

PENNY-WISE

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EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION: ON THE 142nd ANNIVERSARY OF THE MINT ACT OF 1857

Harry E. Salyards

I just happened to note, this gray February afternoon, today's listing on the Krause Publications Coin and Paper Money Calendar:

February 21: "Flying eagle cent design authorized for cent; half cent discontinued."

Now, there's a little bit of license here, as the relevant Act of Congress says nothing about any Flying Eagle design (see below); but for anyone interested in the early copper coinage of this country, this was the day that put a period to the series. Tradition has it that the large cent was considered a clunky nuisance, an anachronism, by that time; but as with so much that gets passed down through numismatic writing, I know of no contemporary evidence to support that assertion. The Treasury had a concern about the heavy copper coinage, however, in that the vast outpouring of gold from California was having an inflationary effect on the economy--curious to think of that: the ultimate "hard money" causing inflation, but so it was, with a sudden vast expansion in the money supply--and as a result, for the first time since 1795, there was at least a threat that the large cent would bear more value in raw copper than the denomination stamped on its reverse. And so, alternatives were sought. But even that was not the primary purpose of the Act of February 21, 1857--the final demonetization of Spanish fractional silver was.

The opening section of the Act reads,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the pieces commonly known as the quarter, eighth, and sixteenth of the Spanish pillar dollar, and of the Mexican dollar, shall be receivable at the Treasury of the United States, and its several offices, and at the several post-offices and land-offices, at the rates of valuation following,--that is to say, the fourth of a dollar, or piece of two reals, at twenty cents; the eighth of a dollar, or piece of one real, at ten cents; and the sixteenth of a dollar, or half real, at five cents.

Section two takes the plunge that the Mint had postponed, from one Mint Act to the next, back to its earliest history:

And be it further enacted, That the said coins, when so received, shall not again be paid out, or put in circulation, but shall be recoined at the Mint. . .

For the first time since its inception in 1792, there was an adequacy of small change that actually bore the inscription UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. Think about it! For sixty-five years, in an era where that exceeded the average life span, this first-ever modern democracy had had to live with fractional silver bearing the likeness of Spanish kings! Coinage was about sovereignty, after all. It is understandable, if not particularly appealing in retrospect, that the makers of so much Vermont and Connecticut copper of the 1780s saw fit to make their coins look superficially like those of the late, unlamented King George, to facilitate their circulation. But for the Federal Mint to be unable to offer an American alternative to this vast circulation of foreign minor silver, into the 1850s, must have been galling, indeed! 142 years ago today, that dispensation came to an end.

And so, almost as an afterthought, did the large cent and half cent:

Sec. 4: *And be it further enacted,* That from and after the passage of this act, the standard weight of the cent coined at the Mint shall be seventy-two grains, or three twentieths of one ounce troy...and the said cent shall be composed of eighty-eight per centum of copper and twelve per centum of nickel, of such shape and device as may be fixed by the Director of the Mint, with the approbation of the Secretary of the Treasury; and the coinage of the half cent shall cease.

* * * * *

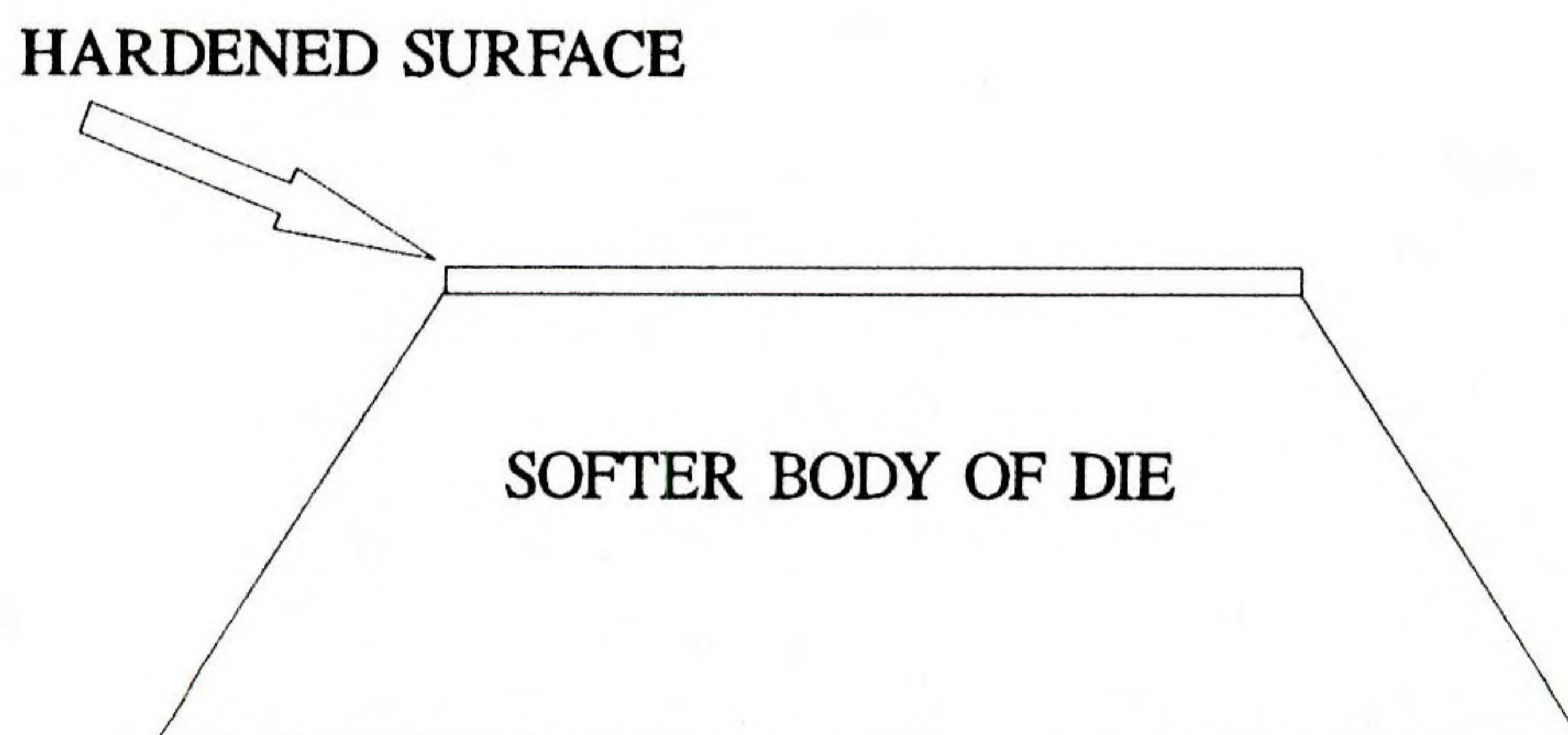
DIE STATE DEVELOPMENT IN THE EARLY COPPER COINAGE

Bruce Reinoehl

This is an attempt to explain die deterioration patterns and how they affected the appearance of the coins produced during the life of a die. In this article, I have taken some liberty in my depiction of the shapes of the dies used. It is known that the technology was available to harden metals during the early years of operations at the United States mint in Philadelphia. These processes had been developed by such professions as that of the gunsmith and blacksmith. Metallurgy during the late 18th century was far from an exact science. Metal purity and consistency left a lot to be desired. This is apparent by the quality of many of the copper planchets delivered to the mint during this time. I feel certain that this also would apply to various alloys of iron.

It is well known that metals that are harder are more brittle and that metals that are softer are more fluid. Metals like cast iron which are very hard will crack or break before they will bend as opposed to softer metals such as are used in products such as some wires which are quite malleable. It is possible to harden the surface of a piece of metal without hardening the entire piece. This process can involve heating and cooling of the metal in a specific manner or a chemical process such as the cyanide case hardening process used in the production of gun locks. Case hardening involves only a few thousandths of an inch of the surface of the metal. If this or a similar process were used in the production of coining dies, that would provide a plausible explanation for the deterioration of dies and development of many of the known die states of early copper coins.

If the surface of the die were to be hardened after the design was punched into its surface and this hardening process affected only a thin layer of the surface of the die, what would be left is a hard layer of metal on top of a softer, more fluid piece of metal. Though composed of one piece of base metal, the die was made up two layers with different physical characteristics. The top layer was hardened and more brittle riding on a bottom layer which was softer and more fluid.

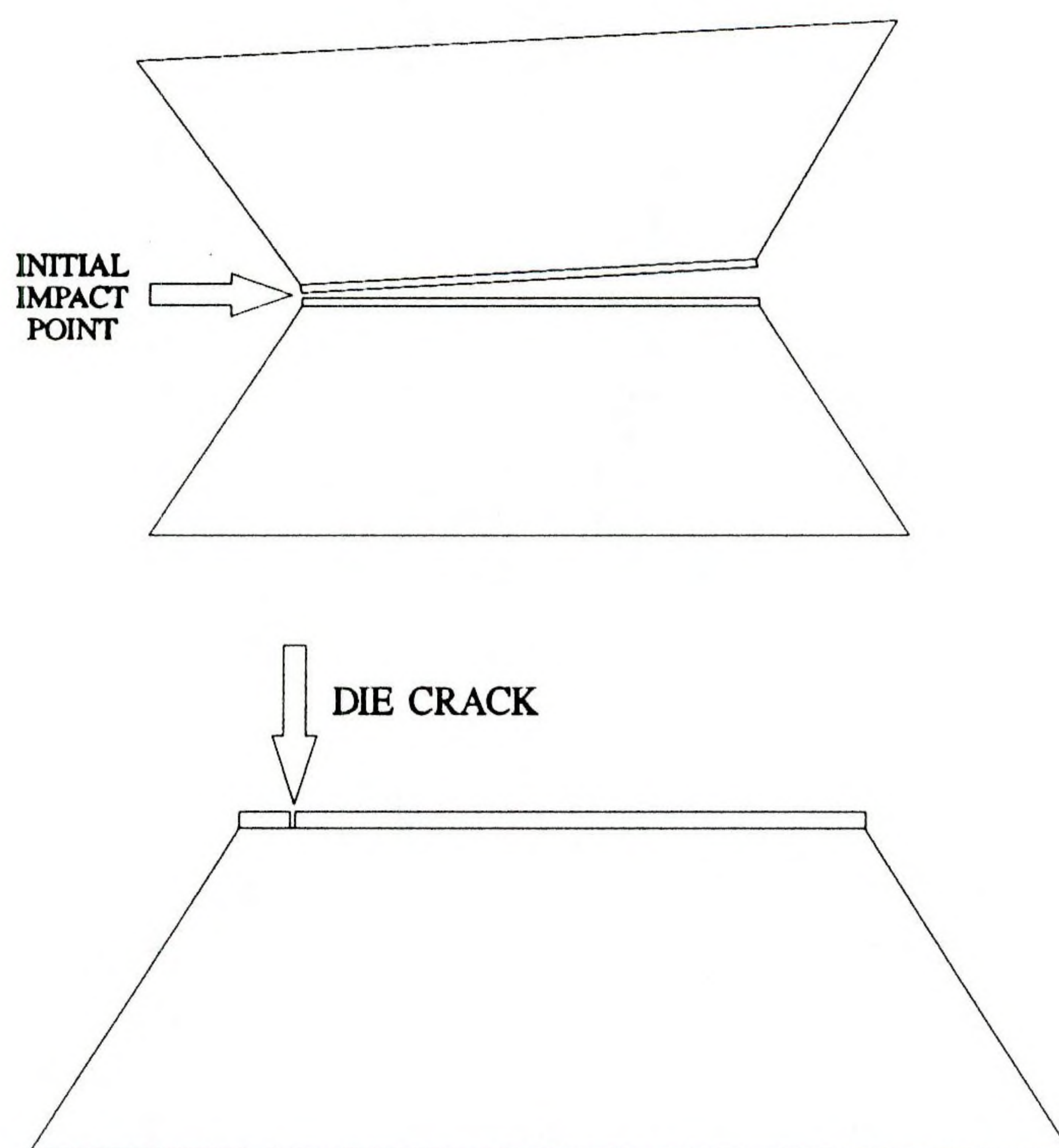


Brittle objects are inclined to fracture if subjected to a sudden impact. Sudden impact of the dies against a blank planchet is the process used in striking coins. The degree of hardening

used would ideally strike a balance between being hard enough to provide optimal wear characteristics but being soft enough so as not being too brittle. The fact that the hardened die surfaces retained some fluid characteristics is demonstrated by the frequent occurrence of clash marks, some showing significant amounts of die distortion such as that seen on most examples of the reverse of S-203 or later states of the reverse of S-215.

The hardened surface and the softer body of the die were composed of one piece of metal. If the harder surface of the die were subjected to an impact sufficient to crack this layer, this would not necessarily result in a crack in softer body of the die. If the dies were misaligned either by having the face of the die not perpendicular with the axis of striking or by the die being misaligned in the press, this would increase the forces applied to the portions of the die which contacted each other first and increase the likelihood of die failure. This also would produce a deeper impression at the initial impact point. Cracks produced by misaligned dies would tend to be roughly perpendicular to a line bisecting the coin starting at the point of first impact of the dies. An example of this would be the arc crack on the lower left side of the reverse of S-166. A similar effect would be produced if a foreign object were caught between the dies at the time of striking. Such a thing was pointed out by Fred Borchardt on the reverse of 1817 N-17. In this case, a crack was produced through RICA by an impact of some object in the dentils over IC. Evidence of this impact is present on coins which are state IV or later.

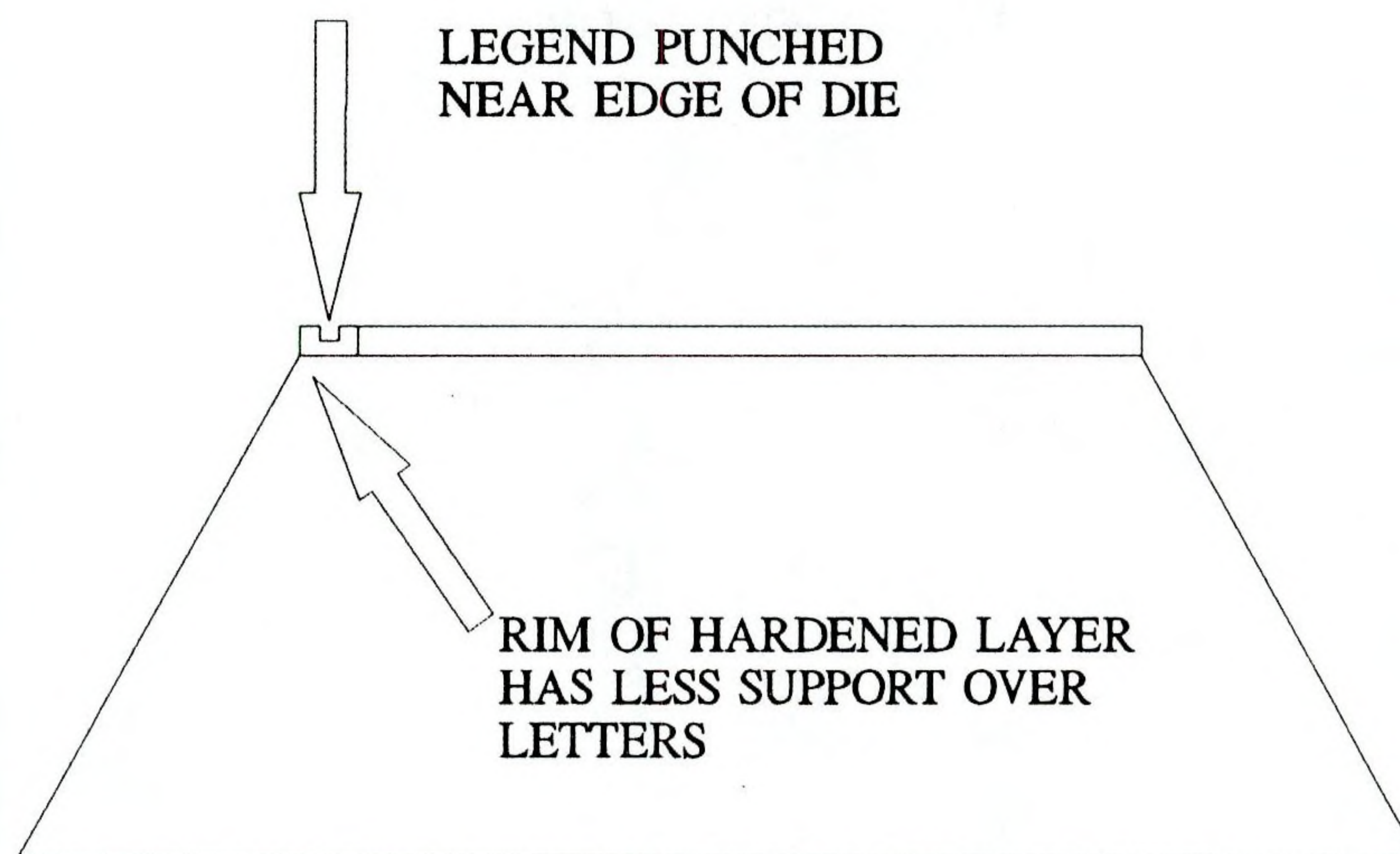
MISSALLIGNED DIES



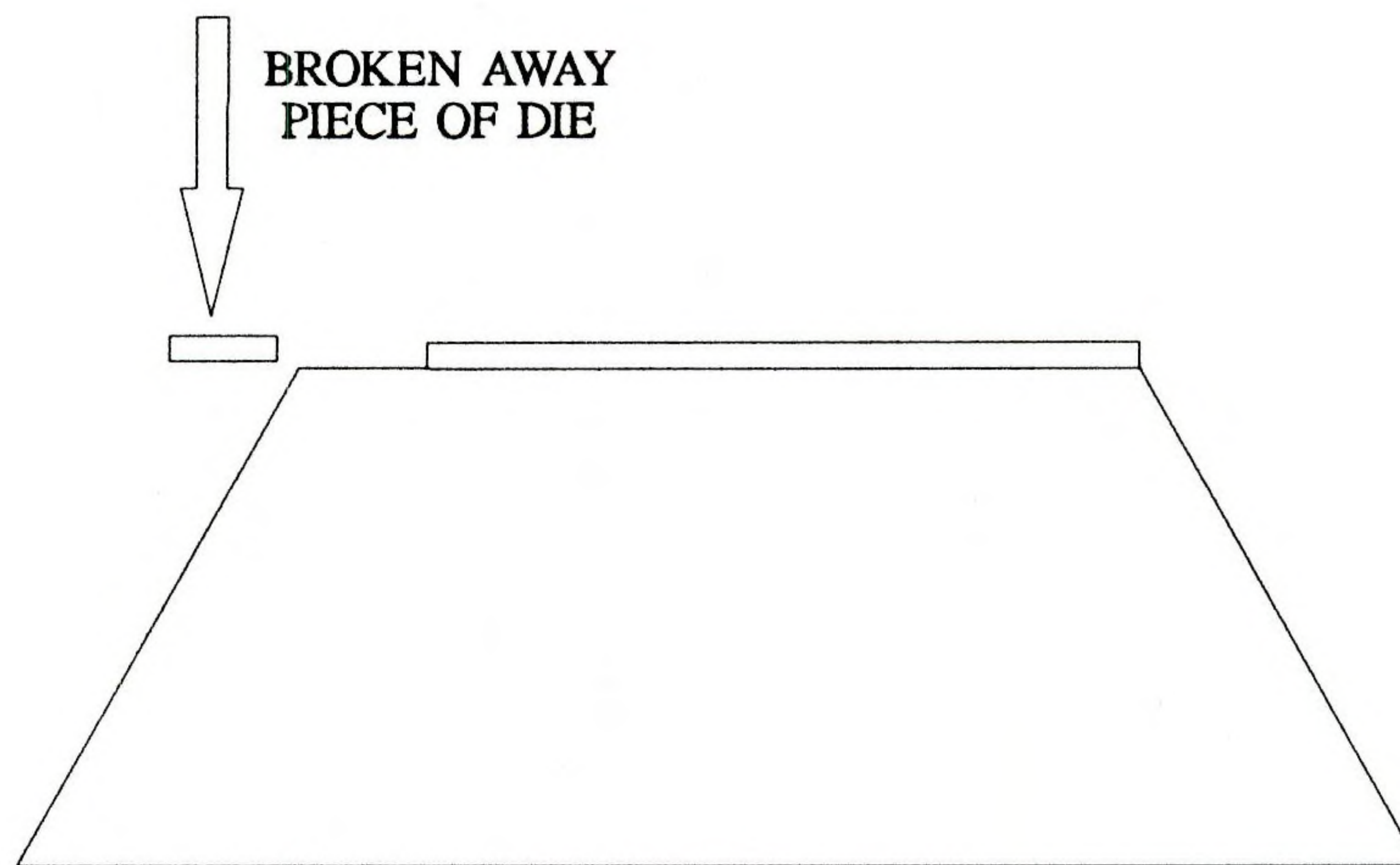
Once a crack had formed in the surface of the die, metal from the planchet could flow into this crack during striking and would produce a raised line on the finished coin. The sharp edges of the crack in the die would also be subject to crumble, making a crack appear wider on the

finished coins. After cracks had formed in the surface of the die, the hardened surface pieces could separate and drift on the more fluid portions of the die much as the hardened plates of Earth's crust drift on the more fluid molten core. This drifting process would also be favored by metal flowing into the crack during striking and exerting pressure on the inside edges of the crack, this would tend to force the cracked pieces of the die farther apart. This would provide a possible explanation of how cracks which initially appear as hairlines become heavier as the hardened surface plates of the die drift apart or crumble. Drift would produce a crack which would widen as the surface pieces moved such as occurred on the reverse of S-59. A good example of crumbling along a crack is seen on late state examples of S-126.

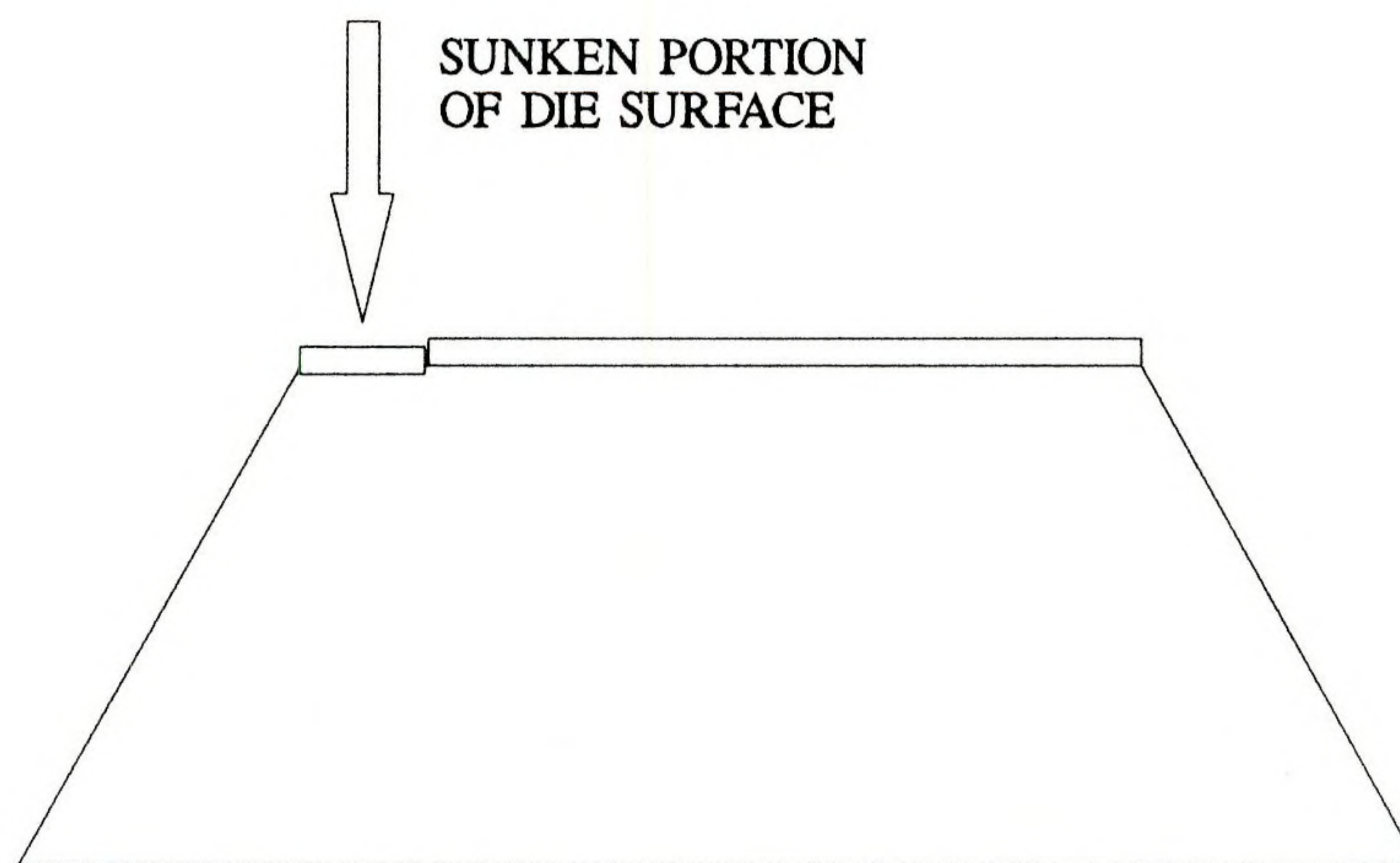
Cracks tend to occur where the hardened surface is the weakest, or stresses are the greatest. Cracks occur frequently in areas with less underlying support and are often seen near the rim around letters and stars. It tended to occur more over letters with broad flat tops as these letters left the edge of the hardened layer with less structural integrity. This would include such letters as ERTY and accounts for the large number of obverse dies with cracks and rim breaks over these letters. These tended to happen in clusters such as in 1796, 1798 and 1802 and may have resulted from either inconsistent die hardening, poor quality die steel, a thinner hardened layer, or deeper impressions made by the die cutter.



Though technically a single piece of metal, the surface of the die would have distinctly different characteristics than the underlying metal. There would be an interface and transition zone between this hardened layer and the softer metal beneath. If a separation were to occur between this hardened surface metal and the softer metal beneath, this would allow a piece of the die to fall away. Were this to happen, it would produce a void in the surface of the die which would fill with metal from a struck planchet but have no impressed design during the striking process. This is referred to as a cud or a rim break. Such a process would produce coins similar to 1800 NC-4. It would be interesting to compare hardness of the surface of the dies used for the obverse of 1800 NC-4 and the reverse of 1800 S-203. I suspect that the reverse die for 1800 S-203 would end up being much softer and less brittle.



If this portion of the die did not separate from the main body of the die, it could be pushed into the surface of the softer metal beneath. This would produce a raised area on the surface of coins struck from that die. In these areas where the die surface is pushed into the softer layer of the die, the surface of the coin is raised and the design is weakened. Weakness is also produced on the opposite side of the coin as there is less pressure applied to these areas during striking. Die sinking could occur as a gradual even collapsing of a portion of the die. This would produce a retained cud such as developed on the reverses of 1794 S-58 or 1838 N-10 or if occurring on a larger scale, produce sinking as on the late state reverse of S-264.



If there were inconsistencies in the hardness of the metal beneath, the top layer could sink in an irregular manner which would produce different degrees of sinking at different points in the die. This is seen on late examples of the reverse of S-257. On this die, the sinking started over AT in STATES and gradually extended to include STATES O. This would indicate that the surface of the die which was sinking was also bending as it was pushed into the softer body of the die.

When a die develops a radial crack, die sinking can develop which has this crack as one border and a bend in the die outlining the rest of the sinking area. This phenomenon can be seen on Superior 1/89:425, Jack Robinson's late state example of S-201. This coin shows the crack extending from the rim to the right side of E in AMERICA. On this cent, there is die swelling obliterating AME which is bordered by this crack through E and a bend in the die below AME to the rim left of A. This effect is also seen on the latest states of S-137 on the lower right portion of the reverse.

Dies can also be affected by such factors as normal wear, rust, and attempts to repair previous damage. Material which is fluid will flow from areas of high pressure to areas of low pressure. When a coin is struck, the metal flows from the high pressure areas against the surface of the die to areas of low pressure in the design in the die's surface. These forces would also cause metal to flow from the center of the die to the periphery much as a piece of clay compressed between one's hands. To a lesser degree because of the difference in hardness, these same forces act on the metal in the die. This would eventually produce the flowlines which draw the legend and stars to the rim on some coins. This is most commonly seen in the classic and middle date series of cents. Rust produces pits in the surface of a die. The effects of these pits appear as raised lumps on coins struck from rusted dies. A good representation of this is found on late state examples of S-104 and of 1828 N-7.

To restore worn dies, shallow surface defects such as rust pits or clash marks could sometimes be removed by lapping or polishing the surface of the die. This removed some metal from the face of the die and hopefully included the die defects. However, this also caused a lowering of the relief of the design. If this process were carried to an extreme, portions of the devices could be weakened to the point of no longer being visible. This would be as on late state examples of S-146 where portions of the drapery have been weakened and in some places obliterated. The lapping process would also serve to weaken dentils and rims.

As we can see, the appearance of coins is affected by the condition of the dies used to make them. This was influenced by a large number of variables including quality of metals, the skill of the individual responsible for hardening the dies, condition of the press, storage of the dies and the threshold for discarding old dies just to name a few. This also leaves many unanswered questions such as the obverse of S-271, the mouse on head series, and the dancing die fragments over NITED on 1818 N-2. The fact that dies were frequently used past their prime only adds an additional dimension to the hobby of collecting Early American Copper coins.

* * * * *

Late Notice: It has come to the Editor's attention that contributions to the Hospitality Suite at the upcoming EAC Convention have been "weak thusfar," in Rod Burress's words. If you want to have the kind of Thursday evening get-together to which we've grown accustomed, then dust off your checkbook and send Rod a contribution! Consider it an investment in the club, at a price far less than you're likely to spend for your least expensive copper purchase in Cincinnati. Thanks.

* * * * *

Steam Presses, Half Cents, and Mint Records

Craig Sholley

In reading Ken Cable's article in the January issue of P-W, I was a bit surprised at his assertion that "most, if not all, of the 398,000 or so 1835 half cents were coined in 1836". From his reference to the "Redbook", Ken has apparently been misled by the rather terse and somewhat cryptic footnote to the 1833 - 1835 half cent mintage estimates appearing in this source.

In the 1981 issue of the "Redbook", the footnote on pg. 64 states: "The figures given here are thought to be correct, although official mint records report these quantities for 1833-36 rather than 1832-35". The "official mint records" being referred to in this footnote are the annual mint reports. The Mint Report for 1836 mistakenly listed half cents struck in 1835 as being struck in 1836. (The same type of error occurred in 1833 - 1835, thus the footnote. Several other early mint reports contain similar errors and therefore they should not be used as a source for mintage figures.)

How did this happen? No one is really sure. The mintage figures reported in the mint reports were pulled from various "working account" records. In the case of the half cents, this was the "Chief Coiner's Copper Account" book. This account book shows that 589,000 half cents were delivered on December 31, 1835. For some reason this mintage was erroneously reported in the mint reports as 141,000 for 1835 and 398,000 for 1836. Both Breen, on page 338 of his half cent encyclopedia, and R.W. Julian, in his article in the December 1991 issue of *The Numismatist*, noted the error and offered their opinions as to its cause. Julian's explanation of a switch in the method of accounting seems to me to be the best explanation of a very curious mistake.

Whatever the cause of the error, there were no business strike half cents struck in 1836. Hence, the statement in the 1836 Mint Report that all copper coins were struck on the steam press can only mean cents.

Believing that they were struck in 1836, Ken went on to speculate that some of the 1835 business strike half cents may have been struck on the steam press as some of these are seen with strong strikes and sharp rims. This is obviously not the case since the mint records clearly show that the 1835 half cents were struck in 1835, and thus several months before the first steam press arrived. Therefore, strike is not a good indicator of whether a coin was struck using a screw press or a steam press. This is further demonstrated by the fact that proofs, patterns, and medals known to have been struck on a screw press likewise show these characteristics; the Gobrecht dollars I mentioned in my last article being one case in point.

The same is true regarding Ken's speculation concerning the 1836 proof half cents being struck on the steam press - strike cannot be used as a basis for this argument.

However, while strike does not “prove” that a coin was struck on a steam press, it likewise does not disprove it. On this point, in his last article Ken asked if there was anything that would preclude the steam press being used even on an experimental basis to strike proof half cents. Yes, the design of the steam press totally precluded its use for striking proofs.

One point regarding the press, which I inadvertently failed to mention in my previous article, is that the feed mechanism involved raising the lower die after striking to push the coin up out of the collar so that it could be ejected. This was accomplished via a set of articulated lever arms that were driven by an eccentric cam.

So, how does this preclude the striking of proofs? Well, when a coin is struck, it expands until it meets the collar and thus restrains further expansion. The coin is compressed against the collar, forming the straight edges seen on many coins. As Denis Cooper, a former Chief Engineer of the British Royal Mint, points out in his book *The Art and Craft of Coinmaking*, when the coin is pushed out of the collar, the compression of the collar against the coin is released and the coin expands slightly. This prevents the coin from sliding back into the collar as the lower die falls. This articulation is not compatible with the striking of proofs since there is no way to provide for multiple strikes of the same coin.

Again, this brings up the obvious question of modifying the press. However, this feature of the press could not be easily modified.

How can I be so sure of this? I had planned to publish this in a future article on the presses, but since we are discussing the press so specifically the time has come to reveal that the original press from March of 1836 still exists. The press is still in working condition, although not in operation today. I am currently completing a study of the press and will hopefully submit an article with photographs and the design drawings in the near future. I am also discussing the possibility of setting the press in motion again.

A review of the press shows that the mechanism for raising the lower die was an integral part of the design. Modifying this mechanism would have required the complete disassembly of the press and entirely new mechanisms would have had to be designed, machined and incorporated into the press. All to make a piece of equipment do what it was never designed to do!

Furthermore, the records concerning the construction of the presses show that whenever a modification was necessary the work had to be done by the contractors, the Mint had neither the facilities nor the expertise to perform the work. And the only one capable of designing modifications to the press was the engineer who designed the presses – Franklin Peale. So, if the Mint had wished to modify the presses to strike proofs, Peale would have had to redesign the presses and issue instructions to the contractors. There are no such records in the archives.

Additional records make it doubtful that the Mint ever had the capability to make significant modifications to the presses. I will fully address these points in the future article on the presses.

Based on the Director's statement of "difficulties" and "interruptions", it could be argued that the cent press did not become "fully operational" until some time shortly before this June 1837 letter. However, both the cent press and the larger press for half dollars and dollars are clearly fully operational at this point, which is some two and a half years prior to the statement in the 1840 Mint Report.

A third press, apparently for gold coinage, was delivered in late 1837 or early 1838 - I can't be more specific as to the arrival date of this press or its purpose as I haven't completed the research on this press.

These three presses were not all of the "successive improvements in the machinery and processes of the mint" referred to in the 1840 Mint Report. Not only was there additional equipment introduced to the Philadelphia Mint, but the three branch mints at Charlotte, Dahlonega, and New Orleans were also built and brought into operation during this time. Thus the statement in the 1840 Mint Report does not refer just to the original equipment at the Philadelphia mint, but also that of the three branch mints and additional equipment installed at the main mint. In fact, there would be even more equipment installed after 1840. Again, I'll address these items more fully in an upcoming article.

Hopefully having completely addressed the subject of the presses, I'd like to turn now to some discussion of the 1836 Proof half cents themselves. In his last article, Ken offered the opinion that Second Restrike was struck with the reverse of 1840 since the original reverse had been lost in the intervening years. However, this is clearly not the case. Both Breen and Cohen, in their respective books, show that the 1831 First Restrike used the 1836 reverse and this reverse cracked heavily in several places during that striking. So, the reverse was not lost, but shattered during its use on the 1831 First Restrike.

I also have to disagree with Ken on Breen's rationale for the 1836 Original and First Restrike. I feel that Breen makes what could well be an important distinction: the stronger, squared rims of the First Restrike. While most numismatists know that striking a coin involved the use of three dies - obverse, reverse, and collar - the role of collar has largely been ignored. From my studies on large cents, I have found that the collars varied quite a bit in diameter and that those varieties struck in "tight" collars tend to show exactly those features to which Breen refers.

Also, when the dies had even a slight axial misalignment with the collar, they tended to rub against the collar causing a series of vertical marks in the collar which were transferred to the coin's rim during striking. Using these "striations" I have been able to positively identify certain collars and can show that certain varieties of large cents were struck with the same collar (I will be submitting this for publication, probably in July or September).

The photograph of the 1836 First Restrike in Breen shows exactly the same axial misalignment I often see on the large cents. This offers the opportunity to develop some solid data on whether Breen's Original and First Restrike are the same or separate striking. If their diameters are the same and they show the same edge markings, then they are likely the same striking. However, if the diameters are different or they show different edge markings, then the Breen classification

In summation, there is no substantive evidence that the presses were ever used to strike proofs. The sole basis for this conjecture is Ken's interpretation that the strike is evidence of the steam press. This conclusion is clearly mistaken as we've seen in the case of the 1835 business strike half cents. It is also directly contradicted by both the historical records and the design of the press which show that that this piece of equipment was specifically designed to be a high-speed press for the striking of business strike coinage.

At this point I would like to correct a misstatement in my original article. I had stated that the lever that drove the toggle joint was driven by a cam on the main shaft. This is an error that unfortunately made it through my proofreading. The toggle joint is driven by a crank on the main shaft - the main shaft really being much like the crankshaft of a car engine.

Regarding the introduction of the press, the P-W editor quoted a short excerpt from the 1840 Mint Report on page 190 of the last issue, which stated in part:

By successive improvements in the machinery and processes of the mint, introduced during the last few years, its means for executing a large amount of coinage have been greatly increased....

The editor then offered the following conclusion: "There's been much discussion in the pages of the last several issues of P-W concerning when exactly the steam coinage improvements introduced in 1836 were fully operational. Here is the answer, in the words of the Mint Director himself."

On this point I must disagree. Not only does the Mint Director's statement say nothing as to when the "improvements" became operational during those "last few years", but the 1836 Mint Report and letters written by the Director himself also directly contradict this conclusion.

As I quoted in my previous article, in the Mint Report for 1836, the Mint Director Robert Maskell Patterson stated:

On the 23d of March last, the first steam coinage in America was executed at this Mint; and the performance of the press, in which the power of the lever is substituted for that of the screw, has answered all our expectations. Since that time, all the copper coins have been struck by this press, and it has been lately used with success for coining half dollars.

In a June 30, 1837 letter to his immediate superior, Treasury Secretary Levi Woodbury, which I also quoted in my last article, Mint Director Patterson stated:

I will take this opportunity of stating that some difficulties were presented, for a time, in the use of the power coining presses introduced by me into the Mint, in consequence of which their operation was frequently interrupted, and much embarrassment caused. It gives me great pleasure to now to announce to you that these difficulties, always incident to new machinery, have been completely overcome. One of the steam presses has coined 400,000 cents within the last few weeks, without interruption or accident, and our largest press has been coining half dollars with perfect success.

does have a solid basis. Diameter and edge mark data could similarly developed for the 1831 First Restrike. This would show whether these coins were struck in the same collar, and thus at the same time, as the 1836 First Restrike.

Historical records may also shed some light on just when the 1836 proofs were struck. The Mint Cabinet collection, which now resides in the Smithsonian, contains what Breen calls an 1836 "Original". When was this coin placed in the collection? There may be some record of this as the collection was periodically inventoried. Since the Smithsonian has the collection, I would presume that they also have all of the documentation associated with the collection. If so, does this documentation shed any light on when the 1836 Proof was placed in the collection?

The mint records may also be a source of information. The earliest inventory of the Mint Cabinet collection of which I am aware (and perhaps the first one) is in the mint records listed as "Catalog of Cabinet Coins 1838 - 1839". Is the 1836 Proof half cent listed in this inventory? If not, do the later inventories by William Dubois or George Bull list the coin?

Some of the other mint records may contain clues as to when these proofs were struck, such as the "Letters Sent Regarding Coins and Medals", and the "Order Book for Coins". It would be most interesting to see when letters requesting information on or orders for 1836 (and 1831) proof half cents were received at the Mint. This would certainly provide some strong evidence as to when some of them were struck.

Hopefully some enterprising half cent researcher will investigate these leads and perhaps find some solid data regarding the striking of these coins.

Before closing I would like to address the opportunity for original research offered by the mint records in the National Archives. Over the past several years I have published a fair amount of new information, but I have barely scratched the surface. There are literally thousands, and perhaps tens of thousands, of pages from the period of the early coppers. No one has exhaustively researched all of these records.

For example, there are at least four separate files containing information on the employees of the Mint during the time that the large cents and half cents were struck. These records offer the opportunity to document the pressmen who actually struck our favorite coins! Though other records held in the archives of the nearby Historical Society of Pennsylvania, one might even find something of their personal lives.

If anyone is interested in doing research in the mint records, please feel free to contact me at (717) 776-6194. I will help in any way that I can. I hope to hear from some of you.

* * * * *

NEW JERSEY COPPERS, PART 41: MARIS 7C, 8F, 8½ C

Ray Williams

This issue's NJ Condition Census will cover three Maris varieties – 7-C, 8-F, and 8½-C. All are scarce to unique and beyond the reach of most variety collectors.

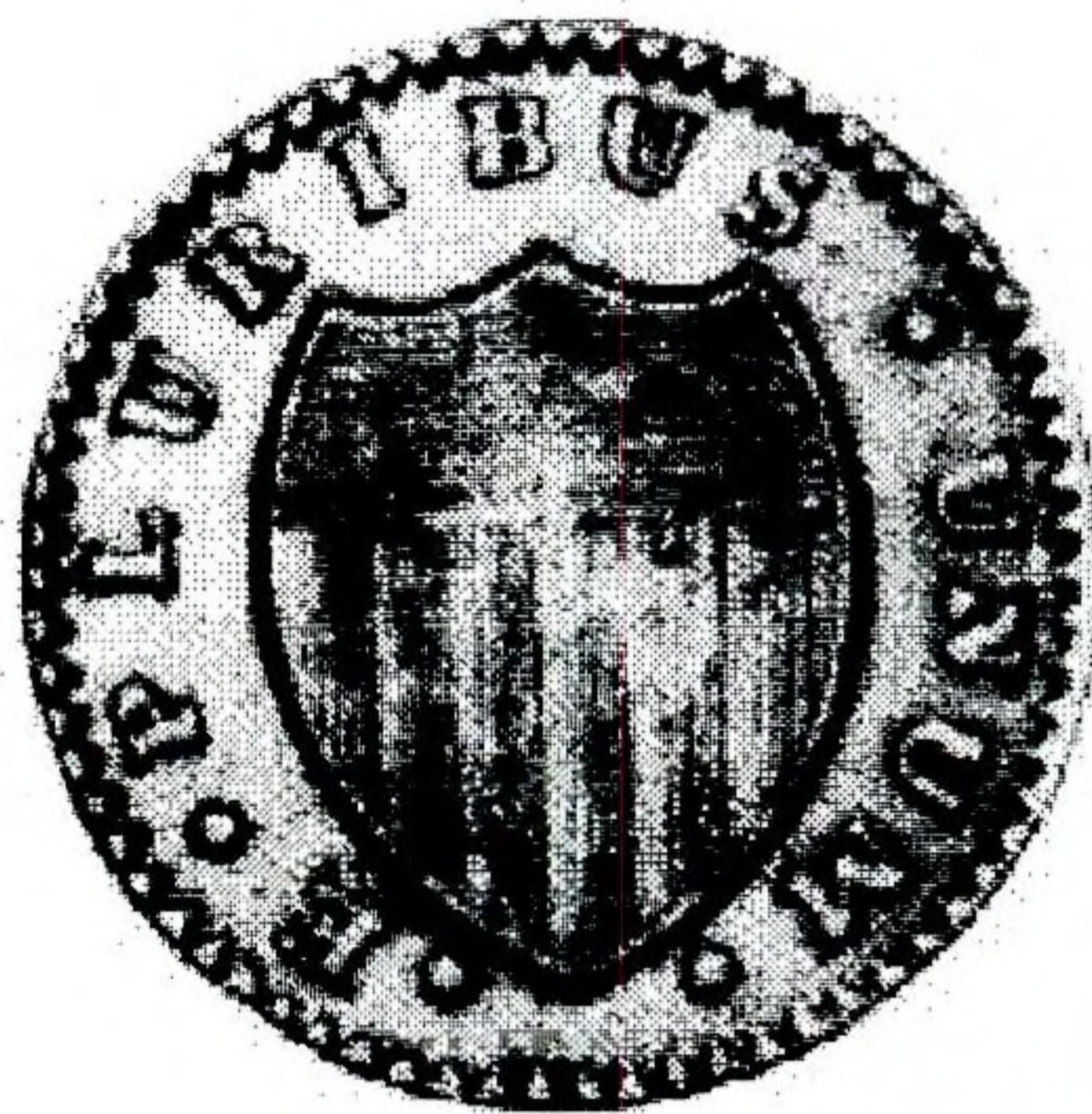
The Maris 7 and 8 obverses are both of the ultra-desirable “date under plow beam” type, while the 8½ is one of the “coultless” varieties and very sought-after as such (as if there is an undesirable type of New Jersey Copper!).



Maris 7 Obverse

The 7-C pairing was unknown to Dr. Maris and also to Walter Breen in his 1955 manuscript. The C reverse is known mated to seven obverses, including the three non-horsehead mulings – they are obverse 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8½, 10½. Of these seven, the Maris 6-C (R-4) is the only easily obtainable variety. Obverse 7 is paired with two known reverses – C and E. The 7-E was studied in the March 1998 issue of Penny Wise, being found to be an R-7. To date only one Maris 7-C is known, a poor condition (AG-3) example. This coin was first brought to public attention in the 1959 Empire Topics publication, an early Q. David Bowers issue. Discovered by James Ruddy, a former partner of Dave Bowers, it was sold to Ned Barnsley, and currently resides in the Eastern Collection.

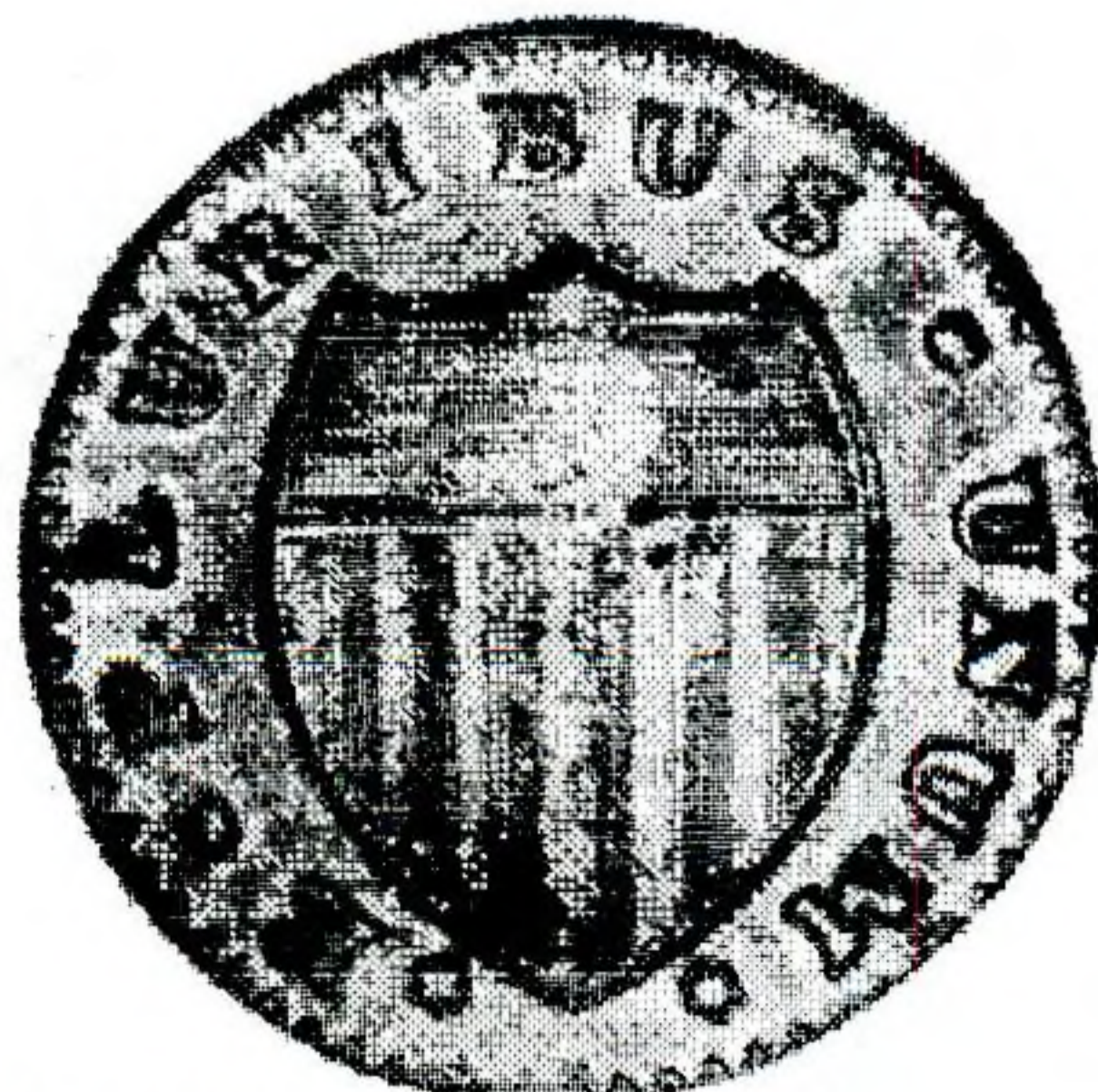
The 7 obverse was described in the 7-E study and the C reverse in the 6-C study. Because of the worn condition, the die state is uncertain.



Maris 8-F, Stacks Roper Sale, Lot 299

The Maris 8-F is the last of the known “Date under Plow Beam” types, also being a coultless variety. Obverse 8 and reverse F are only known paired to each other. Dr. Maris in 1881 and Walter Breen, as late as 1955, believed this pairing to be unique. Today, three are known to exist. Dr. Maris was convinced that the 8-F dies were the work of the same engraver who made the 7-E dies.

The Maris 8 obverse is very similar to the 7. Noticeable differences are a smaller head set higher in the field, the crossbar is parallel to the exergue line and there is a stop after the legend which is almost equidistant from the final “A” and the end of the plow beam. The date is positioned under the plow beam and appears to slope slightly up, while the Maris 7 date slopes slightly down.



Maris 8-F, Bowers and Ruddy, Garrett III, Lot 1393

The F reverse is similar to the E. The legend is punctuated and placed symmetrically around the shield, which is taller and narrower than that on the E. The 8 and F dies shown on the Maris Plate are mushy electrotypes of the Garrett coin, because Dr. Maris did not own one at the time the plate was made.

The three known examples are as follows:

- EF Roper Lot 299 (Pictured above), Eastern Collection
- EF Garrett III, Lot 1393 (Also pictured above), ex. Bushnell, Parmelee, Ten Eyck, Ellsworth
- F(double struck) J. Goudge, Eastern Collection

Maris 8½ C, Bowers and Merena, Taylor Sale,
Lot 2157



The Maris 8½-C is a Coulterless variety with the date placed in the normal position. Breen believed the date to be engraved rather than mad with punches. This obverse was unknown to Dr. Maris. The discovery coin was owned by John W. Garrett and if anyone knows its pedigree, please let me know. Only two additional examples have come to light since the Garrett coin.

The C Die has been described in previous condition censuses. Walter Breen describes the 8½ obverse as: "Plow handles short, with pointed ends. The plow beam is long and the horse head is the smallest of the coulterless types. The scroll below the head has six twists and is thicker in the middle. There is a stop after the last A in the legend."

Three of these coins are known to me. If any one knows of any others, or pedigree information, please let me know.

- VF Taylor Lot 2157 (Pictured)
- F Garrett III Lot 1394, Eastern Collection
- F Dorothy Kraisman, Eastern Collection

Anyone wishing to communicate or add their collections to this census, please contact me at the address below. Thanks!

Ray Williams
924 Norway Ave, Trenton, NJ 08629
609-587-5929 raydianewilliams@juno.com

COUNTERSTAMPED LARGE CENTS WANTED

For my personal collection, which I have been gathering since 1955, I desire to purchase counterstamped large cents of all dates with the names and addresses of individuals, or individuals and their specialties, merchants, political slogans, and motifs. At this point, I am not interested in stray initials, numbers, or names that cannot be identified as to geographical location or trade. I would be pleased to make an offer for coins submitted to me, or invite you to send them on approval with an invoice. I am not looking for any bargains and will pay any reasonable price, as they are not for resale. Please let me hear from you. All correspondence will be answered.

David Bowers, EAC #204
c/o Bowers and Merena Galleries, Inc.
Box 1224, Wolfeboro, NH 03894

COMPLETE LIST OF KNOWN LETTERED EDGE ERRORS / BLUNDERS
ON EARLY LARGE CENTS

Dan Trollan

S-11d Dr. Dane Nielson	"Unlettered edge"
S-13 Book / ANS	"Unlettered edge"
S-18b CVM/JRG Long Beach 9/97:60	"ONE HUNDRED FOR A DOLLARR [~] "
S-18b Louis Whitaker, Dan Trollan	"FOR A DOLL - DRED"
S-19a Anderson Dupont, DL, JHR, Del Bland, Gary Ruttenberg 8/96:72	"ONE HUNDREDED FOR A DOLLAR"
S-19b David Palmer	"ONE HUNDREDA DOLLAR"
S-20 / NC-7 RSB II 1/96:28	"ONE HUNDRED FOR A DOLLAR" followed by a single leaf pointing up struck over the same legend with a single leaf pointing down.
S-21 Dick Young: P-W article, 11/95, p. 303	"ONE HUNDRED A DOLLAR"
S-22 Jim Young Jr. EAC-90, Dan Trollan	"ONE FORHUNDARE DOLLAFOAR [~] A ONDELLAHR [~] DRE"
S-22 Red Henry: P-W article, 11/95, p. 302	"ONE HUNDREDFOR A DOLLAR"
S-24 Macallister / ANS	"Unlettered edge"
S-26 George Ewing: P-W article, 1981 p. 229, Darwin Palmer EAC-94 Dan Trollan	" [~] ONEHUNDRED FOR ADOLLAOR [~] "
S-28 R. Tettenhorst	"ONEFOR HUNDRED DOLLARFOR NE A HUNDREDR"
S-31 St. Louis Stamp / ANS	"ONE HUNDREDR A DOLLAR"
S-31 Clapp / ANS	"ONE HUNDRED A DOLLAR"
S-31 Dan Trollan	"ONE HUNDRED A DOLLAR"
S-31 Anderson Dupont 11/54:46	"ONE HUN A DOLLAR"
S-31 Superior CVM/JRG 6/98:81	"ONE HUNDFROED A DOLLAR"
S-32 Walt Reed, Michael Arconti	"Doubled edge lettering, right side up, + upside down"
S-40 Ruby I 2/74:369, JHR 1/89: 64, Doug Bird, Gary Ruttenberg 8/96:84, Dan Trollan	"AR [~] ONE HUNDRED FOR A DOLLAR [~] "
S-41 G. Kraft Jan.'23 / Clapp / ANS	"ONE HUNDRED A DOLLAR"
S-41 RSB I 9/86:55, Superior#292:639, March Wells	"ONE HUNDREDFOR A DOLLAR"
S-43 Ben Tennyson	"ONE HUNDREDA DOLLAR"
S-45 Henry Hettger: article in Coin World 4/24/95 p.76, Roger D. Passmore	"ONE HUNDREDA DOLLAR"
S-46 Kagin-Van Cleave 2/86:5050	"ONE HUNDRED A DOLLAR"
S-48 Baldwin / Clapp / ANS	"ONE HUNDRED A DOLLAR"
S-49 Bob Laforme	"ONE HUNDRED A DOLLAR"

S-49 Gilbert "1910 Frossard-Hays: 7a" Elder 87:244 [12/10/13]	"ONE HUNDRED A DOLLAR"
S-49 Dan Trollan	"ONE HUNDRED A DOLLAR"
S-50 Tom Wolf	"ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR"
S-52 Clapp / ANS	"ONE HUNDREDR A DOLLAR"
S-54 EAC sale 5/97:116, Dan Trollan	"Unlettered edge"
S-54 Walter Mustain	"ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR"
S-55 RSB I 9/86:74	"ONE HUNDRED A DOLLAR"
S-55 EAC sale 5/96:103,Walt Husak	"ONE HUNDRED A DOLLAR"
S-55 ANS	"Tripled edge lettering"
S-56 Anderson Dupont 11/54:80a	"ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR"
S-57 Jim Winterbauer: P-W notes,1/97, p. 59	"ONE HUNDREDFOR A DOLLAR"
S-57 Tom Morley: P-W article "Oddballs and Oddities" 1974, p. 142	"Doubled edge lettering; right side up, + upside down"
S-57 Tom Morley: same article	"Doubled edge lettering"
S-57 Ben Tennyson	"ONE HUNDREDFOR A DOLLAR"
S-58 Jim Hart: P-W article 9/95, p. 282	"ONE HUNDRED A DOLLAR"
S-63 Adam Butcher: P-W article, 1968, p. 21	"ONE HUNDREDR A DOLLAR"
S-63 EAC '94 sale	"FOR" Doubled
S-63 Clapp / ANS	"ONE HNDRED A DOLLAR"
S-67 Anderson Dupont 11/54:95	"ONE HUNDRED A DOLLAR"
S-67 Ruby I 2/74:661	"Doubled edge lettering"
S-67 Michael Higgy / ANS	"ONE HUNDRED A DOLLAR"
S-67 Dave Hensley	"ONE HUNDRED A DOLLAR"
S-68 ANS	"ONE HUNDFROED A DOLLAR"
S-69 David Palmer EAC-97, Dan Trollan	"ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR"
S-71 Bill Tivol	"ONE HUNDRED A DOLLAR"
S-71 Dan Trollan	"ONE HUNDREDR A DOLLAR"
S-72 Merkin 3/67:156, Kagin-Van Cleave 2/86:5076	"ONE HUNDRED A DOLLAR"
S-72 Superior#292:741, March Wells	"R in "HUNDRED" over struck with D"
S-73 Norweb	"ONE HUNDREDR A DOLLAR"
S-73 Doug Bird, Kristian Wang	"Unlettered edge"
S-73 Jim Long, Red Henry	"ONE HUNDRED A DOLLAR"
S-74 Mehl Feb.'31/Clapp / ANS	"ONE HUNDREDR A DOLLAR"
S-74 CVM/JRG Sale #7 1/93:40, Dan Trollan	"Unlettered edge"
S-74 John Ashby: P-W article, 9/1981, p. 234	"Unlettered edge"
S-74 John D. Wright	"ONE HUNDREDR A DOLLAR"
S-75 Jim Long	"Doubled edge lettering"
S-75 RSB I 9/86:99	"ONE HUNDRED A DOLLAR"
S-75 Donald Botteron: P-W article, 3/1972, p. 61	"Unlettered edge"

S-75 Larry Briggs, Dave Ennist	"Doubled edge lettering"
S-76a/b Jack Beymer	"Unlettered edge"
S-76a/b Gary Ruttenberg 8/96:106	"NDRED"
S-76a/b Hollenbeck FPL-1945:16,WHS, REN, [In Noyes as 76a #20958]	"Thin planchet with normal lettered edge"
S-76a/b EAC sale 4/98:91	"Unlettered edge"

* * * * *

1999 HALF CENT HAPPENING AND EXHIBIT UPDATE

Greg and Lisa Heim

The varieties for the 1999 Half Cent Happening are as follows:

1797 C-2	1804 C-10	1806 C-3
1811 C-2	1836 (all varieties)	

We received a lot of feedback from members about changing the Happening. Most of the feedback had to do with making the Happening less intimidating for new members. After careful consideration, we have made a few modifications, but nothing earth-shattering. They are as follows:

1. We understand that people come in and out, but we will have traditional EAC introductions before the Happening starts. That way everyone knows who everyone else is.
2. Members will not only get to rank the top five coins, but they will also get to grade them using EAC standards. Coin, Average-plus, Average, Average-minus, and Scudzy will be used for condition, in addition to sharpness and net grade. Although voluntary, we hope this will add an important dimension to the Happening for collectors of all levels.

As always, we need monitors. Two per table and three for the 1836 table is a total of eleven. If you are interested, get in touch with us. Our phone number is (732) 297-8661 and our e-mail address is grlheim@erols.com.

See you at the Drawbridge!

Exhibit Update



Thanks to the generosity of several EAC members, this year's exhibits are going to be quite a sight. There is still room if you are interested. Tables are six feet in length and EAC provides the showcases. If you are interested or have any question, call or drop us a line.

* * * * *

LATER PEDIGREES OF THE THOMAS HALL LARGE CENTS

PART FOUR (Conclusion) Edward Weeks+ and Robert Vail

+deceased December 4, 1998

100	S-241	Stemless Wreath / Double Fraction Bar.	
	1802	VF 30	Lorin G. Parmelee 1/1893 - Dr. Thomas Hall - Virgil M. Brand - New Netherlands Coin Co. (PVT) 6/1952 - Harold Bareford - Herman Halpern Stack's 3/1988:220 - Steinberg:1569
	Unknown		

101	S-240	Diagonal Crack Right Field.	
	1802	Henry Phelps 6/1896 - Dr. Thomas Hall	
	Unknown	Plate not available	Plate not available

102	S-233	T Cut Over Y / No Incused Denticles on Reverse.	
	1802	No Record.	
	Unknown	Plate not available	Plate not available



103	S-237	Widest Date / Large Berries.	
1802		No Record.	
	Unknown	Plate not available	Plate not available

104	S-232	T Cut Over Y / Denticles Between Wreath and AMERICA.	
1802		No Record.	
	Unknown	Plate not available	Plate not available

105	S-243	Stemless Wreath / Double Fraction Bar.	
1803		No Record.	
	Unknown	Plate not available	Plate not available

106	S-261	Wide Date / 3 Imbedded in Drapery.	
1803		Dr. Thomas Hall - Virgil M. Brand - New Netherlands Coin Co. (PVT) - C. Douglas Smith - Dr. William H. Sheldon - Dorothy I. Paschal - Del N. Bland - Gene Henry	
	Unknown	Plate not available	Plate not available



107	S-258	Close Date / ARC Crack Lower Left / Large Fraction / Short Bar.	
1803		No Record.	
	Unknown	Plate not available	Plate not available

108	S-254	Wide Date / 3 Touches Drapery / Fraction Bar Too Far Right.	
1803	AU 55	Hollis Page - Dr. Thomas Hall - Virgil M. Brand - New Netherlands Coin Co. (PVT) - Harold Bareford - Herman Halpern - Stack's 3/1988:236 - Douglas Bird	
	Unknown		

109	S-255	03 Close / Very Wide Date / Fraction Bar Too Far Right.	
1803		No Record.	
	Unknown	Plate not available	Plate not available

110	S-251	Farthest 1 and 3 / Short Fraction Bar.	
1803		Charles Steigerwalt 4/1889 - Dr. Thomas Hall	
	Unknown	Plate not available	Plate not available

111	S-266 b or c	Rim Break at RTY in LIBERTY	
1804		No Record.	
	\$25.00	Plate not available	Plate not available

112	S-266a	1804 / Large Fraction.	
	1804	M.A. Brown 4/1897:804 - Dr. Thomas Hall - Virgil M. Brand - - - Frank H. Masters - Rare Coin Company of America 5/1971:168	
	\$20.00		

113	S-267	Blunt 1 / Point of Highest Leaf Left Side of S in STATES.	
	1804	No Record.	
	Unknown	Plate not available	Plate not available



114	S-268	Blunt 1 / Highest Leaf Right Side of S in STATES. CC #1	
	1805	W.G. Kimball 9/1893 - Dr. Thomas Hall - Virgil M. Brand - New Netherlands Coin Co. (PVT) 5/1972 - C. Douglas Smith	
	Unknown	Plate not available	Plate not available

118	S-276	Perfect Date / ER Close to Hair / Large Fraction.	
	1807	EF 40	Dr. Thomas Hall - Virgil M. Brand 10/1909 - George E. Chatillon - B. Max Mehl 11/1938:1741 - Holmes:1458
	Unknown	Plate not available	Plate not available

119	S-274	Perfect Date / Mound at STA in STATES. CC #1 (Listed as MS 60.)	
	1807	AU 50	Hollis Page - Dr. Thomas Hall - Virgil M. Brand - New Netherlands Coin Co. (PVT) 8/1951 - C. Douglas Smith 8/1958 - Dr. William H. Sheldon - R.E. Naftzger, Jr. - Eric Streiner - C. Douglas Smith
	Unknown	Plate not available	Plate not available



120	S-277	Front of Hair Band Curved / First Star Weak.	
	1808		Emery 7/1875 - Dr. Thomas Hall
		\$3.50	Plate not available

121 1808	S-277	Front of Hair Curved / First Star Weak.	
		No Record.	
	\$2.00	Plate not available	Plate not available



122 1809	S-280	1809.	
		Winsor:890 - Dr. Thomas Hall	
	Unknown		

123 1810	S-281	Overdate.	
		Elliot 4/1876 - Dr. Thomas Hall	
	\$2.00	Plate not available	Plate not available

124	S-283	T in LIBERTY in Almost Normal Position.	
1810		Dawley 10/1896	
	\$3.00	Plate not available	Plate not available

125	S-286	Overdate.	
1811		Dr. Edward Maris:279 - Titcomb - B.H. Collins - W.W. Hays - Charles Steigerwalt - Dr. Thomas Hall - Virgil M. Brand	
	\$75.00		



126	S-287	Perfect Date.	
1811		Dr. Thomas Hall - Virgil M. Brand - M.C. Brown - Assoc. 10/1955:1172	
	Unknown	Plate not available	Plate not available

127	S-290	Small Date.	
1812		C.T. Whitman:868 - M.A. Brown:821 - Dr. Thomas Hall - Virgil M. Brand	
	\$45.00		

128	S-291	Dir Crack Through Stars.	
1812		No record.	
	Unknown	Plate not available	Plate not available

129	S-288	Large Date / Leaf Barely Past Right Side of S in STATES.	
1812		No Record.	
	Unknown	Plate not available	Plate not available

130	S-292	Distant Star / Leaf Under Right Side.	
1813		No Record.	
	Unknown	Plate not available	Plate not available

131	S-295	Plain 4.	
1814		Lorin G. Parmelee 2/1892 - Dr. Thomas Hall - Virgil M. Brand - M.C. Brown - Assoc. 10/1955:1176	
	\$7.00		

Early-Date Report mini-seminar on Saturday, April 17th

ALL EAC MEMBERS are invited to a short meeting/seminar for the Early-Date Report on Saturday, April 17th, at the convention. EDR participants will have this opportunity to get acquainted with each other, and to inform other interested EAC members about what we are doing. The meeting's purpose also will include discussion, comments, and questions about the policies, procedures and problems involved in running an EAC collection census.

The time of day for this event is still to be determined. Anyone with inquiries or suggestions, or those who would like to speak or who have subjects for discussion, please see me at the convention on Thursday or Friday, or drop me a note at P.O. Box 2498, Winchester, VA 22604, or e-mail to <redhenry@visuallink.com>. —Red Henry.

1801-1807 Cent Survival: 1% or Lower?

Red Henry

How many large cents survive today? Except for the cents of 1794, the analysis of which by Breen and Sheldon resulted in promulgation of the famous “3% rule,” few dates have been examined systematically to determine current population size. In 1994, I began a Survivorship Survey for the cents of 1801 to 1807, the goal of which was to resolve the great uncertainty regarding cents of those dates. Did 3% survive? Did 4% to 5% survive? Did less than 1% survive? No one knew for sure. However, since the scarce die varieties of those dates had been fairly well identified for several years, I saw that we could take advantage of the “cap” which those varieties placed on the cent population, and derive a survivorship estimate for the whole group.

First, we had to know what was out there. I asked for help, and 31 EAC members nationwide contributed data. Interim reports were published in PW in January and July 1997, discussing apparent rarity ratings for the 1801-07 varieties and the resultant population size. (I refer interested readers to my article of July 1997, P.162-167, for details.) Since then, enough additional data has been gathered for us to draw firmer conclusions than before.

In that article of July 1997, I explained the reasons why the 1801-07 survivorship appeared to be no more than 1½%, and might be 1% or less. A list of tentative rarity ratings was included with that article, computed on the assumption that 1½% of the mintage still survived. The new data which has arrived since then is consistent with what we had gathered before. The relative rarities of the 1801-07 varieties have changed very little with the accrual of the new information, while the statistical reliability has improved with the increased sample size.

Given the numbers of scarce varieties included in the survey data, it appears that 1801-07 cent survivorship may be no more than 1% of the original mintage. In other words, of slightly over 10,000,000 minted, about 100,000 cents of 1801-07 survive today. To maintain a much larger survivorship rate would be to say that several hundred examples exist, on the average, of S238, S246, S248, S259, and other very hard-to-find varieties—an idea difficult to justify, as knowledgeable cent-hunters would agree. The scarce varieties are thus a limiting factor, helping to define the size of the 1801-07 cent population.

In the same way, the scarce varieties provide us with some confidence that the survey coins had not been picked over by variety specialists before they were reported to the survey. Consider this: what if, say, half of the scarce coins had been removed from this material before it was reported? In other words, what if this group of coins had originally included twice as many, on the average, of each of the scarce varieties? In that case, unless we again wanted to claim that there now exist several hundred each of some very scarce items, we would have to say that the survey data includes not just a bit less than 2%, but instead perhaps 4%, of the surviving 1801-07 cents (with one hundred-odd scarce coins removed). This would reduce the 1801-07 survivors to just *one-half of one percent of the original mintage*, or perhaps 50,000 coins. This figure seems improbable, given the numbers of these cents which must be held by EAC members alone. If even 100 EAC members own an average of 100 1801-07 cents each, and 200 more own 25 each, that's 15,000 coins by itself!

With these thoughts, here's a list of rarity-rating estimates derived from the survey. As the survivorship estimate has decreased from 1½% to 1%, the ratings for some varieties have slipped upward across a rarity line since our last report. As before, the varieties which appear to be very scarce are simply labeled, “R3+ or higher,” since there is no point in trying to specify ratings with an accuracy which the sample size does not justify.

Polite correspondence on these and related issues is invited. This survey is now on “hold” because of other projects, so if anyone would like to carry on this work with an expanded survey, here's the data. It's free for other EAC members to use, but remember that any additional data should be selected as carefully as this information was to begin with. You must develop your own data sources, because I will not release names or addresses of the original survey participants. Drop me a line any time if you have questions or comments.

Red Henry — P.O. Box 2498 — Winchester, VA 22604 — redhenry@visuallink.com

**1801-07 Survey Results:
Apparent Rarity Values by Date and Die Variety
as of 12/26/98**

Date	Variety	Specimens	Apparent Rarity	Date	Variety	Specimens	Apparent Rarity
1801	S-213	20	2	1803	S-247	13	3
1801	S-214	12	3	1803	S-248	7	3
1801	S-215	1	3+ or higher	1803	S-249	15	2
1801	S-216	56	1-	1803	S-250	32	2
1801	S-219	19	2	1803	S-251	19	2
1801	S-220	11	3	1803	S-252	19	2
1801	S-221	14	2	1803	S-253	14	2
1801	S-222	21	2	1803	S-254	37	1
1801	S-223	30	2	1803	S-255	37	1
1801	S-224	63	1-	1803	S-256	21	2
1802	S-225	19	2	1803	S-257	25	2
1802	S-226	6	3	1803	S-258	76	1-
1802	S-227	24	2	1803	S-259	11	3
1802	S-228	21	2	1803	S-260	110	1-
1802	S-229	16	2	1803	S-261	24	2
1802	S-230	52	1	1803	S-262	6	3
1802	S-231	47	1	1803	S-263	21	2
1802	S-232	82	1-	1803	S-265	6	3
1802	S-233	44	1	1804	S-266	19	2
1802	S-234	3	3+ or higher	1805	S-267	72	1-
1802	S-235	3	3+ or higher	1805	S-268	14	2
1802	S-236	45	1	1805	S-269	26	2
1802	S-237	12	3	1806	S-270	111	1-
1802	S-238	5	3+ or higher	1807	S-271	31	2
1802	S-239	20	2	1807	S-273	113	1-
1802	S-240	9	3	1807	S-274	17	2
1802	S-241	40	1	1807	S-275	25	2
1802	S-242	30	2	1807	S-276	108	1-
1803	S-243	18	2				
1803	S-244	5	3+ or higher				
1803	S-245	13	3				
1803	S-246	9	3				

Number of 1801-07 cents reported: 1799

An overview by rarity group (assumes 1% survivorship):

Group	Specimens	Percentage of total	Avg. counted per variety	Avg. population per variety (rounded off)
16 R1 varieties	1093	60.76 %	68.31	3800
27 R2 varieties	574	31.91 %	21.26	1200
12 R3 varieties	115	6.39 %	9.58	530
5 R3+ or higher	17	0.94 %	3.40	190

EAC CONVENTION – 1999 – CINCINNATI, OHIO

April 15 – 18, 1999

Rod Burress

The convention hotel for the 1999 EAC Convention will be the Drawbridge Convention Center, 2477 Royal Drive, Ft. Mitchell, KY 41017 (606 – 341 – 2800). This is a new street address, but the location is the same – I-75 at Buttermilk Pike. (Kentucky toll free phone 1 – 800 – 352 – 9866; outside of Kentucky toll free phone 1 – 800 – 354 – 9793). The Drawbridge has excellent convention facilities and has attractive room rates beginning at \$55 single. EAC members are urged to stay at the Drawbridge if at all possible because the ultimate cost of our convention will depend on how many sleeping room nights we use. The Drawbridge is a very busy convention center, so you are encouraged to get your reservations in early. The \$55 garrison building rooms will probably fill up first. It is recommended that you use a credit card or send a check in advance to guarantee your reservation. See reservation card at the back of this Penny-Wise issue. Be sure to indicate you are coming for the EAC Convention.

For those driving to Cincinnati, the Drawbridge is on I-75 about six miles south of Cincinnati at the Buttermilk Pike exit. I-75 and I-71 are always under construction – try to avoid these during rush hours. The Drawbridge is a huge complex quite visible from the Interstate. For those flying to Cincinnati, the Greater Cincinnati International Airport is about 7 miles from the Drawbridge. There are courtesy vans available from the airport to (and from) the Drawbridge – phone 341 – 2800 upon arrival at the airport to arrange for pickup. Cab fare is about \$10.

The Drawbridge has over 500 sleeping rooms with indoor pool, tennis courts, sauna, whirlpool, exercise room, jogging trails (1 – 5 miles). There are 4 restaurants and 5 lounges of varying menus, gift shop, hair salon, and spirit shoppe with domestic and imported liquors. There are fast food restaurants within a 10 minute walk. The hotel reservation form at the back of this issue shows the economy \$55 room and the more upscale \$78 room in the main building. There are also luxury rooms and suites available.

AVAILABLE SIDE TRIPS

The Kentucky Horse Park, located about an hour's drive south on I-75, is a unique park devoted to horses and horse racing. There is a large museum of the history of horse racing, over thirty breeds of horses on display, outdoor horse shows, and other features. Another possible side trip is to Shakertown, a center for antiques and crafts. Write or call March Wells for more information. The Drawbridge has a tourist attraction of its own – the Oldenburg Brewery, a 1920's – style operating German brewery located in the Drawbridge complex. There is a museum of beer memorabilia, tours of the brewery process, a German bakery, and a beer pub with live entertainment. For those who like shopping, the Florence Mall has many major department stores and specialty shops. It is about fifteen minutes south on I-75. The Cincinnati Zoo is well worth a visit. It is a world class zoo – for example: it is the world leader in the birthing of baby gorillas (around 40!).

March Wells will be the coordinator for outside activities. Contact him at:

102A Sea Oats Drive, Juno Beach, FL 33408 (407) 775 – 1849

THURSDAY EVENING "HAPPENINGS"

On Thursday evening there will be a Colonial Happening, Half Cent Happening, and Large Cent Happening. For those unfamiliar with these events, the committees in charge of

See notes and bourse contract at back of this P-W issue.

8 p.m. Educational Forum

March Wells will be the coordinator for the speakers at the Friday evening forum. Contact him if you are interested in giving a talk, or if there is a subject you would like presented; maybe we can come up with something.

March Wells
102A Sea Oats Drive
Juno Beach, FL 33408
(407) 775 – 1849

Saturday, April 17 7:45 a.m. EAC Board Meeting Breakfast
8:00 a.m. Bourse opens to dealers with tables
9:00 a.m. Bourse opens to public
10:00 a.m. – 4 p.m. Various mini-seminars

(Coordinator – March Wells – contact him for subjects you would like to present or have presented.)

5:00 p.m. Bourse closes
7:00 p.m. sharp Annual EAC sale

(Cataloguer: Tom Reynolds – See more information elsewhere in this issue. Consignments of rare and quality material are being solicited.)

Sunday, April 23 9:00 a.m. Annual General Membership Meeting
- - - Bourse opens at conclusion of general meeting
2:00 p.m. Bourse closes

EAC Convention security will be provided by uniformed, armed guards continuously from 4 p.m. Thursday until 3 p.m. Sunday. During the hours the bourse is closed, police officers will be on duty inside the bourse room, and no one else will be admitted except when accompanied by convention chairmen for emergencies or official EAC business.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS: SALE LOT VIEWING & DEALER SETUP
Tom Reynolds and Rod Burress

There will be a special lot viewing for the EAC Sale on **Thursday April 15 from 9AM to 4PM for table holders and officers**. General members will also be allowed to view lots if space permits. Check at the front desk of the Drawbridge for directions to the viewing room. Also, there will be dealer setup on **Thursday April 15 from 9PM to 10:30PM, for table holders only**. This will allow dealers extra time, in addition to the 8AM to 9AM setup on April 16. **No dealing will be allowed during this additional setup period.**

With Cincinnati being such a population center for EAC, this year's convention should be the largest, best-attended EAC ever. EAC members are urged to make a special effort to attend. With several hundred EAC members in attendance, an enormous amount can be learned about grading, valuation, care, and the history of colonials, half cents, large cents, and Hard Times tokens. Hope to see you there!

Rod Burress, 9743 Leacrest, Cincinnati, Ohio 45215. (513) 771-0696.

EARLY AMERICAN COPPERS
Treasurers Report 1998

Acct	Name	In	Out	Net
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	1998 Beginning		1 January	60,580.17
101	Dues	41,396.00		41,396.00
102	Adverts	954.00		954.00
103	Interest	2,656.50		2,656.50
104	Donations	1,023.00		1,023.00
105	Issues	216.00		216.00
106	Tapes In	.00		
206	Tapes Out		.00	.00
107	Medals In	539.00		
207	Medals Out		.00	539.00
108	Conv In	1,436.63		
208	Conv Out		-5,033.00	-3,596.37
109	EACSale In	10,471.00		
209	EACSale Ou		-7,578.82	2,892.18
110	Other In	20.00		
210	Other Out		.00	20.00
211	P-W Print		-30,201.00	-30,201.00
212	P-W Postg		-8,790.29	-8,790.29
213	P-W Suppt		-420.56	-420.56
214	Organiz		-2,480.40	-2,480.40
115	Libr In	.00		
215	Libr Out		.00	.00
	TOTALS	----- 58,712.13	----- -54,504.07	----- 4,208.06
	1999 Beginning Balance			64,788.23

EAC MEETING AT CHARLOTTE COIN SHOW, CHARLOTTE, NC

Tom Knopp

An EAC meeting was held at the Charlotte Coin Club Show February 13. The following members and guests were in attendance:

Steven Ellsworth	Jerry Sajbel	Ron Feuer
David Crump	Tom Knopp	Richard Kurtz
Gregory Field	Gary Coleman	

After the round of introductions, we talked about the upcoming national convention. It was stressed that members should bring their coins to the Happenings if they have any of the varieties being shown, no matter what their grades. Steven Ellsworth noted that the finest known S-188 had sold for an unbelievable \$208,000 in the recent Superior sale. He also had some information from Red Henry about the survivorship of cents dated 1801-1807. Jerry Sajbel brought some large cents from his collection for a little show and tell. We also talked about the latest edition of CQR, and wondered why some of the prices had gone up or down, without clear evidence to support the changes. The meeting then adjourned.

EAC MEETING AT F.U.N. CONVENTION, 9 JANUARY 1999

Bob Grellman

A meeting of EAC members and guests was held at 9 AM on 9 January 1999 at the FUN Convention in Orlando, Florida. Approximately 40 people attended. (An attendance list was prepared at the meeting, but it can't be located.) Following the customary introductions, we discussed the upcoming 1999 EAC Convention. Tom Reynolds made a final appeal for auction consignments and Rod Burress answered questions regarding the facilities and schedule of events.

March Wells and Bob Grellman then discussed the 2000 convention to be held in Cape Canaveral, Florida. Tom Morley is co-chairman for the convention, and he plans to make it one of the best ever for EAC. Tom is just the person for the job. Expect a "dog and pony show" that will have us talking about EAC 2000 for many years. The proposed convention sites for EAC 2001 (Northern Virginia) and 2002 (Las Vegas) were announced.

The upcoming copper sales at Superior were covered and a catalog for the 8 February sale of the Dr. Suros overdate collection was passed around for review. Some highlights from that sale were available for viewing at Superior's table.

A lengthy discussion of the format for Copper Quotes by Robinson (CQR) resulted in several suggestions for minor changes. Jack Robinson will survey the users of CQR to determine the format they prefer and make the appropriate modifications. These may include reviving the listings for VF25 and VF35 while eliminating the lower grade listings for common varieties.

The only bourse cherrypick reported was a nice VF 1804 C-7 half cent found by Chris Young.

The meeting concluded with an excellent slide presentation by Chuck Heck. His lecture covered colonials, half cents, and large cents. The slides were provided by the ANS and showed selected pieces from their collection.

The meeting concluded about 10 AM.

* * * * *

REQUEST FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Dear EAC Member,

In April 1999, we will be privileged to have the EAC National Convention come to the Cincinnati, Ohio area within the North Central EAC Region. We hope you will take advantage of the opportunity to attend this convention, which promises to be the largest – ever EAC Convention because of our geographic location within the population center of EAC. With several hundred EAC members in attendance including EAC Officers, dealers in US copper, experts, authors, exhibitors, researchers, etc., there is so much which can be learned about production, valuations, grading, attribution, and history of US Colonials, Half Cents, Large Cents, and Hard Times tokens.

DURING THE PAST 16 YEARS, A KEY FEATURE OF OUR CONVENTION HAS BEEN THE THURSDAY EVENING RECEPTION WHERE MEMBERS CAN MEET WITH ONE ANOTHER IN AN INFORMAL SETTING. IT HAS BECOME CUSTOMARY FOR EAC MEMBERS WISHING TO ACT AS HOSTS TO MAKE DONATIONS TOWARD THE FOOD AND DRINKS SERVED DURING THE RECEPTION. YOUR DONATION CAN HELP MAKE THE RECEPTION A VERY ENJOYABLE EXPERIENCE FOR ALL.

Checks can be made payable to "EAC Convention 1999" and mailed to EAC, PO Box 15782, Cincinnati, OH 45215.

THANK YOU,

Rod Burress
General Chairman

NEW CANDIDATES FOR 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 May 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.

NAME	CITY, STATE	MEMBER #
David E. Litrenta	York, PA	4713
Stefan Emile Aaron	Flat Rock, NC	4714
Edward Furhman	New Milford, NJ	4715
Bruce E. Pasternack	Albuquerque, NM	4716
Marian Ariel Crinnion	Bronx, NY	4717
Gene Anderson	Paris, TX	4718
Rich Mueller	Wilton, CT	4719
Rich Ozog	Bangor, ME	4720
Dave Schneider	Bedford, TX	4721
Robert McLaughlin	Costa Mesa, CA	4722

Rod Burress EAC#109 9743 Leacrest Cincinnati, OH, 45215 513-771-0696

For Sale

#4 Soft Jewelers Brush \$8.50 each
 Jewelers Tissue 4X4 inch sheets box of 1000 \$7.00 pkg of 250 &2.50
 Xylol 4oz bottle plus 100 wooden stick Q-tips \$3.00
 Acetone 4oz bottle plus 100 wooden stick Q-tips \$3.00
 Wooden Stick Q-tips \$4.50 per 500 \$8.50 per 1000
 Blue Ribbon Coin Conditioner (bought small qty at prem price) \$13.00 ea
 Cast Iron Notary Machine unconverted for the do-it-yourselfer \$16.00
 Double Row Coin Storage Box for 2X2 holders 14 inches long color red
 premium quality heavy duty .103 pasteboard \$4.25 each
 Heavy Duty 28lb Kraft 2X2 Coin Envelopes colors gray, white, brown
 pkg of 100 \$3.25 box of 800 \$21.00 send SASE for sample
 Cotton Liners 100 percent soft cotton flannel interior Fit inside
 standard 2X2 Coin Envelopes SASE for sample \$23.00 pkg of 100
 VIGOR 10X Triplet magnifying glass very high quality optics best glass
 on market to my knowledge for its size and price
 extra wide 13/16 inch lens aplanatic, achromatic \$39.00 each with cord
 Attribution Guide for Matron Head Cents 1816-1835 \$4.00 approx 37pgs
 Superior Galleries Auction Catalogues Please call or write.

Add \$4.00 per order (\$4.75 western states) for shipping. Shipping by UPS -
 You must give a street address.

Talking Beginners Abbreviations - Part II

Steve Carr

- OBV** - Obverse. The front side of a coin. On early coppers, the obverse usually has the date on it.
- OC** - Off center. Used to describe a coin where the images are not centered in the strike. The amount of off centeredness is usually expressed as a percentage.
- OD** - Overdate. When one or more date numeral(s) are punched over other date numeral(s). This was done to update dies prepared during prior years, to cover up mistakes, or to get more use out of old, used dies.
- PC** - Past center. Where the position of the leaf tip under a specific letter in the reverse legend is about one quarter of the way left of the right edge of the letter.
- PCGS** - Professional Coin Grading Service, a company that authenticates, grades, and encapsulates coins.
- PCI** - Photo-Certified Coin Institute, Inc., a company that authenticates, grades, and encapsulates coins.
- PE** - Plain edge. Early American coppers without edge lettering or edge devices. This abbreviation is usually used when both lettered and plain edge coins are available for the same date.
- PFL** - Point of the fifth leaf. This is the point, under the letters in the reverse legend, to which the tip of the fifth leaf on the left extends. This is usually under the "D" in UNITED. This leaf number is determined by starting your count at the ribbon bow. Count all leaves on the left wreath. Used mostly as an attribution point on large cents 1808-1814.
- PHC** - Plain hair cords. The type of hair cords used to tie Liberty's hair bun until mid-year 1837. The bands were plain cords. This type of cord also appears on 1839 N-1.
- PHL** - Point of the highest leaf. This abbreviation is used on large cents and half cents from 1796 - 1807 (large cents) and 1800-1808 (1/2 cents) to help attribute the reverse. The highest leaf is the one on the top of the right branch. Leaf position is usually given in reference to the last "S" in STATES.
- PL** - Past left. Where the position of the leaf tip under a specific letter in the reverse legend is to the left of the left edge of the letter.
- PLC** - Point of the leaf under the "C". This is the point, under the letters in the reverse legend, to which the tip of the leaf under the letter "C" in AMERICA extends. Used mostly as an attribution point on middle date large cents.
- PLD** - Point of the leaf under the "D". This is the point, under the letters in the reverse legend, to which the tip of the leaf under the letter "D" in UNITED extends. Used mostly as an attribution point on middle date large cents.
- PLF** - Point of the leaf under the "F". This is the point, under the letters in the reverse legend, to which the tip of the leaf under the letter "F" in OF extends. Used mostly as an attribution point on middle date large cents.
- PLO** - Point of the leaf under the "O". This is the point, under the letters in the reverse legend, to which the tip of the leaf under the letter "O" in OF extends. Used mostly as an attribution point on Liberty cap large cents.
- PLLL** - Point of the lowest leaf on the left This is the point to which the tip of the lowest outward pointing leaf on the left extends. It is usually under the letters "UN" of UNITED in the reverse legend. Used mostly as an attribution point on Liberty cap large cents.
- PLLR** - Point of the lowest leaf on the right This is the point to which the tip of the lowest outward pointing leaf on the right extends. It is usually under the letters "CA" of AMERICA in the reverse legend. Used mostly as an attribution point on Liberty cap large cents.

PO - Poor. A coin grade that is worse than about good (AG). A coin that is very worn that has substantial damage.

PR - Past right. Where the position of the leaf tip under a specific letter in the reverse legend is well beyond the right edge of the letter.

PR - Proof. A method of minting coins. Proof coins were minted specifically for collectors or for special occasions. Proof coins are often struck twice, are usually the first coins struck from dies, and have square edges. The first "official" proof coins were struck in 1817. Some middle date large cents come as a proof on one side only.

PSL - Point of the seventh leaf. This abbreviation is used on large cents and half cents from 1796 - 1807 (large cents) and 1800-1808 (1/2 cents) to help attribute the reverse. The seventh leaf is the one usually under "D" in UNITED. It is the seventh leaf, counting up and left from the wreath at the bottom of the reverse.

PW - "Penny Whimsy." The second title for William H. Sheldon's book on large cents. First published under this title in 1957, the book has been reprinted several times (1965, 1976, and 1990).

PW - *Penny Wise*, the bi-monthly newsletter of the Early American Coppers Club.

R - Rarity rating. The relative scarcity of a coin is expressed with an "R" followed by a number. The most common scale of rarity goes from 1 to 8, with 1 being the most common and 8 being extremely rare.

R - Right. Where the position of the leaf tip under a specific letter in the reverse legend is even with the right edge of the letter (or the right edge of the base of "F").

R - Ryder number. Hillyard Ryder did research on Vermont colonials. When a number is preceded by the letter "R" when describing a Vermont colonial coin, it refers to his variety number.

REN - Roy "Ted" E. Naftzger. A late twentieth century collector of large cents. He purchased William Sheldon's collection and his name (initials) appear on the pedigrees of the finest large cents. When followed by a number, this represents a lot from the sale of his collection by New Netherlands on November 14-15, 1973.

REV - Reverse. The back side of the coin. On half cents and large cents, the denomination was on the reverse.

RS - Restrike. Several early coppers have been restruck. These include 1804, 1810, and 1823 large cents and 1811 half cents, to name a few. These restrikes are easily detected, as the reverse dies used were from different years. The restrikes are very collectible.

RSB I - Robinson S. Brown. A late 20th century collector of large cents. When followed by a number, this refers to a specific lot number from the Superior sale of his first collection in September 1986.

RSB II - Robinson S. Brown. A late 20th century collector of large cents. When followed by a number, this refers to a specific lot number from the Superior sale of his second collection in January 1996.

S -When referring to "early date" large cent varieties, the letter "S" in front of a number stands for the Sheldon number of the variety. This numbering system was adopted from Sheldon's "Early American Cents." Sheldon varieties are number consecutively, starting at 1.

S1 - The first "S" in the reverse legend, the first "S" in STATES.

S2 - The second "S" in the reverse legend, the second "S" in STATES.

SD - Small date. When a variety has one or more smaller date digits than another variety of the same year.

SEL - Small edge letters. On 1794 half cents, both large and small edge letters were used. The small letters are narrower, more deeply impressed, and spaced farther apart than the large letters.

SHILL - Stray hair in lower lock. Some varieties of 1820, 1822, and 1824 large cents have an extra hair cutting upwards across the lowest wave of hair under Liberty's neck.

SL - Small letters. In 1829 through 1835 and in 1843, two different size letter punches were used for the letters on the reverse of large cents. The smaller letters are called "small letters" and abbreviated like this.

SPC - Slightly past center. Where the position of the leaf tip under a specific letter in the reverse legend is just to the right of the center of the letter.

SPR - Slightly past right. Where the position of the leaf tip under a specific letter in the reverse legend is just to the right of the right edge of the letter.

SS - Small stars. In 1834 and 1835, the obverse stars were made smaller on some varieties. To designate which type stars are on the variety, this abbreviation is used.

T 1 - The first "T" in the reverse legend, the "T" in UNITED.

T2 - The second "T" in the reverse legend, the first "T" in STATES.

T 3 - The third "T" in the reverse legend, the second "T" in STATES.

TAD - An auction sale held by Stacks in February 1976. When followed by a number, this refers to the auction lot number.

TAL - Talbot, Allum, and Lee, a New York store that had tokens struck with their name on them to promote commerce. These tokens are dated 1794 and 1795. The US Mint purchased many of these tokens for their copper content. Half cents, at least, were struck over these tokens.

TDS - Terminal die state. One of the last coins struck from the die. These coins will exhibit fully developed cracks and cuds.

TJC - T. James Clark. A mid-20th century collector of large cents. His initials appear on the pedigrees of some very nice coins.

VEDS - Very early die state (see EDS).

VD - Variation of a die, used by William H. Sheldon to show die states on his pictures in Early American Cents and Penny Whimsy.

VF - Very fine. A coin grade. A very fine coin will have noticeable wear, but most detail will still be present.

VG - Very good. A coin grade. A very good coin will have full rims and some detail.

VLDS - Very late die state (see LDS - only later!).

WHS - William H. Sheldon. These initials appear in the pedigrees of the finest large cents.

XF - Extremely fine. A coin grade. An extremely fine coin will have just the slightest amount of wear. Some XF coins will also show mint luster around the letters, numbers, stars, or design elements.

YH - Young head. The style of head adopted in 1835 for the large cent obverse. Attributed to Christian Gobrecht.

13S - Thirteen stars. Refers to any 1817 large cent that has 13 obverse stars.

15S - Fifteen stars. Refers to Newcomb 16 of 1817, the variety with fifteen obverse stars.

I have one addition and a couple of corrections from the last listing. They are as follows:

A1 - The first "A" in the reverse legend, the "A" in States.

A2 - The second "A" in the reverse legend, the first "A" in America.

A3 - The third "A" in the reverse legend, the second "A" in America.

M - Miller. A collector/researcher of Connecticut colonial coins. When followed by a number, refers to specific varieties of Connecticut colonial coins.

A special thanks to Tom Wolf for his keen eye in finding the missing "A1."

Do you have any other abbreviations that are not on this list? Send them in. Let's get a good listing! Steve Carr, 6815 W. 82 St., Overland Park, KS 66204 (email-scarr4002@aol.com). I will include any additions next time.

**PRICING CREDIBILITY AND OTHER RUMINATIONS
ON THE ORLANDO FUN SHOW**

Alan V. Weinberg

I've long been amazed by the extraordinary prices placed on extraordinary large cents in the inventory of Jay Parrino's "The Mint," Kansas City, MO. \$950,000, \$1.5 million, \$350,000 and on and on. Does he really get these prices? Do knowledgeable buyers really value these coins this highly?

Apparently not. There was an eye-opening contrast between "The Mint's" fixed prices (as indicated in their Summer 1998 "Preferred Customer Price List") and what these very same coppers sold for in "the real world" at the Orlando FUN Show.

Bowers and Merena's Orlando "Rarities Sale" January 6th auction session offered seven classic and choice early dates, all PCGs slabbed. The coins were beautifully catalogued with enlarged plates and detailed pedigrees, each coin garnering at least a half page in the catalogue. The sale was extensively advertised and the auction room was quite full.

Below is a tabulation you should find revealing:

LOT #	ITEM	MINT'S ADVERTISED PRICE	AUCTION RESULT OPENED & CLOSED
1016	1793 S-6 MS-66 RB	\$250,000	At \$80,000 to book – No floor interest
1019	1794 S-26 MS66 RB	\$125,000	\$31,000 / \$46,000 to Ed Milas
1020	1797 S-123 MS66 RB	\$47,500	Opened & Closed at \$15,000 to book – probably a reserve
1022	1802 S-234 MS67 RB	\$95,000	Open/Close \$38,000 to book – probably a reserve
1023	1802 S-235 MS66 RB	\$49,500	Open/Close \$15,000 to book – probably a reserve
1024	1810 S-285 MS66 RB	\$50,000	Open/Close \$15,000 to book – probably a reserve

Those lots opening and closing to "the book" met with no floor interest whatsoever and likely did not sell, going back to the consignor. So the price likely to attract a buyer would almost definitely be lower.

On those two lots actually sold, there was a 15% (no longer 10%) buyer's fee.

Many pieces remained unsold at less than one-third of their currently advertised prices (source: "The Mint's" Summer 1998 FPL). What does that say about the credibility of those fixed prices?

At the FUN Show I had the distinct pleasure of comparing three "AU" 1793 (11C) Wreath Cents, two "raw" and one slabbed. I decided to acquire the T. James Clarke, R. E. Naftzger, New Netherlands 1973 coin, slabbed AU-55, from Jim McGuigan. The slab and its "official" AU-55 grade played absolutely no roll in my decision. Indeed, we two purists decided to break it out of the slab even though we both agreed the coin honestly graded only EF-45 (as does Bill Noyes

in his census). Jim is selling and I am buying **The Coin**, not the plastic "coffin" containing it. There is something "unholy" about concealing the thick lettered edge of a problem-free 11C in an airtight chunk of plastic.

Now the coin has passed through the hands of Ted Naftzger, Denis Loring and others, all of whom have presumably oiled and brushed this cent. Yet it looked awfully dull, dry and lifeless in the slab. So, when I arrived home, I lovingly oiled (Blue Ribbon) and carefully blotted the cent with a Q-tip and an old soft, much-laundered T-shirt. I don't believe in brushing. The Q-tip – both ends – came up green! The cent is now glossy, reflective and "alive."

My opinion? The slabbing services dip coppers that have a protective gloss of oil in Xylol (or some other organic solvent) prior to slabbing. The copper's surfaces are then raw and unprotected. And they deteriorate in the "airtight" slab, becoming dull and lifeless. Hence, the green Q-tip results upon removal from a slab and a "resurrection" with oil. Over and over, I've seen early copper in slabs that have visually deteriorated since slabbing. The grading services will not slab an oiled copper and likely do rinse such pieces in Xylol. There's a valid argument for this practice – even a minute residue of oil will transfer itself onto the inner surface of the slab. It then may react chemically with the plastic. Even if it does not react the oil residue will most certainly make the slab's inner surfaces "sloppy."

The conclusion – inevitable I think. Early coppers should not be slabbed. They've not graded properly. Almost never. Even the grading services admit that "net grading" – so necessary with early coppers – is "mysterious" and incomprehensible to them.

They are dipped in Xylol to remove any trace of protective oil, causing their surfaces to become dry and lifeless.

Their marvelous edge decorations, ornamentation and legends are obscured. And variety attribution is so very difficult.

Me? I don't own a single slabbed coin. Wouldn't have ONE in my collection!

Finally, at FUN, Denis Loring and I discussed and agreed to resurrect our 4-man 1793 Chain cent exhibit at EAC in April – which we did once before at Las Vegas. It was a sight to behold – the finest Chain cent exhibition in numismatic history. So, you'll be really missing something if you don't come.

* * * * *

**NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS – 1999
OR
CELEBRATE YOUR COLLECTION!**

Chuck Heck

It appears there is no end (and likely will there never be) to the grading "controversy." One man's junk is another man's treasure! Beauty is in the eye of the beholder! People have to realize that some people like chocolate while others like vanilla. And there are some people who like both (and, I suppose, there are those who like neither!).

What's my point? My point is simply this: the three (3) new resolutions for 1999:
STOP CRITICIZING; STOP COMPLAINING; AND STOP
APOLOGIZING!!

Resolution #1: Stop criticizing what other people collect. If you are guilty of this crime, HOW DARE YOU! Not every person has the same means as the other. We all collect what appeals to us and in a price range that we can afford.

I have a very good friend who assembled over 300 Sheldon varieties. Some were beautiful; some were not. Few were in the Condition Census; most were not. Several were extremely choice; some had problems. But every single one was an example of such a vibrant history. Each coin had its very own beauty and charm. And most special was that I had the distinct pleasure to view each one, and there were 300 DIFFERENT ONES! What was his goal you ask? – to assemble as many varieties as possible in as short as possible a time frame, and without forcing his wife and children to eat only bread and water. Criticize him for owning a scratched coin? More likely we should applaud him for assembling a collection of such breadth.

Resolution #2: Stop complaining that prices are too high; that coins are over-graded; that you don't understand "net" grading. Prices have always been "too high" – or more appropriately – at the current market level – which is usually higher than where prices were five years ago. It's called inflation, scarcity, and demand.

If you feel coins are over-graded then learn how to speak up to those that over-grade. Tell them (whoever they are) why you feel that particular coin is graded too high. Be prepared to back up your assertion, which of course leads me to "net" grading. Though I am no Bill Noyes or Del Bland, I feel comfortable in knowing something about "net" grading. If you are NOT comfortable, then by all means get yourself to a regional and national EAC meeting. At your next regional meeting, ask your chair or secretary to arrange a grading session. Introduce yourself; talk to others; look at coins (lots and lots of coins); ask questions; read the introduction to Penny-Whimsy, Noyes' books and Copper Quotes by Robinson. Read the outstanding article "Copper Sense" by Jon Warshawsky in the November 3, 1998 issue of Numismatic News (p 12). Examine the plates and grades in the auction catalogs for Brown, Robinson, Morley, Cohen, and others. Do your homework and get involved.

Resolution #3: Stop apologizing for your collection. It is what it is! Show it off. Don't ever expect someone else to carry the ball. Bring some of your coins to a meeting and show them off. A true collector enjoys looking at coins – anyone's coins! A relatively new EAC'er came up to me at a regional meeting and showed me a purchase he had just made. It was a VG-F Sheldon variety. The person "apologized" that it was not a higher grade. That particular coin had No rim dents; No scratches; No corrosion. It was definitely above average for the variety – a true pleasure to look at. So why should anyone even think of apologizing for owning that lovely coin? Celebrate owning it! There are not very many 200-year-old artifacts (whose sole purpose for existence was extensive usage) that have survived in such condition.

Above all else, enjoy your collection. Share it with others, and you may find even more pleasure than before.

* * * * *

MAKING SENSE

John D. Wright

This was the year that Britain passed an act to forbid cotton-mill hiring of children below age nine and limiting child labor to 12-hour workdays. Madame Tussaud's wax museum opened in London this year.

Napoleon sent his brother-in-law at the head of a 25,000 man army to put down a Haitian rebellion. Leclerc and 22,000 of his army died there of yellow fever.

Soybeans were introduced to the United States this year from Britain. DuPont built a gunpowder factory near Wilmington. The U.S. Military Academy was founded at West Point, New York.

Arlington House was completed on a Virginia hill across the Potomac from the U.S. capital for Martha Washington's grandson. It will later pass to his son-in-law Robert E. Lee, and later yet will be seized by the U.S. government and turned into a graveyard, now known as Arlington National Cemetery.

The classical U.S. rarity of this year is the half dime, though the quarter eagle is equally rare. By now you've probably guessed that the year is 1802. And you can buy a U.S. cent of this historic year for as little as \$8(Fair) to \$75 (Fine).

Five of every six U.S. coins made this year were cents. For the collector of Guidebook listings only three relatively inexpensive cents are needed, and all are readily available in any grade you want, even (at a price) in XF or better.

This is a wonderful year for a first foray into variety collecting. Fourteen obverse and thirteen reverse dies were used in twenty combinations to make over 3.4 million cents of this fascinating year. One is a carryover 1/000 reverse from 1801, two omit the wreath stems flanking the fraction, one obverse has the T of LIBERTY punched over a Y, and several come with impressive cracks and/or cuds.

Fourteen of the twenty 1802 cent varieties are rather common, and the variety differences are mostly easy to spot. The four scarce and two rare varieties of the year are not too intimidating for the beginner. You can expect to complete a variety set of 1802 cents in three to ten years depending on your diligence and luck.

There are at least fourteen examples known of the rarest 1802 cent (NC2) and over thirty examples of the second-rarest (NC1). I know of nine complete variety collections of this year and over another dozen that lack a single variety. Unless you insist on all coins being VF or better, only one piece should cost four figures. And if you get very lucky you could avoid the premium by cherrypicking both of the rarities. A near-Fine NC1 of 1802 turned up that way at a Milwaukee show just a few years ago.

John D. Wright is the author of "The CENT Book", which covers U.S. cents of 1816 – 1839. He has collected U.S. large cents for over forty years.

* * * * *

MORE ON THOSE COUNTERFEIT CURIOSITIES

Bob Bowser

At last writing, we reviewed WHY and WHO with regards to the British Half Penny Counterfeits which invaded the Colonies in an effort to profit from and encourage trade, in the absence of other coinage. Then the Evasion Coppers were the focus, but there are many other related stories surrounding these coppers and insightful areas for numismatic study.

As discussed in Q. D. Bowers great reference, The History of United States Coinage, the early coppers issued by the states and private engravers and coiners provided many lifetimes of study for astute numismatic adventurers. This reference lists, by source, many of the creators of these coppers: Walter Mould in New York City (some of which later are called Machin's Mills, due to the James Atlee die sinker linkage); Thomas Machin's Newburgh, NY group of issues (some of which have been called Tory Coppers); and others grouped into what are called "Bungtown Coppers".

Now, how, you ask, can there be an intelligent collector community interest in something called "Bungtown Coppers?" Well, this term, which appears to have been used by early numismatists in the mid-to-late 1800's in America, seems to have some confusion surrounding its meaning. Let's discuss this confusion, and then take a brief look at the economics of the period when these counterfeits were created.

In 1981, the Garrett Sale introduced a bunch of group lots of British counterfeits, many with erroneous legends and dates, as "Bungtown Halfpennies." Today these are more properly catalogued as Evasion Halfpennies, as described above. Walter Breen in his Encyclopedia describes "Bungtown" as a term for an area of Massachusetts otherwise known as North Swansea Township, where counterfeiting by a group of downtrodden folks was believed renowned. It would seem, then, that this area was responsible for the American-style, linear engravings on counterfeit dies, and issues with engraved rather than die sinker-punched letters. And so the latest references to Bungtown include these American style imitations. Eric Newman and others have written that the term "Bungtown" refers in a slang manner to Birmingham, England; which was during this period an industrial sector with a lot of undesirables and problems.

As charming as these descriptions are, I don't believe we can pinpoint any single "Bungtown" location or look-a-like, as New Jersey had at least two other "Mint House" locations in Morristown and Elizabethtown, as related by Anton and Kesse in their Forgotten Coins of the North American Colonies. Breen also describes, in several series in his Encyclopedia, "Bungtown" imitations of various state copper colonial issues. Conversely, many state series overstrikes evident in the Connecticut, New Jersey, and Vermont coppers are struck over Bungtown and other

inferior copper issues.

This leads us to the economic facts. It's assumed that, due to the negative publicity the counterfeits received and the pronouncement from the Supreme Council of Pennsylvania in 1781 that these inferior coppers should not be accepted in payment by any State Officials, there was a reduction in value placed on these issues by merchants. The overstrikes were made, mostly at the Machin's Mills, NY location, to improve the economic return for these inferior pieces. You may refer to Connecticut Series Breen numbers 858, 861, 863, 879, 951, 955; and new Jersey Maris numbers 56n, 58n, 81, 83l, 70x, 71x, 72z, 73aa, 16d, 17b, 19m, 34j, 40b, 48x; and Vermonts RR 10, 15, 18, 25, 28, 33, 35, and 40 for some detail on these overstruck possibilities. One choice example, from the famed Garrett Collection, a Vermont Ryder 25 struck on an Irish Geo II counterfeit, was also similarly described in Breen number 724, struck from dies abandoned by Reuben Harmon at Rupert, Vermont.

This "value-added activity" may not have been strictly an American Colonial entrepreneurial initiative. One overstrike I have discovered personally and obtained from Chris Young, a while back, is an Irish halfpenny struck over an unattributed merchant token. On this piece the word "token" is noticeable where the date punch should be on the right side of the harp. These curiosities are like a box of chocolates; you never know what you're gonna get!

Anton, also, has a list of some interesting overstrikes of Vermont RR 40 coins struck on Geo. III host coins and a number of NJ coppers struck on French Louis XV host copper coins. These renowned anomalies, created to improve values, added to the many errors emitted by these amateurish coiners, provides for a lot of options for modern day copper collectors and hobbyists to choose. The economics of the collection of these counterfeit curiosities is still fairly attractive relative to scarce US coppers, and their story is interesting and historic. They have appeared in many auctions over the years, sometimes called "Tory Coppers" – another term we may be confused about. However, though the appearances of at least the Machin's Mills pieces have increased dramatically, I have observed many (20 or more) dealer offerings, in recent years, of Machin's pieces that are not correctly identified (one even in a PCGS slab over the Internet); and also including some dated 1773, for which no true Machin's variety is known. I think it's extremely important in this field to be able to identify Machin's Mills varieties and characteristics before you purchase. You can view and print a copy of the Vlack photos of Machin's varieties on the Notre Dame Library WEB site at www.coin.nd.edu/. This you will find invaluable.

* * * * *

RELIABLY REPORTED

Ken Schugars
John D Wright, NLG

"Reliably reported" -- I've occasionally seen this term while browsing through the CC's and I've wondered about the circumstances behind this. My guess is that they would be both unique and an interesting story. I had the good fortune in December of this past year to unwittingly re-discover one of these pieces, a 1796 Sheldon 96. Through a conversation with my good friend John Wright I found how "reliably reported" came to be in this instance, as John is the "reliable reporter". We thought that the events of the coin being initially found and some thirty years later being found again would be of some interest. I'll let John start ...

John here: Late last December Ken called me to see if I was going to the FUN show in Orlando. He had just bought a coin that he wanted me to carry down to consign to the EAC99 Sale.

John: "What did you get lucky on this time?"

Ken: "An S-96."

John: "Wow! What grade?"

Ken: "Well, it has the detail of about XF, but ..."

John: "Is it dark, with a big gouge on the bust?"

Ken: "Yeah! How did you know that?"

John: "I have a pressing of that coin downstairs that I made 30 years ago."

In 1968 I was in the Air Force, stationed in upstate New York. I would sometimes get down to the City for a weekend, and would naturally scour every coin shop I could find in Manhattan. On one of these trips I visited a small shop by the name of "Tru Value". It had some neat stuff in some rather ratty pages -- double struck large cents, a few high grade pieces, stuff like that. Nothing was attributed. One coin was a really nice (to me) 1796 with a large and a smaller gouge or flan void on the bust. The coin had been in an acid bath but was now a natural dark color. I attributed the coin as S-96 (which my collection lacked), marked the variety on the 2x2, and tried to buy it. The owner didn't care what the variety was -- to him it was just a choice XF 1796 large cent which he priced at several thousand dollars. We couldn't even come close on price. I told him to keep the variety-marking on the 2x2, it might help sell the piece -- but not at his current asking price.

I had been making foil impressions of large cents for a few years already and always took my press with me on these forays. Sure, I could make an impression of his coin, but the price was firm. I gave him my card, marked "wants 1796 cent, S-96" on it, and never heard from him again. Shortly thereafter I mentioned the coin to Denis Loring, who tried unsuccessfully to buy the coin for himself. I reported it to various EAC members over the years, but the "Tru Value" shop closed & the coin never came to light.

In 1973 the "Early Cent Revision Committee" was formed to try to bring the Condition Census and Rarity estimates up to date. The committee consisted of Denis, Dr Sheldon, Dorothy Paschal, Willard Blaisdell, Dane Nielsen, and myself. This coin was included in the S-96 list we published in Penny-Wise in 1975 as "12 True Value". Around 1977 Del Bland, Walter Breen, Denis Loring, and I pressed on privately after the work of this committee had more or less died on the vine.

Denis continued spearheading the 1793-1814 updates and I did the 1816-1839 updates. In 1984 Del became the focal point for the 1793-1814 census. Del refused to list "ghosts" -- coins based on reports without verification, but both Denis and I stood up for this piece. The clincher was when I produced the pressing I had made in 1968. "Is THIS a ghost?" So the coin has been listed as "12 reliably reported" ever since. It could have become mine for much more than I'll bet Sy Wanderman ever got for it -- but when greed is carried to excess it sometimes comes up with NOTHING. That's it for "what was then" -- now back to Ken for "what is now".

Well, it's back to me again. One day in December (1998), I was doing my usual surfing of the net for copper or anything else of interest. I had come to a well known auction site that sells everything imaginable, coins included. I happened across a listing for a "1796 Draped Bust Large Cent" that had an image attached. The listing described a coin of XF detail, although there was a gouge on the neck. Well an XF Draped Bust 1796 even with a gouge surely warranted a second look. The scan of the coin was bad to start with and only of the obverse, but it certainly looked to have XF detail and the gouge wasn't all that bad. I thought I'd give attributing it a shot. After looking through an attribution guide I fairly quickly came up with the obverse of S93, S94, S95, S96, NC2, or NC3. Since only the S93 is relatively common, I wanted to investigate further. I e-mailed the seller and requested that he scan the reverse and e-mail it to me. He did so, noting that this was from some stuff he was selling from an old dealer's stock.

I received the scan the next day and eagerly opened it. I readily identified the reverse as "SHELDON-96!!!". The reverse was nicer than the obverse and although trying to figure a net is difficult at best, I pretty much figured it to be either tied for CC#2 or CC#3. Needless to say I became quite determined to bid on this piece, particularly if nobody else had asked for a reverse image. The day of closing arrived and even though the bidding was a bit more spirited than I expected, I DID prevail.

When the coin arrived at the end of December, it turned out to be pretty much as I had hoped for. XF detail with some damage on the neck. I net graded it F12, which tied it for CC#2 with a "reliably reported" piece. Since I do not collect Early Dates, I had decided to consign the coin to the EAC sale. However time was becoming short to get the coin to Tom Reynolds before the deadline. Rather than trust the USPS I thought that

my friend John Wright might be attending the FUN show and could carry the coin to Florida. A telephone call to John determined that he was indeed going to FUN and would be happy to take my coin. "What have you got" he asked. "A Sheldon 96" I said. "WOW! What grade?" "I grade it a Fine". Again, another "WOW!". I then told John that the coin had a great deal of detail, around XF. At that point he stopped me and asked "Is it dark with a gouge on the neck?". That surprised me more than a little. I thought perhaps I had been holding the coin too close to the phone. "How'd you do that John?" At that he told me the part of the story you have already read above.

The next day I dropped the coin off to Mabel Ann so she and John could take it to FUN. She brought out the pressing John had made long ago and it was a match. The coin is indeed the CC#2 coin that John had attributed some thirty years before. No longer "reliably reported", but back and available to the copper fraternity, it is now consigned to the EAC sale. It is remarkable to think how technology has both shaped and shrunk our world, and that the Internet and a computer are tools for the copper enthusiast. I am however very happy to have used both and been foolish enough to think there was something out there to be found. It reminds me of an old Chinese curse: "May you live in interesting times". Well we do indeed live in interesting times, although that may not always be a curse. I'll let John wrap up the Orlando reception to my find.

Ken delivered the 30-years-in-limbo coin to me the day that Mabel Ann & I headed for Orlando. I wanted to photograph it for this article, but within hours I was on the road -- dashing south with the biggest blizzard of this winter at my heels. In Orlando I had Bill Noyes photograph it for the record. Opinions at Doug Bird's table (where Bill was set up) seemed consistent at either F12 or F15, so my grading of 30 years ago (F12) wasn't TOO far off the mark. All agreed the coin is "scudzy", due to the acid bath and the gouge (or flan void), but everybody there also agreed to its significance.

At Tom's table Denis said "OH YEAH! That's gotta be the Sy Wanderman coin! I KNOW that coin -- but I could never get it away from Wanderman. I've wondered from time to time where it went."

Well, they rarely disappear forever -- and now we'll all have an opportunity to see what this "ghost that refused to die" will bring on its own merits -- albeit thirty years later.

GREG AND LISA HEIM, EAC #3619 P.O. Box 7652 North Brunswick, NJ 08902
E-mail: glrheim@erols.com (732) 297-8661

WANTED: Library of Coins Large Cent albums (#37 and #38). Also large format Wayte Raymond Half Cent board (the one with the Two Cent Pieces on it). Also, any Whitman Large Cent boards (from the 1930s). Would like them in new or near-new condition, with no writing.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

JOHN T. MULLEN writes,

It is not my intention to lead us away from our mutual interest in early American coppers, but I was quite impressed by Red Henry's article in the last issue which revealed his interest in astronomy.

Very possibly, other copper collectors have hobby interests which would be of (at least) passing interest to EAC'ers.

Perhaps this would be a revelation of the character of members. Do they have other hobbies? If so, what are they, and do they indicate an interest in history, the sciences, art?

In brief, my interests include collecting large music boxes, Civil War arms, watches and clocks, and Pioneer air mail.

Since I divide my time among so many areas, perhaps that explains why I sometimes feel that I am not devoting enough of my time to my early coppers. The intensity of concentration revealed by many of the articles or letters published in Penny-Wise indicate to me that I need to devote more of my time to my coppers interest.

Do we have other members with hobby interests besides that of early copper?

Would this tell us something we'd find interesting about "copper" people?

* * *

JACK ROBINSON writes,

Harry Salyards' January P/W "Introduction by the Editor" is spot on!

His entire concept, his examples, his intent, and the lessons to be learned from this simple, one-page discussion applied to realities vs. marketing tactics imposed by brief intermediate owners of pieces of Early American Copper whose sole purpose of such ownership is to make a PROFIT from any resulting transaction is far different from the true collector who bought his treasured piece many years ago under similar circumstances who now comes to the market to sell his treasure, only to be told by such marketeers about the problems with his piece so that when they then go to sell it (after brief ownership) they can extol the many benefits of the same piece, again for the sole purpose of the PROFIT to be made (a purposely long sentence).

Take a deep breath, read the above again, AND THINK ABOUT IT. (Please) And, NO, I'm NOT just talking about dealers (especially well-known EAC-oriented dealers) Well, you'all know what I'm talking about.

* * *

WAYNE G. SLIFE writes,

The 15 January Penny-Wise has just arrived, for which I thank you. As usual, it is first-rate.

Two sections are especially fine: your introduction, and Peter Boisvert's KM Guide.

Your intro speaks truth about that threadbare topic, "Grading Standards," clearly, candidly, and courageously (do we have the "Three C's" here?). As you point out, after all the hype, false advertising, greed, confusion, and assorted chicanery, the surest defense is knowledge, and the self-assurance that comes from it. Not for us the surety of "guarantees," or the "certainties" of scrupulous grading by "impartial" third parties made up of ordinary imperfect mortals, or, saints preserve us, "investment strategies" of all kinds. As in just about everything, there is no free lunch. And no infallible gurus guided by concern for our well-being.

What we are left with (and it is comforting to know) is ourselves, and what we know, and what we value, and what gives us pleasure, regardless of the experts. I am reminded of the statement on the subject by Lord Salisbury, British peer, Conservative Prime Minister succeeding Disraeli, latter part of the nineteenth century :

No lesson seems to be so deeply inculcated by experience of life as that you should never trust experts. If you believe doctors, nothing is wholesome; if you believe theologians, nothing is innocent; if you believe soldiers, nothing is safe.

Peter Boisvert's article on restoration and care of our little darlings is a dandy. His style is clear, sprightly, free from patronizing or any flavor of self-importance. The subject matter is one of perennial interest, although I must admit that I get palpitations just thinking about things like spraying oven cleaner on my coins, or using saliva as an ingredient of anything, etc. This is not to pooh pooh what he says, merely to illustrate my own conservative, even timorous, approach to "Home Chemistry for Coins." Whatever, this article is well-written, intriguing, even outrageous, informative, and fun. What else do you want for a nickel?

* * *

SHELDON FREED writes,

I have been following the A.N.S. – Dr. William Sheldon – Ted Naftzger situation for several years. Who really knows what went on with the curators at the museum? Who knows why so much time lapsed after discovery?

I am not a personal friend of Ted Naftzger, but I have discovered a couple of varieties which found their way to Ted Naftzger's collection and I own several of his duplicates which I acquired in auction sales. I met Ted Naftzger in person at the E.A.C. convention in Philadelphia. We talked for awhile in an open dialogue and we shared our enthusiasm for our hobby.

I did want to go on record echoing the feelings of several close friends of mine in E.A.C. that Ted Naftzger deserves our support. He has amassed the greatest collection,

and shared his coins and his knowledge with everyone in the world of Numismatics. The scholarly works of Bill Noyes and John Wright could not exist without the photos of his collection and attribution characteristics visible on his high grade pieces. Ted Naftzger has done what A.N.S. is supposed to do – promote our common interest. Thank you TED!!

* * *

RICK COLEMAN writes,

In the recent Superior Stamp & Coin auction of February 8 – 10, 1999, Lot 1903, a 1793 C-1 half cent, was described as “EAC graded AU50.” Pardon my ignorance, but I was not aware that EAC offered such grading services. Since you are much better informed than I regarding the intricacies of EAC goings-on, I thought that surely you could help eliminate my confusion.

Is “EAC graded AU50” comparable to NGC graded MS61 as the above mentioned catalogue implies? Or, is it comparable to PCGS MS62BN, which is printed on the slab in which the same coin currently resides? This is very confusing. It is particularly confusing because the same coin appeared in the '98 FUN auction in a PCGS AU58 slab and previous to that was graded AU50 in the Norweb sale.

I tried to solicit some help from a few stalwart EAC'ers this weekend in the hopes of clarifying things. However, Del Bland won't grade a coin higher than MS-60 if it is brown, so he was no help. Bill Weber insisted that strike was a factor, even though Del said it was not [period]. A famous Ohio collector suggested that his grade of EF-45 [pretty] might correspond to my grade of AU 53/58, but he wasn't sure. A famous Pennsylvania dealer/collector expressed some grumpiness regarding the current subjectiveness that grading currently involves [something about the name of the person submitting the coin to the grading service being an important factor as well as the number of times that the coin is submitted].

All of these things were very confusing to me and I just knew that you were the person who could sort them out. You must know who in the EAC organization has authorized Superior Stamp & Coin Co. to use the EAC banner in their auction catalogues, right? Do we get our 15% commission on the lots where the EAC grading system is mentioned?

Where can I get a copy of the EAC grading guide which the Superior Stamp & Coin Co. cataloguer must be using? Certainly you must know where I can obtain one. By the way, is Superior Stamp & Coin Co. a member of EAC?

If by some remote chance you are not able to help eliminate my confusion, I would appreciate your printing this letter in the next issue of P-W so that the EAC officers, members and legal counsel can help me.

* * * * *

From the Internet

Pete Smith

- ◆ **TO PARTICIPATE IN REGION 8**, the EAC Internet directory and newsletter, send your e-mail address to Mark Switzer at dc181@freenet.carleton.ca. As of February 21, 1999, there were 194 EAC members in Region 8. That number is expected to drop as members who fail to renew their EAC membership are removed.
- ◆ From Rick Coleman, "I have two coins that cannot be graded using any previously known grading system. I have shown these two coins, a 1797 C-1. ex. RSC:71 and an 1805 C-2, ex. Ohio Collector, to many knowledgeable collectors. Both coins are so choice that to grade them as VG-8 would be incorrect, given the condition of almost every other VG-8 coin of any denomination that I have ever seen. So, I made up my own grade, VG-35, which makes me happy and with which no one else has argued. The prices which I have assigned to both coins have not met with similar agreement thus far and I still have both coins."
- ◆ Roxanne Goldberg was excited. "GMM is making 2 or more die varieties of Fugio cent reproductions! Yes, I already ordered mine! I do not care how many they are making. I will love every one of their early coppers!" She was still excited when she saw them. "I got my GMM Fugio repros today. They are incredibly beautiful. I will make sure I have one around, to show everybody. The real ones were never made with so much detail and care. It feels like I went back to 1787, and plucked some of these beauties from the presses!"
- ◆ Ken Greenman had a question about the metallic composition of a cast copy of Vermont Ryder-5. He wondered if any Region 8 reader had access to either X-ray fluorescence or micro probe analysis that would determine metallic composition.
- ◆ Carl Honore' asked, "Has condition census on early dates changed as much as I have seen, or have people been monkeying around with grading and/or condition standards to try to shoe horn questionable coins into the condition census, and therefore try to get a premium for these coins when they go up for sale?"
- ◆ Denis Loring responded, "There are at least three reasons why the Condition Census seems to be changing so much:
 1. There are actually two censuses. One is the "official" census that has been compiled by Del Bland since the 1960's, and will be used in the upcoming Breen book published by B&M. The other is Bill Noyes' census that appears in his books and in CQR. Each has its adherents.
 2. Many new coins have been discovered since *Penny Whimsy* was published. Also at that time, the CC was defined as six coins, while today the compilers strive to list the top 10 to 15 of each variety.
 3. Coins are regraded through time, because:
 - a. Mistakes are corrected.
 - b. Standards change.

c. The coin itself deteriorates, or (occasionally) improves, e.g. through judicious degreasing or recoloring.”

- ◆ Bob Schoen reacted to Peter Boisvert’s article on “The Kitchen Magician’s Guide.” He asked about a source for flower of sulfur.
- ◆ Wes Rasmussen responded, “You can buy flower of sulfur in a drug store. Its used as a laxative or an antiseptic when mixed with Vaseline. As a coin darkener a small amount will last you a lifetime. I bought 4 oz in 1985 for \$1.69 and I still have 95% left.”
- ◆ Frank Wilkinson commented, “I think the article by Red Henry on the comets for which the Sheldon 271 could have been named ranks as one of the top 25 articles in *P-W*, ever.
- ◆ John Whitney talked about his collection of coins dated 1796, “I’ll miss exhibiting those 1796’s more than anything else; after all, I only get to see them when I’m placing my exhibit; they’re too expensive to keep anywhere else than in the bank safety deposit box, and that’s no place for great coins. I felt that the set couldn’t realistically be significantly improved any further and it was time to let others share a piece of this great historic beauty as the next in a long line of numismatic “stewards.”

The cost of exhibiting/transportation insurance and the anxiety and ever-present danger of possible loss/damage to the coins, was taking the fun out of exhibiting. This early US series still in my view, contains the finest allegorical designs in the entire US series, with the only exception being the St. Gaudens \$20. I’m still interested in 1796 and will continue to deal in those coins.

My effort of 38+ years looking for 1796 coins now shifts from collecting and upgrading, to help in writing a catalog outlining the 1796 era of Philadelphia Mint success (or failure) in producing the first (and only) complete denominational year set for circulation, from the Mint’s inception until 1849. Tom Mulvaney has taken great photos and slides of the entire set which I hope to put on a CD and also on a poster which hopefully will be available sometime after the sale. Of course, Ron Landis (Gallery Mint) used the photos to make some great replicas of the coins for those who want to appreciate the wonderful designs of early American coinage and can’t afford the “bread.” He’s going to try to duplicate the 1/2 cent - large cent S-NC7? overstrike error to settle the question of which came first, the 1/2 cent or large cent? I’ve had a couple of years to study it; my view? - the large cent was first.”

- ◆ Bill Eckberg responded, “John Whitney’s comment that Ron Landis is going to try to replicate his half cent 1796 NC-7 large cent overstrike was very exciting. For those who were not fortunate enough to see it, the coin is one of the most spectacular overstrikes that is possible, not to mention that has actually been produced.”
- ◆ Mike Hodder responded, “I was happy to read John Whitney’s comments about his 1796 set. Those 38+ years of collecting resulted in a phenomenal set of coins, and not just coppers. Regarding John’s 1796 NC-7 cent, it’s pretty clear which came first, the large cent or the 1797 Breen 3a half cent undertype: the 1796 cent was definitely struck over the 1797 half

cent. Mark Borckhardt of B&M made the correct attribution and fixed the right order of striking when he catalogued the coin in Bower's' 3/95 sale.

One of the best things about numismatics is how every so often a coin comes along that shakes up what we thought we knew about a type or an emission sequence, etc. There's a wonderful 1787 New Jersey copper struck over a 1788 Connecticut that helped re-write the history of the New Jersey's, for example. There are a couple of 1798/7 10's that show they were struck after some 1797's but before others. These are the kinds of coins that keep numismatic research cataloguers on our toes."

- ◆ Ron Landis contributed his expertise on the striking of early coins. "I just spoke with John Whitney about his one-and-a-half cent piece. I plan on trying to reproduce this piece two different ways, (cent over half cent, and vice-versa). I also want to produce some extra "middle stage" pieces for comparison. For example, a cut and edged planchet from a spoiled cent, but NOT overstruck with half cent dies will give us a good illustration of the upsetting and missing bottom half of the lettering on the edge.

To me, this is a dead give-away that this coin was struck first as a off-center cent, then cut to half cent size, then edged and struck like any other half cent planchet. This was a common practice in 1797 to my understanding. the upsetting around the perimeter of the obverse would be flat if it happened the other way.

The edge is also a good clue. All the lettering is full and clear, and problem free, except on the portion around the cent, which the lettering is only half there, indicating the half cent planchet was thinner on that area where it was edged. If it happened the other way, the full lettering would be visible, but squashed or distorted in that area.

I've been back and forth on this, but upon closer viewing, I am convinced the cent came before the half cent. Don't take my word for it though, look at it both ways, and you be the judge. I will work on the replicas this weekend, and provide sets for comparison that can be passed around.

Upon looking at the edge again, there is another clue 180 degrees from the cent impression. The "normal" part of the planchet seems to have been run through very straight, as the edge is very square at these portions. At the cent portion, the lettering suddenly and radically veers off the edge from OLLAR and cuts off the tops of LAR and the bottoms of TWO. At this portion, the edge also comes way off square indicating the planchet, being thin at that part, ran to the area of least resistance which are the corners of the edge dies. If this happened, it should be apparent 180 degrees from that part, which it is, creating not a flat edge, but a beveled or pointed edge formed from the inside of the edge dies but only 180 degrees from the cent strike. the word FOR in the middle of this portion is also cut in half. I notice this beveling effect when we run too thin a planchet through a given set of dies. The entire planchet will run through opposing corners of the edging dies, creating a beveled or faceted edge. They never run square unless they are forced to through a proper fit.

If I get my digital microscope working this weekend, I will try to get some scans of the edge, as I feel this is really the key to figuring this out. (If not adding yet more confusion) If not, I can photograph our replicas at a later date to illustrate this. I'm absolutely sure we can replicate the same effect on our edge mill. What fun!"

* * * * *

SWAPS AND SALES

EAC'ers are invited to submit their ads for inclusion in this column. Ads up to twelve lines are free. ADS LARGER THAN 12 LINES MUST BE SUBMITTED CAMERA-READY, AND PAID IN ADVANCE. Due to increased production costs, effective immediately, a full page ad is \$100. Graphic and halftone setup is an additional \$60 per page. One third page is \$35. Ads should be limited to early American Coppers or tokens. Deadline for material to appear in the May 15, 1999 issue is April 30, 1999. All ads must include the individual membership number of a current member in good standing. Copy should be sent to the Editor, Harry E. Salyards, 606 North Minnesota Avenue, Hastings, NE 68901.

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What others think of "The CENT Book" JOHN D. WRIGHT. EAC #7
MARK KLEIN: The CENT Book is all I'd dreamed it could be and more. Reading it is like enjoying a personal chat with John.
RICHARD STRILEY: Being a novice on large cents I found a number of other books confusing and hard to read. I have Adams, Breen, Grellman, Newcomb, Noyes, and Sheldon, but yours is the best.
JULES REIVER: Your book is wonderful. This is the first coin book I have ever seen which can be used to attribute coins without having my coins available for checking. Your pictures are so sharp that they make attributing an absolute pleasure.
SEE FOR YOURSELF - BUY YOUR OWN. See "The CENT Book" ad in this section.

What others think of "The CENT Book": Mabel Ann Wright, EAC #78
TOM DELOREY: I especially like the historical notes at the beginning of each date. It lends a warm, human touch that is missing from most numismatic literature published since Sheldon.
WARREN LAPP: I can see now why it took so long to get it into print. John didn't leave out a thing. I am amazed at the photos. The book is perfect in every way, which is what I would expect from JDW.
HERB SILBERMAN: Your book is beautiful! I congratulate you on the content.
TONY CARLOTTO: The CENT Book is fantastic. The year-by-year history is a very nice touch and keeps you reading.
SEE FOR YOURSELF -- BUY YOUR OWN. See "The CENT Book" ad in this section.

WILLIAM C. NOYES, EAC #363

Forget what the others have said, the experts have spoken -- the Noyes books won the 1992 (U.S. Large Cents 1793 - 1814, \$130) and 1993 (U.S. Large Cents 1816 - 1839, \$105) Early American Coppers Literary Awards -- Accept no imitations! Order both today for \$195 postpaid. Now also available: the newest Noyes' Encyclopedia of Large Cents 1793 Sheldon-1 through 1796 Sheldon-91, for \$65 postpaid.

Order from : Lithotech - Noyes, 1600 W. 92nd St., Minneapolis, MN 55431

BOB GRELLMAN, EAC #575

P.O. Box 951988

Lake Mary, FL 32795 - 1988
(407) 321 - 8747

For Sale: Deluxe hardbound copies of the Attribution Guide for United States Large Cents 1840 - 1857. The reference for attributing late date large cents.

Autographed on request. \$70, postpaid.

Attribution Service: I offer an attribution service for late date large cents. I will attribute your cents for \$1 each plus return postage. This charge includes crud removal when necessary, and I'll include my opinion as to sharpness and net grades, if requested. No quantity limit, fast service, lifetime guarantee.

Want Lists: Send me your want lists for late date cents. I can help.

JERRY BOBBE, EAC #184

P.O. Box 25817

Portland, OR 97298
(503) 626 - 1075

Madness, intrigue, political struggle, power, greed . . . is it another pre-auction collusion session? No!! It's a series of early coppers that weaves one through the dawn of the Industrial Revolution and American Independence, the French Revolution, the political and social ills of Britain, and the lives of the elite and the commoner. **BRITISH TOKENS!** Send for your free copy of *The Token Examiner*, the world's most informative and entertaining price list of the 18th Century Aconder@ series. Superb quality, great rarities, bizarre die states, errors, trial pieces and patterns our specialty. This series has it all; and with the exception of expensive US related colonials (i.e., Washington pieces, Theatre at New York, et al), at prices not seen by large cent collectors for over half a century!

WANTED 1796 HALF CENT

Interested in purchasing a 1796 Half Cent for my collection. Looking for a decent example in average condition, ranging in grade from VG-8 to VF-20. I would expect a coin in average condition to have nice color and surfaces. Preferably the contact marks should be consistent with the coin's sharpness grade, that is, not of such severity as to require a deduction in grading points. Please, no coins with problems. Call or write with detailed description and asking price. Foil pressing and/or photo would be much appreciated. I am a cash buyer and will pay top dollar for a nice piece. It's time to convert your duplicate 1796 into \$10,000 - \$20,000 in cold cash (actually a certified check). Office (713) 853 - 3850; Home (281) 363 - 9522.

Mark Hays, EAC 1785

51 Wild Meadow Court

The Woodlands, TX 77380

DOUG MARTIN, EAC #3677
1 - 215 - 673 - 6415

PO BOX 52282
ALL COINS J. R. GRELLMAN GRADED

PHILADELPHIA, PA 19115
14 DAY RETURN

1794	S71 7-/5 lightly corroded	\$105.00	1820	N6 R4 25/12 lightly corroded	\$75.00
1798	Possibly S163 BS-1	\$10.00	1827	N9 R3 10/8 lightly porous	\$25.00
1803	S265 3+/2 dents, scr, pits	\$25.00	1846	N1 25/20 minor granularity	\$25.00
1803	S259 10/6 lightly corroded	\$70.00	1850	N20 R6 15/8 nicks rim dent	\$195.00
1804	S266A 3+/2 scars + dent	\$325.00	1850	N22 R4 25	\$39.00

30 diff. Late date Newcombs all J. R. Grellman graded

Net good 5 or better, most 7+: (8) 1848 (8) 1849 (8) 1851 (6) 1854.

13 R3 or R4. \$175.00 postpaid. Thanks, Doug.

I am working on list send large S.A.S.E.

Buying holed 1/2 cents & lg. Cents. Write.

* * * * *

ALAN V. WEINBERG, EAC 1899

23321 AETNA

WOODLAND HILLS, CA 91367
(818) 348 - 3749

I am interested in acquiring ANY 1793 Wreath Cent (except S-6) in choice, true EF-40 to AU-58 (not "slab grade"). Well struck, good color, flawless fields, no rim dings. I will pay CQR "choice" +++.

Also want 1652 Massachusetts colonial silver coinage - Oak & Pine Tree. EF-40 or better, full unclipped flan, well-struck and problem free. Particularly need OT 6 and 3 pence.

I also collect "Old West" and "Deep South" old saloon and military fort trade tokens, silver Indian Peace and pre-1900 American historical gold and silver medals.

* * * * *

HALF CENTS AND LARGE CENTS WANTED WITH 'PERKINS' COUNTERSTAMP

Wanted for my personal collection. Any condition, any name or initials. Also want U.S., British and any other tokens with 'Perkins' on them. I would also appreciate any information on unlisted tokens of the above.

W. David Perkins, EAC #2664
8126 S. Glencoe Ct.
Littleton, CO 80122-3876
Days (303) 773 - 5565

* * * * *

GARY HAHN, EAC #3022

25305 153RD ST., CT. E

BUCKLEY, WA 98321
(360) 897 - 2842

For Sale:

Blue Ribbon Coin Conditioner - 2 oz. Bottles for \$10.95 each, plus \$3 for shipping.

* * * * *

RON HOUSEKNECHT, EAC #2523

208 COWBELL RD.

WILLOW GROVE, PA 19090
(215) 659 - 4532

1803	S-256	MDS	10/5+	Scrs & verdigris	\$ 38				
1840	N-1		EF-40	Detail, porous	\$45	1853	N-10	VF-30	\$25
1847	N-38	MDS	VF-35+	Rev. cor spot	\$43	1853	N-22	VF-25	Choice \$30
1849	N-4	MDS	VF-30+	Min. porosity	\$42	1853	N-24	EF-40+	Decent \$45
1849	N-20		VF-30	Choice	\$35	1853	N-26	MDS VF-30	\$35
1851	N-25		VF-30	Choice	\$50	1856	N-1	VF-30	Choice \$35
1851	N-38	EDS	VF-35	Sharp coin	\$68	1856	N-3	EF-40	\$50
1852	N-6		VF-30	Large ORB	\$33				

* * * * *

GENE ANDERSON, EAC #4718

2615 OAK LANE

PARIS, TX 75462

FAX (903) 785 - 8519

E-MAIL AT GENE@1STARNET.COM

Wanted:

One EAC 15th Anniversary Medallion, and One EAC membership token for my personal collection. Please advise as to cost. Thank you.

* * * * *

GARY TRUDGEN, EAC #1889

1729 TERRACE DRIVE

VESTAL, NY 13850

FOR SALE: 1786 VERMONT COPPER – Ryder 10
 VF. Draped bust left variety. Dark brown surfaces with minor granularity and pitting. A minor edge ding. Centered strike with full legends and strong date. A better than average example of this variety. \$250.00

Send for a free list of colonial and state coppers.

* * * * *

HERMAN FISHER, EAC #2989

40901 MILES CRESTON RD N

DAVENPORT, WA 99122
(509) 725 - 3673

1805	C-3	R6-	AG3	Sharpness VG7 with heavy porosity, all lettering readable, with CENT and UNITED very weak	\$ 175
1806	C-2	R4	G5	Sharpness obv better & rev almost VG7; med brown with nice smooth surfaces for a coin hard to find nice	\$ 150
1794	S-32	R2+	F12	Sharpness F15+ close to VF, usual weakness at ONE CENT, with original tan on both sides	\$ 375
1798	S-184	R2-	VF30	A nice problem free cent; PCGS EF40 holder	\$ 925
1810	S-285	R2	VG7	Sharpness VG10 steel bn, lt scr on cheek	\$ 40
1823 / 2	N-1	R2	VG7	Sharpness VG8 rev weaker, as above, another smooth wear only coin, steel brown and no problems	\$ 75
1827	N-4	R2	F20	Sharpness VF35 with microscopic porosity both sides, medium brown.	\$ 55

* * * * *

BUYING LARGE CENTS

COLLECTIONS-ACCUMULATIONS - SINGLES

All dates and grades wanted including better Sheldons, Newcombs, and Redbook varieties. Call or write and describe what you have for sale. My sell list is available for 55 cents postage.

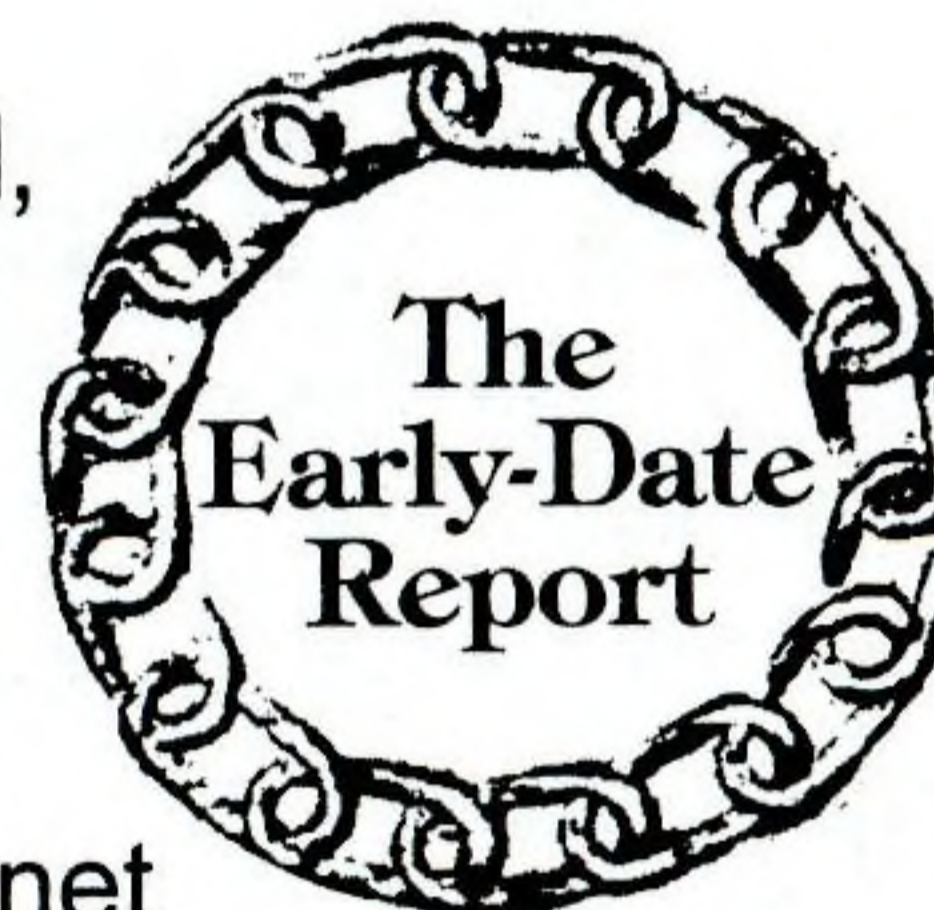
EAC # 3171

TELEPHONE (805) 323-4507

RICHARD L. CODAY
P.O. BOX 1701
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93302

123 Large Cent Collectors Have Joined the Early-Date Report!

Are you among them? If not, YOUR COLLECTION IS WANTED! This detailed, ranked census of large cent collections is published on January 31st and July 31st of each year. *EDR* now lists 123 collections with over 16,000 specimens. Only *EDR* members receive copies of the report. Your privacy and security are assured, and no part of your address is published in any form. Still in doubt? "Just ask an *EDR* member."



To join us, just send for a collection listing sheet, or send any neat list giving the net grade of the best example of each 1793-1814 variety in your collection. Collectors joining now will receive a copy of the latest *EDR* edition. Submissions are acknowledged promptly, and your updates, inquiries, and comments are always welcome. Deadline for our next issue is July 20th, for publication on July 31st!

The Early-Date Report - Red Henry, EAC#3718 - P.O. Box 2498 - Winchester, Va. 22604
fax (540)877-2422 — redhenry@visuallink.com

* * * * *

JON LUSK, EAC #351

Penny-Wise on CD-ROM (Version 2)

- Contains all 30 years (1967 – 1996)
- Contains all EAC auctions with prices realized entered alongside lot description (includes Bill Noyes color photos for '83 thru '87)
- Easier variety searching.
- Windows/DOS/Mac compatible

Cost: \$ 117.00

Shipping & handling 4.00

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* * * * *

This ad was intended for the January P/W. FUN/EAC meeting produced good discussion and one suggestion that I'm using here. I have requested input to help evaluate the current structure of CQR as to format and content. How about a questionnaire in P/W? Gee, that's a good idea! Please make a copy of this page, circle any/all choices that apply, add whatever you wish and mail to the above address, or FAX to 703-821-1173 - E-Mail is JHRHTR@AOL.COM

1. I prefer Normal Binding GBC Binding
2. I like don't like elimination of VG7, VG10 & F15 grades
3. I like don't like elimination of VF25 & VF35 grades
4. I use don't use auction history/price pages
5. I prefer new CC old CC format/listings
6. I would like to see/have -
7. I like -
8. I don't like -
9. Other:

Prices for what I offer are as follows:

1. The 16th Edition of CQR, ONLY - Normal binding - Nothing else - \$30.00
2. 16th Edition - Spiral (GBC) bound \$35.00
3. 16th AND 17th (When issued) Editions - Normal binding \$50.00
4. 16th AND 17th (When issued) Editions - Spiral (GBC) binding \$55.00

New EAC members may deduct \$10.00 from any of the above, just provide me with your membership number (or indicate that it's pending) when you order.

Several Editions are sold out but the following ORIGINAL earlier editions are being offered, at very special prices, POSTPAID:

1st Edition 12/31/83	\$ 5.00	(Sheldon Varieties Only)
2nd - 3rd Editions	SOLD OUT	
4th Edition 09/15/86	6.00	(Updated) (Very few left)
5th Edition 12/31/86	6.00	(Updated after RSB I) (Very few left)
6th - 7th Editions	SOLD OUT	
8th Edition 01/31/89	7.00	(Updated after JHR Sale)
9th Edition 03/31/90	7.00	(Updated) (I pay postage of \$1.43)
10th Edition 03/31/91	7.00	(Updated) (I pay postage of \$1.43)
11th Edition 02/29/92	7.00	(Updated, includes CC comparison)
12th Edition 03/31/93	7.00	(Updated) (I pay postage of \$1.43)
13th Edition 09/30/94	7.00	(Updated) (I pay postage of \$1.43)
14th Edition 03/31/96	7.00	(Updated) (I pay postage of \$1.43)
15th Edition 03/31/97	SOLD OUT	

The Superior Stamp and Coin, "Jack H. Robinson Sale Catalog", with Prices Realized is available, for \$40 ** POSTPAID.

Checks may be made payable to "Jack H. Robinson" or to "M&R".

EARLY U.S. COINS

HALF CENTS

1794 Breen-1A, Cohen 1A MS-62 BN (NGC). Choice glossy medium brown surfaces. Intermediate Die State with obverse clash marks near face, chin, and hair and reverse clash marks within wreath. Seldom available in such choice condition **\$17,500.**

1794 B-8, C-8 VF-20 Glossy olive-brown surfaces. Late Die State with break through second T in STATES. From the Joseph Brobston (Stack's Fixed Price List, 1963) Collection..... **\$13,000.**

1795 B-5A, C-5A AU-50 (PCGS). Choice glossy medium brown surfaces. Slightly weak strike at lower left obv. rim and corresponding upper left reverse rim, as is characteristic of many examples of this variety..... **\$10,000.**

1831 B-2, C-PR2 First Restrike R5 Prf.-66 RD (NGC). Superb full red mirror surfaces with just a hint of light iridescent toning. Late Die State. Struck from a reverse die showing a break from T in UNITED to leaves to HA of HALF, then upward through wreath to F in OF. Another die crack through L of HALF, NT in CENT, then through wreath & final A in AMERICA **\$23,000.**

1831 B-3, C-SR15 Second Restrike R7 Prf.-63 RB (PCGS). Ch. reddish-brown color with traces of iridescent blue toning around the stars & letters. From the University of Rochester collection (Bowers & Ruddy, June 10, 1980, lot 3019). One of only 6 known of this variety. This variety was missing from many important Half Cent collections, such as Hillyer Ryder and Anderson-Dupont. The record high price at public auction for this variety is \$63,000.00 (James A. Stack specimen, Stack's November 29, 1989, lot 64)... **\$32,000.**

HALF CENTS

1836 B-1, C-E012 Original R5 Prf.-65 RB (PCGS). Superb full original mint red on the obverse and iridescent bluish-brown with mint red in the protected areas around the devices and lettering on the reverse. One of the finest known of the approximately 40 or so examples of this rare variety..... **\$16,000.**

1836 B-2, C-SR16 Second Restrike R7 Prf.-65 BN (NGC). Choice reflective reddish-tan surfaces. From the Joseph Brobston (Stack's Fixed Price List, 1963) and Philip M. Showers (Stacks, privately, 1969) collections. One of only 6 known specimens of this variety. The second restrike was missing from many important Half Cent collections, such as Hillyer Ryder, Norweb, and Eliasberg. Record high price at public auction for this variety is \$55,000.00 (James A. Stack specimen, Stack's, November 29, 1989, lot 70)... **\$32,000.**

LARGE CENTS

1806 S-270 MS-65 BN (NGC). Superb lustrous medium brown surfaces. From Louis Helfenstein collection. (Lester Merkin, August 14, 1964, lot 39)..... **\$24,000.**

1809 S-280 MS-63 BN (PCGS). Choice lustrous iridescent bluish-brown toning. From the R.E. Noftzger collection (New Netherlands, November 14, 1973 lot 596)..... **\$19,000.**

LARGE CENTS

1793 S-10 (Vine & Bars). AU-55 (NGC) Choice glossy medium brown surfaces..... **\$13,000.**

1796 S-114 AU-50 (PCGS). Glossy mottled light and dark brown surfaces. Among the finest known of this rare variety..... **\$14,000.**

1797 S-132 '97 Reverse, Stemless MS-62 BN (NGC). Mottled medium and dark brown slightly Proof-Like surfaces, with traces of mint red in the protected areas around the devices and lettering, particularly on the reverse. Finest known example of the die variety by 30 points..... **\$52,500.**

1803 S-264 Large Date, Small Fraction VF-20. Steel-brown color, light porosity on the reverse. Among the finest known of this rare variety..... **\$28,500.**

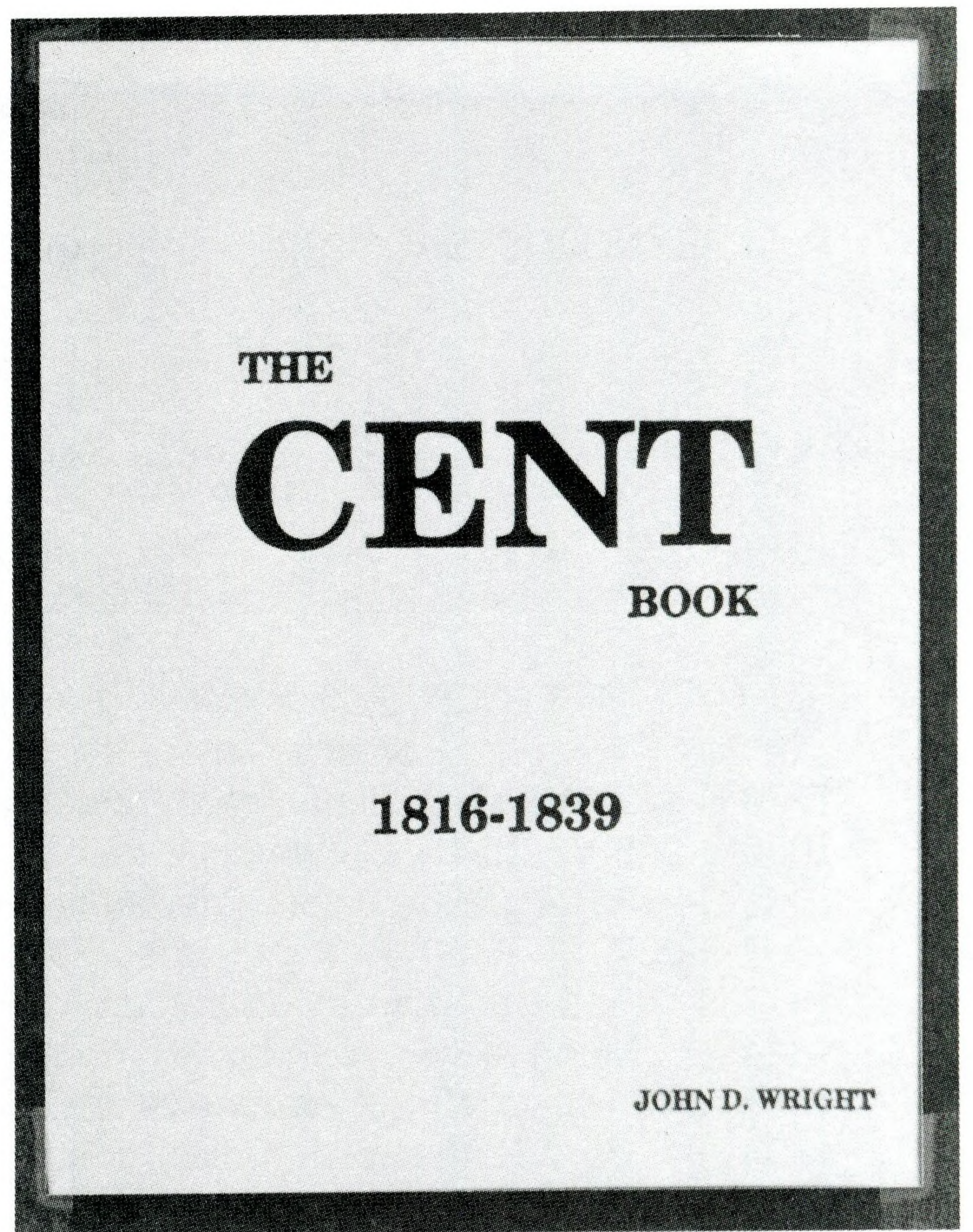
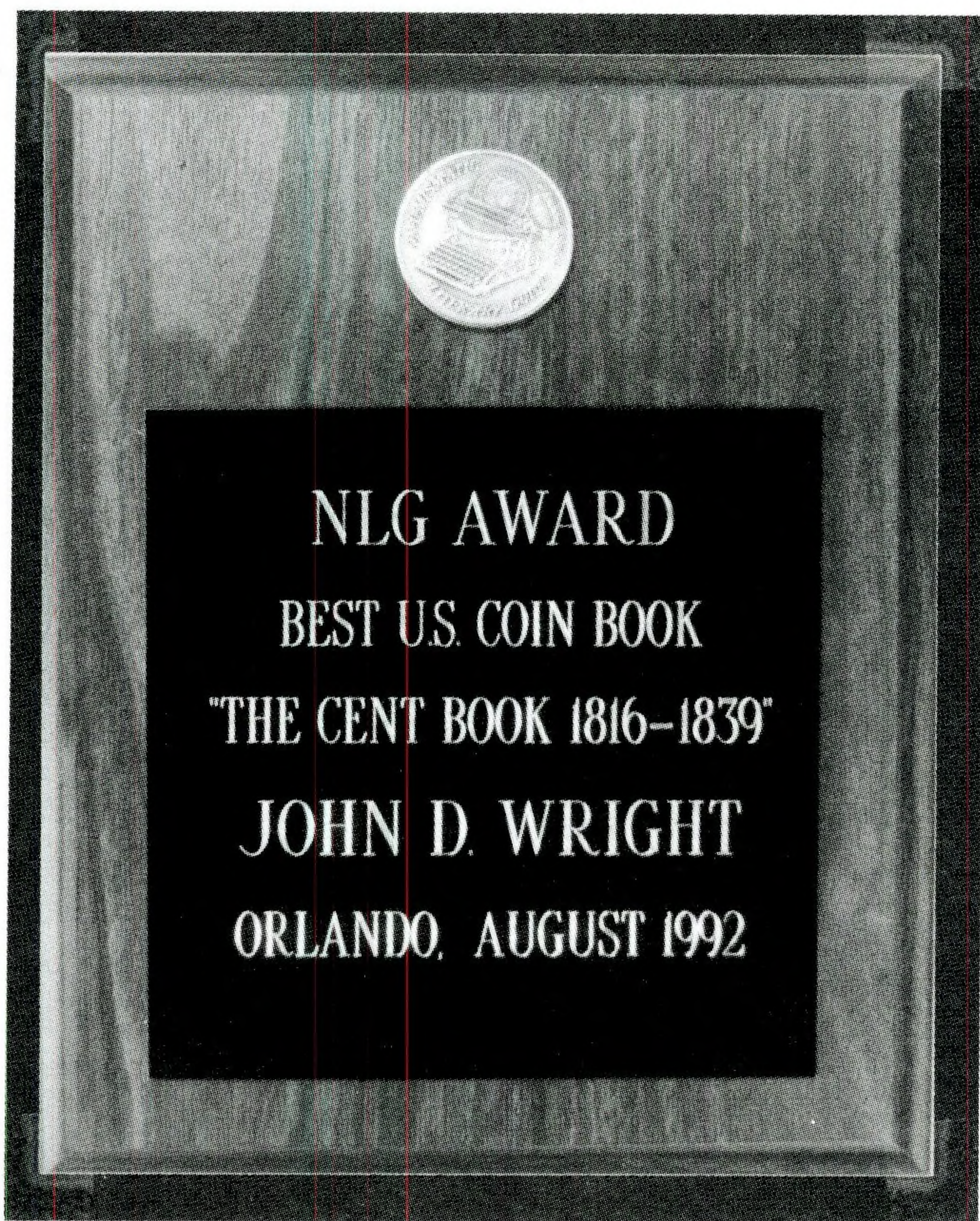
HALF CENTS		LARGE CENTS	
1793 B-2, C-2 AG-3.....	1,000.	1807 B-1, C-1 EF-40.....	475.
1794 B-1A, C-1A AU-53 (NGC)....	8,750.	1808/7 B-2, C-2 VG-10.....	650.
1794 B-5B, C-3A F-12 (VF sharpness, cind. & recol.)....	1,500.	TY Bk. VG-10.....	950.
1794 B-6B, C-4A F-12, (VF sharpness, repaired).....	1,350.	1809 B-4, C-3 EF-45.....	240.
F-12.....	1,100.	1809 B-5, C-5 EF-45.....	240.
1795 B-2A, C-2A VF-20.....	1,500.	1809 B-6, C-6 VF-30.....	85.
1797 B-3A, C-3B AG-3.....	1,000.	1810 B-1, C-1 EF-45.....	800.
1797 B-3C, C-3A AG-3 (VG sharpness, bent).....	150.	MS-61 BN (PCGS).....	1,750.
1800 B-1, C-1 MS-62 BN (NGC) ..	1,850.	1811 B-2, C-2 VF-25 (PCGS).....	1,850.
1803 B-1, C-1 VF-25.....	325.	1825 B-1, C-1 AU-55 (cind.)	850.
1803 B-2, C-2 AG-3 (VG sharpness, porous).....	175.	1826 B-1, C-1 EF-45.....	150.
STAT. Bk. VG-7 (Fine sharpness, porous).....	325.	AU-50.....	160.
1803 B-4, C-4 VF-25.....	265.	1826 B-2, C-2 EF-45.....	475.
1804 B-1, C-1 VG-8.....	90.	1828 B-2, C-3 MS-64 BN (NGC) ..	550.
1804 B-2, C-2, C-4 G-4 (VG sharpness, obv. scrs.).....	850.	1828 B-3, C-2 EF-40.....	225.
1804 B-5, C-7 OF AMERI Bk. G-4 (VG sharpness, porous).....	400.	1829 B-1, C-1 AU-55.....	215.
1804 B-6, C-6 EF-40 (LDS).....	850.	1832 B-2, C-2 MS-64 BN (PCGS).....	1,150.
VF-25 (LDS).....	375.	1833 B-1, C-1 MS-64 BN (NGC) ..	525.
F-15 (EDS).....	175.	1834 B-1, C-1 MS-64 BN (NGC) ..	525.
F-12 (LDS).....	175.	1835 B-2, C-2 MS-64 BN (NGC) ..	525.
1804 B-7, C-8 EF-40.....	425.	1841 B-1, C-P01 Prf.-63 BN (PCGS).....	6,250.
1804 B-8, C-9 RTY. Bk. VF-20.....	225.	1849 B-4, C-1 MS-63 BN.....	375.
1804 B-9, C-10 EF-45.....	650.	MS-64 BN.....	575.
AU-58 (PCGS).....	950.	MS-65 BN (PCGS).....	1,750.
MS-63 BN (PCGS).....	2,400.	1850 B-1, C-1 MS-65 BN (PCGS).....	2,650.
1804 B-10, C-13 VF-25.....	140.	1851 B-1, C-1 MS-63 RB (NGC) ..	750.
1804 B-11, C-12 AU-55 (PCGS)....	700.	MS-63 RD (PCGS).....	1,350.
MS-62 BN (PCGS).....	2,500.	1853 B-1, C-1 MS-64 BN (PCGS).....	475.
1804 B-12, C-11 VF-25 (PCGS)....	750.	1854 B-1, C-1 MS-66 BN (NGC) ..	1,250.
1805 B-4, C-4 VF-25.....	190.	1855 B-1, C-1 MS-64 RB (PCGS).....	525.
1806 B-1, C-2 EF-40 (PCGS).....	2,850.	1857 B-1, C-1 MS-65 RB (NGC) ..	2,500.
EF-45 (PCGS).....	2,600.		
		LARGE CENTS	
		1793 S-8 EF-40 (PCGS).....	8,500.
		1794 S-70 AU-53 (PCGS).....	6,750.
		1795 S-78 AU-55 (NGC).....	4,250.
		1796 S-82 VF-30 (PCGS).....	3,600.
		1796 S-83 VG-10 (PCGS).....	775.
		1796 S-84 EF-45 (NGC).....	5,650.
		1796 S-85 VF-20 (porous).....	2,000.
		1796 S-86 F-12.....	1,600.
		1796 S-88 VG-8 (porous).....	265.
		1796 S-91 EF-40 (PCGS).....	7,750.
		1796 NC-1 VG-8 (PCI).....	4,100.
		1796 S-93 EF-45 (PCGS).....	6,750.
		1796 S-98 VF-35 (PCGS).....	4,700.
		1796 NC-4 F-12 (PCGS).....	7,200.
		1796 S-102 F-15 (PCGS).....	1,050.
		1796 S-106 VF-35 (PCGS).....	6,700.
		1796 S-110 EF-45 (PCGS).....	5,700.
		1796 S-111 VF-20 (PCGS).....	2,600.
		1796 S-112 VF-25 (PCGS).....	3,100.
		1796 S-113 F-15.....	3,400.
		1796 S-115 F-15 (PCGS).....	2,600.
		1796 S-117 VG-10 (PCGS).....	2,100.
		1796 S-118 VG-7.....	2,100.
		1798 S-178 G-4 (VG sharpness, porous).....	1,400.
		1800 S-198 VG-7 (Fine sharpness, pitted reverse).....	2,300.
		1801 S-218 AG-3.....	1,500.
		1803 S-254 AU-55 (NGC).....	1,400.
		1805 S-267 AU-50.....	2,100.
		1807/6 S-272 VG-7 (porous).....	2,850.
		1807/6 S-273 EF-45 (ANACS).....	900.
		1814 S-295 AU-55 (NGC).....	2,350.
		1834 N-2 MS-64 BN.....	750.
		1834 N-5 VF-20.....	1,200.
		1835 N-4 VF-30.....	3,150.
		1853 N-25 MS-65 RB (NGC).....	750.

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- 1817 N-4 F-12 Some areas on rev. a bit bright, readily tonable, rest brown 90.
- 1824 N-2 Nice F-15 Smooth brown, portrait lighter 55.
- 1838 N-12 Sharp VF-30 Scarcer variety 35.
- 1834 N-1 1/2, VF-20 Brown, boldly doubled along nose 100.
- 1826 N-3 F-12 Nice brown coin 45.
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- Am Num Society America's Copper Coinage 1783-1857; CAC 1984; hb \$25
 - Doughty, F. W. U.S. Cents; 1934 Holland A Davis reprint; hb; 115p. 2 tables, 4 plates; fine \$25
 - Lapp & Silberman US Large Cents 1793-1857; 1975 Quarterman; 647p dj nice copy \$35
 - New Neth./Seaby 11/14/73 2nd Auction Sale; Superb early Large Cents [Nafzger]; fine; prl \$30
 - Pine Tree 2/15/75 EAC Convention Sale; outstanding Connecticut; cat. by Breen; nice; pr \$65
 - Stacks 10/24/84 Richard Picker Collection of Colonial & Early Am. Coins; nice; prl \$25
 - Stacks 3/16-17/88 Herman Halpern; sm spine tear else nice, pr, \$12, another near new: \$20
 - Superior 5/28/89 Casterline, Brooks Hall, Robert Mathews[Large Cents]; prl \$15
 - Superior 10/17/89 Gilbert Steinberg Early American Colonials - HTT & Early Store Card; fine \$10
 - Superior 1/29/89 Jack Robinson Collection of Large Cents & Half Cents; almost new; prl \$35
- \$3 postage/order; Free list of EAC related auction catalogues and books; RZavos@worldnet.att.net

EAC LIBRARY LIST -- 1999
Mabel Ann Wright, Librarian

EAC maintains a lending library of material related to its members' copper interests. The Library includes reference material but not collectors' items (for example, we have no original works from the 1800's). Six-week loans are available to current EAC members. Requestors should send a check for \$7 (payable to Mabel Ann Wright) to cover postage, packaging, and insurance. Larger requests may require more.

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BOOK LIST

The following listing is alphabetical by the first definite word in the Title (omitting 'A', 'An', 'The') and spelling out the dates (for example, 1794 is found under 'S').

Adams Collection of US LC's of 1794 -- Bowers & Ruddy (1982)

**American Colonial History Illustrated by Contemporary Medals
Betts (1970 reprint)**

American Half Cents -- Cohen, 1st and 2nd editions (1971,1982)

**American Political Badges and Medalets 1789-1892
Sullivan (1981)**

America's Copper Coinage 1783-1857 -- ANS Conference 1984

Attribution Articles 1816-1839 -- Wright (from P-W 1975-1979)

Attribution Guide: Early Date LC's & HC's -- Murphy (1990)

Attribution Guide for US Large Cents 1840-1857
Grellman & Reiver (2 vols looseleaf, 1986)
Also same, hardbound (1987)

Attribution Guide for US Large Cents 1840-1857 -
Quickfinder Supplement -- Grellman & Reiver (1986)

Bibliography of American Numismatic Auction Catalogs
1828-1875 -- Attinelli (Quarterman Reprint)

The Butternut Large Cent Hoard, A Statistical Study
Ellsworth (1996)

The CENT Book 1816-1839 -- Wright (1992)

Cents of the US -- Doughty (1890; 1934 reprint)

Cleaning & Preservation of Coins & Medals -- Weltler & Curto
(Durst reprint)

Cleaning Coins -- Mervis (Hewitt's NumisInfo Series)

Coinage of the Americas -- ANS (1973)

The Coinage of William Wood 1722-1733 -- Nelson (Durst reprint)

The Coins of New Jersey -- Maris (1987 reprint)

Comprehensive Guide to Am.Colonial Coinage -- Durst (1976)

Copper Coins of Massachusetts -- Ryder (Durst reprint)

The Copper Coins of Vermont -- Carlotto (1998)

Copper Quotes by Robinson -- Robinson (1984 to current)

Counterfeit Detection -- ANACS (1983)

Counterfeiting in Colonial America -- Scott (1957)

Early American Cents -- Sheldon (1949)
(see also Penny Whimsy, 1958)

**Early American Coppers Anthology -- (Durst)
(Reprints of LC references published 1869-1944)**

Early Coins of America -- Crosby (1970 reprint)

The Early Paper Money of America -- Newman (1976)

Encyclopedia of US & Colonial Coins -- Breen (1988)

Encyclopedia of US Half Cents -- Breen (1983)

**Forgotten Coins of North American Colonies
Anton & Kesse (1990 & 1992 editions)**

**Fractional Money -- Carothers (1930; reprint 1988)
Dry, economic history -- an academic project**

Fugio Cents -- Kessler (1976)

**Guide Book of US Coins -- Yeoman (the "Red Book")
various fairly recent editions**

Hard Times Tokens -- Rulau, 1st & 2nd editions

**Hard Times Tokens -- Low (Quarterman reprint)
EHAdams' Plates (15 plates with index)**

High Profits from Rare Coin Investment -- Bowers (1980)

History of the First US Mint -- Stewart (Q'man reprint)

History of US Coinage Illus by Garrett Coll'n -- Bowers (1979)

Identification of Feutchwanger Cents -- Koutsoures

Illustrated History of the US Mint -- Evans (1888)

Major Die States of 1848 Large Cents -- Argyro (1995)

Making Money; Rogues & Rascals -- Rochette (1986)

Mature Head US Copper Cents 1843-1857 -- Reiver (1980)

Medallic Portraits of Washington -- Baker (Quarterman reprint)

**Medallic Portraits of Washington, Centennial Edition --
Rulau & Fuld (1985) A new work under an old title**

Money of the American Colonies & Confederation - Mossman (1993)

Money of Pre-Federal America -- ANS Conference (1991)

**Monographs on Varieties of US Large Cents 1793-1794 -- (Adams)
(Reprints of LC references published 1869-1926)**

**Monographs on Varieties of US Large Cents 1795-1803 -- (Loring)
(Reprints of LC references published 1925-1947)**

Names with Notes -- Smith (1992)

**New Jersey Coppers (Breen's unpublished ms, 1955)
transcribed by R. Williamson, 1995**

Official ANA Grading Standards for US Coins -- ANA (1991)

The Other Side of the Coin -- Rochette (1985)

**Penny Whimsy -- Sheldon (1793-1814 LC's) original &
reprints by Quarterman and Durst**

Plates of LHLow's Hard Times Tokens -- Adams (Q'man reprint)

**The Provincial Token-Coinage of the 18th Century --
Dalton & Hamer (Quarterman reprint)**

**A Quickfinder for Attributing Varieties of United States
Half Cents 1793-1857 -- Heim (1997)**

1794 Large Cents Graded and Updated -- Morley (1979)

The Silver Coinage of Massachussetts -- Noe (Q'man reprint)

The State Coinage of Connecticut -- Miller (Durst reprint)

The Story of the Starred Reverse Cent -- Smith (1986)

Studies on Money in Early America -- Newman & Doty (1976)

**A Study on Overdated US Large Cents -- Wright (1969)
(extracted from The Numismatist)**

US Cents and Half Cents -- Frossard (1879; reprint)

The US Cents 1804-1814 -- Clapp (1941)

**The US Coinage of 1793 - Cents and Half Cents
Crosby (1933 reprint)**

US Copper Cents 1816-1857 -- Newcomb (Quarterman reprint)

US Copper Coins, an Action Guide -- Bowers (1984)

The US Half Cents -- Gilbert (reprint)

US Half Cents -- Venn (1916, Xerox copy)

US Large Cents 1793-1814 -- Noyes (1991)

US Large Cents 1816-1839 -- Noyes (1991)

**US Large Cents 1793-1857 - an Anthology (Lapp & Silberman)
(Gleanings from The Numismatist 1912-1974)**

US Mint and Coinage -- Taxay (1966)

MISCELLANEOUS

**The Colonial Newsletter -- all issues 1960-now.
Whole set is over 2500 1-sided pages (\$10 postage).**

**Penny-Wise -- all issues 1967-now. Loaned in 5-year
segments at \$10/segment (over 2000 pages/segment).**

Penny-Wise Research Library on CD Rom -- Lusk (1997)

History of EAC, the First 20 Years -- Smith (1986)

History of EAC, 1966 - 1997 -- Smith (1997)

**Photos: Color by Noyes, 1793-1839 LC's (over 6,000)
Loans by variety or by year**

**Photos: B/W by Wright, 1816-1839 LC's (over 1,000)
Loans by year or the whole series**

Photos: Nagy plates of Maris' NJ Electrotypes -- Anton

Photos: Taylor Collection of State Copper Coinage -- Bowers

Slides: ANS Slide Presentation with Cassette

Slides: Major type set of US Cents -- Wright

Slides: Death of a Die -- Reiver

Slides: Varieties of 1794 LC's -- Ewing for ANS

Slides: America's Copper 1783-1857 -- Doty for ANS

**ANS Inventory of US Cents -- ANS: Xerox or Microfilm
(Xerox is poor quality, about 1500 pages)**

Auction Catalogues: Most major offerings of early US coppers since the 1960's and a few earlier, originals or Xerox copies, many with PRL, a few hardbound. We do NOT have pre-1950 catalogues. Ask about specific catalogues.

Others: Ask -- We may have it. If not, we may be able to find it or tell you where you can find it.

The EAC Library *DOES* take donations. Please write and ask before sending anything. We don't want to "bulk up" on stuff our members don't borrow or of which we have several copies. Author-donations of their new copper-works are always welcome. Money contributions should be by check to "EAC" and designated for the EAC Library. We can use these to buy what our readers ask for that we lack and isn't donated.

Thank you, and happy reading.

*** * * * ***

Late Notice: It has come to the Editor's attention that contributions to the Hospitality Suite at the upcoming EAC Convention have been "weak thusfar," in Rod Burress's words. If you want to have the kind of Thursday evening get-together to which we've grown accustomed, then dust off your checkbook and send Rod a contribution! Consider it an investment in the club, at a price far less than you're likely to spend for your least expensive copper purchase in Cincinnati. Thanks.

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- * The Drawbridge is a very busy convention center. Get your reservations in early, especially for Garison Building!
- * Use credit card or prepay to guarantee your reservation.
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- * The overall charge to EAC for use of the convention facilities depends upon how many sleeping rooms we occupy--
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