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1766 Pitt Halfpenny Token Breen-251
PCGS graded MS63 Brown
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1787 Massachusetts Half Cent Ryder 4-C R1
PCGS graded MS64 Brown
Price Realized $10,200



1786 Vermont Ryder/Richardson-7 R3
VERMONTENSIUM Landscape
PCGS graded XF45
Price Realized $18,000



1787 Fugio Cent Newman 13-X R2
PCGS graded MS62 Red & Brown
Price Realized $4,800



1797 C-2 R3 Centered Head
PCGS graded MS62 Brown
Price Realized $28,800



1800 C-1 R2
PCGS graded MS63 Red & Brown
Price Realized $20,400



1810 C-1 R1
PCGS graded MS63 Red & Brown
Price Realized $18,000



1828 C-2 R1 12-Star Obverse
PCGS graded MS64 Red & Brown
Price Realized $16,800



1797 S-132 5+ Stemless Wreath VF20
Price Realized $7,200



1801 S-219 R2 3-Error Reverse
PCGS graded MS60 Brown
Price Realized $51,600



1803 S-249 R2 Mumps Obverse
with Corrected Denominator 100/000 EF45
Price Realized $7,800



1803 S-250 R3
PCGS graded MS64 Brown
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lucas@earlycentsauctions.com

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214-912-6644
travis@earlycentsauctions.com

Lyle Engleson
818-645-1602
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COLONIAL COIN COLLECTORS CLUB
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THE C4 NEWSLETTER

Summer 2023 Volume 31, Number 2



Do you recognize these gold coins that circulated in colonial America?
See Page 50.

Featured in this issue:

President's Page (C. R. McDowell)
News and Events (J. Glickman, et al)
"The Gift of Franklin" (R. Williams)
The Trial of Trickett and Cryndal and the Philadelphia Hoard of 1699 Counterfeits (J. Casey)
Last of the Tortola Withdrawal Hoard (M. Mayhugh)
Always Examine the Third Side of Your Currency (R. Moore)
Two Charleston, South Carolina Medals (C. R. McDowell)
Metal Detecting Corner (M. Virga)
Vlack 9-76B and 9-87NY, A New Look at Die States and Emission Sequence (J. Rosen/M. Vitunic)
Book Review: Annotated Feb. 1975 EAC Conn. Sale, by Barnsley (K. Patton)
Two Less Common Coins in American Colonial Trade (L. Shane)
Cursed Silver (M. Mayhugh)
A C4N Classic: While Visions of Coppers Danced in their Heads (J. Rock)
Announcements and Advertisements

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The Sydney F. Martin Collection

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Including Massachusetts Silver Coins, Higley Coppers, 1787 Connecticut Coppers, Vermont Coppers, Continental Dollars, Fugio Cents, and Betts Medals



(1652) NE Shilling. Noe 2-A.
VF-35 (PCGS).
Ex Cleneay



1652 Pine Tree Shilling.
Large Planchet. Noe-8. MS-63 (PCGS).
Ex Boyd-Ford



1737 Higley Copper.
Freidus 1.1-A. CONNECTICVT.
VG-8 (PCGS).
Ex John Story Jenks



1787 Connecticut Copper.
Miller 1.4-WW. Seated Figure Right. F-12 (PCGS).
One of Two Known



1785 Vermont Copper. RR-5.
Struck. VF-20 (PCGS).
Ex Norweb-Partrick



1788 Vermont Copper. RR-23.
MS-63 BN (PCGS).
Ex Newcomer-Garrett



1787 Fugio Cent. Newman 1-Z.
Cross After Date, Raised Rims.
VF-35 (PCGS).



1787 Fugio Cent. Newman 11-A.
UNITED Above, STATES Below.
MS-64 BN (PCGS).



1776 Continental Dollar. Newman 1-C.
CURENCY. AU-58 (PCGS).



1776 Continental Dollar. Newman 3-D.
EG FECIT. MS-62 (PCGS).



1763 Charleston Social Club Medal. Betts-508. Bronze.
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The C4 Newsletter

Volume 31, Number 2

A quarterly publication of ***The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, Inc.***

Web address: www.colonialcoins.org

C4 National Officers:

President: Christopher McDowell
5014 Leonard Street
Cincinnati, OH 45208
President@ColonialCoins.org

Secretary: Dr. Jay Knipe
P. O. Box 4696
Wallingford, CT 06492
Secretary@ColonialCoins.org

Vice-President: Jim Glickman
24 Coulton Park
Needham, MA 02492
781-449-1645
VicePresident@ColonialCoins.org

Immediate Past-President: Craig McDonald
10503 Briar Brook Lane
Frisco, TX 75033
PastPresident@ColonialCoins.org

Treasurer: Charlie Rohrer
P.O. Box 25
Mountville, PA 17554
Treasurer@ColonialCoins.org

C4 Regional Vice Presidents:

Region 1 (CT, NJ, Canadian Maritimes, Quebec)
Matt Virga
Region1VP@ColonialCoins.org

Region 2 (MA, ME, NH, RI, VT)
Tom Gesner
P. O. Box 243
Dedham, MA 02027
Region2VP@ColonialCoins.org

Region 3 (DE, MD, NY)
Dr. David Menchell
P.O. Box 656832
Fresh Meadows, NY 11365
Region3VP@ColonialCoins.org

Region 4 (DC, PA, TN, VA, WV)
Stan Stephens
1469 Fenwick Street
Star City, WV 26505
Region4VP@ColonialCoins.org

Region 5 (AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, Puerto Rico)
Gregory Field
P. O. Box 11961
Charlotte, NC 28220
704-293-4426
Region5VP@ColonialCoins.org

Region 6 (IN, IL, OH, Ontario, Manitoba)
Bruce Smith
Region6VP@ColonialCoins.org

Region 7 (IA, KS, MI, ND, NE, OK, SD, TX, WI)
Wayne Shelby
Region7VP@ColonialCoins.org

Region 8 (AZ, CA, HI, ID, MO, MT, NM, NV, UT, WY, Mexico)
Dr. Chris Salmon
6328 E. Cactus Wren Rd.
Paradise Valley, AZ 85253-4249
Region8VP@ColonialCoins.org

Region 9 (AK, CO, MN, OR, WA, British Columbia, United Kingdom)
Bill Mitchell
Region9VP@ColonialCoins.org

C4 Newsletter Editor(s):

Editor: Will Nipper, Editor@ColonialCoins.org, 501-514-0785
Associate Editor: Mark Vitunic, AssistEditor@ColonialCoins.org

Articles and classified ads may be emailed to Will or Mark. Authors submitting articles for possible publication are, by such submission, attesting that the material is original and/or properly cited.

C4 Librarian:

Leo Shane; 1130 Woods Lane, Warminster, PA 18974; Librarian@ColonialCoins.org

Membership questions, address changes, and dues should be sent to Charlie Rohrer at P.O. Box 25, Mountville, PA 17554. Dues are $30 regular (including 1st class mailing of the Newsletter *within the U.S.*) and $40 (for 1st class mailing outside the U.S.); $10 for junior members (under 18 residing in the U.S.) and $15 (under 19 residing outside the U.S.)

☞☝

TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Page (C. R. McDowell) 3
C4 Participates in Stack's Boston Store Opening (J. Glickman) 5
Region 2 Event at the New Hampshire Coin Expo 6
C4 Regional Meeting at EAC – Colonials on the West Coast 7
IAPN 2023 Book Prize Winners Announced 8
"The Gift of Franklin" (R. Williams) 9
The Trial of Trickett and Cryndal and the Phil. Hoard of 1699 Counterfeits (J. Casey) 11
Last of the Tortola Withdrawal Hoard (M. Mayhugh) 19
Always Examine the Third Side of Your Currency (R. Moore) 23
Two Charleston, South Carolina Medals (C. R. McDowell) 35
Metal Detecting Corner (M. Virga) 41
Vlack 9-76B and 9-87NY, A New Look at Die States and Emission Sequence (J. Rosen/M. Vitunic) 45
Book Review: Annotated Feb. 1975 EAC Conn. Sale, by Barnsley (K. Patton) 49
Two Less Common Coins in American Colonial Trade (L. Shane) 50
Cursed Silver (M. Mayhugh) 54
A C4N Classic: While Visions of Coppers Danced in their Heads (J. Rock) 58
Announcements 61
Ads: Classified (70), Sponsored (17, 71-72, Covers), Reciprocal Club (17-18)

PRESIDENT'S PAGE—JULY 2023

(Christopher R. McDowell)

As you read this, many people are working diligently to make our 2023 Convention in Baltimore come to life. This year, it will run from November 9-11. Our Annual Business Meeting will be at 9:30 AM on Veterans Day.

Starting in 2006, the Secretary of Defense made a push for all honorably discharged veterans to wear their military medals on various patriotic holidays, including Veterans Day. A veteran's military medals tell stories of service, sacrifice, bravery, and accomplishment. Each story is as unique as the veteran who wears those medals. Sharing them with family, friends, and the public on Veterans Day allows America's veterans to tell their stories to the entire nation and helps teach America's youth the true meaning of citizenship and freedom. I encourage all our veterans to wear their medals on Veterans Day. Our military is currently struggling to meet enlistment numbers. It is good and proper that we demonstrate our patriotism and pride in our great nation to the current generation. This is true not just of veterans but all Americans.

There have been many improvements to C4's website in the past few months. For example, we just added a Members Only Section! If you go to the site, you will see the Tab for it now; however, you cannot currently gain entry. It is still under construction. At the Annual Meeting, I shall announce the password for the first time. All the *C4 Newsletters* not currently posted on the Newman Numismatic Portal will be available inside the Members Only Section. There is generally a three-year lag after publishing an issue before we post it on the Newman Portal. However, members will soon be able to access every past issue with a mouse click. Before the end of the year, I intend to populate the Members Only Section with more exciting content, including some of the free personal ads now found in the *Newsletter*.

Moving some content from the *Newsletter* to the website will save us money and permit information to stay fresh as it can be updated between *Newsletter* issues. It will also allow some members, if they wish, to forgo a hard copy of the *Newsletter* and view it only online. There are no plans to eliminate the physical *Newsletter*. Receiving the *Newsletter* in the mail at your house, for those who wish it, is a significant benefit and right of membership in our organization. At the same time, we must recognize that physical books, magazines, newspapers, and even the U.S. mail seem antiquated to the younger generation. To access this section when it goes live, the Club needs your email on file. Part of the passcode to gain entry will be your email, which must match what we have on file.

Currently, we have working emails for only about 80 percent of our membership. That's not enough. We rarely send email blasts, but it is essential or urgent news when we do. The Board of Directors strives to keep the Club's dues low. One of our largest expenses is postage. Our Bylaws were recently amended to permit voting via email. For your Club to function efficiently and effectively, we need your email. Please update your email when it changes and make sure we have your current email on file by checking with our Treasurer, Charlie Rohrer. You can contact him at Treasurer@ColonialCoins.org.

As we have done for the past two years, we will continue our Happenings event at the Baltimore Convention on Friday evening. As I obtain more detailed information on the Happenings, I will post it on the website. As of now, we are expanding to five tables this year. Our table topics are: 1) Colonial Currency/Backed, Sewn, Pinned Notes (this is a fast-growing area of numismatics. An article on the topic will appear in the June issue of the *Journal of Early American Numismatics*); 2) Vermont Coinage (Landscape Varieties); 3) New Jersey Coinage (Topic TBD); 4) Metal Detecting Finds (Bring your colonial metal detecting

finds and share information with like-minded enthusiasts); 5) Countermarked colonial coins (I think I will be sitting at this table). All of this is subject to change as the event draws closer. As in the past, we will have food and be located in close proximity to libations. **SPACE IS LIMITED**! You must reserve a seat at a specific table. Guess where you can find all the information you need on the Happenings? That's right, the website. As we identify table captains, their contact information will be posted. You will need to connect with a table captain to reserve your seat at a table to be in the room where it happens. This is quickly becoming one of our most popular events of the year. Don't miss out.

We have not had a Donated Lots auction in a few years. We will have one this year! Of course, a Donated Lots auction is no good without Donated Lots. We are a charitable organization—need I say more? Think write off. If you have a non-coin item you would like to donate, don't hesitate to get in touch with me at President@ColonialCoins.org and I will discuss the donation with you.

At our dinner, we have arranged two fantastic feature talks from two dynamic speakers. I am very pleased about how our Newman Lectures are shaping up. I want to thank our education Chairman and National Vice-President, Jim Glickman, for his hard work on our 2023 educational talks. More information will be posted on our Newman Lectures on the website as the events take shape. It is going to be a very enjoyable evening.

We will once again be livestreaming the lectures and other convention events. We experimented with this last year, and it worked well. Information regarding the livestream link will be posted on the website when available. The 2023 lectures will also be taped and posted on the website before the end of the year—last year's lectures are there now. Although many events will be livestreamed and/or taped, nothing beats being present. If you have never attended a convention, I strongly encourage you to do so this year. Attending a convention is the next big step in your full enjoyment of the hobby. Let's face it; your spouse is tired of hearing you talk about coins. Come join us, talk about coins until your heart's content, and learn from and enjoy the company of like-minded enthusiasts. You will be thrilled you did. If 2023 will be your first convention, I hope you will come and introduce yourself to me. If you tell me what your interests are, I will acquaint you with new friends who share your passion.

Please take a moment and look at the advertisements in this issue. Each of these dealers or auction companies is a member and supporter of your Club. If you wish to purchase your coins, tokens, books, and medals from good reputable dealers or transact business with the best auction companies, look no further than those who advertise here.

The Club's finances and membership remain strong. We are a growing and vibrant organization.

Until next time, I wish you all well.

Christopher R. McDowell
President C4
1 July 2023

C4 PARTICIPATES IN STACK'S BOWERS GRAND OPENING OF ITS BOSTON STORE

The Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4) participated in Stack's Bowers Galleries' gala grand opening of its new Boston store on May 11, 2023. Stack's Bowers' recently-opened store is a stone's throw from Faneuil Hall and the historic Quincy Market at 84 State Street in downtown Boston. Several C4 members attended the celebration, and a good time was had by all. C4 National Vice-President Jim Glickman was one of the speakers at the ribbon-cutting ceremony, congratulating Stack's Bowers on its new presence in Boston, as well as recognizing long-time colonial friend and scholar Kevin Vinton, who is head numismatist at the store, and Stack's Executive Vice-President Chris Karstedt, whom C4 recognized last year with an Honorary Life Membership. If you are in the Boston area, this new store is a worthy numismatic destination. Walk-ins are welcome or you can call ahead 617.843-8343. It is refreshing to see a new coin shop open for business, rather than the more familiar sight of seeing one close.



C4 National Vice-President Jim Glickman

REGION 2 EVENT AT THE NEW HAMPSHIRE COIN EXPO



On Friday, April 7, 2023, a C4 Region 2 open meeting was held at the (semiannual) New Hampshire Coin and Currency Expo in Manchester, NH, organized by Region 2 Vice-President Tom Gesner. Twelve people were in attendance including the following C4 members:

Michael Callis	Chris Karstedt	Matthew Virga
Tom Gesner	Julian Palmer	Mark Vitunic
Jim Glickman	Donald Slater	Dennis Wierzba

Following attendee introductions, Tom provided an update on recent activities at the board level, including website improvements, metal-detecting initiatives, and future convention planning. Member Michael Callis gave a short talk on new research he is undertaking related to the Georgius Triumpho token and a potential nexus to the anti-slavery movement – a fascinating new theory which we hope to read about in a future C4N article. After a brief discussion of recent and upcoming auction activity, members were invited to share any recent colonial purchases they had brought with them - these were passed around the room for all to see. There were two coins on hand from the recent Syd Martin Part III auction, briefly reuniting in New Hampshire before once again returning to the collections of their grateful new owners. Fun was had by all and one new member signed up. A second event is planned during the fall show at the same venue October 27-28.

We encourage all of our Regional VPs to organize similar events in their respective regions. [MV]



C4 REGIONAL MEETING AT EAC
WILLAMETTE VALLEY: COLONIALS ON THE WEST COAST

A small group gathered in the Willamette meeting rooms at the Doubletree Hilton in Portland, Oregon early in the morning on Saturday, June 24, for the C4 Membership meeting during the EAC convention. “Chaired” by John Hoskins, four C4 members, one of whom joined only the day prior, introduced themselves, where they're from and what they collected. Paul Hybert, who collects with a focus not on colonial coins but on the associated history and ephemera, led off the introductions, followed by Leo Yowell, a new member, who provided an energetic perspective on why C4 interested him enough to join. Gawain O'Connor and John Hoskins closed the introductions with brief summaries of their own start in the hobby and what they currently collect. While the attendance sheet circulated, John relayed some messages from the C4 President, Chris McDowell, and from the C4 Region 9 VP, Bill Mitchell:

1. The fall C4 meeting is being organized and in addition to regularly scheduled content, will feature some talks on hoards, finds and metal detecting. Details on speakers and events were not available, but the convention will be held in Baltimore, MD, in conjunction with the Whitman Coin & Collectibles Expo, November 9-11, 2023.

2. The C4 website is being improved, and members were encouraged to view the site regularly to catch the updates. Within a few weeks, the "members only" tab should be active, providing up-to-date club info as well as current newsletters. The website is https://colonialcoins.org/ (hey, look, I'm actually in the picture on the front page!)

3. The C4 website also has an updated section on books for sale. These are duplicates from the library that are available for purchase to C4 members - some good opportunities.

4. The entire C4 library is online - members were encouraged to take advantage of it

With a small audience, the discussion on publications was brief, but attendees were encouraged to submit articles, regardless of length, for publication in the C4 Newsletter. It was noted that less technical pieces are strongly encouraged as well. John relayed the fact that of the articles he has submitted in the past (to Penny-Wise in his case), he has received much more direct feedback on the personal piece than on the more research-focused items. Information on future C4 publications wasn't available, and it was noted that the C4 book manuscript submission procedure was not readily findable on the website, but the C4 Newsletter Index is present, both on the C4 website and on the Newman Numismatic Portal.

As the floor was opened for member discussion, Q&A, new acquisitions, etc., Chuck Heck joined. The group shared stories on how they started collecting, finding bags of coins in antique stores, and so forth. When the Colonial Happening was brought up for discussion, held on the Thursday two days prior, it was noted unfortunately that of the six attendees at the Happening, none of them were up early enough this morning, so a review was not possible at the membership meeting. See below for a summary of the Happening, provided by Bill Mitchell for this article.

A brief discussion about the likely contents of the forthcoming Syd Martin sale coming up in August ensued, with members noting an interest in the Massachusetts Silver Coins and the Vermont and Connecticut Coppers in particular. Several attendees expressed a desire to win the lottery in the near future, and the group closed out the meeting at 8:50am.

A brief review of the Colonial Happening at EAC, hosted by Bill Mitchell:

A small, but spirited group met at 8pm Thursday, June 22 at the annual EAC convention in Portland, Oregon.

Bill Mitchell provided onsite AV support and general management, and Ray Williams was there in spirit and directly provided the equipment and guidance to view our coins. Thanks again Ray!

We were able to view and discuss a variety of coins ranging from a North West Company token (appropriate for the convention's Oregon location), a Washington Funeral medal, a King George II 1749 farthing from the HMS Minerva, a 56-n NJ overstrike on a RR-29 VT, and a great selection of contemporary counterfeits.

Despite the small numbers, the engaged group managed to continue the conversation for a strong two hours.

Attendees at Colonial Happening (Thursday, June 22, 8-10pm):
Bill Mitchell, Dale Isaac, Jeff Rock, Jesse Kraft, John Wright, Nathan Markowitz, John Hoskins (late arrival)

Attendees at C4 Membership Meeting (Saturday, June 24, 8-9am):
John Hoskins, Paul Hybert, Gawain O'Connor, Leo Yowell, Chuck Heck (late arrival)

[Editor: Congratulations to Chris McDowell who was recently honored with an award for his latest book on Betts Medals. See IAPN announcement below. Information on ordering the book appears later in this issue.]

IAPN 2023 BOOK PRIZE WINNERS ANNOUNCED

There were 24 books entered for the competition, which was decided by vote of the membership of the IAPN (International Association of Professional Numismatists) at its 71st General Assembly in Marseille on 4 June.

The winner of the 2023 IAPN Book Prize is Prashant Kulkarni, a numismatist and dealer from Nagpur, India, for his *Archaic Coinage of Godavari Valley and the Deccan*, published by Eternal Arts and Coins LLP, Nagpur, worldwide distribution of which is via Spink in London.

Second prize went to Stéphan Sombart, senior numismatist at MDC in Monte Carlo, Monaco, for his *Monnaies Royales Françaises de Louis XI à Henri IV*, published by Éditions Victor Gadoury in Monaco.

Third prize went to **Christopher McDowell**, a lawyer from Cincinnati, OH, the editor of JEAN and president of C4, for his *The Early Betts Medal Companion*, published by the ANS in New York.

The value of the Prize is 1,000 CHF. The winner also receives a diploma and an IAPN medal, and it is hoped that these can be presented to him at a future IAPN function.

"THE GIFT OF FRANKLIN"

(Ray Williams)



Several days ago, I was the successful bidder in a Stack's Bowers auction, winning a Boston School Medal. I knew from the lot description that it was connected to Ben Franklin. Throughout our history, Americans have shown a special affinity to Franklin. He's the only Founding Father that we use an informal version of his first name—like he is an old friend. I haven't received the medal yet but decided to share some information about it that I've discovered since the auction.

Franklin was a product of the free public school system in Boston in the early 1700s. He only attended the city grammar school for a few years (from approximately age 8 to 11) until continuing his education on his own. He was so appreciative of this opportunity to attend a school that he remembered the Boston free grammar schools by gifting 100 Pounds Sterling in his Last Will & Testament. The accumulated interest earned by this gift was to be used to create medals for deserving scholars. Franklin wrote his Will in 1788 at age 82. He would pass two years later.

I read two of Franklin's Wills online. One was written in 1757 (superseding a 1750 Will) while Franklin was in New York awaiting passage to England. The second Will was written in 1788 and it contains his final wishes. These Wills are easy to find online and tell a lot about the man, his relatives, his friends, and associates. The differences between the two Wills are fun to contemplate. I will not cut and paste the entire text, but the following is pertinent to this medal.

Ben Franklin's Last Will and Testament (1788) in part states:
"*I was born in Boston, New England, and owe my first instructions in literature to the free grammar schools established there. I therefore give one hundred pounds sterling to my executors, to be by them, the survivors or survivor of them, paid over to the managers or directors of the free schools in my native town of Boston, to be by them, or by those person or persons, who shall have the superintendance [sic] and management of the said schools, put out to interest, and so continued at interest forever, which interest annually shall be laid out in silver medals, and given as honorary rewards annually by the directors of the said free schools belonging to the said town, in such manner as to the discretion of the selectmen of the said town shall seem meet.*"

It appears that the instructions in the Will were agreed to and carried out by those concerned in Boston. The first medals awarded to 14 deserving students were issued in 1792. They were hand-engraved on silver planchets about 33 to 35 mm in diameter. The first die-struck medals were issued in 1800. The obverse has the legend "THE GIFT OF FRANKLIN" in two lines above crossed quill pens and an open book. The devices refer to writing and reading. The reverse legend reads: "ADJUDGED BY THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE AS A REWARD OF MERIT TO" in six lines. The well-deserving students had their names engraved below. I don't know who engraved the dies and hope a reader might let me know.

There are a number of different types of "Gift of Franklin" Boston School medals issued after about 1828. Every one of these school medals is unique and issued to an individual whose name is hand engraved. "C. C. White" was the student's name on my medal. While sharing my new acquisition with Julia Casey, she asked me if I knew who C. C. White was. All I could find out was that his first name was Charles and that he was awarded his medal in 1804. Julia went to work and found out that Charles had a brother William, who also won the award in 1799. Charles was born October 14, 1790, and died October 2, 1869. Charles was a pharmacist in Boston. He had a busy shop there and sold pharmaceutical items as shown in a 75-page catalog dated 1817 (located by Julia). It appears that William was also in the same profession. Could this occupation have been passed down in the family? Charles and William had thirteen other siblings! There must have been a lot of very cold winters in Boston!

I look forward to placing this medal in my collection and will think of the generosity and sentimentality of Ben Franklin in providing the funds to bring it into being. For those looking for more information, I suggest locating the April 1978 issue of the Numismatist and reading the article written by John Sallay. It is very well-researched and has many images.



C4 friends getting together between annual conventions! Left-to-right: Wayne Shelby, Leo Shane, Bill Liatys, Roger Moore, and Ray Williams at an April 25th C4 luncheon/show-and-tell at Jimmy's American Grill in Bordentown, NJ.

THE TRIAL OF WILLIAM TRICKETT AND SAMUEL CRYNDAL AND THE PHILADELPHIA HOARD OF 1699 WILLIAM III CAST COUNTERFEIT HALFPENCE

(Julia Casey)

In the fall of 1783 American newspapers reported on the criminal sentencing of Philadelphians William Trickett (also, Tricket) and Samuel Cryndal (also, Crindle, Clindal, Clindell) for "making counterfeit coppers."[1] Their punishment was to stand in the pillory for an hour, pay a fine of ten pounds, and serve three months imprisonment. In my quest for more information about the circumstances of this case, I went online to the phenomenal Newman Numismatic Portal and discovered that nearly seventy years ago the illustrious Eric P. Newman had done much of the legwork to gather the available details. Newman later referenced Trickett and Cryndal in his 1976 article on "English and Bungtown Halfpence,"[2] and again in 1978 when he tenuously linked their activities to the discovery of 1699-dated counterfeit halfpence dug from the construction site of highway I-95.[3]

Newman believed the "surprising hoard of over 362 identical pieces dated 1699"[4] counterfeit halfpence of William III, which were found in the Philadelphia rubble had "several characteristics" similar to the coins made by Trickett and Cryndal: cast manufacture, brass composition, and filed edges. Trickett and Cryndal were convicted for making three hundred pieces of "false feigned and counterfeit money of certain base and mixed metals." These coins were in the "likeness and similitude of good true and genuine pieces of copper money called British half pence."[5] One could deduce that Philadelphia authorities may have dumped Trickett and Cryndal's confiscated counterfeit halfpence into the Delaware River in 1783. This would provide an answer for why these coins were all found in the same general location when excavated in 1975. Certainly, this is one of a number of explanations to ponder as to why these coins were found en masse.

In the December 2020 issue of the *Journal of Early American Numismatics,* there is a detailed analysis of the cast copper counterfeits of William III dated 1699 found during the I-95 excavation.[6] A number of these coins are presently held at the Independence Seaport Museum and as Newman indicated, a notable feature is the presence of filed edges. Trickett's petition to the court stated that his only involvement in the venture was when he was "prevailed on to file some Counterfeit coppers." This filing would have been necessary to remove the rough edges and sprue scar on the sand cast coins. The authors noted that all the I-95 dig recovered 1699-dated William III cast counterfeits in the collection of the Independence Seaport Museum "had file marks on the edges, serving as a prominent and easy way to separate a cast from a regal. The filing did differ in the manner it was performed, but it was always very evident on inspection."[7] They speculated that perhaps "a reason for the dumping was that legal authorities were trying to prevent their future use in the city."[8] Below

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[1] *The Pennsylvania Evening Post, and Public Advertiser*, October 6, 1783.

[2] Eric P. Newman and Richard G. Doty, *Studies on Money in Early America* (New York, The American Numismatic Society:1976), 156.

[3] Eric P. Newman and Peter P. Gaspar, "The Philadelphia Highway Coin Find," *The Numismatist*, March 1978, 453-467.

[4] Ibid., 454.

[5] *Respublica vs. William Trickett and Samuel Crindall*, Court of Oyer & Terminer and General Gaol Delivery, Philadelphia, September 23, 1783.

[6] Roger A. Moore, Dan Knight, Peter Douvres, Wayne Shelby, Don Hartman, Craig Bruns, "Evaluation of William III Cast Copper Counterfeit Halfpence Found During Construction of Route I-95 through Philadelphia," *Journal of Early American Numismatics*, December 2020, 163-199.

[7] Ibid., 192.

[8] Ibid., 165.

is a composite image from this article of some of the filed edges, as well as examples of coins held at the Independence Seaport Museum.



Image of the filed edges of some of the 1699 William III cast counterfeit halfpence in the collection of the Independence Seaport Museum. Image courtesy, Roger Moore et. al. "Evaluation of William III Cast Copper Counterfeit Halfpence Found During Construction of Route I-95 through Philadelphia," *Journal of Early American Numismatics*, December 2020, 182.

Halfpence of William III circulated with the Georgian coppers late into the eighteenth century and the dates on these cast counterfeits should not bar them from inclusion among the cast counterfeits produced by Trickett and Cryndal in 1783. It may even be proposed that the William III coins of over eighty years prior would have been the best subjects for counterfeiting by early American brass founders. The mushy features inherent in a coin produced by the casting process could imitate circulation wear, as well as the fact that regal William III pieces are known for their variable production standards and some were struck on cast planchets.

Unconfirmed family trees list Trickett as the son of William Trickett, the English émigré Philadelphia stationer, and bookbinder who died in 1780. The elder Trickett advertised extensively. He is credited with binding the early journals of the Continental Congress and could name George Washington and John Adams among his customers.[9] The younger Trickett appears to have rehabilitated himself and later worked as a brass founder in the 1790s in Philadelphia[10] and possibly in Newport, Rhode Island.[11]

[9] Jana Dambrogio, "Trickett's Tickets." *Suave Mechanicals: Essays in the History of Bookbinding*, vol. 4, November 2017, https://dspace.mit.edu/bitstream/handle/1721.1/119785/Dambrogio%20Tricketts%20Tickets.pdf.

[10] James B. Whisker, *Pennsylvania Workers in Brass, Copper and Tin: 1681-1900* (Edwin Mellen Press: 1993), 74.

[11] *Newport Mercury*, November 2, 1802. William Trickett advertised a "Brass Foundery."



The image at left shows a sampling of coins held at the Independence Seaport Museum from the hoard of 1699 cast counterfeit William III halfpence recovered from the I-95 construction dig. Image courtesy, Roger Moore.

Not much is known about Samuel Cryndal beyond the melancholy details he provided in his petition for the mercy of the court. Both Trickett and Cryndal implicate a man by the name of John Stanton as also being involved in the counterfeiting conspiracy. One might even surmise that Stanton was the ringleader. He was described as a "buckle maker" and "brass founder" who had "run away," and apparently escaped prosecution. The 1780 Philadelphia tax rolls list John Stanton as a brass buckle maker in the Mulberry Ward. In 1781 John Staunton, a brass founder, is listed in the marriage records of St. Michael's and Zion church in Philadelphia.[12]

In 1956, Newman corresponded with the archives of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission and received photostats of original court papers, which he transcribed. Both sets of documents are scanned on the Newman Numismatic Portal.[13] Below are transcriptions undertaken so as to preserve these fascinating details in the compendium of the *C4 Newsletter*. The reader may notice that both Cryndal and Trickett describe the coins as either "coppers" or "pennys," while the court equates them to "half pence." These documents provide a glimpse into the life of the American everyman and the economic pressures during this tumultuous time period straddling war and peace, which may have forced him to engage in counterfeiting in order to feed and house his family.

[12] *U.S. Craftsperson Files (1600-1995)*, John Stanton.
[13] https://archive.org/details/epn11-56samuelcryndaslcounte/mode/

The Humble Petition of Samuel Cryndal
A Poor Unfortunate Prisoner in the Gaol Of this City

Shewth – that he Came about the middle of October 1782 with his Wife and three Children to the City of Philadelphia Entirely a Stranger wanting employment to support his helpless Family and withal disabled by a Misfortune, was Unable to Work at any Labourous Work and not being brought up to any Trade was greatly distressed when by accident he met with one Jno. Stanton the said Jno Stanton engaged him viz Cryndal to work with him at Making Brass Buckles at which Employment Cryndal for some time worked though at very low wages but with what little he Earned and his Wifes Industry he made out a living although a very Poor One Yet was contented Until the News of Peace Arrived that Trade then stopt with all others – for a long Time he had nothing to Subsist on only what Charitable well disposed People pleasd to give him, and was obliged to apply to the Overseers of the City for Wood to keep Himself and Family from Perishing with Cold – His necessity obliged him to bind his Eldest Child out, tho very young – in this distressed Situation he met with Wm. Tricket who it appears is now in the same Prison, thee said Tricket told him he had Undertaken to Cast Work for the Coach Harness Makers – and that he Rented the House-Shop and Tools from Jno. Stanton and that thee said Stanton was going into the Country for fourteen days he informd him that had agreed to give Stanton Thirty pound a year for the House-Shop and Tools – and if the said Cyndal would assist him in making the brass furniture for thee Coach Harness Makers – that he would give him ten shillings per day which proposal Cryndal agreed to but when Cryndal went to Work – Tricket shewed him a Pattern for making Coppers – or Pennys which it Appears by the Court they have been found Guilty off – And having received Sentence for Punishment your Petitioner begs to be Pardond for Gods Sake upon Account of His Inocent Children who has a prospect of being brought up with good Principles – that they may not be reflected on with there Fathers Misfortunes We whose Names are join in this Petition and beg that his Case may be taken into consideration that the Sentence for Punishment may be taken off – it is imposible for his Wife to maintain him in Goal – in her situation and as the distress of the times was the real Cause of his Crime we hope Humanity will plead for him and His Family.

1783	)	Petition of Saml.	The Humble
October	)	Cryndal	Petition
8th	)		of
			Saml. Cryndal

To the Honorable Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania
The Humble Petition of Samuel Cryndal

Most Respectfully Shewth –

That your distressed Petitioner was some time ago Concerned with some other of making Counterfeit halfpence for which he has now lain in Gaol seven month and that now he is detained for nothing but the fine laid upon him which he is in his Present Situation is Utterly unable to pay having a Wife and two Children who are also in great distress as well as your poor Petitioner, She having Sold all their Effects for support of the Family during your Petitioners confinement the Copy of his Indictment has been laid Before your and is now with your Honors. He therefore most Humbly Prays the Honorable Council to remit his Fine that your Petitioner May once more enjoy his Liberty and be enabled by honest Industry To obtain a living for himself and Family.

And your Petitioner shall as In duty bound ever Pray
Samuel Cryndal
New Gaol March 25th, 1784

The Petition
1784 of
March
26th Samuel Cryndal

Read in Council 29th
March 1784 – and fine remitted

To the Honorable John Dickenson, Esquire
Governor of the City of Pennsylvania
The humble Petition of William Trickett,
Now a Prisoner in the New Jail of this City.

Most humble Shewth
That your Petitioner begs leave to inform your that he having been employed in the Continental Service at Sea, on board the Lady Washington armed Vessel until last April, in some short Time after was employed by Mr. John Stanton, late of this City, Brass Founder and agreeable to Articles engaged in between him and your Petitioner, was obliged to assist in filing such Work as said Stanton directed to be done; accordingly, some Time before said Stanton's departure from this City your Petitioner was prevailed on to file some counterfeit Coppers for what Purpose your Petitioner did not then apprehend any evil consequence; but has since been confined, brought to trial and found guilty by law of a Crime, supposed on the Deposition of others; which, your Petitioner most Solemly declares he is innocent of, as to any Intent of passing or causing to be passed even on of said Counterfeits. Your Petitioner therefore most humbly begs your Honor will please to take his case into Consideration, and that of a helpless Wife and Child, who at present are in the utmost Distress for want of his assistance and that your Honor will be pleased to mitigate his Punishment in such manner as to your Honor my seem mete; and your Petitioner as in Duty Bound will ever most sincerely pray.
Wm. Trickett

To
The Honorable
John Dickinson, Esq.
Governor of the City
of Philadelphia

1783	)	Petition of
October	)	Wm. Trickett
8th	)	read in Council and dismissed

Hon. Sir (Phila[d] New Goal March 5th, 1784)

I humbly Beg to Acquaint his Excellency what I am confind for I was Tryd at the Supreem Court for making Conterfit money such as penneys & found Guilty & Sentenced by the Hon. Court to Stand one hour in the pillory & be Confind Three Months & pay a fine of Ten pounds to the Common Wealth & as I had just Returned from Sea & found Business Very Scarse I Entred into work with John Stanton Buckell maker & I being of the Same Trade but not knowing at the Same time what there was to Do but the time that I was at the house their was not more than Seven Dollars made & after Stanton Run away I left the house & becase I would not Carry on with the Rest they went & Swore against me I hope his Excellency will be pleased to take it into his Wise Consideration how your poor petitioner was brought into this Unhappy Affair. He therefore Most humbly Begs leave to Acquaint his Excelly. of the poor Situation that your poor petitioner is in having a helpless Wife & family which is Reduced to the lowest Ebb of Distress & poverty occationed by his long & Tedious Confinement upwards of Six months & having no friend to give him the least Nourishment of life quite Bare of Clothing & Every Other Necessary for the Comforts of life by which your poor petitioner is Driving to the Greatest Distress he most humbly Begs that his Excellency will be Tenderly pleasd according to his accustomary Goodness & Charity to take into your Wise Consideration the Distressed Situation of his helpless family & Grant him Some way for his Diliverance So as he may help his family in the time of their Distress for which Singular Act of your Great Clemency your poor petitioner will as in Duty Bound Ever pray.

William Trickett

1784 March 8th From William Trickett — His Excellency John Dickensen Esqr.

Read in Council 10th March 1784 and the fine due to the State remitted

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THE LAST OF THE TORTOLA WITHDRAWAL HOARD

(Marcus Mayhugh)

The British auction firm of St. James recently held a very interesting coin auction that included the A.H. Baldwin & Sons vault contents. These were coins that had been stored in the vaults of the A.H. Baldwin & Son's Company going back 150 years, and many had never been offered for sale before. Needless to say, the sale held many intriguing items, including what is known as the Tortola Withdrawal Hoard.

These Tortola coins were the dregs of what served as money in the late 18th, and early 19th century, on the Island of Tortola - Mostly counterfeit French sous of Cayenne, and French stampees counterstamped with either a "T" for Tortola, or an "H" that some claim stands for a private coinage of a cruel Plantation owner named Arthur Hodge. Hodge is believed to have been the only slave owner to have been executed for killing one of his slaves. (For more information on Hodge, see Jeff Rock's article in *JEAN*, June 2022,Vol.5, No.1, "The Early Coinage of Tortola: Numismatic Traces of a Most Heinous Murderer?")



All of the coins in what was left in the Tortola Withdrawal Hoard were contemporary circulating counterfeits, as freely stated by the St James Auction Co. This in no way detracts from their status as relics of the island's monetary history, for British counterfeits from Birmingham far outnumbered the original French coins, and they circulated side-by-side with the originals. The original French sous, stampees, and sol marques, circa 1738-1789 (black doggs) contained around 18 percent silver, but the Birmingham forgeries contained none, and were mostly copper or brass. Nevertheless, the imitations were readily accepted

throughout the West Indies, as evidenced by the fact that various islands also used them as hosts for their own counterstamps.

To get a grasp on just how many counterfeits were in the West Indies at this time, Ralph Gordon estimated that there were as many as 60 million counterfeit French Cayenne pieces alone in circulation. Gordon was one of the first to recognize the value of XRF testing and discovered that for every eleven French Cayenne pieces that he tested, only one was genuine. Since six million coins had been officially issued by the French government, he calculated that at a rate of 10-1 there would be sixty million fake pieces. While this calculation may be somewhat inflated and erroneous, there is no doubt that genuine French Cayenne pieces are very scarce indeed. As a result of his XRF testing, Gordon was able to ascertain certain characteristics of genuine sous that can used as an aid in determining which French Cayenne sous are fake and which are counterfeit. (Henry Christensen's 150th Anniversary Sale, Dec,.11,12, 1981.) During this research on the Cayenne pieces, Gordon submitted six Cayenne coins that had been Stamped with a "T" for Tortola, and every one of them turned out to be non-genuine.

In 1983, after nearly a century of slumbering in Baldwin's vault, a numismatist finally examined the Tortola hoard. Robert Lyall, a noted West Indian Specialist, was allowed to view the coins and he made some astute observations and before writing an article about the hoard in *Spinks Numismatic Journal*, Oct.,1983.

Lyall records that there were 338 countermarked Tortola coins in the hoard, along with two other coins, a 1792 Barbados penny and an 1856 Nova Scotia halfpenny, for a total of 340 coins. Of the Tortola coins, 120 were of the "T" stamped variety and the remaining 214 were "H" stamped coins, assumed to be a private token issued by Arthur Hodge, the previously mentioned plantation owner hanged for his cruelty to his slaves. There were four other coins that had received both the "T" punch as well as the "H" punch. Using Robert Chalmers' information Lyall determined the hoard coins had an average weight of 17.7 grains.

Lyall believed that the hoard had remained intact since its withdrawal in 1889. He based this belief on the fact that Fred Pridmore was unaware of the hoard. Pridmore who had a strong interest in these types of coins would have obtained the most interesting coins for his collection or, at the very least, written about them in his book that has long been considered to be the bible on West Indian coins.

While the hoard may have remained intact until 1983, that could no longer be said after Lyall's visit. Naturally, he obtained many of the best and rarer pieces for his collection. The Lyall collection sold in September 2018, and contained no less than 13 coins obtained from the withdrawal hoard. These would have been the cream of the crop, so to speak, double-stamped pieces, and perhaps those containing genuine French hosts. The recent sale from the Baldwin Vault contained only 153 doggs, leaving roughly 172 pieces of the hoard unaccounted for. These would be the worst of the worst considering that Chalmers in 1893, described the Tortola doggs as being worn as thin as a sheet of writing paper, though Louis X V I R. de F et de Nav...Colonie de Cayenne might still be deciphered. The St. James auction company freely stated that the hoard has been cherry-picked over the years and was mostly made up of counterfeits. Also to St. James' credit, the remaining pieces were sold in small lots allowing collectors to obtain some of these historic coins for their collections.

In his analysis of the hoard, Bob Lyall illustrates five "T" punches and four "H" punches and breaks down the total number of coins attributed to each. This is a very slippery slope. For example, he lists 41 different "T" forged punches. It is hard to imagine that so many fake punches existed, or that someone could actually differentiate which ones were which. It seems that the criteria for a genuine punch according to both Lyall and Pridmore is that if the struck coin contains silver, the punch stands a good chance of being official. The logic here, one assumes, is that only good coins were struck with the official punches, although we also

know of counterfeit punches struck on good hosts, and so-called official punches struck on counterfeit coins (see the Roehrs Collection, DNW, lots, 56,57,58.) Lyall's #2 punch is called “probably official” because one the coins struck with it was silver, and the punch was deemed "artistic" by Lyall. A rather subjective view, and, by the way, the images in the article leave a little to be desired. Finally, the official punch of Pridmore, and the official punch illustrated in Jeff Rock's article appear to be quite different. Jeff Rock's article in *JEAN* deserves examination as he does an excellent job of breaking down the various punches.

When it comes to the "H" punches the situation is just as sticky. These coins marked with an "H" in a square, or diamond, have been assigned to Arthur Hodge, the sadistic murderer, and in all likelihood, they will forever be attributed to him and his plantation. However, there was another plantation owner by the name of Hodge and several others whose surnames also begin with an "H." There is a lot of talk and speculation concerning which were the official "H" counterstamps. Yet, how can a privately struck punch be considered official? In other words, if you don't know who produced the stamps, and you don't know where they were struck, or who it was that issued them, how can one possibly know which punch is official? Yes, there is evidence that some stamps are more sophisticated than others, and probably they are more than likely the originals, but with so little known nothing is certain at this point.

The most basic and simplest explanation regarding the Tortola countermarks comes from Ralph C. Gordon. Keep in mind that Gordon was one of the foremost researchers in the field of West Indian coinage and his book *West Indies Countermarked Gold Coins* is still regarded as the best source for regulated half-Joes and other gold coins of the Caribbean. Gordon's theory was quite simple, according to him "it didn't really matter which punches were official or which ones were counterfeit!” He called his theory, "The Relaxed Approach" and he also describes different approaches that other Islands took in regard to the influx of false sous in the Caribbean. Writing on the relaxed hypothesis Gordon states, "In this approach the purpose was to ‘FREEZE’ all coins on the Island at a given time, not to ‘SANITIZE’ them. Thus, on Tortola in 1801, the stamping act only required the holder of Cayenne 2 sous to swear that they were in his possession prior to February 4, 1801, whether they were genuine or not was of no concern.” Wow, a very basic supposition, and one that makes a lot of sense. It seems strange that nobody has expounded on or criticized Gordon's theory.

Gordon continues by examining the drawbacks to Tortola's so-called Relaxed Approach. He states, "there is absolutely no way of telling which countermark was official (or whether there was only one stamp) and which ones were contemporary counterfeits. He lists another problem in that the coin population would not remain static and after a time there would be extensive forging of the counterstamp to keep the new coins in circulation or else a re-countermarking scheme would have to take place.

As strange as it may seem, Gordon's theory deserves some merit, and perhaps the whole purpose of the "stamping act" was solely to give these coins a mark to validate their use in Tortola and not to determine which coins contained a little silver. Did Intrinsic value really matter in an area where a bit was valued at 9 pence (normally 12 ½ cents.) In her paper, "The Weight of Necessity:Counterfeit Coins in the British Atlantic World, circa 1760-1800," Katherine Smoak writes of a Jamaican plantation owner lamenting that Jamaicans, "...lacking better coin, gladly took…almost any trash that wore the least semblance or color of money.” This was a quarter of a century before the Tortola Stamping Act. Smoak describes a journalist who, in Grenada, about the same time as the Tortola Act, detailed the monetary situation on that island, i.e., that bad money "passes easily and unproblematic on that island.” In Grenada coin was regarded "only as a circulating medium;” as long as it enjoyed "general currency" its metallic content mattered little. Perhaps the debate over which punches were official is much to do about nothing.

In closing, despite the wretched condition of the coins, their association with a sadistic slave owner, their small value (3 halfpence,) and their questionable authenticity, the coins of the Tortola Withdrawal Hoard

are a historical reminder of the French and British Colonial presence in America, the New World and the West Indies. Some collectors like to look at their coins and "wonder where they've been;" others like to view their coins and know exactly where they have been - One of the reasons hoard coins and shipwreck coins are so popular.

Suggested Reading:

Chalmers, Robert, B.A., *A History of Currency in the British Colonies*, London, Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1893.

Gordon, Ralph C., *Henry Christensen's 150th Anniversary Sale*, Dec.,11-12, 1981.

Lyall, Robert, "A Hoard of Black Dogs," *Spink's Numismatic Circular*, October 1983, p. 267.

Lyall, Robert, The Lyall Collection of Cut & Countermarked Coins, Dix Noonan Webb, Ltd. (DNW,) Sept. 25, 2018.

Pridmore, Fred, *The Coins of the British Commonwealth of Nations, Part3*, *West Indies,* Spink & Son, 1965.

Rock, Jeff, "The Early Coinage of Tortola: Numismatic traces of a Most Heinous Murderer," *Journal of Early American Numismatics*, June 2022, Vol.5 No. 1.

Smoak, Katherine, "The weight of Necessity: Counterfeit Coins in the British Atlantic World, 1760-1800," William & Mary 3rd Ser., No.3 July 2017.

Vlack, Robert, "An Illustrated Catalogue of the French Billon Coinage in the Americas," C4, 2004.



ALWAYS EXAMINE THE THIRD SIDE OF YOUR CURRENCY

(Roger A. Moore, MD)

INTRODUCTION

Most collectors of colonial and confederation coins learn early in their collecting experience the admonition, "examine the third side of the coin." Jim Spilman repeatedly emphasized this examination for a variety of reasons, not the least of which was the type of planchet cutter used.[1] In 2001 Steve Carr also stressed the need for this examination due to the diverse range of edge markings found on Federal coinages.[2] He characterized the edge marks as letters, words, symbols, numbers, designs, reeding, notches, blobs, beads, and grooves. Additionally, the study of counterfeit coins solidified the importance of edge examination. For instance, the presence of handmade edge reeding has been shown to be a distinguishing feature separating some cast counterfeit 1669 William III halfpence from official regal coins.[3] In addition, artificial smoothing of a coin's edge serves as an indicator that a coin may be a possible counterfeit with the smoothing being an attempt to hide the seams that occur in electrotypes and cast coins. One of the reasons colonial coin collectors dislike keeping coins in slabs is they prevent this all-important edge examination.

The purpose of this article is not to discuss the third side of a coin but rather, the importance of examining the "third side" of colonial and confederation currency. The title might seem confusing since paper artifacts generally have extremely thin edges and an examination of these edges would prove to be of little value. However, the title is purposely provocative and meant to stimulate currency owners to examine an often overlooked but very important part of their paper artifacts – the watermarks. Watermarks are the "third side" of these notes and in many ways similar to the third side of coins. Much can be learned from them. In addition, the study of watermarks provides an extra layer of historical insight into these valued possessions. This article will explore some of the more common watermarks that are found on colonial and Continental Congress authorized notes and opens the possibility of a new currency collecting direction based on watermarks.

The article also requests that others share a list of their currency and other colonial documents with the author including, 1) a description of the paper item 2) with date, 3) the denomination of currency, 4) an indication of the presence or absence of a watermark, and 5) a detailed description of the watermark if present. These may be used in a future more comprehensive paper in which owners supplying information will be credited or kept confidential based on preference. Contact information is provided at the end of this article.

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[1] Jim Spilman, "An Overview of Early American Coinage Technology," *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 21, No. 2, July 1982, pp. 788-794.

[2] Steve Carr, "The Third Side of a Coin," *Penny-Wise*, Consecutive Issue 207, Vol. 35, No. 6, November 2001, pp. 388-392. Carr indicated the three machines used to make edge designs: 1) The castaing machine uses "two long, narrow dies, placed parallel" with the distance between these dies being "just a bit smaller than the diameter of the coin blanks. When a blank was fed into this machine, it was rotated between the dies, raising the edge and imparting the design." 2) An upset mill has a rotating base and "coin blanks are fed onto this base, which accelerates them in the direction of rotation. At some point, the coins are forced into a tapered shoot, which raises the metal on the outside edge, reduces the diameter of the planchet to a standard size, and" if desired can impart a design on the edge in an irregular manner. 3) A closed collar "surrounds the planchet and limits its outward expansion while being struck. This collar can leave a design (such as reeding) or it can have no design and be plain."

[3] Roger Moore, Dan Knight, Peter Douvres, Wayne Shelby, Don Hartman, and Craig Bruns; "Evaluation of William III Cast Copper Counterfeit Halfpence Found During Construction of Route I-95 Through Philadelphia," *Journal of Early American Numismatics,* Vol. 3, No. 2, 2022, pp. 163-193.

HOW TO PHOTOGRAPH WATERMARKS

The key requirement for viewing watermarks on currency is having a bright light behind the note being studied. The watermark's design appears as a brighter area on the paper since the paper is thinner over the watermark. Unfortunately, the inked designs printed on the currency often obliterate part of the watermark, as do the multiple destructive encounters that the currency has sustained over the past 250 years. In addition, many of the pieces of colonial currency were printed on very thick paper made from poorly pulverized rags. These notes are not transparent, even with the use of an intense light, and it is doubtful there was ever any attempt to place watermarks on them anyway.

Since viewing a watermark can be difficult, by extrapolation photographing a watermark is equally, if not more difficult. A number of methods to reproduce the image of a watermark have been tried including tracing the watermark[4] or using timed exposures of the watermark to light sensitive paper using a combination of different light waves.[5] Though these methods may be superior to the author's approach, using a basic photographic set-up was found to provide adequate images of watermarks and one that most collectors should be able to reproduce in their homes. The basic equipment is shown in Figure 1 and the parts of the set-up are described below:

1) The camera is positioned over the piece of currency. I use the "Macro" mode and have the lens far enough away so the note can be brought into focus and then use the zoom to obtain a larger image. When a colonial note is slabbed, I take the photograph through the slab plastic but make sure all other light sources are off since one can get disruptive reflections from the slab's plastic surface.
2) Using a tripod is suggested since when photographing with a handheld camera, it is nearly impossible to hold the camera steady enough to prevent blurring of the image. The difficulty with using a tripod is having the tripod legs positioned to allow the camera to be directly over the piece of currency. I have the two tripod legs closest to the currency shortened compared to the third leg so the tripod leans forward over the currency. A counter-weight may be necessary on the third leg to prevent tipping of the tripod. One then needs to adjust the camera's angle so the lens is parallel with the piece of currency.
3) The piece of currency is placed on a flat piece of plexiglass or a glass pane which is covered with a sheet of white paper. The plexiglass allows light to pass through from below to illuminate the watermark and the piece of paper allows diffusion of the light so that there is a more even distribution of the light over the entire colonial note.
4) I use an incandescent light source though other light sources may work as well, and I compensate for this lighting by using the "incandescent mode" in my camera's light balance setting. If a camera is being used without these settings, quite good photographs can still be taken. I typically like photographing watermarks at night when outside ambient light is minimal and I turn off all the other lighting in the room.

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[4] W. A. Churchill, *Watermarks in Paper in Holland, England, France, etc., in the XVII and XVIII Centuries and their Interconnections*, Menno Hertzberger & Co., Amsterdam, MCMXXXV. Some 578 tracings of watermarks are provided in the book.

[5] Thomas Gravell, "A New Method of Reproducing Watermarks for Study," *Restaurator: International Journal for the Preservation of Library and Archival Material*, Vol. 2, 1975, pp. 94-104. Gravell argues that tracing is incomplete since many nuances that are not well defined may either be missed or misconstrued when trying to trace a watermark. He used a photosensitive paper – Du Pont's DYLUX 503 with high-output Diazo fluorescent lamp exposure from 1-5 minutes followed by exposure "briefly" to ultraviolet light.

5) In order to accommodate a large enough space to hold the light source below the plexiglass, the plexiglass is propped up by two stabilizing struts. I use unopened 500-sheet print paper stacks, though any two stable props would work as well.

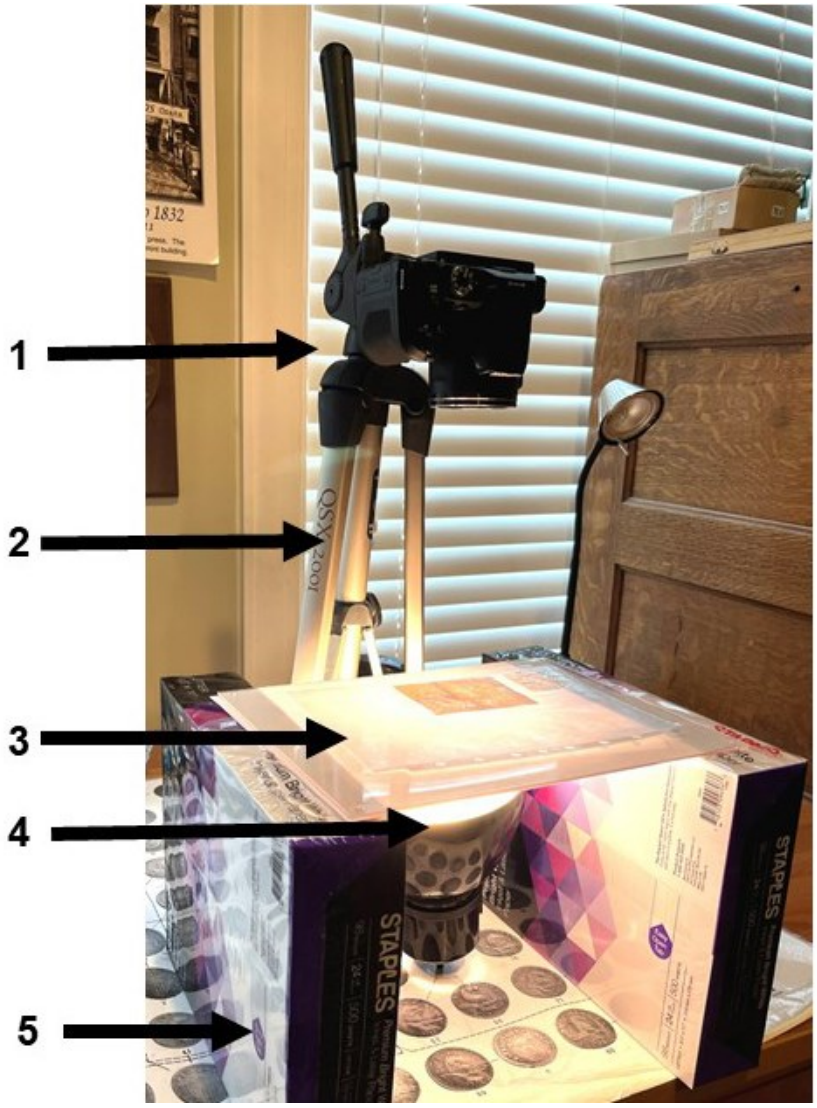


Figure 1. Camera set-up author uses for photographing watermarks. Refer to text for an explanation of the numbered components.

Once the photograph is taken, the image of the watermark can be improved using any number of software programs. Rotating, cropping, and increasing or decreasing both lightness and contrast may well produce a sharper image. I use Photoshop Elements II. Since watermark moulds can change over time with use and become distorted, displaced, or even absent, it is helpful to make measurements of the existing watermark size. The height and length of the letters, if the watermark is on two lines, and the space between the two lines (if applicable) should be noted. Though the watermarks on colonial and confederation currency are for the most part made up of only letters, there are a few exceptions where designs can also be found.[6]

[6] Eric Newman, *The Early Paper Money of America*, Greysheet, United States, 2023, p. 265. – The North Carolina April 2, 1776 currency had a partial British crown watermark, the Massachusetts May 25, 1775 currency included a British crown with "GR" watermark, and the Continental Currency bills of Morris from 1781-2 had post horn watermarks.

WATERMARKS ON 1779 CONTINENTAL CURRENCY

Though currency emitted by the Continental Congress to finance the War of Independence began on May 10, 1775, watermarks did not appear on these emissions until the January 14, 1779 emission, when Francis Hopkinson was serving as the Treasurer for the Continental Loan Office in Philadelphia. Due to widespread counterfeiting of the 1778 Continental currency issue by the British, Hopkinson initiated additional deterrents to dissuade currency counterfeiting including two-color printing and the use of watermarked paper.[7] The British had been so effective in counterfeiting the previous Continental Congress' approved currencies that the value of a paper dollar went from two paper dollars being equal to a Spanish Milled Dollar in 1775 to 1000 paper dollars being equal to a Spanish Milled Dollar by 1779.[8] One watermark used on the official 1779 Continental Currency was CONFEDE RATION on two lines, as seen on the January 14, 1779 fifty-dollar notes (Figure 2), and the other watermark was UNITED STATES on two lines (Figure 3).



Figure 2. A) Face, B) and back of Continental Congress January 14, 1779 fifty-dollar note, with C) "CONFEDE RATION" watermark. (93mm width; 73mm height) (author)

[7]Bart Stump, "Revolutionary Rarities: Continental Currency of April 11, 1778," *The Numismatist*, December 2015, pp. 38-41.

[8] Thomas Hughes, *A Journal by Thos: Hughes*, E. A. Benians (ed.), The University Press, Cambridge, 1947, pp. 1-28, 74-75, 113-114. A British soldier captured at Ticonderoga on September 18, 1777 and a prisoner until November 7, 1780, Hughes' account of his life as a prisoner during this time details the severe erosion in the value of the Continental dollar based on his expenses.



A B

C

Figure 3. A) Face, B) and back of Continental Congress January 14, 1779, eighty-dollar note, with C) "UNITED STATES" watermark. (94mm width; 71mm height) (Ray Williams)

Fortunately, American spies discovered that the British were able to obtain some of the watermarked paper in Philadelphia, thereby invalidating the watermark as a method for differentiating official from counterfeit notes.[9] This discovery brought an end to the emission of Continental Currency by the Continental Congress.

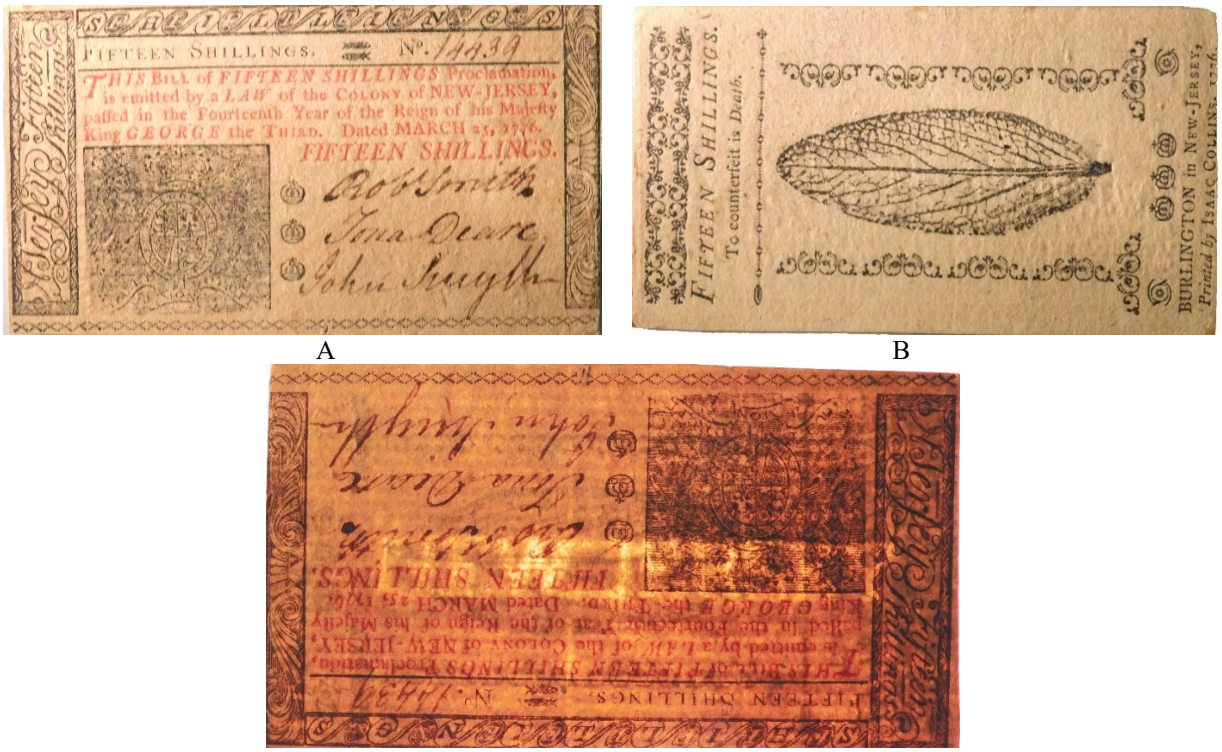
COMMON WATERMARKS ON STATE COLONIAL CURRENCY

Some colonies began producing watermarked currencies long before the Continental Congress issue of 1779. In fact, in 1733, Maryland's first currency, an indented legal bill, had "MARYLAND" as its watermark.[10] Eric Newman mentioned that the North Carolina currency emission of April 2, 1776, had a watermark designed as a crown,[11] while the May 25, 1775 Massachusetts emission had a watermark with a crown and the British regal letters "GR."[12] However, by 1776 with the spreading fervor for rebellion

[9] Brian Kilmeade and Don Yaeger, *George Washington's Secret Six – The Spy Ring that Saved the American Revolution*, Sentinel, Penguin Group, New York, 2013, p. 104.
[10] Newman, op. cit., p. 144.
[11] *Ibid*. pp. 298-300 - "Partial Crown" watermark.
[12] *Ibid*. p. 182 - "Crown over GR (Georgivs Rex)" watermark.

culminating in the Declaration of Independence, watermarks on state currencies reflected two primary themes, either the state's name or the union of the states with the Continental Congress with the "UNITED STATES" and "CONFEDERATION" watermarks. Though the Confederation did not officially begin until March 1, 1781, when final ratification of the Articles of Confederation occurred, many of the states' governing bodies had already embraced the concept "united we stand, divided we fall."[13] New Jersey was an early adopter of watermarks expressing independence on its currency.

NEW JERSEY Currency printed for New Jersey began using paper with "NEW JERSEY" as a single line watermark beginning with the February 20, 1776, and March 25, 1776 emissions. Prior to 1750 paper makers did not use the letter "J" in their watermark moulds and used the letter "I" as a substitute. Following 1750 the "J" letter began being used by some mould makers, but the use of "I" for a "J" persisted with many.[14] Though the watermarks on New Jersey currency are often difficult to completely discern, the letter "J" in the watermark word JERSEY does seem to be represented with an "I" on many as shown in Figure 4.



A B C

Figure 4. A) Face, B) and back of New Jersey March 25, 1776, fifteen-shilling note, with C) "NEW IERSEY" watermark. (100mm width; 56mm height) (Ray Williams)

[13] Attempts to unite the separate states into a confederation began in July 1775 with Benjamin Franklin submitting the first rendition of a proposed Articles of Confederation. Approval of such a document would have solidified the united nature of the colonies in their fight for independence from Britain. However, each State had differing priorities which could not be easily resolved or gain universal acceptance. This was especially true since for many the entire desire for independence was to gain freedom from a tyrannical rule. It took six iterations over the course of six years with constant negotiation and revisions to finally produce a document which was satisfactory to all thirteen states. Final approval was on March 1, 1781, but the compromises that led to this final agreement did not address such vital issues as taxation, which left in limbo how the debt incurred from the War effort would be paid.

[14] Thomas Gravell, George Miller, and Elizabeth Walsh, *American Watermarks 1690-1833*, Oak Knoll Press, New Castle, 2002, p. xxix.

A fascinating variation of this watermark can be found on some eighteen-pence (one-shilling six-pence) New Jersey notes where the spelling of JERSEY is IESSEY as shown in Figure 5. This error could have occurred either when the mould maker accidently used an S rather than an R for his watermark mould or when he purposely made this substitution to confound counterfeiters. The author has good reason to think the cause of this misspelling was the former, having recently written an article concerning the contribution of minting and printing errors due to the indulgence of spirits during work hours in print offices.[15]

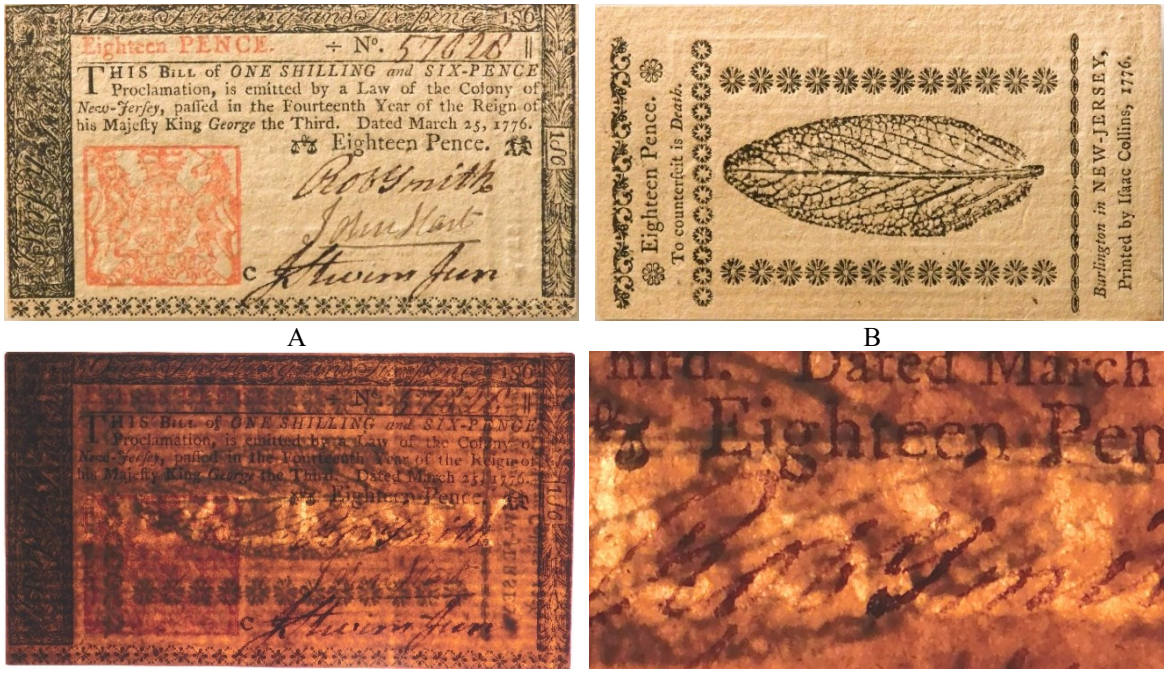


Figure 5. A) Face, B) and back of New Jersey March 25, 1776, eighteen-pence note, with C) "NEW IERSSY" watermark, and D) SS close-up (99mm width; 56mm height) (Ray Williams)

On March 18, 1781, due to the severe debasement of Continental currency, the Continental Congress passed a resolution allowing States to "use $1 of a new issue of State money of $1 in species to redeem $40 in Continental Currency for which it would receive from the Federal Treasury a credit against its tax quota."[16] An example of a twenty-dollar note emitted under this program from New Jersey is shown in Figure 6, which has a "UNITED STATES" watermark on two lines. Other states, also emitted their 1780 currencies with the UNITED STATES watermarks. These included the States of Massachusetts (May 5, 1780 notes), and Maryland (June 28, 1780 notes).[17] Beginning in January 1, 1781, currency sponsored by New Jersey State continued to use "NEW JERSEY" watermarks.

[15] Roger Moore, Alcohol in Pre-Federal America: A Cause for Minting and Printing Errors?, *Journal of Early American Numismatics*, Vol. 6, No. 1, 2023, pp. TBA since in publication.

[16] Newman, op. cit., p. 16. The states that participated in this program were New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia. However, the public's skepticism toward all paper money led to this program failing after just a few months.

[17] *Ibid*., Massachusetts - pp. 191-192; Maryland – pp. 153-154.



A B C

Figure 6. A) Face, B) and back of New Jersey June 9, 1780, $20 note, with C) "UNITED STATES" watermark on two lines. (96mm width; 73mm height) (Ray Williams)

PENNSYLVANIA Pennsylvania currency began having watermarks with their April 10, 1777 emission and similar to the State of New Jersey used lettering representative of their State as the watermark, which was placed on two lines. The spelling of PENNSYLVANIA in the watermark was PENSYL VANIA, with the absence of one of the "Ns" as shown in Figure 7. Pennsylvania currencies with the emission dates of April 29, 1780, and April 20, 1781, also have the same watermark.



A B

C

Figure 7. A) Face, B) and back of Pennsylvania April 10, 1777, four-pound note, with C) "PENSYL VANIA" watermark on two lines. (Courtesy of the Library Company of Philadelphia Reading Room)

Under the previously mentioned Continental Congressional resolution allowing States to issue currency for the redemption of depreciated Continental Currency, Pennsylvania issued notes on June 1, 1780, with CONFEDE RATION watermarks on two lines.[18] (Figure 8)



Figure 8. A) Face, B) and back of Pennsylvania June 1, 1780, $8 note, with C) "CONFEDE RATION" watermark on two lines. (93mm width; 68mm height) (Courtesy of the American Numismatic Society – Accession #0000.999.29467)

OTHER STATES The May 5, 1780, emission of Massachusetts currency was also part of the Continental Congress program to redeem Continental Currency and had the UNITED STATES watermark. (Figure 9). Of interest, all the States that participated in this program in 1780 had the State currency governed by this program printed in Philadelphia while State-specific currency was printed in their own State.

[18] "CONFEDE RATION" was also used in the State-issued 1780 currencies of New Hampshire (April 29, 1780), New York (June 15, 1780), Rhode Island (July 2, 1780), and Virginia (May 1, 1780).



Figure 9. A) Face, B) and back of Massachusetts May 5, 1780 four-dollar note, with C) "UNITED STATES" watermark. (Courtesy of the Library Company of Philadelphia Reading Room)

PARTIAL WATERMARKS AND POSITIONAL VARIATIONS

Watermarked paper purchased for printing currency had a number of the same watermarks repeated and spaced at intervals on each sheet, so that individual pieces of currency would have the watermark printed onto each note. However, when the size of the currency was changed, such as when a smaller-sized note for a smaller denomination was printed using the same paper, only part of the watermark would be placed on the currency. In addition, when the watermark was on two separate lines such as PENSYL VANIA, the positioning of the lines might be out of place with one another on the smaller currency. A good example of both the truncated watermark and its misalignment on a smaller-sized note is shown in Figure 10. The April 10, 1777 Pennsylvania six-pence notes were smaller sized (a width of only 51mm compared to the 99mm width of the New Jersey March 25, 1776 eighteen-pence note shown in Figure 5) so only part of the PENSYL VANIA watermark is seen. In addition, the second line of the watermark occurs above the first line on this note since the printing of this note occurred between two separate watermark moulds.



Figure 10. A) Face, B) and back of Pennsylvania April 10, 1777, six-pence note, which due to small size exhibits a C) truncated watermark "VANIA ENSY" with the two watermark lines inverted. (59mm width; 71mm height) (Ray Williams)

The location and position of a watermark on any given piece of currency can vary from one note to the next. For instance, when looking at the face of a printed note, the watermark may have its lettering upright and running left to right in a manner similar to the ink print. However, a different piece of currency when looking at its face might have the same watermark upside down or reversed. The orientation of the watermark in relationship to the printing on the piece of currency is entirely dependent on how the printer placed the paper in the press. If upside down or backwards, the watermark's relationship to the inked print will change appropriately. Since the same varieties of currency can be found with watermarks in different orientations, the implication is the printer feeding paper into the press was doing so without regard to the watermark positions

on the paper. Finally, the watermarks are not always centrally located as shown in the New Jersey, June 6, 1780, $20 note of Figure 6. Though this may have been caused by the mouldmaker erring in his placement of the watermark mould, more likely the cause of this was the printer not properly centering the placement of the paper in the press.

CONCLUSIONS

A fascinating but often ignored feature of colonial and confederation currency is the presence of watermarks on some emissions. Evaluating these watermarks opens an entirely new dimension of study associated with the currencies produced in the colonial and confederation eras. It is the author's hope that with input from C4 members, a further exploration of watermarks will in the future result in a more in-depth article on this subject. In addition, inclusion of any paper product or document from colonial and confederation times will provide insight into the large variety of watermarks on paper used during these periods. Prior to 1776 most of the watermarked paper came from Europe with the Dutch, British and French often being the suppliers. It was not until 1776 that Nathan Sellers developed the first paper mould factory in Philadelphia. Paper making became an essential industry during the War of Independence since European paper could no longer be obtained reliably due to the British naval blockade.[19] Any paper made in America prior to 1776 was produced using paper moulds purchased from European countries.

A great deal of further study is needed to document these interesting artifacts and their variations which are found on many early American paper products, The author requests that C4 members look at their colonial and confederation currency, documents. pamphlets, almanacs, broadsheets, books, newspapers, and all other paper products with an aim toward determining the presence of a watermark. This data should be recorded with: 1) a description of the specific paper item, 2) the date of the item if known, 3) the denomination of the item if currency, 4) whether or not a watermark exists or not, and 5) if a watermark is present, a description of what the watermark says or represents. There are literally thousands of watermarks and some are very hard to decipher, but please take a stab at describing what you see!! I would appreciate an email sent to rogermoore435@yahoo.com with your findings. I will keep your data anonymous and if I end up wanting to use your watermarks in a more comprehensive paper, I will request your permission to do so.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank Sarah J. Weatherwax, Senior Curator of Graphic Arts, for having given me access to the 600 pieces of colonial currency archived in The Library Company of Philadelphia, as well as Ainsley Wynn Eakins, also of the Library Company, who directly provided help in finding the needed archived items. Similarly, Jesse C. Kraft, Ph.D., Resolute Americana Assistant Curator of American Numismatics, provided me a listing of the huge collection of colonial and confederation currencies in the American Numismatic Society archives and shepherded me through the process of visiting the American Numismatic Society and examining all the pieces of currency for watermarks with photography. He is a delightful and very knowledgeable individual and an asset to the study of early American numismatics! Ray Williams was also an essential part of this project since he opened up his collection to me and allowed me to photograph many of his pieces, many of which were used in this paper. As most know, he is a super person and the best ever ambassador for colonial numismatics. Finally, others have spent time and effort for this article and their data will be used in a future paper. They include John Bolger, Bruce Smith, Leo Shane, Mike Brooks, Bill Liatys, and Robert Bransfield. Thank you all!

[19] Dard Hunter, *Papermaking in Pioneer America*, University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia, 1952, pp. 130-139.

TWO CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA MEDALS

(Christopher R. McDowell, Esq.[1])

Below are two significant Charleston, South Carolina, Betts medals that will be in Volume III of my multi-volume work on Betts medals. Volume I, *The Early Betts Medal Companion: Medals of America's Discovery and Colonization (1492–1737)*, was published in 2022 by the American Numismatic Association. Volume II is being edited for publication now, and will hopefully be out by the end of this year or early 2024. Since Volume III may not be out for some time, I wanted to share this new information with the American Colonial medal collecting community now. No image of Betts 507 has ever appeared before in print, and the current information published on Betts 508 is largely incorrect and incomplete. The information is in the same format as it will appear in Volume III, which will conclude my study of Betts medals.

No. 507. ca. 1801, HIBERNIAN SOCIETY OF CHARLESTON, S.C.
Betts-507



Obv. *HIBERNIAN*)|(*SOCIETY* (above) *CHARLESTON* ° *SC* ° (below). The legend is engraved on an oval band surrounding a harp. At the center, a right-facing six-string harp is in skeleton, the harp's body is in the form of a winged female figure with a fish's tail. At the top is an elliptical with a loop for suspension.

Rev. The reverse displays the same engraved harp but facing to the left. The reverse has no legend.

History: Although its roots go back to 1799, the Hibernian Society of Charleston, South Carolina, was organized on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 1801. The Society's original purpose was to assist recent Irish immigrants settling in the city. In 1801, the Society's constitution provided for a badge, requiring that "each member shall be supplied with a green ribbon on which shall be struck in gold a harp surrounded with the words 'Hibernian Society, Charleston, S.C.' and this shall be the distinguishing badge of the members of this Society and shall be worn on the left breast on St. Patrick's Day."

[1] President, Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4); Editor, *Journal of Early American Numismatics*; Fellow of the American Numismatic Society; Rittenhouse Member.

The Society initially met in Corbett's Tavern until a suitable meeting hall was constructed. Unlike many other Irish organizations, its presidents alternated between Protestants and Catholics, making it a place where all Irish immigrants could gather in their new country free from the religious hostility of their home country. In 1840, a meeting hall was built in the city. The Hall was dedicated in 1841 and has played an outsized role in the life of the city and nation. It is the only extant building associated with the 1860 National Democratic Convention, one of the most critical assemblies in this nation's history. During the convention, it served as the headquarters of the faction supporting Stephen A. Douglas for president. After the convention could not decide on a candidate, it disintegrated, precipitating a split in the Democrat Party that resulted in the election of Abraham Lincoln.

Comments: Silver. Oval, 49.1 mm at 12K, 152 grains. Other than the badge at the Yale University Art Gallery, a bequest from the estate of C. Wyllys Betts in 1887, one other badge has been confirmed by this author in the family descended from one of the Society's founders. That badge is suspended by a green velvet ribbon. It is suspected that others are extant. Betts' editors were critical of including this piece and accurately equated it with the "English Masonic Medals of the last century."

Interestingly, none of the three editors of Betts' book had ever seen a specimen of this medal, even though Betts had one in his collection. Betts' executor, Frederic H. Betts, must have shipped C. Wyllys Betts' numismatic items to Yale shortly after his younger brother's untimely death and failed to examine or inventory them. In a footnote on page 226, the editors wrote that No. 507 is not, "strictly speaking," a medal. This is technically correct. It is a badge designed to be worn by the Society's members on a special occasion, St. Patrick's Day. Although the line between a badge and a medal is often blurry and cannot sometimes be easily discerned from the item itself, the history of No. 507 makes clear that it is a hand-engraved badge of distinction, not a die-struck or cast medal.

C. Wyllys Betts included this badge in Chapter VII, From the Peace of Paris to the Revolution, and indicated his belief that it was created around 1763. Because the Hibernian Society of Charleston, South Carolina, was not organized until 1801, its inclusion in this chapter and in Betts' book, which covers America's colonial medals, was in error. Accordingly, although this badge is a fascinating historical relic, it should be delisted from the corpus of contemporary American colonial medals.

Prices realized: None.

Other specimens: Yale University Art Gallery (Silver, Ex: C. Wyllys Betts, no. 2001.87.26022 [shown]).

No. 508. ca. 1763, CHARLES TOWN (S.C.) SOCIAL CLUB
Betts–508



Obv. *VINCTI AMICITIA* (Bound in friendship). Two well-dressed eighteenth-century gentlemen wearing tri-cornered hats and holding canes, shaking hands; a tree stands at the left, and in the background across the water is a church and buildings to the right.

Rev. Inscription in six lines: *SOCIAL CLUB* | *INSTITUTED* | *CHARLES TOWN* | *SOUTH CAROLINA* | *VI OCTOBER* | *MDCCLXIII* .

History: See the Comments section below.

Comments: Silver = 35.7 x 33.3 mm. oval, 315.74 grains. Bronze = 35.7 x 33.4 mm. oval, 248.0 grains. Both the LaRiviere and Ford catalogs state C. Wyllys Betts wrote that this medal was known in "silver," but "no evidence for this has ever been found and the piece is recorded in bronze only." This information is incorrect. The number of surviving medals is at least seven, one of which is in silver. Betts indicated that the bronze specimens were "probably restrikes." It should be noted that the bronze examples are all in a high state of preservation, showing little or no wear. The discovery of a heavily worn and holed silver example in the Yale University Art Galley's collection along with other evidence validates Betts' opinion that the bronze specimens are restrikes.

The most obvious comparison to the Charles Town Social Club medal is No. 383, the Annapolis Tuesday Club medal, produced in England c. 1750 by the London-based medalist and merchant John Kirk (1724–1778). Both the Annapolis and Charleston medals are unsigned. Most of the extant Annapolis medals are silver, but a copper restrike that exhibits signs of die rust is known. Although the Tuesday Club medals were dated 1746, they were struck circa 1750. We know a great deal about the Tuesday Club's medals because the organization's copious records have been carefully preserved at the John Hopkins library; however, no records relating to the Charleston Social Club of 1763 exist. It is unsurprising that the Charleston club's papers have disappeared, considering the ravages of war and weather, including a devastating earthquake in 1885 and a fire in 1861 that destroyed a large portion of the city.

The silver Charleston Social Club medal at the Yale University Art Gallery was part of the bequest to that institution of medals and coins by C. Wyllys Betts' estate in 1887. The silver medal is holed at 12K, in

keeping with a medal suspended by a ribbon and worn by club members. There is also evidence of wear consistent with long-term use and environmental or other damage befitting a medal of its age.



Silver Charles Town Social Club Medal in the Yale University Art Gallery Collection.
Ex: Estate of C. Wyllys Betts

It is fair to assume that gentlemen who could afford to have a medal fashioned in far-away England would commission the work in silver, not bronze. There is no reason to suspect this medal was engraved or struck in America. Instead, like the Annapolis Tuesday Club medal, it would have been made in England for use in America. Also, like the Annapolis medal, there is little reason to believe it was prepared on the date appearing on the reverse. Rather, the 1763 date commemorates the club's founding, not the striking date.

As previously stated, little is known about the Charles Town Social Club. American numismatists first took interest in the medal and club in the mid-1850s. As reported in the July 1870 issue of the *American Journal of Numismatics* in a story titled "Medal of the Social Club, Charleston," on March 28, 1856, the Boston numismatist Jeremiah Colburn wrote to antiquarians in Charleston to obtain information on the club's history and medal. At that time, there was still living in Charleston the club's oldest known member, Judge Mitchell King (1783–1862), who was said to have revived the organization after "a considerable period of torpidity." Unfortunately, although Colburn and other New England numismatists received several polite responses from their southern friends, including Judge King, who only vaguely recalled hearing something of the medals, no information was received regarding the medal or the club's past.

The medal is recorded as early as 1817, when a copper version was sold at auction in London.[2] That specific medal can be traced to Thomas Brand Hollis (1719–1804), as it was part of his estate, bequeathed to his friend John Disney (1746–1816), the consigner of the 1817 sale. Where Thomas Brand Hollis, a/k/a Thomas Brand ("Brand"), obtained the medal is uncertain; however, Brand attained his fortune the old-fashioned way, through inheritance. He was the only heir of the wealthy English philanthropist and patron of the arts Thomas Hollis (1720–1774) ("Hollis"), who gave his estate to Brand on the condition that he assume the last name Hollis. It cannot be proven one way or the other if the medal was part and parcel of the 1774 Hollis estate or if it was a later acquired item by Brand. According to the July 1870 *AJN* story, the bequest to Brand included medals formerly belonging to Hollis, a fact confirmed by the 1817 sale's title. Thomas Hollis

[2] Sotheby, *A Catalogue of the Very Valuable and Extensive Collection of Ancient & Modern Coins and Medals, Collected by Thomas Hollis, Esq. and Thomas Brand Hollis, Esq.,* May 14–20, 1817, lot 270.

was infatuated with the American democratic experiment and was also intimately involved in the design and manufacture of medals in the 1750s and 60s. Hollis had many unique medals in his collection, some of which ended up in the British Museum. These medals were gifts to Hollis from English medalist seeking to curry favor with a wealthy benefactor or specifically made for him as collector's items. It is not a stretch to assume that whomever the engraver was, he kept the dies. And, like the engraver of the Annapolis Tuesday Club medal, produced restrikes years later to sell or distribute to friends. If such a restrike was produced, it stands to reason that it would have been offered to Hollis or Brand.

In the 2006 sale of the bronze Ford example, Michael Hodder noted, "Rim filed at right obverse and die rust elsewhere exactly as seen on the LaRiviere specimen." In May 2023, Dr. Jesse Kraft, the Resolute Americana Assistant Curator of American Numismatics at ANS, examined the ANS specimen and recorded that the "rim is filed about 2–9 o'clock, with horizontal file marks. The rest of the edge shows vertical striations, presumably from its ejection out of the collar (very well could be file marks as well, but their semi-irregularity makes them appear to be ejection marks). Both obverse and reverse rims are beveled all the way around, so the edge wouldn't be so sharp to the touch." Additional file marks were seen on the obverse rim from 2–5 o'clock and the same on the reverse from 2–7 o'clock. As for die rust, Dr. Kraft stated, "I do see what appears to be die rust…. I can't see any of the rust spots in the image, they blend in, but there is a large one to the right of the elbow to the right, another below their shaking hands, and small ones all about." The observations of die rust on these bronze specimens is a powerful indication, particularly when combined with all the other evidence, that Betts was correct to conclude that the bronze examples are restrikes of the medal originally struck in silver. Dr. Kraft has also punch linked the Charles Town Social Club medal to letter punches used on the 1761 George and Charlotte marriage medal engraved by John Kirk, meaning that Kirk could have prepared two iconic early American club medals, Nos. 383 and 508.

In the mid-eighteenth century, Charles Town, the name was officially changed to Charleston in 1783, was the fourth largest city in the American colonies, with a thriving port where half of all enslaved persons entering the United States passed. Slavery and cash crops made Charleston the wealthiest city in pre-Revolutionary America, allowing it to become a cultural hub. America's first theater building was constructed there in 1736. Benevolent societies were formed by the city's eclectic communities prior to the American Revolution, Huguenots, free people of color, Germans, Jews, and others organized clubs and societies. The Library Society was organized in 1748 by well-born young men wanting to share the financial cost of books to keep up on the latest scientific and philosophical issues of the day.

In private correspondence with this author, Julia Casey stated that the medal's English die engraver obtained inspiration from a 1749 print of Charleston prepared by William H. Toms (ca. 1723–1758). There is much merit to Ms. Casey's theory. The city-scape engraving was reproduced in *London Magazine* or *Gentleman's Monthly Intelligencer* in June 1762.



William Tom's 1749 engraving of Charles Town, South Carolina

Of interest, Tom's engraving depicts two gentlemen at the bottom just left of center. These two men wear clothes remarkably like the two gentlemen on the Social Club medal; they even carry canes and wear tri-cornered hats.

Enlarged view of the two gentlemen on Tom's engraving



It is as if the medal's unknown engraver took artistic license and used this scene to prepare a die from the perspective of someone standing at ground level near the two men looking across the harbor with the buildings in the background. While none of this can be confirmed, the engraving of the city does show that a London-based die-sinker would have something upon which to base an accurate design of Charleston and its inhabitance.

This medal is of great historical interest and importance. Hopefully, one day we will learn more about the Charles Town Social Club and the medal's manufacture.

Prices realized: LaRiviere II $19,500 (AU, bronze, lot 2107); Ford XIV $57,500 (MS, bronze, lot 322); Heritage $52,875 (AU, Ex: LaRiviere, Ex: Adams, 01/08/2014, lot 3068 [shown]).

Other specimens: The British Museum (Bronze [copper alloy], no. M.3814); Yale University Art Gallery (Silver, Ex: C. Wyllys Betts, no. 2001.87.26411 [shown]), (Bronze, Ex: C. Wyllys Betts, no 2001.87.26407); American Numismatic Society (Bronze, no. 0000.999.38238); Massachusetts Historical Society (Bronze, Ex: Estate of Wm. S. Appleton; Joseph Bushnell, Spec. Colls. Numismatics –Betts 508).

METAL DETECTING CORNER – JULY 2023

(Matthew Virga)

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Tree Coin Spill - Recovered from Aquidneck Island, Rhode Island

Jim Flynn has been metal detecting for about ten years starting with an entry level Bounty Hunter. After quickly realizing he enjoyed the hobby, he decided to purchase a higher end metal detector, a Garrett AT Pro. He almost exclusively hunts cellar holes and former farm fields that have long since transitioned to forests. He has made many great finds in these types of digging sites, including a 1790 King George III Gold Guinea, three George Washington Inaugural Buttons, 6 brass kettle points, and numerous other colonial and early US coins and relics.

Saturday, May 6, 2023, was unusual because he was not in the woods hunting a cellar hole. Through his family, he obtained permission to hunt a field on Aquidneck Island, Rhode Island. From the research he had done (and from what he was told), there was a colonial homesite nearby. The British burned the house during the war and it was never rebuilt. Supposedly, there were also Hessian troops that camped out in the field on this property in August 1778.

Jim did not have a ton of luck in the field as it was overgrown and filled with wood ticks, so he made his way down to a small wooded and brushy spot at the bottom of the field near a small stream that was covered with overgrowth.

He got a 78 to 80 signal on the detector and dug down about 4-5 inches. After pinpointing the target, he noticed there was a silver disk in the hole. It was completely covered with dirt so he had no way of identifying it at first glance. He figured it was some kind of old silver, maybe a Spanish real. He wiped off the dirt and saw the numbers “1652.” He said to himself in his head, “No way, no way did I just dig a tree shilling.” He was in shock, but Jim did in fact find his first ever pine tree shilling.



After calming down, Jim re-checked the area and got another similar signal on his metal detector five feet away from the previous signal. Out popped another dark silver disk, this time a little larger. Again, he saw the date gleaming at him. An Oak Tree Shilling.

Jim informed the property owner of his finds (A very noble, admirable gesture by detectorists standards) and they decided to split the finds 50-50. Jim kept the Pine Tree Shilling, while the land owner kept the Oak Tree Shilling. An absolute epic ending to an epic day on Aquidneck Island.



High Grade Club Rays Fugio Cent - Recovered from Massachusetts

Charles Gilbert has been metal detecting for about 7 years. Two years ago, he came across an early eighteenth-century home cellar hole with nicely stacked stones. At the time, the site was "untouched." Up until 2023, he had found 5 colonial era copper coins and about 15 buttons at the site. On a recent hunt, he decided to investigate the chimney stack, an area he had never tried previously. He found a couple of pewter baby spoons, 4 buttons, and a few musket balls near the chimney stack.

Then, he got a nice high reading on his metal detector between two flat rocks and out popped this beautiful high grade 1787 Newman 3-D Fugio Cent





Contemporary Counterfeit Connecticuts - Recovered from Connecticut

Dave Wise is a legendary treasure hunter from Connecticut. In his metal detecting career, he has found nearly a dozen George Washington inaugural buttons, hundreds of colonial copper coins, and some of the finest relics a digger could dream of, including a beautiful sword hilt. However, when Dave posted about this Connecticut Copper in the Circulating Contemporary Counterfeit Facebook group, I knew I had to inquire further.

He indicated that this particular coin rang up as a 55/56 VDI on his metal detector which is indicative of a "bullet." Most coppers would ring up in the high 70s to mid 80s VDI on the type of machine Dave swings (A Whites MXT All-Pro Metal Detector.) While the below example is definitively debatable as to whether it is a counterfeit, it can be inferred that the planchet from which it was cast or struck was potentially from a debased metal mixture.





After inquiring further, Dave shared this very interesting Miller 1.1-A Small Head Connecticut he dug a few years back. Interestingly, the below example came out of very sandy, unfertilized soil and rings up as a solid 25/26 VDI on the same metal detector. A 25/26 signal on the MXT All-Pro metal detector is a "Nickel" signal and not normally associated with a copper coin. It can be definitively concluded the below example is a contemporary counterfeit.



More research and sample sizing is needed, however VDI readings on modern multi-frequency metal detectors, may prove to be conclusive (from a generalists perspective) as to whether a colonial era copper coin was made (struck or cast) from a debased metal mixture. Of course, the whole debate as to whether a dug copper was cast or struck cannot be concluded from VDI alone. However, VDI may provide additional support to these investigative circles.

Conclusions

Each of these diggers relied on their metal detector's VDI readings to determine what type of signal they were about to dig. Often, diggers will rely on a combination of tone and VDI to determine whether or not they will dig a target or skip a target. While the deer ticks are out in full force, each of these treasure hunters were not deterred and their finds will be forever enshrined into the *C4N*'s list of outstanding finds. Be careful if you decide to venture out to metal detect during the summer/fall. Cover up, and take precautions before venturing into wooded areas!

- Happy hunting (both on the bourse and in the woods.)

VLACK 9-76B AND 9-87NY: DIE STATES AND EMISSION SEQUENCE - A NEW LOOK

(James Rosen and Mark Vitunic)

In the recently published book *The History and Coinage of Machin's Mills,* the authors state that it is likely that the American-made imitation British halfpenny Vlack 9-76B was struck circa 1786 at Samuel Atlee's brewery mint in New York City.[1] Additionally, it was also felt that Vlack 9-87NY, an American-made imitation mule,[2] which would have probably circulated as a halfpenny, was struck circa 1789 at Machin's Mills.[3] It is believed that the three dies for these coins, obverse 9 and reverses 76B and 87NY, were produced at the brewery mint circa 1786 by James Atlee, possibly with the assistance of Walter Mould. In April of 1787, six men with diverse backgrounds in the New York City vicinity formed a partnership for the sole purpose of producing unofficial coinage at Thomas Machin's mills near Newburgh, New York. This was not the first foray for some of these individuals into producing unauthorized coinage as the clandestine mint in Samuel Atlee's brewery was churning out phony coppers probably since 1785.[4]

Recently, one of the authors of this paper (MV), while researching information about misaligned pre-federal dies in *The History and Coinage of Machin's Mills,* came across what has become a conundrum. He noticed that a specific 9-76B example as plated in the Machin's Mills book and seen in Figure 1, has a distinctly horizontal die break emanating from just right of the tip of the nose to the cheekbone in a west-northwestern path. He then looked at the 9-87NY piece also plated in the aforementioned book and realized that something was amiss. How could the 9-76B, as seen in Figure 1, be made prior to the 9-87NY, as seen in Figure 2, when the 9-87NY did not possess the horizontal die break on the face found on the 9-76B? The current dogma is that the 9-87NY was made late in the game at Machin's Mills, circa 1789 as things were winding down at this mint. Mules were being produced from dies that really did not belong together, and the 9-87NY was just one example of several Machin's Mills' mules. This observation prompted the question: what was the real sequence of emission of these two coins?



Figure 1. The Vlack 9-76B "conundrum" coin. (Photo courtesy of Heritage.com)

[1] Howes, Jack, James Rosen, Gary Trudgen, *The History and Coinage of Machin's Mills,* C4, pp.131-132, 2020.
[2] A mule is a coin with an obverse and reverse that are not normally seen on the same coin.
[3] Howes, et. al., op. cit., pp. 143-145. Vlack obverse 9 is only used in these two die marriages.
[4] Ibid, pp. 102-104.



Figure 2. The Parmelee/Mills/Garrett/Terranova/Partrick specimen of the Vlack 9-87NY, also the *Red Book* plate coin and likely the finest of five known. (Photo courtesy of Heritage.com)

Solving this enigma starts with an examination of die states beginning with the observation of an early die state (DS1) of Vlack obverse 9 when married with obverse 76B as seen in Figure 3a. Notice that this coin reveals a very small die break emanating from the S in CEORCIVS and traversing to the top of the bust. Further deterioration of this break leads to DS2, revealing a large cud above the head as observed in Figure 3b, along with a die break from the right edge of the cud through the leaf and onto the forehead. As this die continued its journey, a further die crack appeared (DS3) as seen in Figure 3c, running from the bridge of the nose to the left vertical stroke of the letter R of REX. The last die state, DS4, can be seen in Figure 3d (coin from Figure 1) which exhibits a horizontal die break beginning from just right of the nose, passing under the nostril and toward the cheek bone, along with progression of the die break at the right edge of the cud. To the best of our knowledge, DS4 has been found only in the (JR) example of Figure 1 which lists its provenance as Tony Terranova and Eric P. Newman. So how could 9-87NY have been struck after 9-76B when the five known specimens of the 9-87NY coin (see Figures 2 and 4) do not show any evidence of this horizontal die break?





Figure 3a. DS1 of Vlack obverse 9.





Figure 3b. DS2 of Vlack obverse 9.





Figure 3c. DS3 of Vlack obverse 9.

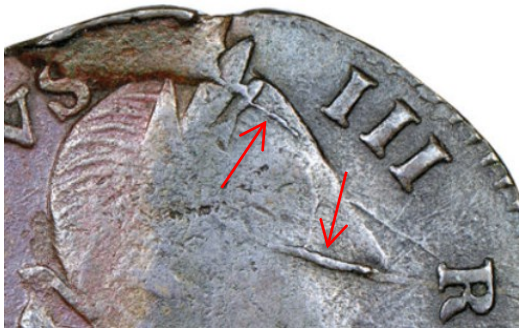


Figure 3d. DS4 of Vlack obverse 9 (coin from Figure 1).



(a) (b) (c) (d)

Figure 4. The other four known examples of 9-87NY:
(a) Devonshire/Roper/Long Island Collection, (b) PCGS CoinFacts #442, (c) Newman 1958 "enigma" article coin (also the Breen plate coin), and (d) a flip-over double struck specimen in a private collection. Coin (b) is the only example showing a portion of the "S" in CEORCIVS in the weakly struck-up area along with the lower defining edge of the cud, confirming that the DS2 die break predated this specimen and likely all 9-87NYs.

One theory, which is the most likely in our view, is that obverse 9 along with Atlee's reverse 76B and pattern reverse 87NY were brought to Machin's Mills when Atlee moved there in 1787. Further 9-76Bs were most likely produced at Machin's Mills where obverse 9 developed DS2 and DS3, with the significant cud above the head along with the crack to the letter R. It is certainly possible, however, that 9-76Bs with the cud (DS2) were produced at the brewery mint. As the Machin's Mills mint began to close its doors in the spring of 1789, possibly due to the Constitution becoming the law of the land and the beginning of the Coppers Panic, mules were being produced at the mint. Vlack 9-87NY was one such coin, with obverse 9 paired with the Standing Indian reverse, clearly two dies that were not made to strike a coin together. The five known examples of this mule reveal that obverse 9 is clearly misaligned in the press and out of the horizontal plane of the reverse die. This misalignment has historically been felt to be deliberate in an attempt to try and preserve the life of the obverse die.[5] However, our analysis of the sequence of the emissions suggests that this misalignment was probably not deliberate but rather was accidental. After all, if the die was deliberately misaligned in an effort to try and preserve the obverse die, why was it not misaligned for the further strikings of the 9-76B for the same reason? Either way, the outcome of this misalignment is that 9-87NY shows significant weakness at the top of the obverse and the corresponding area on the reverse, resulting in the DS1 and DS2 die breaks not striking up (with the single exception of a small portion of the DS2 break on the coin in Figure 4b). The DS3 die break, however, does appear on most if not all 9-87NY specimens.[6] For possible reasons discussed below,

[5] Ibid, p. 144.

[6] The authors considered the possibility that the primary DS4 die break simply did not strike up on the 9-87NY, as being mostly on top of the obverse bust, it would have existed in the deepest recesses of the die. This possibility was discarded, however, primarily based on the coin in Figure 2, which is extremely well struck up in the mouth, nose, nostril, and eye socket areas with not even a hint of the DS4 breaks.

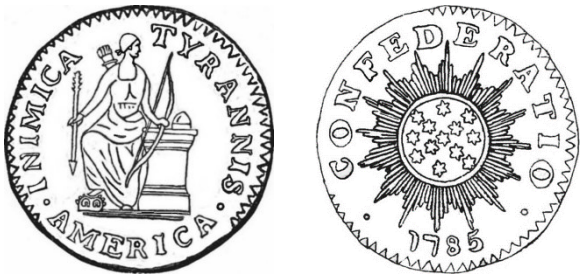
production of this mule appears to have been interrupted and the 9-76B production was restarted. When 9-76B production resumed, it is clear from the extant coin of Figure 1 that the obverse die was properly set in the press. It is at this point that with further striking of 9-76B, obverse 9 must have suffered its DS4 event.

Why does production of the 9-87NY variety seem to be limited? It is possible that early on during striking of the 9-87NY, the Standing Indian die completely failed leaving few coins currently extant. Plus, with only five known specimens surviving today, finding a coin with the fatal die damage may be lost to history. An additional possibility to explain the few surviving 9-87NYs is that the coiners may have realized that this coin might not be recognizable to the public with its Standing Indian iconography and thus it might not be readily accepted in commerce. Therefore, they decided that with the Coppers Panic enveloping the New York area, it was best to make coins that were more familiar to the general population, like the 9-76B. Being ever so resourceful, the coiners at Machin's Mills then took obverse 9 with its DS3 die breaks, properly placed it in the press and re-married it with the existing 76B reverse and began striking more coins until obverse 9 failed completely, with the coin exhibiting the DS4 die break from Figure 1 being among the last coins struck from these dies. It certainly appears then that some 9-76Bs were struck after the 9-87NY and at Machin's Mills.

So, in conclusion, we believe that the 9-76B was struck in two locations and clearly at two different times. It is believed the DS1 coins without the cud were struck early on at the brewery mint while those with the cud may have first been struck there but clearly later at Machin's Mills. The finding of the holy-grail 9-76B with an almost fatal die flaw not seen on any other of the known 9-76Bs or any 9-87NYs supports the theory that some 9-76Bs were struck at Machin's Mills after the striking of the 9-87NY.

We would like to thank the other two authors of the Machin's Mills book, Jack Howes and Gary Trudgen, each of whom was consulted on this theory and agreed with our conclusion. We would also like to thank Gary Trudgen for his review and helpful suggestions to this article, and Kevin Vinton for assistance in updating and confirming the census of known examples of 9-87NY.

(additional photo credits: 3a, 4a - Heritage.com; 3b, 3c - Stacksbowers.com)



BOOK REVIEW: THE ANNOTATED EAC CONNECTICUT SALE OF FEBRUARY 15, 1975, BY EDWARD R. BARNSLEY

(Kevin Patton)

This spring I purchased a well-traveled copy of the February 1975 "Pine Tree Sale" catalogue from our society; along with the catalogue I borrowed Ned Barnsley's commentary on it from the C4 library. This volume consists of a binder of unpublished correspondence and notes regarding the catalogue of this landmark auction, which was conducted by Pine Tree Auctions, of Albertson, Long Island, N.Y., with the catalogue prepared under the direction of Walter Breen. In addition to impressive selections of Vermont coppers and U.S. large cents, the sale is legendary for its Connecticut copper offerings and for its high-quality photographic plates which include most of the lots offered – exceptional coverage for the era. It is also notorious for Breen's decision to list the lots not in order of Miller die variety number, but by grouping each year's varieties by mint, then by order of striking, subdividing these groups according to shared die characteristics. This, he felt, would improve collectors' understanding of the series, however an auction catalogue is not a good place to use a non-standard classification system. The Miller die variety numbers are included, but they are frequently out of order. Breen would use a refined version of his system when he compiled his 1988 'Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins.'

Roughly half of the binder's contents consists of copies of the auction catalogue, cut up and rearranged conventionally, in order by Miller die variety. Barnsley also lists the die varieties vs. lot numbers, providing a helpful guide to the catalogue. A note in the binder directs the reader to the University of Notre Dame numismatic website, at https://coins.nd.edu/EAC-Conn.Lots.1-553/ - the files on this site include a Miller number vs. lot number index, typed up by the late Neil Rothschild, as well as electronic copies of the lot photos which are a little sharper than those in the original catalogue. Photos of just the Connecticut varieties from the sale were also reproduced in Sanford J. Durst's 1981 reprint of Miller's 'The State Coinage of Connecticut,' but are not quite as clear as those in the catalogue.

The binder includes some interesting correspondence. Regarding an announced deluxe bound edition of the catalogue, a December 5, 1975 'Dear Customer' letter is included refunding Barnsley's $35 payment and explaining that Pine Tree had hoped to "find craftsmen capable of reproducing the photographic plates in a manner that would make them worthy of a place in your library… We searched and searched, but to no avail." Barnsley's note in the margin was simply: "B.S." In another letter, apparently to Eric Newman and others, Barnsley refers to Breen's outspoken criticisms in the catalogue of Miller's classification system as "grossly unfair." Of course, the inherent flaw in Breen's system is that while many Connecticut varieties can be attributed to a specific engraver or mint with a good degree of confidence, attribution with absolute certainty is another thing. In fact, Breen had already changed his mind on some varieties by the time he wrote his essay, *Legal and Illegal Connecticut Mints, 1785-1789*, which appeared in ANS's 1976 book 'Studies on Money in Early America.'

While Ned Barnsley's commentary did not provide any great revelations, it contained some interesting and helpful information, including a copy of Barnsley's 'Finding List,' a flow chart to help quickly identify Connecticut copper die varieties, which appears to still be a useful tool fifty years later. The title sheet of the binder notes that it is a third-generation copy, however only the catalogue photos have suffered any significant loss of quality.

TWO LESS COMMON COINS FOUND IN 18TH-CENTURY AMERICAN TRADE

(Leo Shane)

The second half of the 18th century was a time when many different coins were used in North American commerce. You could probably justify saying that just about all the coins of the world could be found in the seaports and major commercial centers of the American colonies and later in the United States. While this was true, there were certain coins that were seen more often than others. Tables of these trade coins and their values could be found in the very popular almanacs commonly used by merchants as tools of the trade.

Below is a coin table taken from *The Pennsylvania Town and Country-Man's Almanack* for the year 1757, by John Tobler. It was printed by Christopher Sower in Germantown, PA. The table shows a list of gold and silver coins commonly used in commerce.



A Table ſhewing the Weight *and* Value *of* Gold *and* Silver *Coin in* Pennſylvania *Currency.*

	Value £	s	d	Penny Weight	Grains
Engliſh Guineas each	1	14	0	5	6
French Ditto - - - -	1	13	6	5	5
Moidores - - - - -	2	3	6	6	18
Johannes's - - - - -	5	15	0	18	8
Half Johannes's - - -	2	17	6	9	4
Carolines - - - - -	1	14	0	6	5
Dutch Ducats - - -	0	14	0	2	4
French Piſtoles - - -	1	6	6	4	4
Spaniſh Piſtoles - - -	1	7	0	4	6
Arabian Chequins - -	0	13	6	2	3
Other Gold Coin per Ounce	6	5	0		
French Silver Crowns -	0	7	6	17	6
Spaniſh Milled Pieces of Eight	0	7	6	17	6
Other good coined *Spaniſh* Silver per Ounce	0	8	6		

Coin chart from *The Pennsylvania Town and Country-Man's Almanack*, 1757.

It is easy to imagine coins from England and France being present in 18th-century American commerce. There was considerable trade with these countries during that time. It is also logical to imagine coins from Spain and Portugal and their colonies as these were the monetary powerhouses of the day. Trade with the sugar plantations in Central America also brought these coins to North American seaports. These coins are present in most (75% plus) American almanacs of the 18th century.[1]

[1] Original research by the author.

Two coins on the chart that I would like to discuss are Carolines and Arabian chequins. They are not as popular as the coins previously discussed, but they do appear in the coin charts of American almanacs.



1735 German Carolin gold coin.

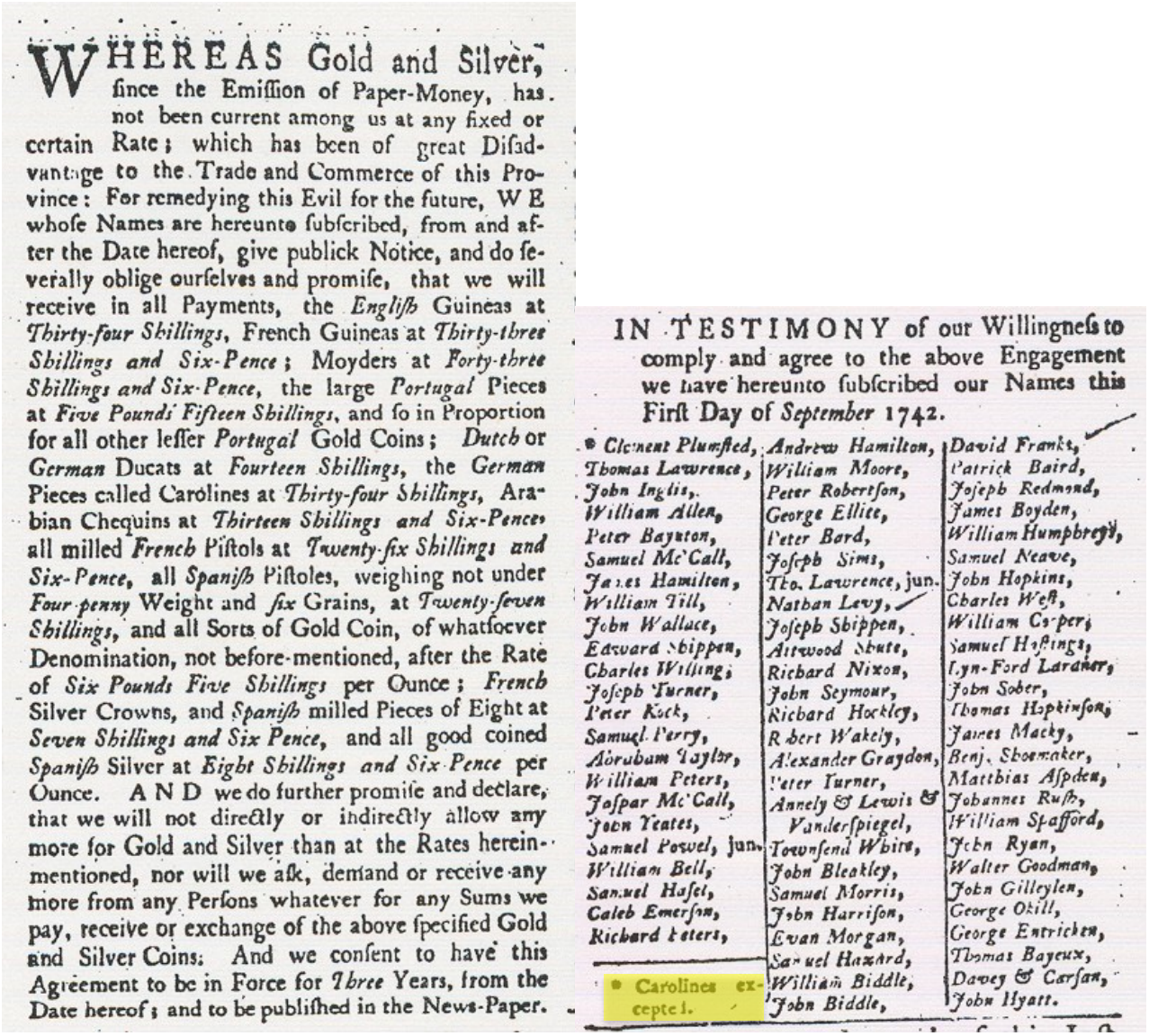
The Carolin (or Caroline) shown above is from the city-state of Wurttemberg, part of present-day Germany. It features the portrait of Karl (or Carol) Alexander. The obverse legend reads *Carol: Alex: D.G. Dux Wur: & T.* The translation is "Karl Alexander, by the Grace of God (D.G. for *Deo Gratias*) Duke of Wurttemberg and Teck (or Tecensis)". Teck was a smaller nearby city-state near Wurttemberg. The name Carolin comes from the portrait on the obverse of the coin.

The reverse legend is *Per Ardua Virtus* which translates to "Valor through Difficulty". This is most probably a reference to the turbulence and fighting that occurred in the area during the 15th and 16th Centuries while the Roman Empire was in the process of disintegrating.

Carolines are listed in about 25 to 30% of coin chart almanacs[2] making them less common but still a significant part of American commerce during this era. It might be thought that they were mainly brought to the American Colonies by German Hessians during the Revolutionary War. This is not true. Carolines had been listed in almanacs in the 1750's, 60's, and 70's. It is more probable that they were brought by the large number of German immigrants during the 18th century. They also saw increased use as a result of trade with the Germanic States prior to and after the war.

An announcement from the 16 September 1742 issue of the *Pennsylvania Gazette* (next page) shows that Carolines were not as popular as other gold coins. This is indicated by the asterisk and the words "*Carolines Excepted*". This is mainly due to the fact that the gold content of these coins was 77% as opposed to 90 or 92.5% seen in gold coins of other countries.

[2] Original research by the author.



WHEREAS Gold and Silver, ſince the Emiſſion of Paper-Money, has not been current among us at any fixed or certain Rate; which has been of great Diſadvantage to the Trade and Commerce of this Province: For remedying this Evil for the future, WE whoſe Names are hereunto ſubſcribed, from and after the Date hereof, give publick Notice, and do ſeverally oblige ourſelves and promiſe, that we will receive in all Payments, the *Engliſh* Guineas at *Thirty-four Shillings*, French Guineas at *Thirty-three Shillings and Six-Pence*; Moyders at *Forty-three Shillings and Six-Pence*, the large *Portugal* Pieces at *Five Pounds Fifteen Shillings*, and ſo in Proportion for all other leſſer *Portugal* Gold Coins; *Dutch* or *German* Ducats at *Fourteen Shillings*, the *German* Pieces called Carolines at *Thirty-four Shillings*, Arabian Chequins at *Thirteen Shillings and Six-Pence*, all milled *French* Piſtols at *Twenty-ſix Shillings and Six-Pence*, all *Spaniſh* Piſtoles, weighing not under *Four-penny* Weight and *ſix* Grains, at *Twenty-ſeven Shillings*, and all Sorts of Gold Coin, of whatſoever Denomination, not before-mentioned, after the Rate of *Six Pounds Five Shillings* per Ounce; *French* Silver Crowns, and *Spaniſh* milled Pieces of Eight at *Seven Shillings and Six Pence*, and all good coined *Spaniſh* Silver at *Eight Shillings and Six Pence* per Ounce. AND we do further promiſe and declare, that we will not directly or indirectly allow any more for Gold and Silver than at the Rates herein-mentioned, nor will we aſk, demand or receive any more from any Perſons whatever for any Sums we pay, receive or exchange of the above ſpecified Gold and Silver Coins: And we conſent to have this Agreement to be in Force for *Three* Years, from the Date hereof; and to be publiſhed in the News-Paper.

IN TESTIMONY of our Willingneſs to comply and agree to the above Engagement we have hereunto ſubſcribed our Names this Firſt Day of *September* 1742.

* Clement Plumſted,	Andrew Hamilton,	David Franks,
Thomas Lawrence,	William Moore,	Patrick Baird,
John Inglis,	Peter Robertſon,	Joſeph Redmond,
William Allen,	George Ellite,	James Boyden,
Peter Bayton,	Peter Bard,	William Humphreys,
Samuel Mc'Call,	Joſeph Sims,	Samuel Neave,
James Hamilton,	Tho. Lawrence, jun.	John Hopkins,
William Till,	Nathan Levy,	Charles Weſt,
John Wallace,	Joſeph Shippen,	William Cooper,
Edward Shippen,	Attwood Shute,	Samuel Haſtings,
Charles Willing,	Richard Nixon,	Lyn-Ford Lardner,
Joſeph Turner,	John Seymour,	John Sober,
Peter Kock,	Richard Hockley,	Thomas Hopkinſon,
Samuel Perry,	Robert Wakely,	James Macky,
Abraham Taylor,	Alexander Graydon,	Benj. Shoemaker,
William Peters,	Peter Turner,	Matthias Aſpden,
Joſpar Mc'Call,	Annely & Lewis &	Johannes Ruſh,
John Yeates,	Vanderſpiegel,	William Stafford,
Samuel Powel, jun.	Townſend White,	John Ryan,
William Bell,	John Bleakley,	Walter Goodman,
Samuel Haſel,	Samuel Morris,	John Gilleylen,
Caleb Emerſon,	John Harriſon,	George Okill,
Richard Peters,	Evan Morgan,	George Entricken,
	Samuel Hazard,	Thomas Bayeux,
* Carolines excepted.	William Biddle,	Davey & Carſan,
	John Biddle,	John Hyatt.

Announcement in the *Pennsylvania Gazette* 16 Sept 1742. Note highlighted text.

The second coin in the almanac coin chart that I'd like to discuss is the Arabian chequin. This is not a single coin but a series of gold coins that emanated from the Ottoman and Safavid (present-day Iran) Empires. These coins were part of a group of coins which formed a standard trade coin and were exchanged by weight in international commerce.

In his ANS Magazine article[3] Oliver Hoover talks about gold trade coins which include: ducati (ducats), zecchinos, chequins, sultanis, and sequins. The Arabian coins, actually Islamic coins, were brought to America by merchants. Also, a considerable number found their way to American shores by pirates and those who traded with them. If you haven't yet read Mr. Hoover's article, I invite you to read this informative and interesting article.

[3] Oliver D. Hoover, *Coming to America: Islamic Coins in the New World*, American Numismatic Society Magazine, 2014, Vol. 13, Issue 3, pp. 23-33.



1764 Tek Altin (Arabian chequin), Turkey.

The coin pictured above is a 1764 Tek Altin from Turkey. Its inscriptions are in Arabic and unfortunately beyond my capabilities to decipher. The Islamic religion opposes the use of portraits of the living. Thus, these coins look significantly different from European coins with portraits of various rulers. The legends on chequins and other Islamic coins give the names and titles of rulers and identify the date and issuing mint.[4]

As stated earlier, Arabian chequins were part of the international gold coin standard used in commerce throughout the 18th-century world including America. Arabian chequins appear in 15 to 20% of the coin charts in 18th-century American almanacs[5], making them less common but not uncommon to 18th-century merchants.

The inclusion of the coins discussed above shows the multiplicity of coins encountered by merchants during the 18th century. They illustrate the complexity and confusion that occurred during trade in 18th-century America. They demonstrate that commerce was indeed not as simple and straightforward as it is today. It also makes for fascinating study and research.

Special thanks to Jack Howes for the almanac and coin pictures.

[4] Oliver D. Hoover, *Coming to America: Islamic Coins in the New World*, American Numismatic Society Magazine, 2014, Vol. 13, Issue 3, p. 23.

[5] Original research by the author.

CURSED SILVER

(Marcus Mayhugh)

The curse of Collasuyu is quite simple and goes like this: "*Gafe traer mala suerte,*" literally translated, "A Jinx to bring bad luck." (Horner p,237) It was supposedly placed upon the silver of Potosi extracted by the Inca natives who were forced by their Spanish conquerors to toil in the mines of "*cerro rico*", or rich mountain, in what is today Bolivia. The thousands of African slaves that also worked and died in the freezing mines probably uttered a few curses of their own. The Spanish, of course, were not to be deterred by native curses. Perhaps they should have been.

The might of the Spanish New World empire had begun a slow decline starting with the defeat of the Spanish Armada and their unsuccessful invasion of England in 1588. The slide continued when in 1622, they lost huge amounts of treasure on the *Atocha* and *Santa Margarita*. They also lost an entire treasure fleet to the Dutch Captain, Piet Heyn, in 1628. They lost another treasure ship known to collectors simply as *The Concepcion* with many casualties and an immense treasure. The loss of these galleons was devastating to the Spanish who depended on them to finance their economy and their never-ending wars.

The Spanish did, however, rebuild and struggled to maintain their status as a world power up until the middle of the 17th century. After the year 1650, a series of events rocked the once powerful empire and facilitated its inevitable decline. The three major happenings were 1.) The Potosi mint scandal; 2.) the loss of several more treasure fleets; and, 3.) the destruction of most of their naval resources by the British. All three of these events are inter-related and involve a treasure that some say is cursed.

The first and probably the most disastrous event to befall Spain in this period was the Potosi mint scandal. For years it was suspected that the coins of the Potosi mint were debased and adulterated, but It wasn't until her trading partners, China, in particular, began to refuse the Potosi coins that King Philip IV was forced to intercede. The King's able administrator Don Franciso de Nestares Marin was sent to Potosi to investigate, and the true scope of the scandal was finally exposed. Greed, graft and corruption, occupied every facet of the minting process, from the highest officials down to the lowliest Indian workers. The Potosi mint scandal had a ruinous effect on Spain's economy and Nestares worked quickly to correct the situation.

After replacing the corrupt officials, improving the conditions and wages at the mint, and reducing taxes on the silver brought to the mint, Nestares quickly moved to punish those responsible for the fiasco. Mendel Sewell, in his booklet "The Potosi Mint Scandal and Great Transition of 1652," tells us that Nestares convicted 42 people directly associated with the mint and 38 more throughout the region for a total of 80. He tells us that according to the law, "some were hung, others were beheaded, and a number went to prison or were banished into exile." Naturally, some of the well-connected and influential persons escaped punishment, although a former mayor of Potosi, and a former chief assayer were publicly executed.

Next, Nestares moved to rectify the actual debased coinage in circulation. All Potosi minor coinage (two-, one- and half-reales) were called in to be melted. The eight- and four-reales issued during the period were stamped with a series of counterstamps that devalued the eight-reales coin to 7½ reales and the 4 reales pieces to 3¾ reales. It should be noted that Daniel Sedwick, noted treasure dealer, says that this really wasn't

much of a devaluation as 8 reales coins were currently in circulation at 6 reales. The stamps actually increased the value of the coins. The counterstamped coins were to serve as a temporary replacement until more stable coinage could be put into circulation and then they would be melted down. Many of these counterstamped coins, along with the newly designed "pillar and waves type" Potosi coins, made up a good deal of what has been called the "unlucky" treasure that began its unfortunate journey aboard the Spanish galleon, *Jesus, Maria de la Limpia Concepcion* (Jesus and Mary of the Immaculate conception,) the flagship of the Spanish South Sea (Pacific ocean) Armada.

This ship, also known to collectors as *La Capitana* was huge, roughly twice the size of the famous treasure ship *Atocha*, and was sailing in calm water off the coast of Ecuador when she ran aground - A simple case of pilot error. She was so overloaded with contraband and smuggled goods, that her anchors couldn't be reached to stabilize her, and she was lost with tons of treasure including many of the revalued countermarked and newly-designed Potosi silver. Another scandal was soon discovered with the *La Capitana* sinking. Although the cargo was registered at three million pesos it was discovered that the ship carried close to ten million pesos, wrote a representative of the King. The ship was carrying 7,000,000 undeclared pesos! It has been said that if she had not been so overloaded, she would have been able to free herself from the bottom. Smuggling was a way of life in the New World fleet system from the Admirals down to the cabin boys. Nobody was going to risk his life in tropics without trying to make a little extra on the side. Since the *Capitana* was close to shore there was little loss of life except that twenty people drowned trying to swim ashore with their pockets full of contraband. (Horner) The salvage efforts however were fairly successful and much of her cargo was retrieved and sent to Havana.

In Havana, the recovered treasure was loaded aboard another ship, *Nuestra Senora de la Maravilla* (Our Lady of the Marvels.) By another stroke of ill fortune, destiny deemed that this ship would also be lost at sea. This time it was with tremendous loss of life, along with a huge treasure including the original shipment of new and counterstamped coins from Potosi. It has been questioned at this point if it was a coincidence, a curse, or just plain bad luck. Renowned treasure hunter Bob Marx (History Channel, “Treasure! Quest for the *Maravilla*”) also claims that twelve out of sixteen Spanish salvage vessels that recovered treasure from the *Maravilla* vanished at sea. The best-known was the *Madama Do Brasil* that sank near Gorda Bay, Bahamas. While trying to survive the shipwreck the survivors of the *Madama* were attacked by British Wreckers who dove the wreck. It is thought that of the 30,000 pieces of eight aboard only 500 or 600 were salavaged. (Horner p.147). Another well-known wreck thought to be carrying treasure from the *Capitana* or *Maravilla* was the *San Miguel de Archangel,* better known as the Jupiter Inlet Wreck.

Of the 650 crew and passengers of the *Maravilla* only 45 survived. One survivor was Padre Diego Rivadeneira, who also had been an unforunate witness to the sinking of *La Capitana*. Not being able to swim, he was found floating on a hatch from the wreck. His account of the wreck and the misery of those seeking absolution is chilling. He later wrote a book detailing his pilgrimage from South America to Spain although his adventures with luckless silver weren't quite over.

Twice, Padre Diego had sailed for home on a treasure fleet, and twice shipwrecks had prevented his homecoming. Determined to arrive home in Spain, the priest boarded another treasure Fleet. This time the trip was quiet and uneventful, and at last the Priest could see the shores of Cadiz when suddenly a fleet of British warships swooped into the harbor and attacked the treasure fleet. Once again, Father Diego was plunged into

the icy water and again, was miraculously saved, this time by grabbing the ankle of another person who was pulled into a British longboat. As a prisoner of war the Padre suffered terribly at the hands of the British. Such was the hatred of the Papacy by the British. He was stripped, beaten, kicked and starved before he was finally released, and at long last, allowed to return home.

In his book, Padre Diego discusses one the main reasons why Spanish empire was in decline. The Spaniards were absolutely no match for the British in naval combat. The British ships were sleek, fast, and their sailors were much more efficient than their Spanish counterparts, He relates how the British worked as a team in combat while the Spanish fought heroically, but often individually. English sailors were drilled in coordinated movements and the Spanish were not. Spanish decks were often cluttered with cargo making maneuvering impossible. This wasn't allowed on British warships. The Spaniards simply had no defense against the well-trained British, or the Dutch, or the French, for that matter. The once powerful Spanish navy could no longer protect the valuable treasure from America that kept her economy stable.

Transitional Eight Reales



As tragic as the loss of these ships were, they provided a windfall for collectors of Spanish cob coins. Up until the discovery and salvage operations of the *Capitana* and *Maravillas* shipwrecks, very little was actually known of the 1649-1652 counterstamped and transitional coins of the Potosi minting scandal. Divisek, noted author, and specialist in this area, mentions that in 1919, Jose T Medina, listed only a few examples and that as late as 1958 only a few more examples were known when Humberto Burzio published his *Diccionario*. The fact that two noted Spanish coinage experts were only aware of a few of these pieces attests to their scarcity at the time. Divisek notes the coins were seldom seen and were somewhat mysterious, with only a handful known and recorded in the literature.

Thanks to the wrecks of the *Capitana* and the *Maravilla* that is no longer the case. It is now thought that there are 44 different countermarks, with eight different types of the transitional pieces. How many of these coins exist today is hard to determine, but originally there must have been a tremendous number of them loaded on the two ships. The Captain of the Fleet, Marques de Montealegre testified before the Casa de Contratación that he recalled the *Maravilla* carrying 81,629 pesos in restamped reales. (Horner p. 180) He also recalls that another ship, the "Jesus, Marie, and Josef" was carrying another 66,063 restamped pesos. How many of these were salvaged is anybody's guess. Divisek gives a count of the various counterstamps known to be held in private hands today as 1,433, and in state holdings, 217, which makes them pretty scarce, if even triple that number survive. Still, affordable examples are well within the reach of budgeted collectors, and one would make a nice addition to any collection of Spanish coins. These are fabulous coins with a great history of scandal, shipwreck, and recovered treasure. Much more research awaits as the counterstamps are not fully understood.



Countermarked Eight Reales from the *Capitana* Wreck

Speaking of the *Capitana* wreck, Horner writes, “If this shipwreck is truly voodooed, the Ecuadoran divers will tell you it is because of the greed of the *conquista*, and of the ancient Inca curse. The *Capitana* hit rocks and floundered under an evil star, they will say, Those who pursue her will be borne unto trouble.”

Anyone slightly interested in these coins should at least read Horner’s book which can be picked up rather cheaply. Divisek's books are extremely complex and packed with information and images. They are rather pricey at 100 bucks for each of the four volumes, but very useful to the advanced collector.

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[Editor's Note: From time to time we'll bring back particularly interesting articles from past issues. This one first ran in the Winter 2014, v. 22, #1, issue of C4N.]

WHILE VISIONS OF COPPERS DANCED IN THEIR HEADS

19th Century Poetry for the Colonial Collector

(Jeff Rock)

Like most collectors, I often marvel how the sheer number of books, auction catalogues and the like seem to occasionally outnumber the coins I own (surely these books breed when the lights are out and no one is watching)! Also, like most collectors, I promise myself that I will SURELY get to those piles of auction catalogues, stacked up in precarious leaning towers on my office floor. Or finally get around to organizing the books on my shelves in some way, shape or form that might…just might!...allow me to find a reference that I am looking for without hunting and searching for hours at a time. With the usual slow-down in coins during the summer months, I actually made a valiant start at taming the wild jungles of my library. I separated piles of wheat from piles of chaff – and bibliophiles across the land may well cry that I actually ripped out a few pages of colonial lots from much larger auction catalogues (dumping some 50 linear feet of auction catalogues in a recycling bin, freeing up some of the most valuable real estate in existence – shelf space!) And while I could marvel at those offerings of glittering gold, interesting patterns and fascinating federal coinages, I will really never look at those sections in detail – once the copper bug hits, one really doesn't venture off into the so-called "precious" metals (though, of course, we know that copper is the most precious of all.)

And also like most collectors, I found myself constantly distracted in the cleaning process. Pulling a book from the shelf and sitting on the floor, the minutes would fly by as I read a few pages, then a few more, then a few more. Finding things I forgot I owned, books and journals I doubt I have ever read – time for that "down the road," though as Robert Frost noted, "Yet knowing how way leads on to way / I doubted if I should ever come back." There are always new books coming out, new things to read, and moments with a musty book of old are increasingly rare. But no, what harm with another hour or two of reading do? Who knows what treasures I may find?

Perhaps a poem? Not quite as well-wrought as Robert Frost's immortal lines, but hey, how many poems can one find where colonial coins take something of a starring role? The following gem…errr….VF?….was found in the February, 1868 issue of *Mason's Coin and Stamp Collector's Magazine* (Volume 1, Number 11, page 102), from a reprint set issued by numismatic literature dealer Charlie Davis in 1996 – original sets being extremely rare and even incomplete sets are seldom offered, so this fine-quality reprint about the only way today's collector can have all issues of this informative, sometimes chatty, sometimes controversial magazine; indeed, the ONLY complete set known was in the Harry Bass library and was sold by George Kolbe for $3500, not bad for a set that has just 62 issues in it, ranging from just 8 to 24 pages! While we will probably never know who "Copper" was, one can only wonder if someone like Crosby, Bushnell, Parmelee or Hall had turned their hand to versifying while they sat in their library, a glass of brandy and a cigar in hand, contemplating the fact that they, too, were running out of shelf space for their own books and catalogues.

For those who don't have this volume handy, I've transcribed the poem below – keeping the original spelling and punctuation. For the colonial purist, suffer through the first two stanzas and you will be rewarded in the final one!

The Cent Hunter
An Irregular and Original Epic
By Copper

Old cents, old cents, old cents!
Of ancient date and rare!
Old cents, old cents, old cents!
Have you any old cents to spare?
The cent-hunter cries as he rapidly flies,
From shop to shop and inwardly sighs,
For rusty old coppers of ancient dies!
If you are in doubt,
This truth about,
And wish for further proof to come out,
Stand here with me,
And soon you will see
The cent-hunters start, all professions and trades,
From the wielders of pens to the wielders of spades!

Old cents, old cents, old cents!
Of Uncle Sam's coinage nice,
Old cents, old cents, old cents!
Oh these are the pearls of great price.
The teacher, forgetting his Grammar and Greek,
Goes searching for coppers six days in a week,
And would not object to the fours and the sevens
Should they come in is way
On so solemn a day
Set apart to prepare for our rest in the Heavens!
The "Doctor" leaves his place to call
On shopkeepers their coppers to overhaul,
Off into this street like a maniac starts,
Waylays and besieges the Pedlar's carts
The merchants of the street, who hate aristocracy
Sell the best goods and believe in democracy
With a relish as fine
As a judge for his wine,
Start off in the pursuit of a good "ninety-nine!'
The son of old Crispin his apron lets fall,

Drops his lap-stone, his hammer and awl
And soon you will see
Him returning in glee
With a “nine” or a “six” or a “twenty-three,”
A “four” or “fourteen” as the case may be!

And the editor dropping his scissors and pen,
Goes searching for coppers with common men!
Carefully gathering piece by piece,
And values them more than the Golden Fleece!
See how they gather them up in piles,
Colonial coppers of various styles.
“Franklins” and “Washingtons,” rusty and old,
Covered with verdigris, dust and mould,
“Connecticuts” covered with scratches and dents,
And the famous old Indian “Massachusetts cents”
With devices unlike as the pigeon and stork,
Join their scar-covered brethren of “Jersey” and “York!”
Then comes the Vermonts of value untold,
With dust-covered visage, audacious and bold,
And taketh its place with the gathering hosts,
With “Auctori Vermon” dimly seen through the mould,
As Ossian saw starts through the forms of his ghosts!
The strife being ended, the company joins
In singing the praises of old copper coins,
And this is the song as I heard it sung,
As the coppers were into their coffers flung!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

C4 BOOK SALE
BUILD YOUR NUMISMATIC LIBRARY



The Colonial Coin Collectors Library is deacquisitioning the following duplicate books from its inventory at fixed prices. The books are being offered at below market value to C4 members only. Limit two books per member every 3 months. Shipping included on orders totaling *over* $50. Junior C4 members (members 18 or under) may purchase up to three titles at half the list price (shipping is free on all orders to junior members). Books are sold first come first serve. In order to purchase, please contact Librarian Leo Shane in order to verify the book's availability at: librarian@colonialcoins.org. If the book is still available, Leo will confirm and provide payment instructions.

1. Anton, William T. & Bruce Kesse, *The Forgotten Coins of the North American Colonies*, Krause Publications, Iola WI, 1992 Hard Cover Copy, Very Good, No Stamps **$65**

2. Baker, Warren S., *Medallic Portraits of Washington*, Krause Publications, Iola WI, 1965, Hard Cover Copy, (Reprint of 1885 Work) From the Library of Mike Ringo, (C4 Stamp, Very Good) **$20**

3. Bowers and Merena Auction Catalog, *The Frederick B. Taylor Collection*, 26-28 March 1987, New York NY, Softcover (No Stamps or Writing, Spine has Rubs including a large one on the bottom, Good Condition) (A required catalog from any Connecticut copper collector's library) **$44**

4. McCawley & Grellman Auction Catalog, *Third Annual C4 Convention Sale,* 8 November 1997, Boston MA, Softcover (No Stamps or Writing, Spiral Bound, Good Condition) (The Official 1997 C4 Auction Sales) **$15**

5. Vlack, Robert A., *An Illustrated Catalogue of the French Billon Coinage in the Americas*, C4 Publications, 2004 (C4 Stamp, Very Good,) **$75**
6. Maris, Edward, *The Coins of New Jersey with Plate*, Philadelphia PA, 1881 (Reprint by Quarterman Publications, Lawrence MA, 1974) Large format 16.5" X 11" (No Stamps, Good to Very Good with Dust Cover) **$95**

7. Jordan, Louis, *John Hull the Mint and the Economics of Massachusetts Coinage*, C4 Publications, Lebanon NH, 2002. New, No Stamps. **$12**.

8. Newman, Eric P., *Coinage of Colonial Virginia - Numismatic Notes and Monographs Number 135*, The American Numismatic Society, New York NY, 1956 (C4 and Price Stamp, Good to Very Good) **$10.**

9. Newman, Eric P., *The Secret of the Good Samaritan Shilling*, The American Numismatic Society, New York NY, 1959 (Numismatic Notes and Monographs #142) (C4 Stamp, Good) **$25.**

10. Scott, Kenneth, *Counterfeiting in Colonial Rhode Island* (Hardcover), The Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence RI, 1960 (C4 Stamp, Very Good) **$20**



C4 Medals from the 1st Annual C4 Convention in 1995!



Recently discovered and again available for purchase are a limited number of the very first C4 medals made! The obverse design, featuring part of the Vermont landscape copper motif, is very similar to that later used on our 25th anniversary medals, but from a different die. The reverse design displays images of a New Jersey copper, a Connecticut copper, and a Fugio. These medals are made of pure copper and can be purchased while supplies last for just $20 with free shipping!

*****

C4 25th Anniversary Medals (Prices Reduced!)



A limited number of C4 25th Anniversary Medals are still available. These medals have a very attractive design and a proof-like finish. Individual copper medals can be purchased for $4, individual silver medals (one ounce, .999 silver) can be purchased for $32, or a set containing one of each can be purchased for $35. Postage will be added to your total based on how many medals you order from this page. See below.

*****

NEW C4 30th Anniversary Medals!

Hot off the presses to celebrate C4's 30th anniversary is a counterstamping of our 25th anniversary medals. The reverse has a large "30" expertly struck over the prior "25" and the anniversary dates at the bottom were updated. Medals in both metals are available. Individual copper medals can be purchased for $5, individual silver medals (one ounce, .999 silver) can be purchased for $35, or a set containing one of each can be purchased for $38. A complete set of all 4 medals (25th and 30th Anniversaries in both metals) can be purchased for $69. Postage will be added to your total based on how many medals you order from this page. See below.



To reserve and purchase any of the above medals, contact Charlie Rohrer at treasurer@colonialcoins.org. Charlie will respond verifying availability and give payment instructions.

C4 Membership Dues

Annual dues are currently $30.00 for Regular Membership ($40 if residing outside the United States) and $10.00 for Junior Membership (under 18 years of age; $15 if non-US resident.) They are payable on a calendar year basis… due January 1. The year through which you are paid appears after your name on the mailing address label on the *C4 Newsletter* envelope. Life Memberships can be purchased for 25 times the annual membership cost, or $750.00. You may mail checks (made out to "C4") to: Charlie Rohrer, C4 Treasurer, P. O. Box 25, Mountville, PA 17554

Thank you for paying in a timely manner… It makes his job easier and will be much appreciated!

*****

PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

In accordance with our by-laws, those who have recently joined C4 as provisional members are listed below. If any current C4 member in good standing has a reason any of the following should be denied membership in C4, please contact either your Regional VP or the President of the Club, Chris McDowell. The new provisional members this quarter are:

Michael Atkins - MD	A. Chris Gould - NJ	Nick Paulson - NY
Michael Bell - VA	William Harkins - MA	Harold Peifley - FL
John Favano - DE	Jesse Holzer - WA	Leonard Yowell - TX

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Obtaining Back Copies of C4 Newsletter and C4 Auction Catalogues

Wayne Shelby has agreed to store the back copies of the *C4 Newsletter*. People wishing to purchase back issues that are still available should send their money to our treasurer, Charlie Rohrer, whose contact data are at page 2. Upon receipt of the money, he will contact Wayne, who will mail out the material. Back copies of the *Newsletter* are $15 for the first (new price due to increased postage costs) and $8 for all after that placed at the same time. If you have questions of what material is available, you can contact Wayne at:

dughistory@juno.com 609-261-6662 (Home)

NEW: Members wishing to obtain extra copies of an *upcoming* newsletter can have it mailed directly to them from the printer at the same time as their regular issue for only $10 per copy, provided they inform Charlie prior to our "go to press" date – which is typically the 1st of January, April, July, and October.

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THE C4 NEWSLETTER IS ON THE NEWMAN NUMISMATIC PORTAL!

Past issues of The C4 Newsletter, and a plethora of other important numismatic resources are available online, through The Newman Numismatic Portal, at:

www.archive.org/details/newmannumismatic

Early Betts Medal Book

By The American Numismatic Society



The American Numismatic Society (ANS) is pleased to announce the publication of *The Early Betts Medal Companion: Medals of America's Discovery and Colonization (1492–1737)*, the fifth volume in the Society's *Studies in Medallic Art* series.

Authored by Christopher R. McDowell—ANS Fellow, editor of the *Journal of Early American Numismatics*, and President of the Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4)—this book brings to fruition the dream of nineteenth-century numismatist Charles Wyllys Betts to illustrate American colonial history through contemporary medals. Focusing on medals from the period of discovery through the period of colonization of the New World, McDowell's volume is a companion to Betts's masterpiece, *American Colonial History Illustrated by Contemporary Medals*. This is the first of what is expected to be three volumes by McDowell concerning Betts medals.

Since Betts' text first appeared posthumously in 1894, new information has come to light regarding each medal he enumerated. *The Early Betts Medal Companion* updates and illustrates each listing in the first two chapters of Betts, known to collectors and researchers as Betts-1 to Betts-170. Although Betts stated that his work was an "illustrated" history, very few actual illustrations or drawings were included in the original. With only a few exceptions, every Betts medal discussed is illustrated here, many for the first time. In addition, the contextual history of each medal is told, explaining their design and importance. Finally, pricing information is included for every medal for which pricing is available.

The cost of the book is $125 plus shipping and handling, with ANS members receiving 30% off. All members can apply the ANS30 discount code during checkout for the member cost of $87.50. Pre-ordering is now open for *The Early Betts Medal Companion*, through the ANS distributor, Casemate Academic. Books will start shipping to customers in December 2022.

Dr. Jesse Kraft, ANS Resolute Americana Assistant Curator of American Numismatics, praised the book. He noted, "McDowell provides the most comprehensive resource on the subject of Betts medals. This book provides much-needed and up-to-date context to Betts' work, ranging from U.S., North American, and world history to the evolution of American numismatics and, of course, about the medals themselves. Perhaps most striking about the updated understanding of this material is that some of the medals in the Betts book never even existed. Without McDowell's meticulous research, future generations of numismatists would still be searching for them. For McDowell, this truly is a labor of love."



The American Numismatic Society, organized in 1858 and incorporated in 1865 in New York State, operates as a research museum under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is recognized as a publicly supported organization under section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) as confirmed on November 1, 1970.

Author Christopher R. McDowell



See the C4 website for contest details.

RESOURCE FOR THE C4 NEWSLETTER

Our C4 Newsletter has an index available on our website at www.colonialcoins.org. There are two indexes: one by author and a second by topic/title. This is a beginning and the index will improve over time. We have intentions of updating the index within a week or two of every issue being shipped. We ask past authors and contributors to the C4N to please review their work in the index and forward any corrections/additions/suggestions to Ray Williams at njraywms@optonline.net or call.

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The American Numismatic Society lacks just 10 pieces of Continental Currency for a complete set. If you would like to donate to the study collection, please contact Curator of the Americas, Jesse Kraft, at jkraft@numismatics.org. The missing notes are as follows:

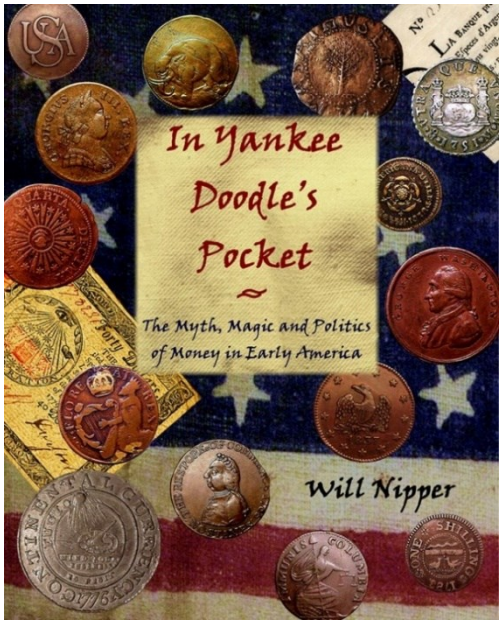
February 26, 1777, $2, Friedberg.55 — May 20, 1777 $4 Friedberg.65 — May 20, 1777, $5, Friedberg.66 — May 20, 1777, $7, Friedberg.68 — May 20, 1777, $8, Friedberg.69 — April 11, 1778, $6, Friedberg.73 — April 11, 1778, $7, Friedberg.74 — April 11, 1778, $8, Friedberg.75 — April 11, 1778, $20, Friedberg.76 — April 11, 1778, $40, Friedberg.78

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The Daniel Frank Sedwick database of fake cobs is on ForgeryNetwork:
http://www.forgerynetwork.com/default.aspx?keyword=cob

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ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO ADD TO YOUR NUMISMATIC LIBRARY



Thanks to a generous donation from Will Nipper, C4 is able to offer brand new copies of his 2008 book *In Yankee Doodle's Pocket ~ The Myth, Magic and Politics of Money in Early America* at a **Special Price** to **members only** for $25 which includes shipping and handling. Junior C4 members can get the book for **FREE** by paying just $5 for shipping and handling.

This 576-page profusely-illustrated book offers fresh perspectives on America's celebrated ascent from disparate colonial outposts to sovereign power. Through the day-to-day instruments of trade and commerce, this work reveals the myriad threads of culture and hidden history that together wove a new nation. Based on years of research, the associated facts, legends, and theories are presented in a conversational narrative that all audiences can read and appreciate. To order your book, contact Charlie Rohrer at treasurer.colonialcoins.org.

C4 Offers Important Colonial Books

For more information on the following books, published by the Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4), visit the C4 website at www.colonialcoins.org. These books may be ordered directly from: Charles Davis' website at www.numisbook.com. Books marked with an asterisk are also available from Kolbe & Fanning Numismatic Booksellers at www.numislit.com.

(1) Carlotto, Tony. *The Copper Coins of Vermont, and Those Bearing the Vermont Name*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 1998. **OP**

(2) Clark, Randall P. *The Identification and Classification of Connecticut Coppers (1785-1788)*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2021. **OP**

(3) Howes, Jack, James Rosen and Gary Trudgen. *The History and Coinage of Machin's Mills*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2020. **OP**

(4) Jordan, Lou. *John Hull, The Mint and The Economics of Massachusetts Coinage,* Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2002. Price: $10.

(5) McDowell, Christopher R., *Abel Buell and the History of the Connecticut and Fugio Coinages*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2015. **OP**

(6) Martin, Sydney F. *French Coinage Specifically for Colonial America*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2015. Price $50. *

(7) Martin, Sydney F. *The Hibernia Coinage of William Wood (1722-1724)*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2007. Price: $50. *

(8) Martin, Sydney F. *The Rosa Americana Coinage of William Wood*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2011. Price $50. *

(9) Martin, Sydney F. *St. Patrick Coinage (for Ireland and New Jersey)*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2018. Price $95. *

(10) Moore, Roger A. *The Coins of Colonial Virginia*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2019, Price $50.

(11) Siboni, Roger S., John L. Howes, and A. Buell Ish. *New Jersey State Coppers*, American Numismatic Society and Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2013. **OP** *

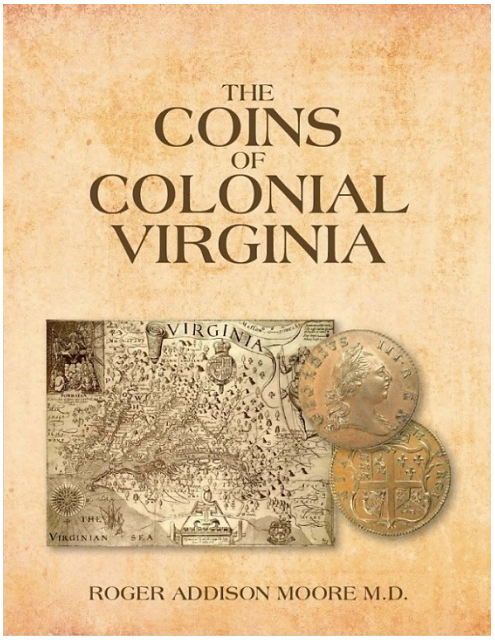
(12) Vlack, Robert A. *An Illustrated Catalogue of the French Billon Coinage in the Americas*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2004. **OP**

Books indicated with **OP** are out of print, though both booksellers occasionally have second-hand copies for sale.

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C4 BOOKS STILL AVAILABLE

The Coins of Colonial Virginia by Roger A. Moore
(2022 Winner of the Sydney F. Martin Numismatic Publication Award!)



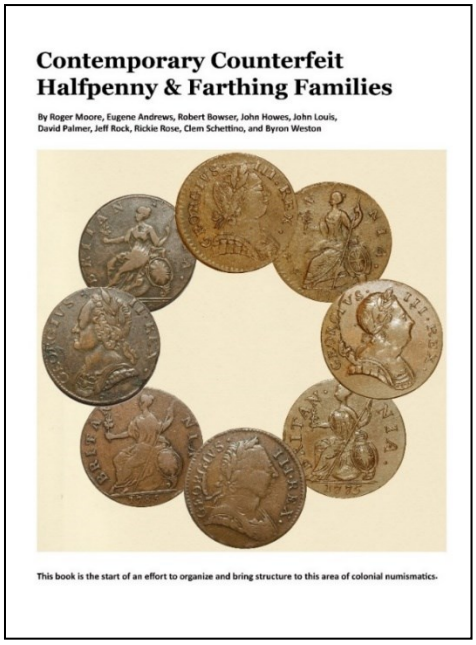
The growth and development of Virginia into one of the most important North American colonies can be traced by the economic evolution of the Dominion State as it attempted to gain the necessary hard currency needed for commerce. The history surrounding the introduction of various coinages and the use of tobacco as a commodity currency over the 150 years leading up to the final authorization of the production of Virginia halfpence in 1773 is fascinating. Equally as absorbing are the twists, turns, and dead ends encountered by the Virginia colonists as they sought authorization from the English Crown for their own coinage. It is ironic that the long-desired copper Virginia halfpence finally provided to Virginia under Warrant from King George III became available to the colonists only fifty days before the beginning of the American Revolution.

In addition to exploring the historic context in which colonial Virginia struggled to obtain hard currency, methods are provided for attributing and collecting 30 known die varieties of the 1773 copper Virginia halfpence. The book also enumerates the specifics of the Virginia halfpence metrology, rarity, and grading, as well as their numerous forgeries, facsimiles, fantasies, and oddities. Virginia halfpence can be appreciated and collected in nearly uncirculated condition and are important additions to any collection of American colonial coins.

Available at Charles Davis' website: www.numisbook.com.

Contemporary Counterfeit Halfpenny & Farthing Families (2nd printing)
by Roger Moore, Eugene Andrews, Robert Bowser, John Howes, John Louis, David Palmer, Jeff Rock, Rickie Rose, Clem Schettino, and Byron Weston

This monograph is the start of an effort to organize and bring structure to this area of colonial numismatics: it breaks down the vast number of different varieties into related groups called Families. A Family of contemporary counterfeits is a group of coins that likely came from the same minting operation at about the same time. Families are logical groups that share one or more of the following attributes: dies, die making punches, or similarities in the design style. This updated large format, glossy, 294-page and profusely-illustrated-in-color hardcover is available from Barnes & Noble, Amazon books, and other mass market retailers. Check specifically for ISBN 978-1-64255-857-9.



CLASSIFIED ADS

Effective starting with the Winter 2021 issue, there is no longer a price difference for color ads.

	1 issue	2 issues	3 issues	4 issues	Copy Size
Cover page	$550	$800	$1,050	$1,300	6" x 9"
1 page	$300	$450	$600	$750	6" x 9"
1/2 page	$175	$250	$325	$400	6" x 4.5"

Please send check with your ad to Treasurer, Charlie Rohrer, when placing your ad. We accept camera-ready copy or any Microsoft Word compatible computer file.

All members also have the right to include a free classified ad in the newsletter of up to 10 lines of **text only**.

NOTICE: The Colonial Coin Collectors Club does not review the ads provided for accuracy, nor does it assess any items offered for sale relative to authenticity, correct descriptions, or the like. C4 is not to be considered a party to any transactions occurring between members based on such ads and will in no way be responsible to either the buyer or seller.

EDITOR NOTE: FREE Classified Ads that have run for four consecutive issues will be discontinued unless instructed otherwise by the advertiser.

WATERMARK RESEARCH REQUEST - I would like a list of your colonial currency/documents with and without watermarks. Needed info is type of currency/document, denomination, date of emission and description of watermark. Particularly interested in counterfeit emissions. Confidentiality kept for all information. Thank you. Any questions - Rogermoore435@yahoo.com 856-905-6844 (2/4)

Celebrate the tricentennial of Massachusetts' excessively rare 1722 small change parchment currency with a sheet of three faithful reproductions: 1-, 2- and 3-pence. Limited to 100 numbered sets. After several years of experimentation with various print methods, hand-drawn images were turned into a typeface that was used to print uncut 6" x 2.6" sheets on genuine, ethically-sourced goatskin PARCHMENT, using an antique press. Each is clearly marked 'COPY' and 'FACSIMILE' on its back. Cool packaging with an accompanying write-up. $30 per set, postpaid. Call, text or email Will Nipper at 501.514.0785 / will.nipper1777@gmail.com. (4/4)

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JULY 1ST 2023



1829 N-8 R1 Large Letters
PCGS graded MS64 Brown
Price Realized $5,760



1830 N-2 R2
PCGS graded AU58
Price Realized $2,640



1830 N-3 R3
PCGS graded MS65 Red & Brown
Price Realized $9,000



1830 N-6 R4 Medium Letters
PCGS graded XF40
Price Realized $7,800



1831 N-5 R4 Medium Letters
PCGS graded AU58
Price Realized $7,200



1831 N-8 R3 Large Letters
PCGS graded MS64+ Red & Brown
Price Realized $11,400



1831 N-12 R1 Large Letters
PCGS graded MS65 Red & Brown
Price Realized $10,200



1834 N-5 R5 Large 8 & Stars, Medium Letters
PCGS graded MS65 Brown
Price Realized $44,400



1839 N-3 R1 Head of 1838
PCGS graded MS66+ Brown
Price Realized $10,200



1834 N-7 R7
PCGS graded PR04 (a Proof-Only Variety)
Price Realized $36,000



1837 N-10 R1 Beaded Hair Cord
PCGS graded MS66 Red & Brown
Price Realized $6,600



1839 N-15 R5+ Booby Head
PCGS graded AU58
Price Realized $11,400

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Lucas Baldridge
972-310-9497
lucas@earlycentsauctions.com

Travis Hollon
214-912-6644
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