85.

1787 Connecticut M.33,11-gg.1 R-6 Fine Ex-Pine Tree 1975
 EAC Auction Lot 186 where it realized \$300. 200.

1787 Connecticut M.33,31-gg.2 R-7 G-VG Few small surface nicks.
 DOUBLE STRUCK. Both strikes off-center with two dates. 200.

St. Patrick "Farthing" Good. 40.

St. Patrick "Halfpenny" Vlack 1-A Good. Very choice planchet. 90.

* * * * *

DENIS W. LORING

P.O. Box 363

New York, NY 10101

1793 S-11c BS1 partial date \$110. 1846 N-14 MS60+ tall date \$400.

1803 S-260 AU55 1,400. 1848 N-17a MS60 200.

1825 N-2c MS60+ 700. 1854 N-12 MS63 400.

1841 N-4b MS63 500. 1855 N-9 MS63 early state 400.

1843 N-10 MS63 500.

* * * * *

THOMAS S. KATMAN

3 Saxony Drive

Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

FOR SALE: Reprints of the famous Chapman sale of the Alvord half
 cent collection. Includes the 5 plates and the Prices Realized \$10.

I also have an original copy of Venn's little book on half
 cents and large cents. Write.

* * * * *

JOHN E. HIGGINS c/o Higgins Gallery of Rare Coins, Inc. 11E Sherman
 Square, Hyannis, MA 02601 (617) 771-7772

Free price list of U.S. half cents. Want lists filled.

* * * * *

EUGENE STERNLIGHT

2209 N.E. 26th Street

Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 33305

FOR SALE: Price includes postage.

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|-------|---------------------|-------|----------------|------|
| 1797 half cent Fr2 | \$25. | 1803 S-260 G4 | \$18. | 1807 filler | \$3. |
| 1832 half cent XF40 | 41. | S-243 F12 | 65. | 1810 AG3 | |
| <u>Cents:</u> | | S-252 F15 pl.clip | 100. | scratch | 7. |
| 1795 S-78 G5/Fr2 | 60. | S-256 VF20 few mks. | 160. | 1837 AU55 | 150. |
| S-81 VG8 rev.mk. | 125. | S-255 F12 retooled | 75. | 1851/81 MS63 | 750. |
| 1800 S-211 F15 nice | 100. | 1805 S-267 VG8 | 33. | 1857 MS60 | |
| 1802 S-229 F15 | 125. | S-269 VF30 nice | 200. | recolored | 225. |
| | | | | 1787 Conn. F12 | 125. |
| | | | | 1787 NJ VF20 | 125. |

* * * * *

KEVIN SUDOL

Rt. 1, Box 16

Aranat, NC 27007

1723 Hibernia halfpenny G/VG obv. scratch, nice surfaces \$10.
 1852 cent AU50 but verdigris on obv. and light corr. on rev. Dark.
 Reverse wire rim. For the experimental cleaner 20.

WANTED: Cull, dated, unholed large cents, not too terrible, @ \$1.75 each,
 in any quantity. Also, AG-G or light damage Condors @ \$1. each.

* * * * *

JIM McGUIGAN Box 133 N. Versailles, PA 15137 (412) 247-4484

HALF CENTS: For Sale

1793 C-3 EF40 \$7,950. 1804 C-8 AU50 \$625.
 1796 C-2 AU55 (ex Showers 1806 C-1 MS63 lustrous
 collection) 35,000. olive brown 1,850.

LARGE CENTS:

1795 S-74 MS63 lustrous 1796 S-89 VG8 375.
 brown 16,000. 1810/9 S-281 MS60+
 S-75 MS65 lustrous brown 2,750.
 ex Helfenstein coll. 16,000. 1826 N-5 MS63 lustrous
 brown 650.

Show Schedule: I will be attending the following shows over the next few months:
 July 18-20 at New York; July 28-August 1 at ANA, Detroit; August 31-
 September 1 at Washington, D.C.; September 14-15 at Cincinnati. Stop
 by my table (or have me paged) if you would like to see anything in my
 inventory or if you have any early U.S. coins for sale.

* * * * *

STEVEN W. LINDSEY 1412 Beechwood Terr. #7 Manhattan, Kansas 66502

1798 S-148 VG8 \$45. 1833 VG8 \$10. 1840 F12 \$11.
 S-161 VG10 60. 1835 VG7 10. 1842 VF30 32.
 1807/6 S-273 Fr2 12. 1837 VG8 10. 1844 VG10 10.
 1816 VG7 14. 1838 VG8 13. 1847 VG10 9.
 1817 VG7 11. F15 17. 1848 VG7 8.
 1826 G5 10. 1839 VG8 10. 1851 F12 9.
 1827 VG8 12. G4 9. 1853 VF20 13.
 1833 G4 9.

* * * * *

RICHARD E. CROSS c/o Cross Coin Company Scranton, PA 18504
 P.O. Box 158

HALF CENTS

1794 C-1a F-15+ R-3 \$695. 1796 S-91 F-15+ R-3 \$550.
 1806 C-1 AU-50 R-1 295. 1798 S-147 VG-10+ R-5+ 425.
 1832 C-3 AU-55 R-1 125. 1798 S-169 G-6 R-5- 100.
 1835 C-1 EF-45 R-1 110. 1798 S-171 F-12 R-5- 350.
 1855 C-1 BU-60 R-1 225. 1798 S-179 F-12 R-1+ 95.

LARGE CENTS

1796 S-87 VF-20 R-3 650. 1802 S-237 VF-30 R-2 350.
 1812 S-290 VF-35 R-1 495.

FREE PRICE LIST: Send name and address to receive current list.

* * * * *

The Floyd T. Starr sale has come and gone. Those that attended were treated to a truly memorable event indeed. A great collection(s) was dispersed predominantly to floor bidders at prices which reflected a very strong interest in collector coins. It was surprising that several MS67 and/or MS70 blazing Gem-quality late dates went for a mere fraction of the Grey Sheet bid of \$2,600. in MS65, some less than 50 per cent. Investment fever may have cooled off, but real collector interest is alive and well, especially for Early Copper.

"Copper Quotes by Robinson" will experience its third issue about July 20, and the issue will contain the first installment on the Middle Dates. The subscription price is still only \$20, through 12/31/84 for the next three issues.

I had expected to publish a fixed price list in May, but due to the pressures of completing the second issue of "Copper Quotes by Robinson", preparing for the Starr Wars, and doing a normal business (necessary because of the second reason), I just never got around to it. However, I do plan to issue a fixed price list just after mailing out CQR 3 but before ANA begins - so if the creek doesn't rise, the list will get mailed about the same time as CQR 3 (I hope).

And now, a new subject - the Starr Wars certainly are a tough act to follow, and there is really no point in trying! But, collecting goes on, and the market for copper remains stable and is actually getting stronger - both in value and in collector interest - in many areas. The only problem is the availability of decent and accurately graded material.

An auction is a reasonable method of getting coins to the collector, but most auctions contain only high-priced, generally over-graded material. Well, I am the Robinson side of the firm of McLaughlin and Robinson, and we do coin auctions! (We handled the printing of the EAC '84 auction catalogue.) In association with another EACer, Paul Padget, we will be handling the auction at the Cincinnati Coin Show in September, 1984. It will offer a decent selection of U.S. and foreign coins of many and various denominations.

AUCTION

AUCTION

AUCTION

"So what?", you say - well, there will be OVER 200 LOTS of EARLY COPPER which will be graded in accordance with EAC STANDARDS (Expectations)! There will be many varieties represented - in collectible grades! and PROPERLY described! There will be COMMITTEE-GRADED coins in the auction. If you are interested in receiving a copy of the catalogue, please send your request as soon as possible. If you are interested in consigning, the material must be in our hands by August 10, 1984. We will be at ANA in August - we have a TABLE - stop by and bring your material with you. We will send you a catalogue and advise you as to the lots you consigned. Payments for lots sold to floor bidders must be made within 10 days after the auction. Payment for lots sold to mail bidders must be received within 45 days after the auction. COMMISSION TO EAC MEMBERS WILL BE ONLY 8 per cent as against the normal 10 per cent - just furnish us with your EAC Number when you submit your material. Within 48 hours of the end of the auction, we will furnish each Mail Bidder with a re-cap of each bid that he submitted plus the opening bid, the winning bid, and whether the item was sold to the floor or to a Mail Bidder.

YOU SAY THAT YOU'RE AFRAID OF AUCTION - WELL HERE'S AN OUTFIT THAT IS ORIENTED TOWARD COPPER, WILLING TO CATER TO THE NEEDS OF THE EAC MEMBER. I OFFER MY REPUTATION FOR FAIR DEALING AS YOUR GUARANTEE OF SATISFACTION!! The services offered may seem new, but we have been doing this for over 2 years.

If this activity is of any interest to you, please express your interest! We want to offer a level of service to EAC members which seems to be slipping away from the numismatic community as a whole. Let's put the FUN back into collecting! We can't do it alone, but with your interest and help.....

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TOM REYNOLDS P.O. Box 24529 Omaha, NE 68124 (402) 895-3065

| | | | | | |
|---------|-----|-----|------|-------|-------------------------|
| 1816 | N9 | R4 | F15 | \$26. | Minor surface problems. |
| 1817 | N7 | R3+ | VG7 | 17. | Large mouse. |
| 1818 | N3 | R3 | F12 | 21. | |
| 1819 | N2 | R1 | VF35 | 85. | State II. Choice. |
| 1820/19 | N3 | R2 | G4 | 9. | |
| 1823/2 | N1 | R2- | G5 | 30. | Choice. |
| 1825 | N10 | R3+ | G4 | 11. | Wide date. Choice. |
| 1831 | N12 | R1 | G6 | 22. | Rimbreak at 13th star. |
| 1833 | N6 | R1+ | VF25 | 35. | Choice. |
| 1837 | N8 | R1 | XF40 | 65. | Choice. |

Send name and address to receive free price list.

* * * * *

CHARLOTTE and DAVID GALE 2404 Berwyn Road Wilmington, DE 19810

Buying/selling Colonials, tokens, early medals.

SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY OFFER:

| | |
|--|---------|
| 5 different VF Patriotic Civil War tokens | \$19.95 |
| Brand new (4th ed.) Fuld PATRIOTIC CIVIL WAR | |
| TOKENS book | 25.00 |
| Both, postpaid, for only | \$39.95 |

* * * * *

MARC M. CALCIANO P.O. Box 33183 Philadelphia, PA 19142

FOR SALE: 1830- N-4 ¼, MS63. Double profile on parts of wreath, ONE CENT, OF, and some other letters. State II. Golden olive to amber, with faded mint red especially near edge. This is one of top three specimens. Exceedingly rare. Ex Downing, Schwartz, Helfenstein lot 131. \$985.

* * * * *

C. V. M. Numismatics

CHRIS VICTOR - McCAWLEY

Ph. (405) 258-0681

Box 406

Chandler, Ok. 74834

The following is a sampling of coppers from my latest price list. I invite all EACers to write for a free copy. My current list contains over fourteen pages of Half Cents, Large Cents, Colonials, Hard Times Tokens, Conder Tokens and Civil War Tokens. It also contains photos of over fifty of the coins offered. All coins are strictly graded and carry a full 30 days return privilege.

HALF CENTS

| | | |
|---|------|-------|
| 1793 electrotpe | VF20 | \$75. |
| A high quality electrotpe. Much less expensive than the real thing. | | |
| 1828 C3 | AU50 | 120. |
| Lustrous, a bit of red still present | | |
| 1829 C1 | AU50 | 120. |
| Lustrous reddish tan. | | |

LARGE CENTS

| | | |
|---|-----|------|
| 1794 S23 R5 | AG3 | 145. |
| Obverse good +. Rev mostly gone due to die failure. A tough, tough variety to find. | | |
| 1795 S75 L.E. R3 G6 | | 135. |
| Dk brn. Good detail both obv & rev. | | |
| 1804 S266 | AG3 | 185. |
| Some porosity. Rim break over rty. A decent low grade example. Detail of 4. Clear date. | | |

LARGE CENTS (Cont.)

| | | |
|---|---------|------|
| 1803 S258 | VF25 | 250. |
| Super glossy med brn problem free. Very nice. | | |
| 1807 S275 R4 F12 | | 105. |
| Nice detail. Edge nick K3. Smooth surfaces. A decent ex. of a tough coin. A bargain at this price. | | |
| 1809 S280 | XF35/40 | 675. |
| The nicest 1809 I have seen in 3 years. Superb glossy choc brn planchet. Problem free & <u>rare</u> . | | |
| 1822 N3 | VF20 | 42. |
| Nice problem free glossy choc brn. | | |
| 1827 N6 R4 | VF25 | 65. |
| Choc brn. Well struck. | | |
| 1843 N4 PHLL | VF35 | 55. |
| Petite hd, large letters, rev. Glossy dk brn. Scarce variety this nice. | | |

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