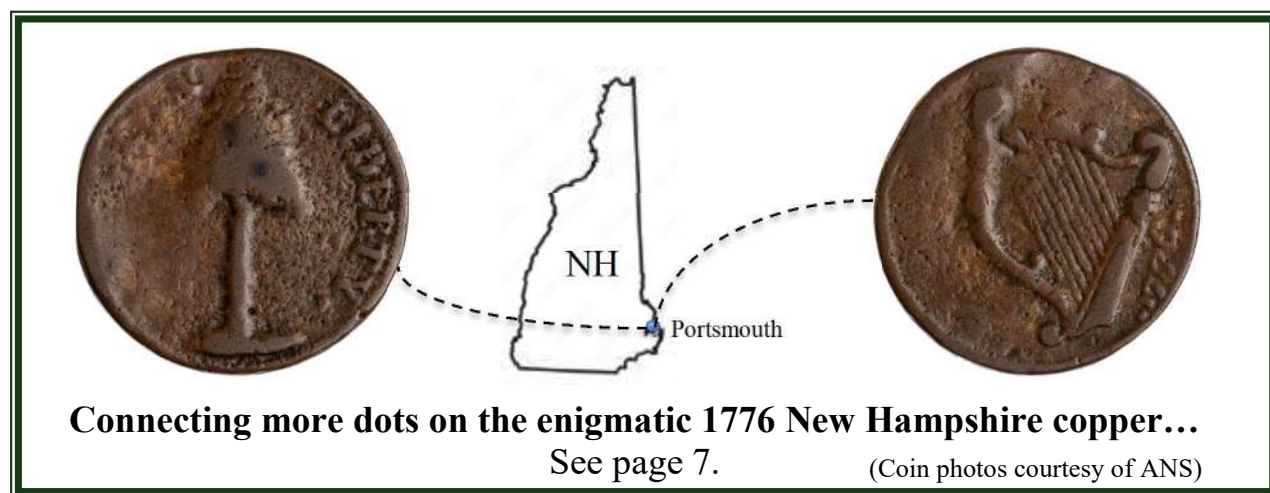




Spring 2025

Volume 33, Number 1



Featured in this issue:

- C4 President's Message (C. McDowell)
- C4 Annual Financial Report (C. Rohrer)
- The 1870 Recovery of the 1776 "WM" Copper in Portsmouth, NH (J. Casey)
- General Horatio Gates – American War Hero and Hay Farmer (L. Shane)
- John Dunlap – A Pennsylvania Colonial Currency Printer (L. Shane)
- King George Halfpence in Proof Silver (R. Moore)
- Rosicrucian Symbolism in Continental Currency (M. Callis)
- Publishing the 1924 A&C to the 1920 *The State Coinages of New England* (R. Clark)
- EAC Colonial Happening Invite (R. Williams)
- The Enigmatic Square Coin: A Lost Relic of Early American Minting (S. Newman)
- The Farthings of Scarborough Castle (M. Sportack)
- C4N Rewind

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The C4 Newsletter

Volume 33, Number 1

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:	Carol Wolf P.O. Box 118 Middleville, NJ 07855-9800 Secretary@ColonialCoins.org
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Region 5 (AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, Puerto Rico) George Fernandez 19 Tallwood Drive Medford, NJ 08055 267-994-0163 Region5VP@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 should be emailed to both Will and 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 Chris Pretsch at 301 Fifth Avenue, #622, Pittsburgh, PA 15222. Dues are \$30 regular (including 1st class mailing of the Newsletter *within the U.S.*) and \$55 (for 1st class mailing outside the U.S.); \$10 for junior members (under 18 residing in the U.S.) and \$15 (under 18 residing outside the U.S.)

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C4 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – APRIL 2025

(Christopher R. McDowell, Esq.)

Welcome to another engaging issue of the *C4 Newsletter*. We have a lot of exciting news to discuss. At our last meeting in February, the C4 Board of Directors approved the C4 Publication Committee's unanimous recommendation that the Club publish Randy Clark's book titled *The Connecticut Collection February 1975: A 50th Anniversary Retrospective of EAC75*. This first edition, a limited run of only 60 books, is guaranteed to be a rare and valuable addition to any numismatist's collection. By the time you read this, our book dealers, David Fanning and Charlie Davis, should have the book on hand for you to purchase. If not, you can pre-order it. A detailed advertisement with information on how to order the book appears elsewhere in this publication. Don't miss this unique opportunity to own a piece of numismatic history.

I helped edit this book, so I know something about it. First, for those unaware, EAC75 is one of the most significant and influential auction catalogs of some of the most desirable coins from the colonial and confederation eras. It is particularly important for Connecticut coppers, as it was the first fully illustrated sale of a prominent Connecticut collection. I recall talking to Robert Martin about EAC75 years ago. He told me how this sale changed everything. Before EAC75, Connecticut collectors had to read the written descriptions in Miller to figure out which Connecticut variety they had—a laborious task fraught with potential error. If you have ever wondered why there are painted die varieties, this is why. After spending hours determining a coin's taxonomy, collectors of yore would mark the attribution directly on it in India ink so they would never have to look it up again; who can blame them? EAC75 changed all that. After EAC75, collectors could match their coin to the images of the over 300 Connecticut varieties in the auction catalog.

EAC75 was also significant because it contained Walter Breen's research on the various mints that struck Connecticut coppers. Instead of organizing the coins by Miller number, Breen grouped them by the mint where he believed they were produced. This confounded many collectors, then and now; however, I think it was brilliant. Untethered by convention, Breen was decades ahead of everyone in his research. He turned an ordinary auction catalog into a research paper that advanced our collective thinking about colonial numismatics. Although not all of Breen's theories in EAC75 have stood the test of time, many have. That Breen was willing and able to do something so dramatically different makes the catalog distinctive and enduring.

While Randy's new book properly focuses on the coins in the sale with new and improved images, he also covers the fact that EAC75 was a financial venture, unlike anything before or since. The sale was organized around the core idea that ordinary collectors could invest in colonial coins for profit—even as a viable long-term investment rivaling the stock market. This often-overlooked aspect of the sale is a fascinating snapshot of our numismatic history. One of the more interesting aspects of Randy's book is his detailed analysis of the sale from a long-term financial perspective. Did the successful bidders make money when considering inflation compared to other potential investment vehicles like stocks? The answer to this question is something every collector should appreciate. However, you will need to purchase the book to get that answer. Please consider doing so to gain a unique perspective on the financial side of numismatics and deep insight into what I consider the most incredible auction catalog of all time.

A few months ago, most of you received an email from Charlie Rohrer asking for information about which of our members was also a member of the American Numismatic Association (ANA). The response to our request was overwhelming. Thank you. Before the email, we only had eight or so C4 members whom ANA

acknowledged were also members of their organization. Now, ANA confirms that about 1/3 of C4 members are also ANA members. ANA provides associated clubs with financial credit for each member who is also an ANA member. As a result, C4 now has \$495 to spend in ANA “club bonus bucks.” Usually, clubs use this money to offset ANA’s annual club dues. However, when Charlie informed me of all our club’s bonus bucks, I requested that he ask ANA if we could apply the credits toward tuition for the next ANA Summer Seminar or to cover the cost of the technical seminar at the World’s Fair of Money in Oklahoma City in August 2025. After some delay (I don’t think anyone had ever asked such a question), ANA responded in the affirmative. C4 wishes to pass this windfall on to our members and encourage more C4 members to join the ANA. Thus, we will use the \$495 to offset the cost of ANA Summer Seminar tuition for one person or for two C4 members to attend the technical seminar in Oklahoma City tuition-free (no general expenses, like travel, lodging, food, etc., are covered).

Here are the rules: **1)** you must be a member of both ANA and C4 and provide us with your ANA information; **2)** you must prepare no more than a two-paragraph explanation for why you should receive the tuition assistance and which event you would like to attend (Summer Seminar or Technical Seminar); **3)** you must agree to write an article for *The C4 Newsletter* of no more than four and no less than one and a half pages outlining your experience; **4)** if you attend Summer Seminar, you must take a class related to colonial numismatics, if available; and **5)** you must send an email to me at: President@colonialcoins.org with the above information no later than May 7, 2025. C4 National Vice President Jim Glickman, C4 Secretary Carol Wolf, and I will pick and notify the winner(s). May the odds be ever in your favor!

If the recipient of the above award attends this year’s ANA Summer Seminar in Colorado Springs, they will join at least one other C4 member, Nathaniel Bayer Hafran. At our February Board meeting, the C4 Board of Directors awarded Nathaniel a \$750 scholarship to attend this year’s ANA Summer Seminar. Nathaniel is a young numismatist eager to learn more about our great hobby. And we are equally keen to encourage him. These funds have been held in a special account (“lock box,” in Al Gore lingo) in honor of Rob Retz to benefit young numismatists interested in colonial coins. The C4 Board of Directors is pleased to assist Nathaniel in pursuing his numismatic dreams. If anyone would like to donate to this fund to help the future generation of collectors, please get in touch with me.

We have added an exciting new feature to our C4 website. There is now a special new pulldown tab titled “In Retrospect.” An anonymous colonial researcher, *not* named Christopher McDowell, has agreed to author this feature, which I hope will be regularly updated. *In Retrospect* will pull from past research appearing in the *C4 Newsletter*, the *Colonial Newsletter*, the *Journal of Early American Numismatics*, and other publications and bring them to the attention of a new generation of collectors. I love the first few issues and am sure you will too. I am eternally grateful to the author of this feature. I suggested he adopt the *nom de plume* Richard Saunders or Silence Dogood, but his modesty eschewed all such monikers. Until he agrees to a name, I shall call him Bonhomme George. Please go to the website to follow Poor George’s path through great past monographs. If anyone has any questions or suggestions for *In Retrospect*, please send them to Bonhomme George's attention at President@colonialcoins.org, and I will see that Poor George gets them.

In closing, please take note that the C4 Board of Directors unanimously approved a resolution put forth by Ye President to increase C4 membership dues by \$5 annually to \$35 (\$36 if paying through PayPal). Despite this increase, C4 still has the lowest dues of any national numismatic specialty organization. Moreover, life membership will increase from \$750 to \$1,000 (the C4 Board must approve life membership). If you want to become a life member, please get in touch with the C4 treasurer or me directly. We previously increased international membership dues (international postage is outrageous!). This change will take effect on July 1, 2025, meaning you may renew your C4 membership at the old rate *before* that date, including the option to renew for multiple years at the old rate or life membership at the old rate. The officers of C4 are all good

stewards of your money. Postage increases and general inflation necessitated this slight increase. The Board felt it was best to make the change now while we are financially sound rather than waiting until the situation grows dire. You need not worry. Our membership is growing, and our finances remain sound; we want to keep it that way.

I wish you all well, and may all your collecting dreams come true.

Christopher R. McDowell, Esq.
Cincinnati, Ohio



The Colonial Coin Collectors Club recognizes and thanks the following Life Members of the organization:

E. J. Aleo
Bijan Anvar
Lucas Baldrige
Thomas Brown
Steve Chandler
David Chermesino
Wade Cole
Marc J. Duvall
Col. Steven K. Ellsworth
Mark E. Fladgard
Dan Freidus
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Q. David Bowers
Kenneth Bressett
Christine Karstedt
Dr. Philip Mossman
Gary A. Trudgen



[Editor: Below our End-of-Year 2024 financial report from outgoing C4 Treasurer Charlie Rohrer]

C4 2024 Revenue/Expenses

REVENUE	Member Dues	\$12,453.26
	Interest Income (CD's & Savings Acct.)	3,958.21
	C4-Published Book Sales	1,975.31
	NJ State Coppers Companion Book authors' payment	5,735.00
	C4 Newsletter Ads	2,850.00
	Stack's-Bowers Convention Contribution	6,625.00
	C4 Convention Thursday Dinner	1,500.00
	C4 Convention C4 Dealer Tables Reimbursement	3,300.00
	C4 Library Book Sales/Convention Auction	2,105.00
	C4 Convention Auction of Donated Maps and Coin Cabinet	1,065.00
	"In Yankee Doodle's Pocket" Book Sales	150.00
	C4 Newsletter Back Issue Sales	338.00
	C4 Medals Sales	20.00
	Misc. Doanations	200.00
	Redemption of C4 Credit Card Cash Rewards	375.00
	C4 Convention Program Printing	145.10
	C4 Mugs sold at Convention	339.00
	<u>TOTAL REVENUE</u>	<u>\$43,133.88</u>
EXPENSES	C4 Newsletter Printing & Mailing	\$18,939.60
	Award Plaques & Related Postage	162.34
	Award Medals Engraving	43.12
	Metal Detecting Awards	675.00
	C4 Convention - Sheraton (\$2,221.44 for '23 paid in '24)	10,511.50
	C4 Convention - Whitman	6,946.00
	C4 Convention - Numismatic Marketing, LLC (A/V)	2,688.58
	C4 Convention - Program	145.10
	C4 Convention - Banner	120.00
	C4 Convention Young Numismatist Supplies	42.62
	C4 Convention - Thank You Gifts to Stack's-Bowers & Whitman	296.99
	Tax Preparation	750.00
	C4 Website Hosting & Maintenance	7,841.95
	Postage - Library Books Sales	219.84
	Postage - "In Yankee Doodle's Pocket" Book Sales	69.34
	Postage - Misc. C4 Newsletter & Back Issues Sales	211.62
	Postage - Medals Sales	57.95
	Postage - Miscellaneous	62.10
	Zoom subscription	170.46
	Annual NJ State Registration	33.00
	Change of C4 Agent Fee (State of NJ)	26.00
	C4 P.O. Box Rent	102.00
	C4-Published Book Sales Authors' Revenue Split	1,108.13
	New Jersey State Coppers Companion book printing	11,470.50
	"Get Well" Flowers sent	93.11
	C4 Officers Election	123.50
	C4 Mugs, Pens & Shirts	1,063.51
	Misc. Supplies (receipts book, USB drive, copies)	47.32
	<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>	<u>\$64,021.18</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>	Checking Account Balance	\$31,875.15
	Savings Account Balance	2,185.38
	C4 Credit Card Balance (paid off monthly)	-7,478.79
	CD's Balance	75,897.62
	<u>TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS</u>	<u>\$102,479.36</u>
<u>MEMBERS</u>	Total	408
	Life (included above)	61

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## THE 1870 RECOVERY OF THE 1776 “WM” COPPER IN PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE

(Julia Casey)

In the spring of 1870, Charles Henry Hutchings was a riveter and blacksmith at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. It may have been there where he and his son, Charles William, explored the rubble that had been removed from the site of the renovation of the Portsmouth Savings Bank. As the Hutchings family lived near the bank building,<sup>1</sup> they also may have come across the debris pile in their neighborhood. The construction at the bank did not necessitate a significant dig. There was to be an “extension” at the back to add a director’s room<sup>2</sup> and there was also a substantial remodeling of the interior, along with some exterior cosmetic features. The building was split into two offices, with the Portsmouth Savings Bank and the First National Bank now dividing the space. In the rubble, Charles Hutchings discovered a coin, and on April 30, 1870, the *New Hampshire Gazette* described it as “a pine tree cent” with the date of 1776, the reverse having the motto ‘American Liberty’ with “the letters ‘W.M.’ in the centre.” The reporter commented, “What the initials stand for, we do not know; and there is nothing to show by whom or where it was coined.”

**Mr. Chas. H. Hutchings has shown us a pine tree cent, which was found by his little boy in the rubbish removed from the site of the Savings Bank extension. On one side is the pine tree, and the date 1776; on the reverse is the motto “American liberty,” around the edge of the coin, and the letters “W. M.” in the centre. What the initials stand for we do not know; and there is nothing to show by whom or where it was coined.**

*New Hampshire Gazette*, April 30, 1870.



The Portsmouth Savings Bank building before and after the 1869 to 1870 renovation split the interior into two separate bank offices. In the second photo, the Portsmouth Savings Bank is on the left half, and the First National Bank is on the right. The construction rubble in which Charles Hutchings found the “WM” copper may have come from installing the rear addition, new entryways, or demolishing the building to the left, a portion of which can be seen in the first photo.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Hutchings family moved from Boston to Portsmouth in about 1860. In the 1869 Portsmouth City Directory, they lived at 10 Ladd Street, only a block from the bank building. By the time of the 1871 directory, the family had moved to 12 Gates Street, which was further away (just under ½ mile).

<sup>2</sup> *New Hampshire Gazette*, April 23, 1870.

<sup>3</sup> Images from: Caleb Steven Gurney, *Portsmouth, Historic and Picturesque* (Portsmouth, 1902) 28, p. 216.

At the June 2, 1870, meeting of the Boston Numismatic Society, Henry Dearborn Fowle<sup>4</sup> exhibited the Charles Hutchings coin, where it was examined “with great interest and curiosity” and determined that “there is no evidence of fraud or deception in the appearance of the piece.”<sup>5</sup> However, after this, the story of the Hutchings “WM” coin find becomes muddled in the numismatic literature. The confusion stems from another article in the *New Hampshire Gazette* that appeared just one week before the description of the Hutchings “WM” coin found at the savings bank site.

On April 23, 1870, the *Gazette* reported that,

In digging for the foundation of the addition to the building, several copper coins were found, among them a Connecticut cent, of course of 1787 or sooner; and a smaller, *copper* coin bearing date 1757, we think, and having only the pine tree symbol visible, like that on the old silver shilling. [emphasis in the original]

The national newspapers picked up this story, which numismatic researchers then utilized to tell the history of the “WM” copper. Dennis Wierzba noted in his 2013 *C4 Newsletter* article “The New Hampshire ‘WM’ Copper” that within W.S. Appleton’s list of “Newspaper Clippings” published in the January 1874 issue of the *AJN* is the snippet that “While workmen were digging recently for the foundation of the old Portsmouth Savings Bank, several copper coins were found. One of them bears the date of 1757, and has the same symbols as the old ‘pine-tree shilling.’ ” Appleton commented that the date was “undoubtedly a misprint for 1776” and that this was probably the same coin as had been exhibited by Fowle in 1870.<sup>6</sup>

Yet, this may not be entirely accurate. Appleton’s newspaper clipping and Fowle’s presentation to the BNS have been conflated in numismatic lore for the past century and a half to be one coin – the so-called “WM” New Hampshire copper. However, a 1776 New Hampshire copper, the one presently in the collection of the American Numismatic Society,<sup>7</sup> can be traced to Portsmouth at about this same time.

It is possible that the one-week-apart *New Hampshire Gazette* stories of coins found at the Portsmouth bank site in April 1870 may have been reports on the discoveries of two separate coins.<sup>8</sup> While “smaller” in the earlier article could be thought to better describe the Hutchings “WM” coin, which is only 79.5 grains, the ANS 1776 New Hampshire copper at 120.2 grains and 27 mm is smaller than most Connecticut coppers. The description of the pine tree design being like the “old silver shilling” would also be more applicable to the tree on the “WM.” These two newspaper accounts of finding multiple coins at the bank site, and the ANS coin being traced to nineteenth-century Portsmouth, make it possible there was a conflation of these two coins by the newspaper press.

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<sup>4</sup> Fowle was a founding member of the BNS and well-known as an apothecary and coin collector in Boston. It is possible that Charles Hutchings knew him from when the Hutchings family lived in Boston and asked for Fowle’s help in identifying the “WM” coin.

<sup>5</sup> *American Journal of Numismatics*, July 1870, p. 13.

<sup>6</sup> *American Journal of Numismatics*, January 1874, p. 58.

<sup>7</sup> 1988.75.1, “Copper 1/2 penny of William Moulton, United States.”

<sup>8</sup> Many thanks to Dennis Wierzba for encouraging the author to pursue this line of research. Details about the provenances of the Hutchings and ANS coins and other known 1776 New Hampshire coppers can be found in an upcoming article, “Survey of 1776 New Hampshire Copper Coinage,” which is anticipated to appear in the June 2025 edition of the *Journal of Early American Numismatics*.



Image courtesy of the American Numismatic Society.

Copper 1/2 penny of William Moulton, United States, 1776. 1988.75.1.

This coin can be traced to Portsmouth, New Hampshire before 1885 and was misidentified in *Numismatic Finds of the Americas* as the Garrett, lot 1324, “WM” copper.

In 1875, the details of the Hutchings “WM” coin find were linked with a version of the earlier *Gazette* story and described by S.S. Crosby in *The Early Coins of America* “as having been ‘recently discovered in Portsmouth, N.H.’ (it having been there exhumed by a laborer in removing a bank of earth, the accumulation of many years).” Crosby also noted, “It is still in the possession of the finder, who refuses to part with it except at a price so excessive that no purchaser has yet been found.”<sup>9</sup> Crosby may have also obtained this information from the newspapers, as it was widely reported after the BNS meeting that “The very rare ‘pine tree cent’ lately found by Charles Hutchins [sic.], of Portsmouth has excited considerable rivalry among coin-collectors.” Hutchings supposedly received offers from “a gentleman in Exeter” of \$40, an “antiquarian in Philadelphia, more yet,” and \$125 from a “naval officer.”<sup>10</sup>

At some point, the Hutchings “WM” coin must have found a willing buyer and was probably the same as appeared in the collection of Waldo C. Newcomer and later as lot 1324 of The Johns Hopkins University sale of the collection of John Work Garrett. The cataloger described the coin as “controversial” and having been “questioned by a number of authorities” as perhaps a fantasy issue of the nineteenth century.

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<sup>9</sup> Sylvester Sage Crosby, *The Early Coins of America* (Boston, 1875) p. 176.

<sup>10</sup> *Mirror and Farmer* (Manchester, New Hampshire), June 11, 1870. Past researchers have incorrectly assumed that Henry Dearborn Fowle owned the coin when he exhibited it at the BNS meeting.



*The Garrett Collection Sales for The Johns Hopkins University* (Bowers and Ruddy, October 1980). The image was enhanced and colorized by the author.

In 2013, Wierzba used the information from entry No. 379 of John Kleeberg's *Numismatic Finds of the Americas* to identify the Garrett "WM" copper as being in the collection of the ANS. Communication with Jesse Kraft has revealed that the Garrett collection "WM" copper is not held there.<sup>11</sup> Kleeberg's mix-up of the two coins adds another layer of confusion, yet, it may also support the theory that the histories of these two coins intersected at the Portsmouth Savings Bank site in April 1870.

Charles Henry Hutchings, "one of Portsmouth's best-known citizens,"<sup>12</sup> died there in 1919 at the age of 89. He was the father of one son and two daughters. His son Charles William was born on December 11, 1855,<sup>13</sup> and while it is somewhat odd that the *New Hampshire Gazette* described him as a "little boy" when he would have been fourteen years old in April 1870, this may have been simply a mistaken use of phrasing by the reporter.<sup>14</sup> Charles William Hutchings was later identified as a doctor or "M.D."<sup>15</sup> and lived in Boston and New York City. Instead of practicing as a physician, he appears to have focused on manufacturing medical implements, most notably the "Indexo," a "rubber finger toothbrush."<sup>16</sup>

<sup>11</sup> Email to author, January 15, 2025.

<sup>12</sup> *The Portsmouth Herald*, August 28, 1911, "Celebrates 82<sup>nd</sup> Birthday: Charles Hutchings Hale and Hearty at that Age."

<sup>13</sup> He probably is the same individual shown in the records of the State of New Hampshire as Charles Hutchings, M.D., born in Boston and died in the State Hospital at Wingdale, New York, on May 22, 1938, aged 82. There is no indication that Charles William Hutchings ever married or had children.

<sup>14</sup> A search of the 1870 Census for Portsmouth and the surrounding area could find no better candidate for "Chas. H. Hutchings" than Charles Henry Hutchings (1829–1919).

<sup>15</sup> The AMA lists Charles William Hutchings as a "non-grad" who had been admitted in Massachusetts. "United States records," images, FamilySearch.org (Accessed, Jan 16, 2025), image 2280 of 3048; American Medical Association (Chicago, Illinois).

<sup>16</sup> *Boston Evening Transcript*, June 21, 1913, has an advertisement for the "Indexo" toothbrush. The *New York American*, February 24, 1932, stated that Hutchings was "the proprietor of Indexo Company, medical appliance firm, of 420 Lexington

If the “WM” copper is a “fantasy,” then circumstantially, the Hutchings father and son are serviceable candidates to have created it. There is an established familiarity with metalwork and an implied intelligence, which would have been necessitated to locate the March and July 1776 records of the New Hampshire House of Representatives that established the “American Liberty” legend and the connection to William Moulton, whose initials are thought to be the “WM” on the coin.<sup>17</sup> These records were known but still unfamiliar to all but the most advanced numismatists. Crosby was “indebted to the Hon. Charles H. Bell, of Exeter, N.H.” for providing a copy of the obscure committee report. Bell had announced his discovery of the New Hampshire committee notes at a meeting of the Boston Numismatic Society in June 1868.

It is also the case that an abundance of modern forgeries may have heightened the later-described controversy of the Hutchings “WM” copper. In 1956, Maurice M. Gould and Frank D. Washburn of the Copley Coin Company in Boston discovered “a different die variety” than the Hutchings coin and used it to make bronze copies, which they sold for \$5.00 each. When the Copley Coin Company advertised their copies in *The Numismatist*, the Gould/Washburn coin was indicated to now be “in the hands of a prominent Cleveland collector.”<sup>18</sup>



A Copley Coin Company copy, from *The Numismatist*, September 1960.

The purpose of this paper is not to reach a conclusion on the legitimacy of the “WM” copper. Instead, it is intended to preserve these additional details for our future research into this enigmatic coin. This coin can now be tentatively traced from Hutchings to Newcomer to Garrett; whether it can be traced to William Moulton is up to the reader’s discretion.

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Many thanks to Dennis Wierzba for his assistance in this research, and much appreciation for the *Newsletter*’s terrific editorial team.




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ave., Manhattan.” In 1899, while living in Boston, Hutchings was president of the short-lived Antiseptic Mouthpiece Company, organized in Portland, Maine. This company sold special mouthpieces for telephones intended to prevent the spread of diseases.

<sup>17</sup> The committee report stated that “William Moulton be empowered to make so many [coins] as may amount to 100<sup>lb</sup> w<sup>t</sup> subject when made to the Inspection and Direction of the General Assembly, before Circulation.” However, we should still consider the possibility that the meaning of the ‘W M’ letters is something other than Moulton’s initials.

<sup>18</sup> *The Numismatist*, September 1960, p. 1330. This is a reference to the Norweb collection.



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### *What is it?*

This is a new feature which we insert from time to time to have a little fun and test the knowledge of our colonial numismatics experts. Metal detectorists are often challenged to identify a coin from just a *tiny* piece of visible detail, often with no knowledge of which side is obverse/reverse nor how to orient the coin. See if you can identify the coin (and the variety) from the picture at the right. All of the coins appearing here will be from types/series listed in the pre-federal section of the *Red Book*. Answer on page 58...



## GENERAL HORATIO GATES – AMERICAN WAR HERO AND HAY FARMER

(Leo Shane)

Horatio Gates was an American general during the Revolutionary War. He was born in Essex, England on July 26, 1727. Gates first came to America in 1754 as a volunteer in the French and Indian War (1754 to 1763). During this campaign, Gates participated in the Battle of Monongahela (1754) near present day Pittsburgh, PA. Later (1755) he was wounded while serving under General Edward Braddock during the disastrous Braddock Expedition (scene of Washington's Retreat). He rose through the ranks and eventually attained the rank of a British Major. He returned to England near the end of the war in 1762.

Gates was from a working-class English family. Frustrated by the British class hierarchy limiting his promotion, he sold his major's commission in 1769. He came back to the American colonies in 1772 and purchased a plantation in Virginia in 1773. During his time in Virginia, he reestablished his contact with George Washington.

When the American Revolution began, Gates travelled to Mount Vernon to offer his services to Washington. The Continental Congress gave Gates the rank of brigadier general in June 1775. He served in that capacity when Brigadier General Thomas Conway became critical of Washington's performance at the Battle of Brandywine. It was Gates that Conway wished to replace Washington with as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army. Conway, Gates, other military officers, and members of Congress were now loosely tied together into what was known as the Conway Cabal. The movement was eventually stopped and Gates later apologized to Washington for his part in it.

During the War of American Independence, Major General Horatio Gates was commander of the Northern Army at the Battles of Saratoga. It was to him that British Lieutenant-General John Burgoyne surrendered on October 17, 1777. Gates was given credit for the American victory after General Benedict Arnold, who led the attack, was finally forced from the field when he was shot in the leg. This would play a big part in Arnold's later acts of treason. The American victory at Saratoga convinced France to recognize American Independence and form a military alliance in 1778.



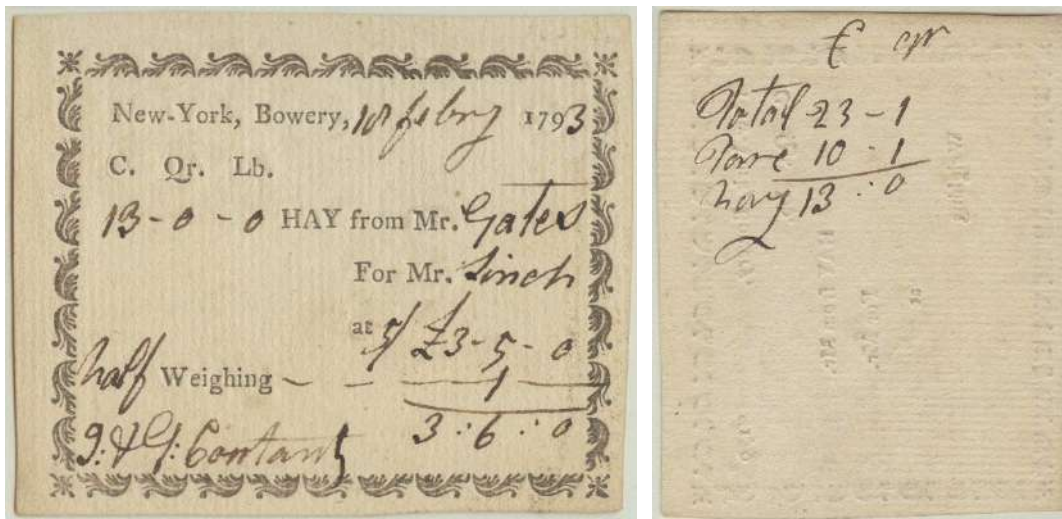
Reproduction of the Comitia Americana Medal commemorating the Battle of Saratoga.

In July 1780, Gates took command of the American Southern Army. Because of his bad military tactics he was blamed for the defeat of the Americans at the Battle of Camden, SC. It was at this battle on August 16, 1780 that British General Lord Cornwallis routed Gates' army and captured nearly 1000 men, including their supplies, baggage, and artillery.

The Battle of Camden solidified the British hold on the American South. Gates was relieved of his command and his conduct was questioned after the battle. He was later reinstated by Washington. In 1786, he retired from military service to his estate, "Travelers Rest" in Virginia (present day West Virginia).

Unhappy with the quiet life on his estate, Gates sold his property and moved to the New York City area. It was there that he got into New York politics. In New York, he rented a 92-acre estate on the banks of the East River. The "Rose Hill" farm boasted an elegant dwelling, large farmhouse, barn with carriage house, fowl house, 260 apple trees, 9000 fruit trees, fruits, vegetables, several acres of wheat and rye, and much more. It was also a hay farm. Gates was now, in addition to other endeavors, a hay farmer.

A February 18, 1793 receipt for delivery of hay from Gates' farm is shown below. The hay was delivered to the store of John and Gilbert Coutant (J. & G Coutant) who owned and operated it at the "Two Mile Stone" (from City Hall) in Bowery Village. The hay was to be resold to a Mr. Sinch.

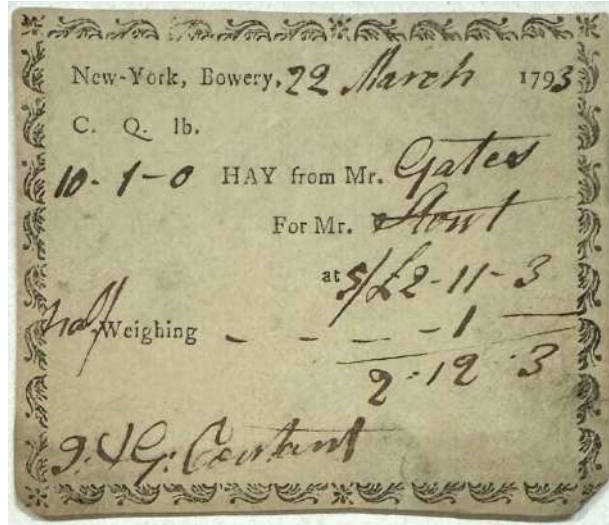


February 18, 1793 "Hay Receipt" note to Mr. Gates.

The receipt shows a cost of 5s per hundredweight of hay or 3£ 5s for 13 hundredweights. It also shows an allowance of 1s for "chalf" (chaff) which was feed for the horses. It was essentially a delivery charge. The back of the receipt shows the total wagon weight (23 hundredweights and one quarter) minus the tarre (tare) weight of the wagon (10 hundredweights and one quarter) for a net of 13 hundredweights of hay.

I have studied 23 of these receipts dated from 1791 to 1793. They are not all from Horatio Gates' farm but all were from the Coutant store. This indicates there were other hay farms in the area. They also show varying prices for hay from 4s to 6s6d per hundredweight.

The receipt dated February 18, 1793 is graded MS-65 EPQ by PMG but others I have studied show wear. One of these “circulated” receipts is shown below. This suggests that these receipts could have circulated as a type of currency (like tobacco receipts in the south), at least in the immediate area of New York City. This is a subject for further research.



Example of a “circulated” Hay.

Gates lived at this rented 92-acre “Rose Hill” estate until his death on April 10, 1806. So where was this elegant estate with “fowl house, 260 apple trees, 9000 fruit trees, fruits, vegetables, several acres of wheat and rye” in relation to New York City today? It was the present-day Kips Bay area on the east side of midtown Manhattan. The rough boundaries were Park Avenue on the west side, the East River on the east side, and between 23<sup>rd</sup> and 32<sup>nd</sup> Streets north to south.

Land above 14<sup>th</sup> Street was considered the outskirts of the city in 1790, so “Rose Hill” was outside the city. Raw land in the area was selling for \$50 per acre and a plantation of similar size to “Rose Hill” with a mansion, stock, orchard fields, and all necessary equipment was sold for \$12,000. This is quite a bit different from the value of this land today.

General Horatio Gates lived a full and interesting life. During his life he was honored as a war hero. He was later disgraced and relieved of his command. He took part in a cabal to overthrow the sitting commander in chief of the army. He also served in New York politics, but in the end, he retired and died as a farmer. A hay farmer.

#### Bibliography:

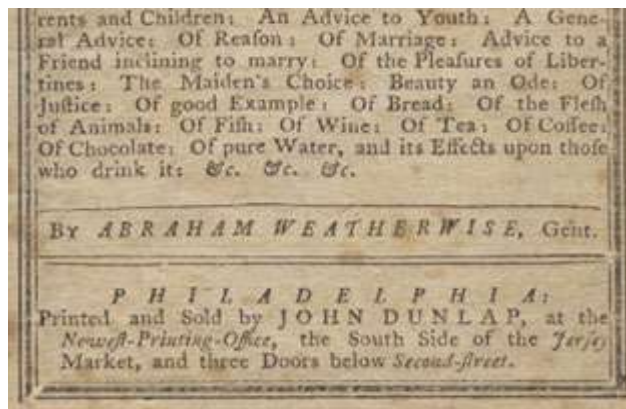
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## JOHN DUNLAP – A PENNSYLVANIA COLONIAL CURRENCY PRINTER

(Leo Shane)

John Dunlap was, among other things, a Pennsylvania colonial currency printer. He was born in Ulster, Ireland in 1747. At the age of 10 (1757) he immigrated to Philadelphia to be an apprentice to his uncle, William Dunlap, a printer and bookseller in that city. In 1766 William Dunlap went to England to be ordained as a minister and was later assigned to Virginia. As a result, John Dunlap ran the business, printing sermons, broadsides, handbills, and the annual *Father Abraham's Almanack* for the years 1769 to 1784.



Father Abraham's Almanack for the Year 1771, published by John Dunlap.

In November 1771, John Dunlap partnered with David Claypool to publish the weekly *Pennsylvania Packet or General Advertiser*. This was one of four newspapers printed in Philadelphia at that time. From 1766 to 1773, while running the printing business, Dunlap made payments to his uncle in Virginia to gain ownership of the business. In January 1773, John made the final payment to William and became the print shop owner. Waiting until his financial position was clearer, John Dunlap married Elizabeth Hayes Ellison in February 1773. His new uncle by marriage to Elizabeth was Benjamin Franklin.

Tensions with Britain increased during the winter of 1774–1775. During this time, John Dunlap and others formed the Philadelphia Light Horse in the First Troop Philadelphia City Cavalry to defend the city. Dunlap was elected as one of the officers. He fought in the battles of Trenton and Princeton in 1776–1777. Seeing an opportunity to expand his printing business, Dunlap founded and published *Dunlap's Maryland Gazette or The Baltimore General Advertiser* in May 1775.

With some influence provided by his uncle Benjamin Franklin, on July 4, 1776 Dunlap was selected to print the first 200 copies of the newly adopted *Declaration of Independence*. This was to be done overnight to be quickly distributed across the country and to the army. John Hancock (President of the Congress) and Charles Thomson (Secretary of the Congress) were the only signers as of that date. The new government was established with Philadelphia as the capital and largest city of the new nation. There was much printing work to be done and Franklin helped Dunlap get a portion of that work. Among those projects was a contract to print

the Journals of the Continental Congress in 1777 and the Pennsylvania currency issues of April 10, 1777, April 29, 1780, and April 20, 1781.



Pennsylvania Currency 40s April 10, 1777, printed by John Dunlap.

During the 1780s and 1790s Dunlap used some of his wealth to speculate in western lands, most notably in Kentucky. This was a popular endeavor by many of the wealthy at the time. He seems to have made judicious investments and avoided debtor's prison unlike Robert Morris and others. During this time, Dunlap bought and sold property confiscated from British loyalists by the new United States government. To further expand his business, in 1784 Dunlap printed the first successful (not the first) daily newspaper, *The Pennsylvania Evening Post*. The same year he was elected to the American Philosophical Society with the help of his Uncle Ben (Franklin). Franklin also used his influence to help Dunlap and David Claypool, now partners, to print the Constitution of the United States on September 19, 1787 for use by the members of the Constitutional Convention.

Later in his life Dunlap helped suppress the Whiskey Rebellion in western Pennsylvania in 1794 as an army major. He retired in 1795 with a sizeable estate. Dunlap died in Philadelphia on November 27, 1812. It is interesting to note that most of Dunlap's wealth did not derive from his successful printing business. Ironically, it was a result of his real estate speculation in Kentucky and buying confiscated Loyalist properties.

A very entertaining and informative video on the life of John Dunlap can be found on <https://facebook.com/watch/?v=315427699616290>.

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# THE FIRST ISSUE OF COPPER HALFPENCE BY EACH OF THE THREE KING GEORGES HAD PROOF SILVER COUNTERPARTS ALSO PRODUCED

(Roger A. Moore)

For decades, I have been an avid collector of British and Irish counterfeit copper halfpence during the reigns of King George I, II, and III. They were produced to pass as regal coins, and I also accumulated examples of regal coins for comparison. Therefore, I was surprised to learn that the first issue of copper halfpence for each King had corresponding proof silver halfpence minted. I lacked knowledge of these silver coins mainly because of their rarity and only became aware of their existence when two were listed in a British auction. This article aims to bring awareness, especially to collectors of British halfpence, of these proof silver coins and to indicate that these oddities nicely complement any collection of British halfpence.

**KING GEORGE I 1717 “DUMP” HALFPENNY ISSUE:** King George I was born on May 28, 1660. He became the King of Great Britain and Ireland on August 1, 1714, and served until his death on June 11, 1727. The first issue of copper halfpence under his reign occurred in 1717, and along with his 1718 coinage, they were called “dump” issues. The coins were of higher relief, with a smaller diameter range of 25 to 27mm, a greater thickness of 2.5mm, and a lighter weight range of 145 to 159 grains compared to earlier copper coins issued during the reign of King William III. The word “dump” for these coins seems to have different meanings based on the source. “Dump” has been used to describe coins purposely made to be underweight with the value of their metal content less than their specified value. Alternatively, the word “dump” has been ascribed to coins made through a casting process whereby molten metal was “dumped” into the casting molds.<sup>1</sup> Additionally, “dump” was thought to have been used to describe the small and thick coins with a “dumpy” appearance. Finally, “dump” has been interpreted to indicate that large quantities of coins were produced and “dumped” into the market. No matter what the actual reason for giving the 1717 and 1718 halfpence issues the “dump” designation, they were the first copper halfpence produced following King William’s 1701 issue. Because an adequate supply of King William’s coppers was available during the early period of King George I’s reign, issuing new halfpence with his portrait on the obverse was delayed for three years after he had become King. Krause’s *Standard Catalog of World Coins 1701-1800*<sup>2</sup> indicates under the 1717 copper halfpence designation that proof 1717 copper halfpence were minted, but no mention of a proof silver halfpence is made. Figure 1 shows a high-grade example of a copper 1717 halfpenny, while Figure 2 represents a 1717 proof silver halfpenny for comparative purposes.

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<sup>1</sup> Baldwin’s auction site, “The George I ‘Dump’ Farthing,” reproduced in *E-Sylum*, vol. 26, no. 18, April 2023. Baldwin site: <https://www.baldwin.co.uk/news/the-tiny-coin-with-a-big-story-the-george-i-1717-dump-farthing/> E-Sylum site: [https://www.coinbooks.org/v26/esylum\\_v26n18a29.html](https://www.coinbooks.org/v26/esylum_v26n18a29.html)

<sup>2</sup> Chester Krause and Clifford Mishler, *Standard Catalog of World Coins 1701-1800*, Krause Publications, Iola, WI, undated, p. 492, item 549.



Figure 1. Copper halfpenny of King George I produced in 1717 (Courtesy of Stack's Bowers Galleries).<sup>3</sup>



Figure 2. Proof silver halfpenny of King George I produced in 1717.

**KING GEORGE II 1729 HALFPENNY ISSUE:** King George II was born on November 10, 1683. He became the King of Great Britain on June 11, 1727, and served until his death on October 25, 1760. The first issue of copper halfpence under his reign occurred in 1729. No mention of a copper or silver proof coin is listed in Krause.<sup>4</sup> Figure 3 provides a high-grade example of a 1729 copper halfpenny, and Figure 4 shows its 1729 proof silver counterpart.

<sup>3</sup> Unless otherwise indicated, coins are from the author's reference collection.

<sup>4</sup> Krause, op. cit., p. 492, item 566.



Figure 3. Copper halfpenny of King George II minted in 1729. (Courtesy of Stack's Bowers Galleries)



Figure 4. Proof silver halfpenny of King George II minted in 1729.

**KING GEORGE III 1770 HALFPENNY ISSUE:** King George III was born on June 4, 1738. He became the King of Great Britain on October 25, 1760, and served until his death on January 29, 1820. The first issue of copper halfpence under his reign occurred in 1770. A proof copper coin is listed, but no proof silver coin is mentioned in Krause.<sup>5</sup> Figure 5 provides a high-grade example of the copper halfpenny, and Figure 6 shows its proof silver counterpart.

<sup>5</sup> Krause, op. cit., p. 492, item 601.



Figure 5. King George III copper halfpenny minted in 1770.



Figure 6. Silver proof of King George III copper halfpenny minted in 1770. (Courtesy of the John Louis reference collection)

My lack of awareness that proof silver halfpence were made by each King the first year they produced copper halfpence points out my not having followed the adage to “buy the book before you buy the coin.” Unfortunately, what book to buy is not always readily evident. My Krause World Coin book provided no listings for proof silver halfpence. My discovery of these coins was directly linked to reading an auction catalog, which underlines the important service catalogers provide us whenever they write up lot descriptions for an auction. The archives of major auction firms contain a wealth of information that may otherwise not be readily accessible to collectors.

Acknowledgements: I would especially like to thank the C4 Newsletter Editor, Mark Vitunic, for taking the time to call me and help me acquire the images for this paper from the Stack’s Bowers archives. By doing this, he took a considerable greater step as Editor beyond his call of duty!!

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The Colonial Coin Collectors Club Announces a New Book

THE CONNECTICUT COLLECTION, FEBRUARY 1975

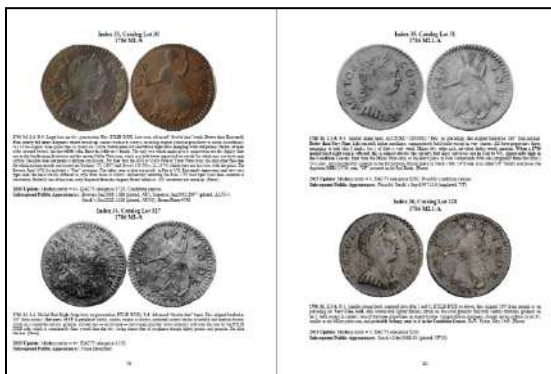
A 50TH ANNIVERSARY RETROSPECTIVE OF EAC75

By Randall Clark

In February 1975, a landmark sale of Connecticut state coppers was held in New York City that would illustrate, as never before, the vastness of the series and how it could be collected. It was the broadest holding of such coppers yet assembled, with photographs and detailed descriptions of each coin placed in a soft-covered auction catalog. Nothing so well prepared, illustrated, and researched had ever been done—an effort that would not be exceeded for another 45 years. The sale, held by the Pine Tree Auction Company, is known familiarly as “EAC75” because it was conducted during the annual Early American Coppers (EAC) convention, held the weekend of February 14–16, 1975.

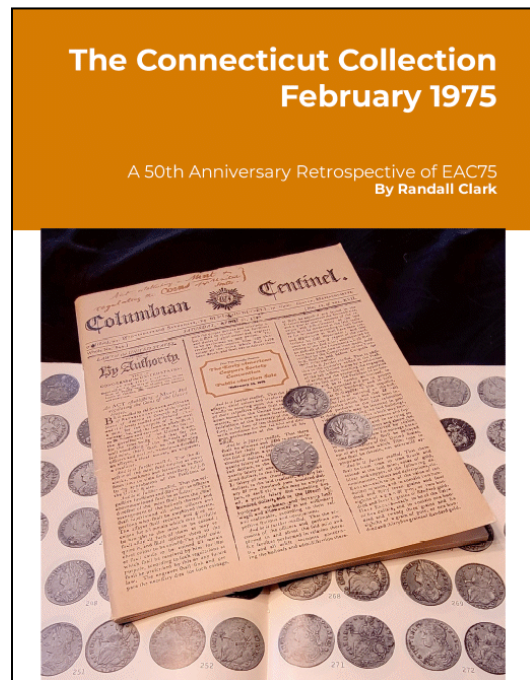
The year 2025 represents the Golden 50th Anniversary of this Connecticut coppers sale, and a publication is being made available to commemorate the event.

The Connecticut Collection, February 1975 follows the background story for formation of this exciting Connecticut coppers collection, details of who was bidding during the sale, what they won, and a discussion of how EAC75 affected collectors for 50 years.



In addition, *The Connecticut Collection, February 1975* fully illustrates each Connecticut lot with an enlarged 2.5” image from original positives and negatives, supplemented with modern color images where available. Lot descriptions are transcribed from the original catalog and updated with errata circulated by cataloger Walter Breen soon after the sale. Coins are shown listed in Miller variety order, rather than original EAC75 order based on Breen’s mint assignments, to enable easy access to the materials.

This 268-page, 8.5”x11” hardcover publication will be available for \$85. Orders may be placed with Kolbe & Fanning Numismatic Booksellers (<https://www.numislit.com/>) & Charles Davis Numismatic Literature (<https://www.vcoins.com/>).

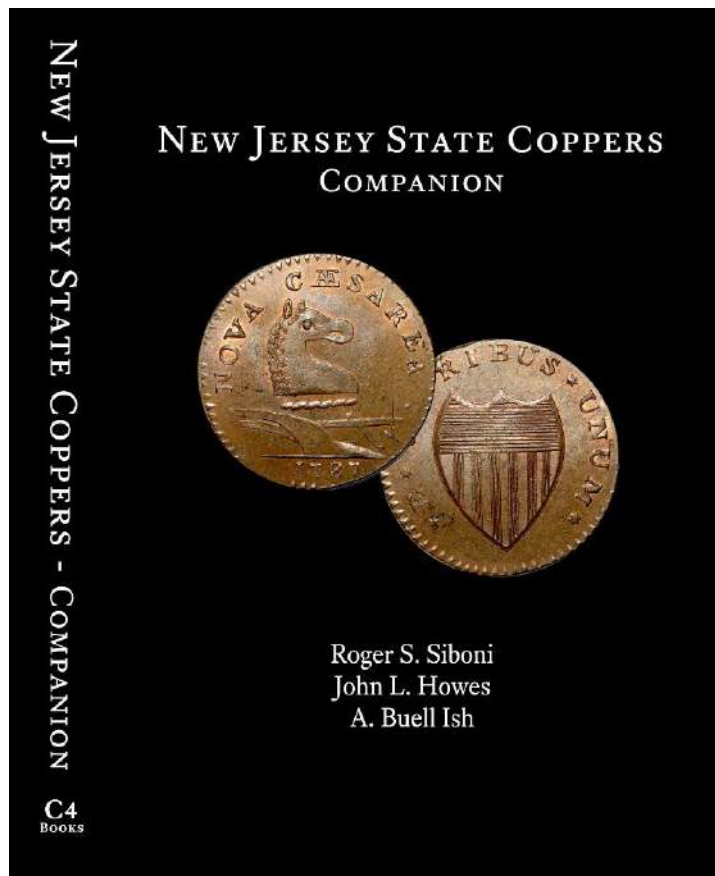


And our previous book is still available...

NEW JERSEY STATE COPPERS COMPANION

By Roger S. Siboni, John L. Howes, and A. Buell Ish

The Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4) is pleased to announce the release of its latest book on American Colonial numismatics, the *New Jersey State Coppers Companion* (C4, 2024). The book is authored by the collaborative team of New Jersey experts Roger S. Siboni, John (Jack) L. Howes, and Buell Ish. It is 400 pages and illustrated in color. C4 President Christopher R McDowell says, "It should not be confused as



merely a second edition of the authors' previously published and wildly popular book on the same topic." According to McDowell, "It contains original and largely updated information with many never-before-seen photographs of condition census coins. This census information is critical to collectors of all New Jersey coppers." McDowell adds, "This book is an absolute must-have for colonial coin collectors, specifically those interested in New Jersey coppers." C4 Vice President Jim Glickman informs collectors that C4 printed a limited run of this new title, which will sell out quickly like the Club's previous two publications on Machin's Mills and Connecticut copper coins. The book is available now for \$85 plus shipping from C4's book distributors Kolbe and Fanning: <https://www.numislit.com/> and Charlie Davis: <https://www.numisbook.com/>.

The Colonial Coin Collectors Club is a non-profit organization dedicated to the hobby of collecting American Colonial coins, tokens, medals, and paper money and spreading and sharing knowledge of the hobby.



ROSICRUCIAN SYMBOLISM IN CONTINENTAL CURRENCY

(Michael Callis)

The Continental Congress approved issuing war bonds to finance the revolution and the “boar with a spear” example was one of the first issued in May 1775. The bonds or Continentals were successful in raising money to finance the revolution. This research is focused on the propaganda of two of the notes involved and the images used. The first Continental bond images were engraved by Paul Revere.



Boar with spear Continental Currency, May 1775.

A “boar with a spear” is found on several ancient coins to represent Atalanta, the she-warrior of Greek mythology. Atalanta stood for freedom over security because she chose honor over safety. Atalanta wished to retain her virginity and devised a challenge to any suitor of a foot race. She won the races proving she was equal to men until one tricked her with the help of Venus. The Greek myth of Atalanta and the Caledonian Boar involves a boar sent to terrorize by a goddess angry about her lack of tribute (taxes). For revenge she sends a boar to terrorize her subjects. The boar is first wounded by Atalanta with an arrow but was slain with a spear and the head given to Atalanta in tribute for her first strike.

The satire is: America will not pay tribute in taxes and will defeat any force the British government sends. The British were aware of the Continental war bonds and, no doubt, the satire clothed in Greek mythology. The British responded a few months later christening two warships to fight the colonies—one named Atalanta and the other named Trepassey. Atalanta is an obvious reference to Greek mythology. Trepassey needs an explanation.

Trepassey is a bay in Newfoundland first marked on a map by Capt. John Mason in 1617. Also marked nearby on the map is Colchis in Cambria, a phrase connecting to Greek mythology as the beginning site of the quest for the Golden Fleece and a site of a colony established by William Vaughan, author of the *Golden Fleece*. Capt. Mason was also a governor of Newfoundland colony circa 1617 and his map was included in the first publication of the *Golden Fleece* circa 1626. The *Golden Fleece* by William Vaughan is a Rosicrucian manifest clothed in Greek mythology. In naming the warship Trepassey it should be noted that some sources claim the bay is known for shipwrecks. If this is true, the name of the warship portends a danger to ships and Rosicrucian sympathizers.

The Benjamin Franklin Fugio Continental issue depicts a triangle in a circle in a square, which is also prominent in a much later tribute medal honoring Franklin from the Nine Sisters Masonic Lodge in France, dedicated to the education of the sciences. Franklin was head of the masonic lodge during his stay in France in 1782. The nine sisters (or muses) are promoting liberty and education critical to scientific discovery. A source for geometric shapes used for Rosicrucian emblems is from *Atalanta Fugiens*, a book of Rosicrucian emblems published in 1617. The most prominent is emblem 21, a circle in a square in a triangle, with its own musical Fugue. Because the sundial is also a Rosicrucian emblem frequently found in gardens with the Fugio motto, Franklin is paying tribute to the Rosicrucian enlightenment. *Fugio*, *Fugiens*, and *Fugue* have the same Latin root.



Franklin is honoring the Rosicrucian enlightenment which influenced the Freemasons and Royal Society, both dedicated to education. The Royal Society was exclusive for scientists and Franklin was a member. The Rosicrucian movement's beginning is associated with literary works published circa 1617 but also with the original colonizers of the New World: John Dee, Sir Walter Raleigh, and "the Ben Franklin of his day" Sir Francis Bacon, secretary of state and in charge of new colonies. From Bacon to Franklin the scientific enlightenment was aided by Greek knowledge—especially geometry. The Rosicrucian and Masonic orders promoted libraries and education and acted as school boards and that was America's national treasure.

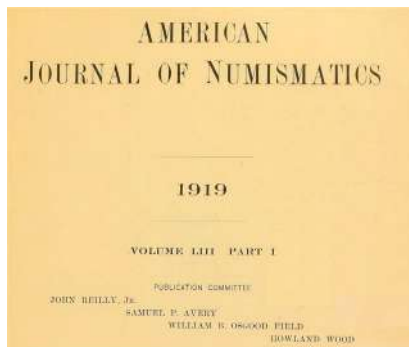
Conclusion: Benjamin Franklin and Paul Revere are involved in the Continental Congress war bond issues that funded the American Revolution and used Rosicrucian symbolism to communicate to the British government.



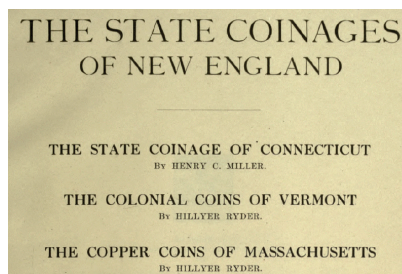
PUBLISHING THE 1924 *ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS* TO THE 1920 *THE STATE COINAGES OF NEW ENGLAND*

(Randy Clark)

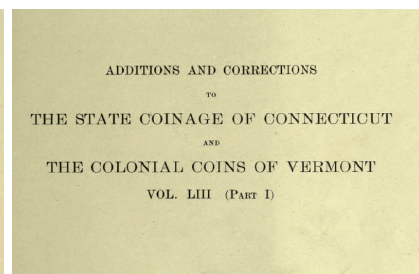
This article discusses work Frederick Canfield and Hillyer Ryder did in preparation for the American Numismatic Society (ANS) 1924 distribution of *Additions and Corrections (A&C)* to *The State Coinages of New England* as published earlier in the ANS's 1920 *American Journal of Numismatics 1919 (AJN)*, Vol. LIII, Part I. The 1920 *AJN* publication contained three articles on New England coinages, one by Henry Miller on Connecticut coppers and two by Hillyer Ryder covering Vermont and Massachusetts coppers. The 1924 *A&C* supplemented the Connecticut and Vermont portions of the 1920 *AJN* publication with new finds, clarifying content and errata. Insight into how these authors worked with the ANS on the *A&C* is gained through the recent public release of ANS curator Howland Wood's communications from 1919 to 1925 with Miller, Ryder, and Canfield.



AJN Vol LIII, published 1920



ANS *AJN* offprint c.1920



A&C supplement to *AJN* c.1924

The State Coinage of Connecticut

On April 30, 1919 Henry Miller entered into an agreement with Howland Wood and John Reilly of the ANS to publish his article *The State Coinage of Connecticut* in an upcoming *AJN*. The terms were that Miller and the ANS would equally split the costs of publication to fulfill the ANS's subscription obligations. In addition, 200 reprints⁶ would be made, from which "fifty copies of these to be given to Mr. Miller gratis; profits of the remainder to be divided equally between Mr. Miller and the Society". These terms were later modified when Hillyer Ryder submitted his two articles *The Colonial Coins of Vermont* and *The Copper Coins of Massachusetts*. The author's publication costs and gratis reprint copies were to be shared between Miller and Ryder based on the number of pages and plates allocated to each.

On November 3, 1919 the ANS sent Miller a proof copy of his Connecticut article to review and on January 19, 1920 he was sent a "first signature article, which is just off of the press." However, Hillyer Ryder did not receive a proof copy of the Vermont and Massachusetts articles until April 5, 1920. This means the integrated *AJN* with all three articles would not have been completed until the end of April 1920 or later. The ANS assessed the publication costs between two authors and decided a split of 88%/12% between Miller/Ryder was appropriate.

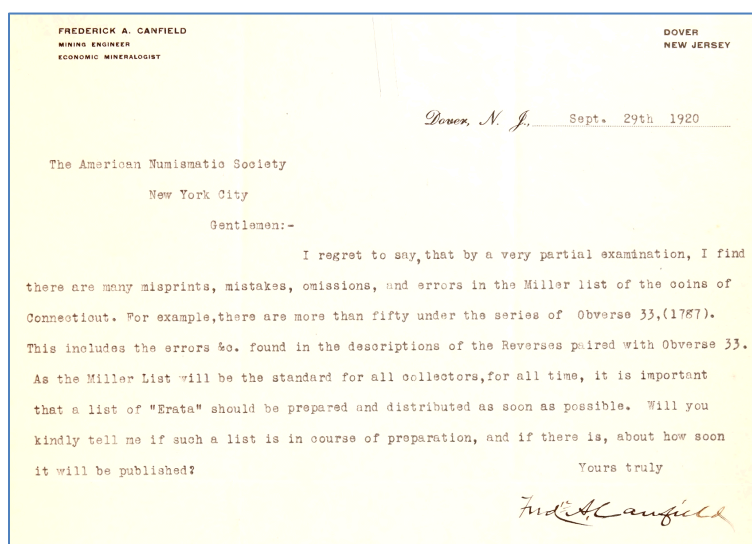
⁶ Literature expert David Fanning advises that what the ANS was calling reprints are more technically considered offprints because they were subsets of the *AJN* entitled *The State Coinages of New England* without explicit reference to *AJN* Vol LIII. That said, because letters between the ANS and Miller, Ryder, and Canfield referred to "reprints," their term will be used. True reprints were only made in the 1960s onwards by several publishing houses under permission of the ANS.

Sadly, Henry Miller died suddenly on February 5, 1920 before formal publication, but it is hoped he was able to admire his “first signature” before he passed. The ANS soon engaged Henry Miller’s sister, Emma, to fulfill the obligations of the April 30, 1919 agreement, which were met by Miller’s estate on October 25, 1920 via a check to the ANS for \$724.85. Miller’s estate was allotted 44 reprint copies, of which one was sent gratis to Frederick Canfield and the remaining 43 were sent to Thomas Elder, presumably for resale. Hillyer Ryder mailed his check to the ANS on September 1, 1920 (estimated to be approximately \$100) and the ANS subsequently sent him six reprint copies.

The Additions and Corrections

On September 8, 1920 the ANS sent a reprint copy to Frederick Canfield, as allocated from the Henry Miller allotment. It is not known if Canfield had collaborated with Miller on the Connecticut article or if Canfield was simply a close hobby friend. However, on September 29, 1920 Canfield replied to the ANS:

Gentlemen, I regret to say that by a very partial examination, I find there are many misprints, mistakes, omissions, and errors in the Miller list of the coins of Connecticut. For example, there are more than fifty under the series of obverse 33 (1787). This includes the errors &c. found in the descriptions of the reverses paired with obverse 33. As the Miller list will be the standard for all collectors, for all time, it is important that a list of “errata” should be prepared and distributed as soon as possible. Will you kindly tell me if such a list is in the course of preparation, and if there is, about how soon it will be published?



Frederick Canfield Letter to the ANS, September 29, 1920

The next day, September 30th, Howland Wood, ANS curator, replied to Canfield:

Although we thought there might be a few errors, we did not imagine that there were as many as you surmise. We took Mr. Miller’s word that the proof was all right, and that he had thoroughly corrected it. His death occurred before the page proof came to us, and in this last proof we caught one or two errors. Unfortunately, we did not have the means of checking up and knowing absolutely what were the errors and what were not. We ourselves have noted a few since his article was printed. If it is not asking too much of you, we would greatly appreciate it if you could send us a list of errors that you may have noted.

On October 26th, Wood sent Canfield another reprint copy of the *AJN* to mark up. Wood commented:

While Mr. Miller was alive, he corrected all of the proof. After his death we did it here to the best of our ability. As for what he left out, we had no means of knowing. We are surprised, however, that he left out any considerable number of pieces. I would say offhand that we would be willing to publish them, but cannot tell you anything officially until I know more about this.

On November 5, 1920, the ANS acknowledged receipt of Canfield's marked-up *AJN*. Howland Wood added, "It will take me a little while to digest what you say and study the notes, and I will drop you another line later." Over six months afterwards, in July 1921, Canfield sent more corrections to the ANS. Apparently the ANS had not been in communication with Canfield as Wood comments, "I suppose you have been wondering why you have not heard from me concerning the whole question of corrections. The fact of the matter is that the Journal has been discontinued, I hope temporarily, and various things we had in contemplation for it have been held in abeyance, and consequently we have done nothing except keep a book record of the changes you have given us."

Canfield communicated corrections and additions again on April 14, 1922 which Wood said he would file with the rest of the data received, "though I see no immediate hope of publishing the corrections that have come in though I have it in mind." However, there was some kind of movement at the ANS and on September 8, 1923 Canfield is informed:

We are now preparing to get out the final number of the American Journal of Numismatics, and if we have sufficient funds we will proceed to get out the corrections to Mr. Miller's "Connecticut Cents." I am going through your corrections now, and note that you have a number of new varieties of which you said you would send on descriptions we asked for. Could you give us these descriptions now, and also if you have noticed that there are any further errors or changes since your letter of April 14, 1922, we would be glad to have them.

The new varieties being added by Canfield included the 1785 M7.2-D (new obverse), 1786 M3-D.5 (a cast copy of 3-D.1 that Canfield felt was based on a recut original, later delisted), 1786 M5.2-L (omitted by Miller for reasons unknown), 1786 M5.13-I, M5.14-S, and M5.15-S (all new obverses), 1787 M32.9-X.7 (later determined to be a low grade 1788 M16.1-H and delisted), 1787 M33.37-Z.11, M33.38-Z.18, M37.15-h.3 (a new reverse), 1787 M43.2-X.4 (a contentious new CONNFC obverse based on a reworking of CONNEC obverse M32.3-X.4), 1788 M4.1-B.2 (a new pairing), and the splitting of reverses found with 1788 M7-F/12.1-F into M7-F.2 and M12.1-F.1. Most of these coins were in Canfield's possession at the time and were inked "New" (usually on the obverse), presumably by Canfield himself.



"New" 1786 M5.14-S

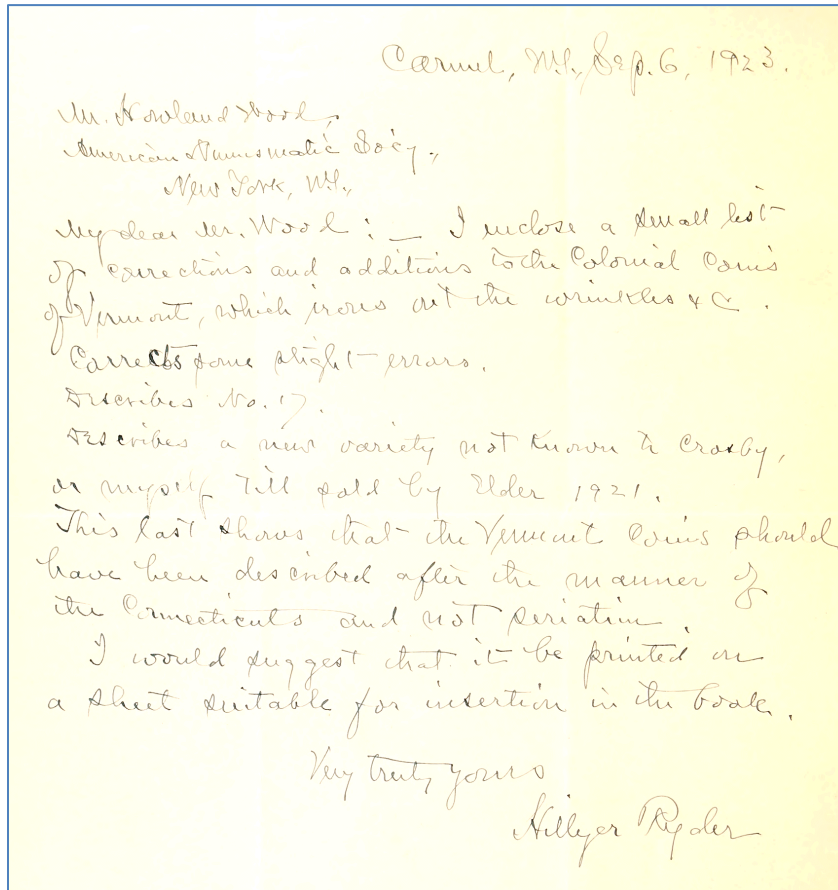


"New" 1787 M37.15-h.3



"New" 1788 M4.1-B.2

Coincidentally, on September 6, 1923, Hillyer Ryder sent Howland Wood a "small list of corrections and additions to the Colonial Coins of Vermont, which irons out the wrinkles, &c. I would suggest that it be printed on a sheet suitable for insertion in the book." On September 7, Wood replied, "We were talking over the other day about printing the corrections for the Connecticut Cents that Mr. Canfield has from time to time furnished us, therefore your additions come in very appropriate. We are contemplating getting out a new number of the Journal, and with this, as far as I can see now, we will get out several pages of corrections for the Connecticut Cents." Ryder sent his final list of Vermont corrections to Wood in March 1924.



Carmel, N.Y., Sep. 6, 1923.

Mr. Howland Wood,
American Numismatic Socy.,
New York, N.Y.,

My dear Mr. Wood: — I enclose a small list
of corrections and additions to the Colonial Coins
of Vermont, which irons out the wrinkles &c.
Corrects some slight errors.
Describes No. 17.
Describes a new variety not known to Crosby,
as myself till sold by Elder 1921.
This list shows that the Vermont Coins should
have been described after the manner of
the Connecticut and not periatim.
I would suggest that it be printed on
a sheet suitable for insertion in the book.

Very truly yours
Hillyer Ryder

Hillyer Ryder letter to the ANS (Howland Wood), September 6, 1923

Letters continued between Wood and Canfield from September to November 1923, finalizing the edits to Miller's text. On April 1, 1924, the ANS sends Canfield a proof copy of the additions and corrections to the *State Coinage of Connecticut*. Canfield made a few comments to the ANS on the proof in a letter dated April 11th, then there is a big gap in communication. Ryder was similarly sent a proof copy of his corrections to the Vermont section on April 1, 1924, supplying his response to the ANS on April 3, 1924.

On December 24, 1924, Frederick Canfield inquires of Howland Wood, "I have been wondering for a long time if the supplement to Miller's Coins of Connecticut has been published. If it has been issued kindly tell me how I can obtain a copy." Wood replied to Canfield on December 31, 1924, "I am sending, under separate cover, a couple of the supplements to Miller's Coins of Connecticut. Shortly before these went out, I left instructions to have two copies sent to you and supposed that this was not done. If you desire further copies, let me know and I shall be glad to have them sent to you."

On January 12, 1925, Hillyer Ryder commented to Howland Wood, “A few days ago I received from you a copy of the “Corrections & Additions” to the Coins of Connecticut &c, for which I thank you.” He then requested four additional copies to pair with his remaining reprint copies of the 1920 book, which the ANS sent on January 13, 1925.

In summary, based on Wood’s comments to Canfield, the *Additions and Corrections* project technically completed in 1924 for public distribution, although a case could be made for calling it early 1925, when authors Frederick Canfield and Hillyer Ryder received their first copies.

It is believed only stand-alone copies of the *A&C* were released directly by the ANS, to compliment offprints of the *AJN* Vol. LIII. Indeed, Henry Miller’s work had become “the standard for all collectors, for all time” on Connecticut coppers, as Frederick Canfield predicted in 1920. There have since been many subsequent reprints which combined *AJN* Vol. LIII and the *A&C*, such as done by Ovolon Publishing in 1962, Johnson Reprint Company in 1965, and Sanford Durst Publications in 1981. For 100 years there would not be another textbook on Connecticut coppers to rival Miller’s work, until the 2021 publication of *The Identification and Classification of Connecticut Coppers*, humbly by yours truly.



The Journal of Early American Numismatics (*JEAN*), is a research publication and the successor to *The Colonial Newsletter* (*CNL*), founded in 1960. The *CNL* published an assemblage of the most seminal studies on colonial and confederation-era coinage of the United States. *JEAN* expands the focus of the *CNL* by exploring contributions to colonial numismatics from all the Americas. *JEAN* is published as a bound scholarly journal twice a year in June and December. In 2019, *JEAN* received the Numismatic Literary Guild award for the Best Club or Not-for-Profit Periodical. Several articles published in *JEAN* have received NLG prizes, including: “The Authentic Fugio Restrike Dies” by Chris McDowell and Julia Casey, 2020, “Collecting American Colonial Coins in Eighteenth-Century England” by Jeff Rock, 2021, “The Coins Made ‘for the Islands and Mainland of America’ by the French West India Company 1670” by Jérôme Jambu, 2022, “John J. Ford: A Life in Three Portraits” by Q. David Bowers, 2020, and “The Crane Ring of Rupert, Vermont: A Family of Counterfeiters at Reuben Harmon’s Mint” by Julia Casey, 2022.

Issues of *JEAN* often exceed 200 pages and contain articles on a variety of early American numismatic topics. Since 1960, the pages of the *CNL* and *JEAN* have advanced our understanding of the history of colonial numismatics.

Subscribe to *JEAN* at the American Numismatic Society: <https://numismatics.org/about-us/publications/journals/>. *JEAN* is available as an added benefit to your ANS membership or at \$85 per year for non-members. Contact, Christopher R. McDowell, Editor, crmcdowell@strausstroy.com for additional information.



REMINDER: EAC COLONIAL HAPPENING **MAY 15, 2025 – PITTSBURGH, PA**

(Ray Williams)

The 2025 EAC Convention is being held May 14-18, 2025 in Pittsburgh, PA at the City Center Marriott Hotel. Thursday evening's "Happenings" will again be on the topics of Large Cents, Half Cents, and Colonials. The room numbers and times will be available as the convention approaches.

All are invited to attend the Colonial Happening. Those attending are encouraged to bring an item (or two or three) from their collection to share with all present. It could be a new acquisition, your favorite, something unusual, or something you have questions about. No one will be handling your coins except you and me. I will place your item on a pad under a camera, and the image will be projected on a screen for all to view and enjoy.

If you don't have something to share, attend anyway. If you are participating in the other Happenings, duck into the Colonial Happening when you have free moments and see what we're doing. This is an informal time of sharing and having fun. I hope to see many friends and new faces there. If you have any questions, email me at njraywms@optonline.net or call/text 609-647-4958.





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If you have an interest in Early American Copper Cents, Half Cents, Tokens, Medals etc., Please visit our web page and consider joining this prestigious Club.

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- Region 8 Email Publication-Member information in an easy to read weekly blast
- Copper Notes, Large Cent, Halfcent and Dark side Facebook Groups for deep discussions.

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THE ENIGMATIC SQUARE COIN: A LOST RELIC OF EARLY AMERICAN MINTING?

(Scott Newman)

Members of C4 are undoubtedly familiar with the countless remarkable discoveries made by metal detectorists—finds that bring history back to life with a simple sweep of a coil and a turn of the spade. From rare pre-federal coppers to early U.S. silver and artifacts that offer glimpses into the everyday lives of those who came before us, each recovery is a tangible link to the past, a story waiting to be told.

Many of you, given the nature of this group, are well acquainted with Massachusetts silver—the elusive pieces that once circulated in the early days of the colony. Their varieties and nuances have been studied, debated, and cherished by collectors and historians alike. Some have been unearthed in remarkable contexts, their survival against the odds a testament to their significance in our numismatic heritage.

Every so often, a discovery emerges that stirs excitement within the numismatic world—a find so remarkable that it invites attention, challenges assumptions, or simply inspires awe. The story I’m about to share has the potential to be one of those rare moments—one that captivates, surprises, and may even reshape what is known.

In 1987, along a well-worn fur trade route in New York, a metal detectorist made a discovery that defied expectation—a small, flat piece of silver unlike anything typically found from the colonial era. It wasn’t round like a standard coin, nor did it match any known issues of Massachusetts silver. Yet there it was, unmistakably stamped with the letters “N E”.



The first time I saw an image of it, I had the same reaction I suspect many collectors will: *That’s interesting... but what exactly is it?*

At first, I brushed it off as some kind of fantasy piece. A square New England coin? That sounded more like speculation than history. But the more I studied it, the more it demanded a closer look. Its slightly angled lines suggested it had been clipped down with purpose. Its composition and markings felt deliberate, not random. And the more I turned it over in my mind, the more I realized—this was something worth investigating.

A Coin That Shouldn't Exist—But Might

The Massachusetts mint under John Hull is one of the most studied aspects of early American numismatics. Generations of researchers have pieced together its evolution, from its authorization in 1652 to the production of Oak, Willow, and Pine Tree coinage. It seems as though almost every known variety has been carefully cataloged. And yet, this particular piece? It doesn't appear in any reference. No known specimens, no auction records, nothing.

As a metal detectorist, I've had the thrill of recovering three Massachusetts "tree" coins—two cut fragments and a remarkable AU details NOE-1 Oak Tree shilling. Like many in this field, I've indulged in the dream of unearthing an NE coin, knowing full well how rare such a find would be.



My Oak Tree dug in 2020 fresh from the farm field.

The realist in me keeps those expectations in check, understanding that the odds are astronomically slim. But it's not impossible—it's happened before. In the 1990s, an NE sixpence was famously discovered in a potato field in Southampton, proving that history still has its surprises...

But a square-cut coin? That seems impossible. And yet, I had to ask: Was there any historical basis for such a piece?

The Research Trail

Recognizing my own limited knowledge, I hit the books and shot off some emails to some friends at The American Antiquarian Society. Surely they would know something.

As per usual, they did, and directed me toward the Hull diary which was compiled and published by them in 1857, and so I began to read. I will spare you the lengthy list of deliberations outlined in the journal and much of the politics behind the decision by the General Court and instead will introduce the topic briefly.

In June of 1652, the Massachusetts General Court officially ordered the production of coins to address the colony's severe currency shortage. Unlike England, where silver circulated widely, Massachusetts had very few coins available for trade, forcing settlers to rely on barter and foreign currency.

The colony's leadership understood that simply copying English coinage wasn't practical. The goal wasn't to compete with England's monetary system but to create a stable medium of exchange that would remain in New England, rather than being hoarded, exported, or melted down for its bullion content. This intention is clearly reflected in the minting orders, which specify:

"And further the said master of the mint aforesaid is heereby Required to coine all the said mony of good Silver and of the Just allay of new sterling English mony, & for valew to stampe ~~three~~ two pence in a shilling of lesser vallew then the prsent English Cojne & the lesser peeces proportionably."

The revision from "three" to "two" suggests that the colony initially considered a larger reduction in value before settling on a more moderate approach. This adjustment reflects Massachusetts' goal of keeping its coinage in local circulation rather than allowing it to be absorbed into the broader English monetary system. Rather than competing with English coins, Massachusetts was ensuring that its currency served the immediate needs of the colony.

According to the original court records, these coins were also supposed to be square:

"Flatt & square on the sides & stamped on the one side with N E & on the other side wth the figure XIIId VIId & IIIId."

This text and the one above from Crosby (a facsimile and transcription of the original draft of the legislation).

A privy mark, changed quarterly, was also mandated to deter counterfeiters. However, within a matter of weeks the committee overseeing the mint abandoned the square format in favor of round coins, likely due to practical concerns over striking and circulation.

This raises a critical question: Could any square coins have been struck before the transition? If so, how many?

The abrupt shift in design means that, if any were produced, they were likely experimental—perhaps trial strikes or a small test run. This would explain why none have appeared in the historical record. But it also means the discovery of one would be possible.

The Weight Problem—Or Proof of Authenticity?

To better understand the weight of this specimen, it's important to look at what Massachusetts was using as a reference.

For context, the 1651 English Commonwealth shilling—the standard for sterling coinage at the time weighed 96 grains. This would have been well known to the leadership of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, many of whom had direct ties to England and its economic policies. In fact, the Massachusetts mint explicitly acknowledged this standard in that previously mentioned authorization, here repeated: “...*of new Sterling English money & for value to Stampe two pence in a shilling of lesser valew then the present English Coyne...*”

The text clearly shows that Massachusetts sought to mint its own coins at a deliberately reduced weight, ensuring they did not compete with English coinage and remained circulating within New England. The proposal to reduce the shilling's weight from 96 grains to an intermediate 80 grains before ultimately settling on 72 grains reflects this pragmatic approach.

This reduction meant that a Massachusetts 12d shilling would only be worth 10d in English money. Given that the English standard for a shilling was 96 grains, dividing that by 12 gives a weight of 8 grains per penny's worth of silver. A reduction of 2d meant the coin was struck with 16 grains less silver, bringing its theoretical bullion weight to 80 grains.

This is where the mystery deepens. The specimen in question weighs just a pinch under 80 grains... 79.4 to be exact, a weight that aligns with this transitional period. If Massachusetts had indeed struck test pieces at the 80-grain standard before shifting to 72 grains, then this coin fits perfectly into that historical window.

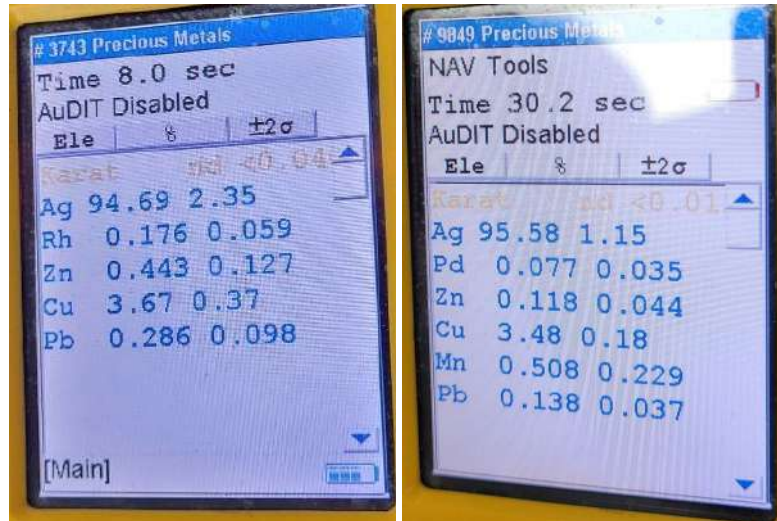


Adding to the intrigue, the specimen itself appears deliberately clipped. The edges show signs of controlled reduction, not random damage. This raises the possibility that the coin was modified after minting, perhaps to conform to the weight standard ordered? Such clipping practices were common in colonial America, but their presence on this square specimen—an otherwise undocumented form, only strengthens the case that this piece was part of an experimental phase.

Rather than being an anomaly, the weight of this specimen fits within the documented deliberations of the Massachusetts minting process, suggesting it may be a genuine artifact from this critical moment of experimentation. Its precise alignment with the debated 80 grain standard, the deliberate clipping, and the contextual history all support the idea that this is more than just an outlier—it may be physical proof of Massachusetts evolving monetary policy in action.

Could It Be a Forgery?

No serious numismatist takes an unverified colonial specimen at face value. X-ray fluorescence (XRF) analysis was performed on the coin, confirming that its metallic composition matches known Massachusetts silver issues.



Two separate XRF readings taken on the specimen.

Some skeptics have suggested it could be the work of Trevor Ashmore, a well-known producer of high-quality colonial reproductions. But in 1987—before the internet made detailed minting records readily available—it seems highly improbable that any counterfeiter could have known to incorporate all of these precise elements:

- the square shape
- the intermediate weight
- the NE stamp
- characteristically high silver content

Even if someone had read about the probable existence of square New England coinage in the 1980s, how would they have been aware of the distinctively high silver content of early Massachusetts silver without the advantage of XRF testing?

The Counterstamps: A Mark of Reauthorization?

Another fascinating detail is the presence of two additional counterstamps on the coin. To me (mind you, I am not an expert), these marks seem to have been applied after its initial minting. Their impressions appear slightly misaligned with the original design, lacking the uniform integration expected if they had been struck at the time of production. This raises the possibility that they were added later, perhaps as an official validation or to reaffirm the coin's legitimacy in circulation. It is also possible that these counterstamps were applied many years afterward, though determining that would require closer examination by an expert.

The Verdict—A Question, Not an Answer

If genuine, this coin would represent one of the most groundbreaking discoveries in early American numismatics. It would provide definitive evidence that Massachusetts experimented with striking square coins before ultimately transitioning to the more familiar round format. Such a finding would reshape our understanding of the colony's early minting practices and the evolution of its coinage.

If this coin is a forgery, it would be among the most peculiar and enigmatic deceptions in numismatic history. Yet, its existence raises more questions than answers. Could it be the numismatic *Lucy*—the missing link in early Massachusetts coinage? A previously unknown prototype that reshapes our understanding of colonial minting? Or is it an elaborate hoax, so skillfully executed that it has yet to be definitively debunked?

For now, the truth remains uncertain. Perhaps the key lies in an overlooked archive, waiting to be uncovered. Or maybe it still rests beneath the soil, waiting for another fortunate detectorist to bring it to light. To find answers, the expertise of numismatists and historians is not only welcome but essential—those with knowledge of early American silver and colonial minting may hold the final piece of this enduring puzzle.

[Editor's Note: Our wonderful hobby is full of enigmas and unanswered questions that often come on the heels of an unexamined or forgotten piece coming to light. Such a piece can prove to be an authentic discovery 'from the period' - or not. The fun lies in the finding out; and will undoubtedly end when all the questions have answers. In the meantime, C4 is fortunate to have as its members experts knowledgeable on practically anything related to early American numismatics, and especially Massachusetts silver coinage. The following article is published, without bias as to outcome, in the hope that members will freely offer their insights, knowledge and considered opinions pursuant to answering Scott's questions. Readers with comments or questions are invited to contact the author directly at: scott.newmanf1@gmail.com]



Appendix with additional information

The original act is found in three similar versions: a draft with revisions, a version passed by the House of Magistrates (on May 26th) and the version passed by the House of Deputies (on May 27th). See the "General Introduction to Massachusetts Silver" for additional information. All three versions are transcribed in Crosby (a facsimile and transcription of the original draft of the legislation is on pp. 34-35, the House of Magistrates version is on pp. 36-37 and the version given below from the House of Deputies is on pp. 37-38). -- A note on the transcription below of the House of Deputies version: The original is in a single long paragraph that I have broken down into its individual parts for easier reading. Explanations are added in brackets in smaller type. The letters u and v have been regularized and abbreviations have been spelled out. Capitalization, punctuation, and spelling are original except where bracketed additions were necessary for easier comprehension.

The act as recorded in the House of Deputies

It is Ordered by this Court & the Authoritie thereof that the printed Order about money [the earlier counterstamping order] shalbe in force untill the first of the seventh month next [i.e. September] & no longer [the counterstamping order briefly had the force of law but was never implemented].

And that from & after the first of September next the money hereafter appoynted & expressed shalbe the Current money of this Common wealth & no other, unles English, except the receivers consent thereunto. [Massachusetts and English coinage would be legal tender, no one would be obligated to accept foreign coins. This assumes the Boston mint will be in operation during the summer. Unfortunately this ideal situation of relying only on English denominated coinage never occurred. The hope was that all foreign silver coins would be melted down into Massachusetts shillings so only Massachusetts silver and a few English silver coins would remain in circulation]

in persuance of the Intent of this court herein Be it further Ordered & enacted by the Authoritie of this court That all persons whatsoever have libertie to bring unto the mint howse at Boston all Bullion plate or Spanish Coyne there to be melted & brought to the Allay of Sterling silver by John Hull master of the said mint, & his sworne officers & by him to be Coyned into twelve pence Six pence & three pence peeces which shalbe for forme flatt & square on the sides [modified in committee to round rather than square] & Stamped on the one side with N E & on the other side with xii^d. vi^d & iir^d according to the value of each peece together with a privie marke which Shalbe appoynted every three monethes by the governor & knowne only to him & the sworne officers of the mint [Privy marks were not added. Clearly there were no marks on the NE coinage, but some have suggested variations in the geometric dot designs and backwards letters on the Oak and Pine Tree coins represented privy marks. I suspect these variations were probably not intentional and certainly were not changed every three months.],

& further the said master of the mint Afforsaid is hereby required to Coyne all the said money of good silver of the Just allay of new Sterling English money & for value to Stampe two pence in a shilling of lesser valew then the present English Coyne & the lesser peeces proportionable [22.25% less silver than the English standard so a Massachusetts shilling of 12d would be worth 10d in English money].

And all such Coyne as aforesaid shall be acknowledged to be Current coyne of this common wealth & pass from man to man in all payments accordingly within this Jurisdiction only.

And the mint master for himself and his Officers for their payment & labour in meltinge refineinge & Coyninge is allowed by this court to take one shilling out of Every twenty shillings which he shall stampe as aforesaid, [based on a committee recommendation this fee was raised by vote of the General Court on October 28th to a fee of 15d per 20s minted and an additional 1d allowance per ounce of silver for waste],

& It shalbe in the liberty of any person who brings into the mint howse any bullian plate or spanish Coyne as afforsaid to be present and se [see] the same melted & refined Allayed & then to take a receipt of the master of the mint for the weyght of that which is good silver allayd as aforesaid, for which the mint master shall deliver him the like weight in Current money viz. every shilling to weigh three penny Troy weight [72 grains, as there are 24 grains per penny weight] & lesser peeces proportionably deducting allowances for coynage as before exprest.

And that this Order beinge being of so great Concernment may not in any perticuler thereof fall to the ground It is further Ordered that m^r Richard Bellingham m^r William Hibbens [,] the present secrity [Edward Rawson was the secretary] Captain John Leveritt & m^r Thomas Clarke to be a Committee appoynted by this court to appoynt the mint howse in some Convenient place in Boston to give John Hull master of the mint the oath suteable to his place & to approve of all other Officers & determine what else shall appeare to them as Necessary to be done for the Carying an End of the whole order,

& that all other Orders concerning the Valuation or coyning of money past this court shalbe repealed [i.e. the earlier order mentioned at the start of the act].

~~~~~



[Editor: Noe-1 threepence, Noe-1 sixpence, Noe-1 shilling, for comparison (not to scale). Photos courtesy of StacksBowers.]

## THE FARTHINGS OF SCARBOROUGH CASTLE

(Mark A. Sportack)

Collectors of counterfeit coins rarely have the luxury of learning about the origin of the coins they pursue. Counterfeiters are necessarily secretive about their work. Patent farthing collectors, however, caught a lucky break with one family of counterfeits: the Muffintop Family. The Muffintop Family of forgeries can be traced to a specific location: Scarborough Castle in North Yorkshire, England. Although an oft-repeated story holds that most of the surviving examples from this counterfeiter were recovered from the castle's well, including numerous uncut strips, the truth appears to be more mundane. Careful evaluation of the uncut strips published by Peck<sup>7</sup> shows they are manufacturing scrap. Peck also writes of scissel and scrap copper being found in the well. These findings strongly suggest Scarborough Castle was the site of their manufacture, but the farthings themselves probably weren't unceremoniously dumped into the well as a reaction to a change in political fortunes.

This forger's work was sufficiently successful that, even today, many believe they were made with authentic puncheons from the Lennox/Richmond token houses. Close examination of the features made with puncheons vis-à-vis those on authentic Lennox and Richmond farthings shows this not to be the case.

The examples recovered from the well are copies of Richmond patent farthings with one major difference. The King's Latin abbreviated name (CARO) was misspelled in feminine form: CARA. These counterfeits are well-known, very rare and highly prized by numismatists. However, they do not tell the full story of counterfeiting in Scarborough Castle. Figure 1 shows a CARA forgery with Mascle privy.



Figure 1. Typical CARA farthing from Scarborough Castle.

Production of patent farthing forgeries in Scarborough Castle began during the reign of King James I. Most of these farthings are not as easy to detect as their later CARA siblings. Indeed, they have not heretofore been identified as a related group of forgeries, much less associated with the CARA forgeries. When a Scarborough Castle Lennox forgery comes to market coin dealers typically sell them unattributed or as an authentic Lennox farthing.

<sup>7</sup> English Copper, Tin and Bronze Coins in the British Museum 1558-1958, C. W. Peck, London 1960, Plate 2.

## Scarborough Castle

Scarborough Castle was formerly a royal fortress built on a rocky promontory in Scarborough, North Yorkshire, England. It overlooks the town of Scarborough as well as the North Sea. Between 1159 and 1169 AD, King Henry II replaced the original timber fortifications with larger stone structures including a three-story keep and a stone wall replacing the wooden palisade. This work, and the ongoing development of the harbor facilities set the stage for Scarborough becoming a strategic stronghold in the region. In recognition of the value of this site, Henry II bestowed the title of Royal Borough upon the town that had arisen around the castle.

It was the target of many assaults and sieges during the turbulent 14<sup>th</sup> through 16<sup>th</sup> centuries. These threats were not foreign: regional power struggles saw competing English factions competing for control of the castle and port.

Despite its strategic value, its remote location meant that kings were investing large sums to maintain a castle that they never personally visited. The last king to visit Scarborough Castle was Richard III who resided there in 1484 as he oversaw the building of a fleet to fight the Tudors. Such absentee ownership created conditions for corruption. Local governours responsible for the castle's upkeep could (and often did) pocket the money allocated by the Crown for the maintenance and operation of the Royal fortress. Consequently, Scarborough Castle endured long stretches of decay and decline, accompanied by repeated sieges and assaults by various English factions as political winds shifted. Over time, Scarborough became more valued as a harbor for wool trade than as a defensive stronghold.

Lack of Royal oversight also appears to have set the stage for making their own coinage to meet the needs of the Castle's garrison and staff. Numismatists have long been aware of Siege Coins produced by various Royal castles, including Scarborough, to pay soldiers and facilitate commerce during the political turmoil of 1644-1645. But Scarborough's production of coinage for internal use seems to have started with patent farthings in the early 1620s.

Based on how rare extant specimens are today, mintage volumes must have been small, which reinforces the theory they were made to service the cash requirements of the Castle garrison. Despite their intended local use, mudlarks have found them as far away as London. Occasionally, it seems, an illicit farthing escaped!

## Coinage Overview

In keeping with a custom amongst American numismatists who pursue forgeries and other illicitly made coins, a mnemonic has been assigned to the forgeries from Scarborough Castle. The name of this family of fakes derives from the peculiar shape of the crowns, which resemble a muffin that has overflowed its baking tin, particularly the dexter side. This peculiarity varies somewhat with the angle of the puncheon as it imparted its image to the roller die but the puncheons that give the crown its distinctive profile remained in use throughout the entire production of this forger.

Visually, all known examples have five very straight harp strings, and five relatively thick jewels on the crown bands. They look good, and are remarkably consistent from die to die, but they are of illicit origin. Most of these Lennox counterfeits attract little attention and aren't especially prized by collectors.

These coins are all very rare today – a testament to their original purpose and limited production. It appears that the entire production was achieved with just two sets of roller dies; one for King James I and one for King Charles I. Coinage for both reigns appears to have been accomplished using the same set of privy marks. Unlike the Richmond forgeries, none of the Lennox forgeries were found in situ at the castle. Existing

specimens may be slightly more numerous than their Richmond siblings, but most lack an obvious diagnostic, such as a misspelled king's name, to aid in attribution.

The diesinker was quite skilled, as evidenced by the intricacy of the privy marks as well as the similarity of the farthings' designs to authentic farthings. An interesting paradox is that, despite the apparent skill of the diesinker/blacksmith, this counterfeiter is responsible for TWO of the most rare and desirable error varieties in the entire series of patent farthings! These are the 5-jewel Lennox with Mascle privy and BRITA legend (Everson #C8, Peck #82), and the Richmond CARA counterfeits (Everson #C26-C39, Peck # 122-133).

Other than recognizing the change of monarchs, the mint workers in Scarborough Castle made no effort to keep up with design changes of either the Lennox or Richmond Token Houses. And although they seemed careful to use privy marks used by Lennox and Richmond Token Houses, they were not so careful with matching privy with die axis alignment or design architectures. All farthings made in Scarborough Castle feature the 5-jewel crown architecture whereas authentic Richmond farthings only used these privy marks on 9-jewel designs.

The products of this counterfeiter can be easy to identify even in well-worn condition by a design quirk: the shape of the crowns typically bulge outward at the top (especially to dexter) in a way that reminds me of the shape of a muffin that has overflowed its baking tin. This distinctive profile is caused by the shapes of the two half-crosses that comprise the outer edge of the crown above the band and circlet. Figures 2-9 show the critical diagnostics for this counterfeiter. The crown features apply to both the obverse and reverse crowns while the harp features are specific to just the reverse.

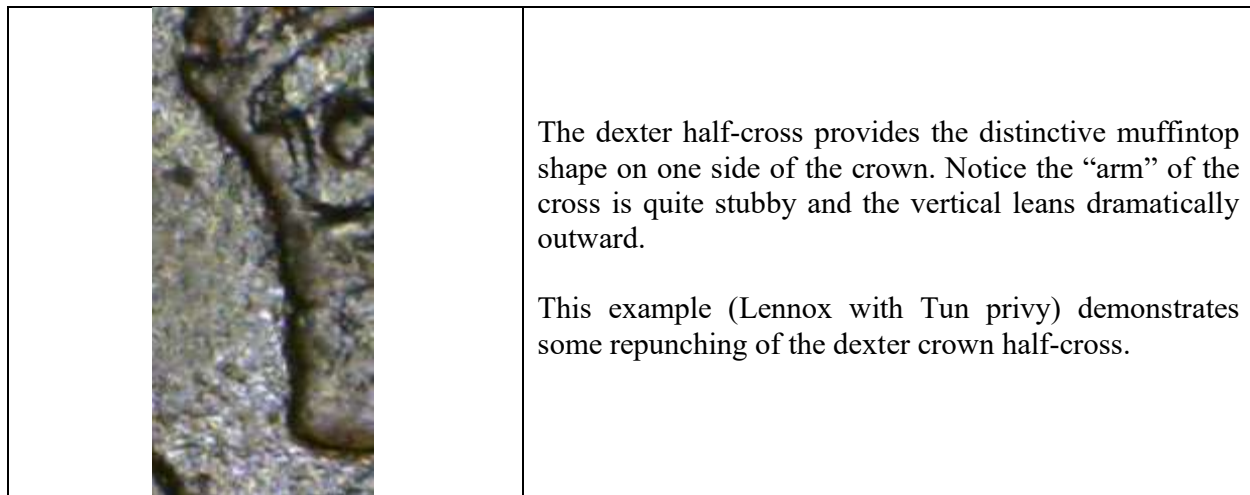


Figure 2. Shape of the crown's dexter half-cross.

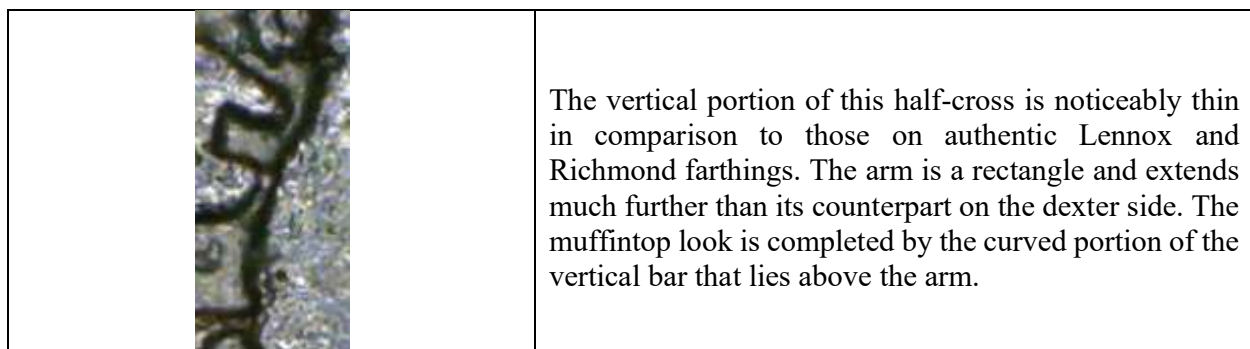


Figure 3. Shape of the crown's sinister half-cross.

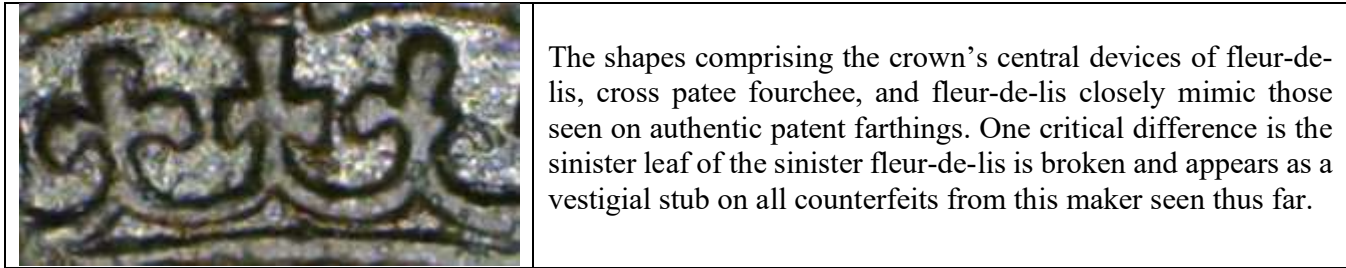


Figure 4. Crown's central devices.

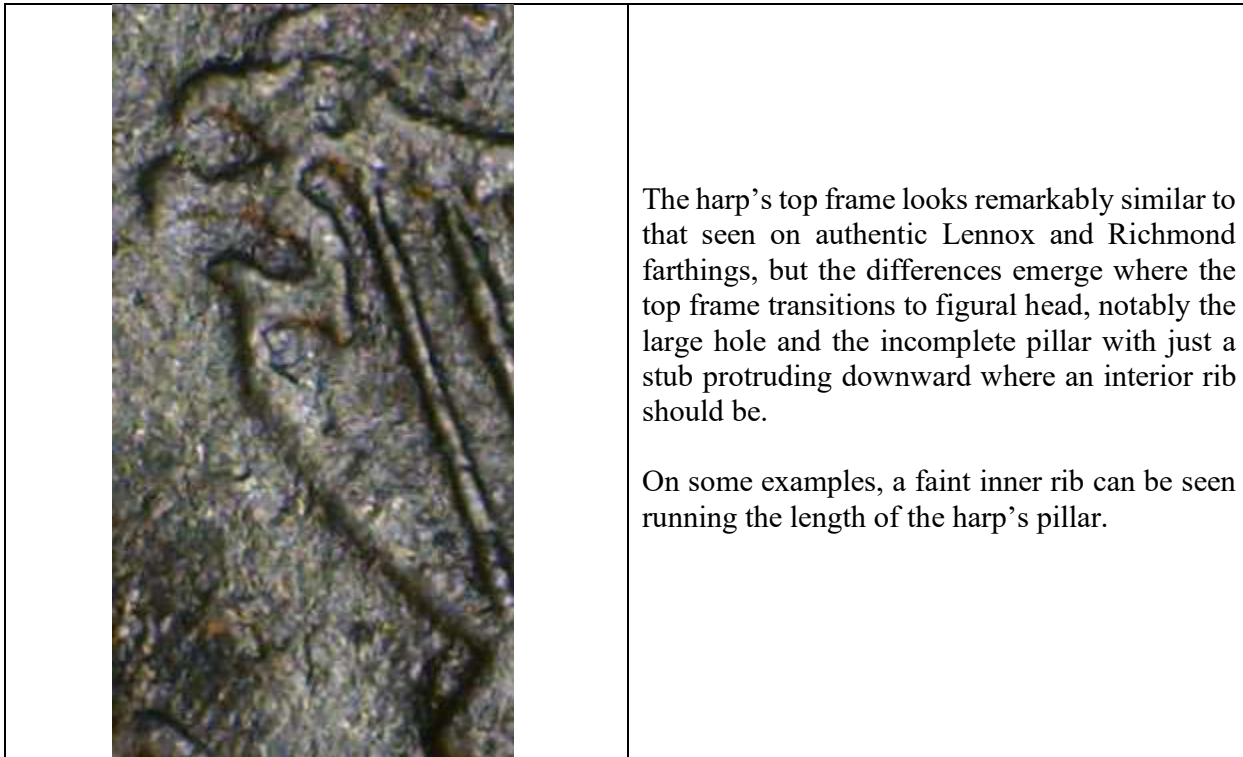


Figure 5. Harp's foreframe and figural head.

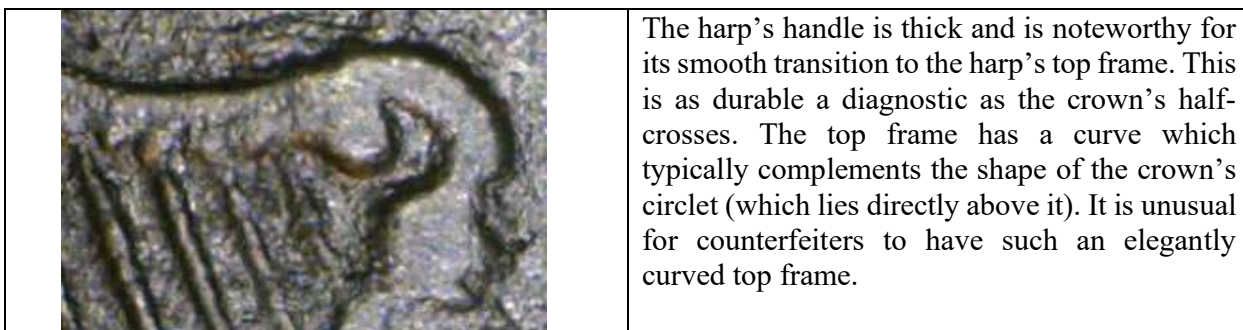


Figure 6. Harp's top frame and handle.

Another subtle diagnostic is the shape of the harp's base. Unlike the vast majority of contemporary forgeries, the Muffintop Family of counterfeits features a full harp base.

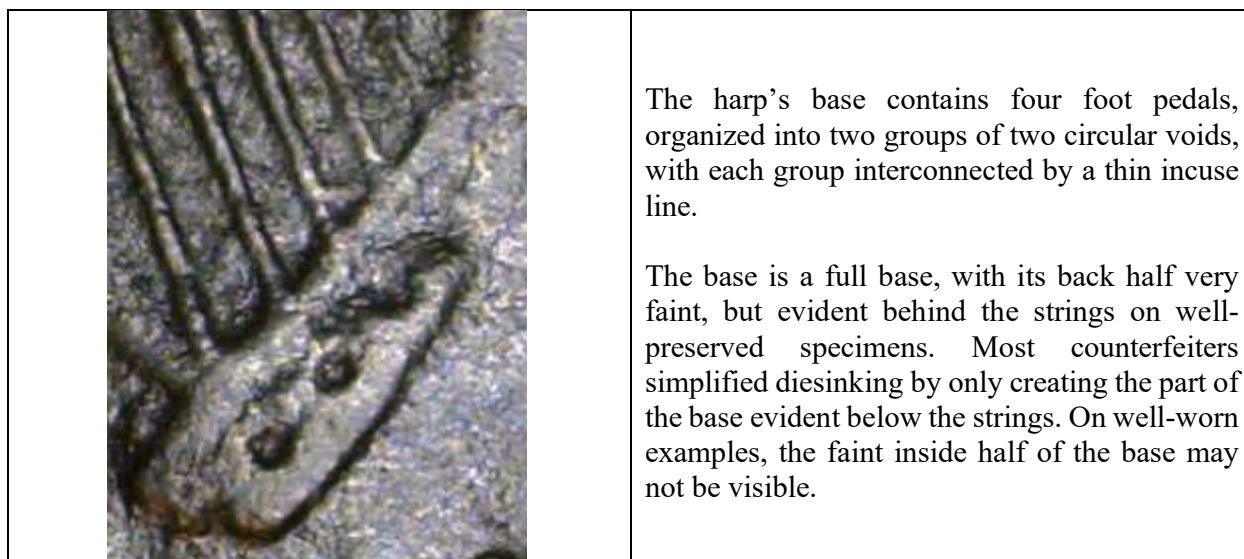


Figure 7. Harp base.

In addition to these major features, all the letters are subtly different to the ones found on authentic Lennox and Richmond farthings. Peck opined that these counterfeits were made from die images assembled using at least some authentic puncheons stolen from the Richmond token house. While the lettering is quite good, the letters found on the forgeries from Scarborough Castle tend to be much thicker. Two letters that are particularly interesting are A and B.

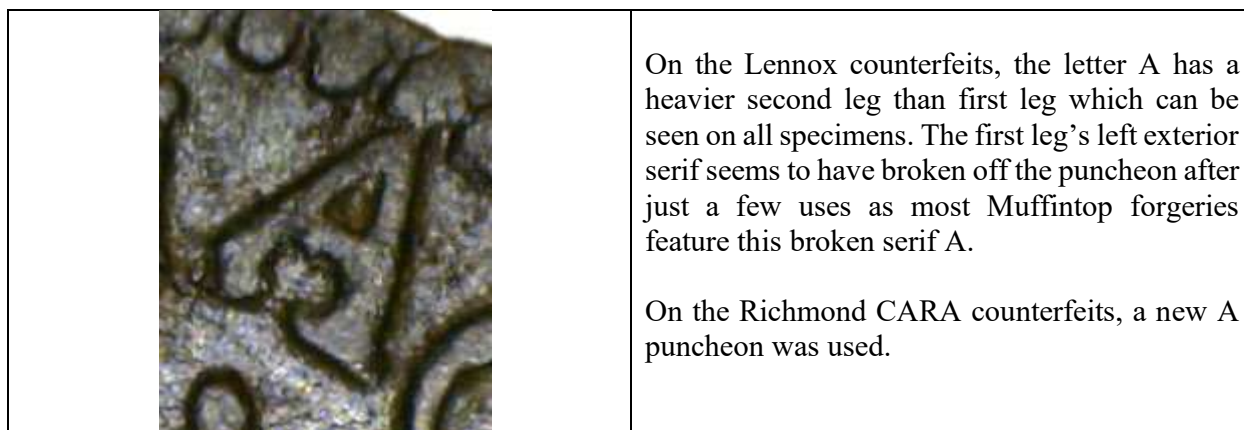


Figure 8. The Letter A.

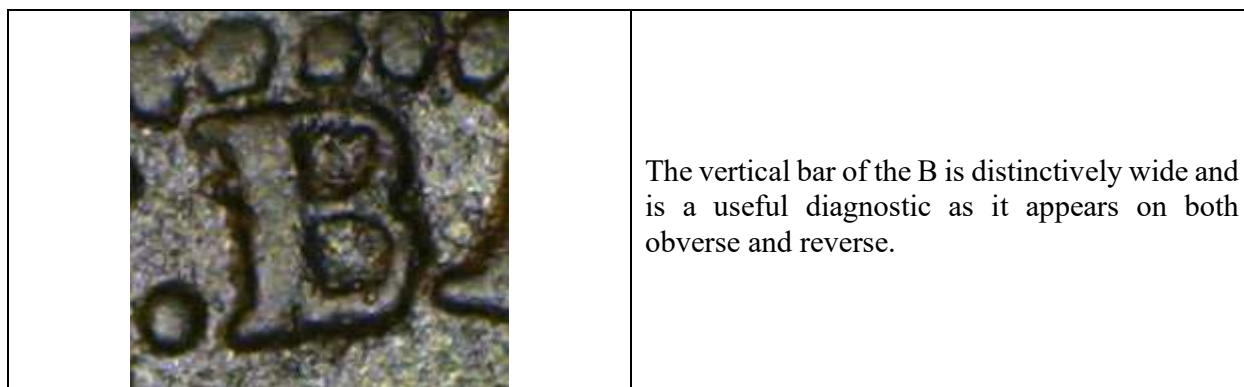


Figure 9. The Letter B.

## The Privy Marks

There are only nine known privy marks used by this forger. Known die marriages strongly suggest that although production may have been episodic, no more than two obverse dies were used: one for each reign. The privy marks known across both reigns include: Trefoil, Cross Patee Fourchee, Tun, Key Horizontal, Dagger, Annulet, Coronet, Fusil, and Mascle. Although the known set of privies is just nine, it appears that the roller dies featured ten die images each. Consequently, some of the privy marks were used twice on the same roller die.

This counterfeiter oddly mixed die axes on a roller die. Most die images were created with a 0° die axis but some were created with a 180° axis. Under normal circumstances, one might reasonably conclude that more roller dies were used but the recovery of uncut strips from the keep's well in Scarborough Castle allows us to know with certainty this was not the case. The uncut strips also establish the sequence in which privy marks appeared on the CARA roller die. Table 1 memorializes this sequence and provides the privy marks and die axes used for each Reign.

| Privy Mark           | IACO           | CARA           |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Trefoil              | 0°             | 0°             |
| Cross Patee Fourchee | 180°           | 0°             |
| Tun #1               | 0°             | 0°             |
| Tun #2               | 180°           | Not Applicable |
| Key Horizontal       | 0°             | 0°             |
| Dagger #1            | Not Applicable | 0°             |
| Annulet              | 0°             | 0°             |
| Dagger #2            | Not Applicable | 180°           |
| Coronet #1           | 0°             | 0°             |
| Coronet #2           | 0°             | Not Applicable |
| Fusil                | 0°             | 0°             |
| Mascl                | 0°             | 0°             |

Table 1.

Examples with impaired or missing privies may be attributed by comparing the alignment of the scepter heads and handles vis-à-vis the letters in the legend and the devices comprising the crown such as the circlet and crown jewels. The alignment of these four devices is unique across the 20 known obverse die images and is a useful diagnostic.

## The Lennox Forgeries

Forgeries of Lennox patent farthings from this forger have not previously been studied. This document presents the first study of its dies and privy marks.

### Masle Privy

Figure 10 shows the incredibly rare Masle privy with its motto misspelled. This is a well-known and highly desirable rarity. Throughout the patent farthing series, Britannia has been abbreviated as BRI or BRIT. This is the only variety with BRITA. The last documented sale of an example of this rarity occurred in 2005 when one sold at auction for more than £500. This example was acquired privately in 2024, marking a gap of almost 20 years since the last example appeared on the market.

Although the obverse strike is a bit weak, the unmistakable muffintop shape of the crown is quite evident, as is the compact and thick features of the harp on the reverse. The placement of the handle, and shapes of the figural head and foreframe, are the two most significant diagnostic features. All instances of the letter “A” feature a complete letter, indicating this die image was constructed before the first leg’s exterior serif broke off.



Figure 10. Masle privy Lennox counterfeit with BRITA legend.

Although numismatists have long been aware of this rarity, and have acknowledged it as a contemporary forgery, its connection to Scarborough Castle has remained unappreciated.

### Tun Privy #1

Muffintop counterfeits are typically found with some degree of environmental damage. The Tun privy example in Figure 11 is one of the rare exceptions. It features almost uncirculated surfaces, toned to a glossy black patina. All letter As were made from the broken puncheon.



Figure 11. Tun privy #1 Lennox counterfeit.

### Tun Privy #2

The alignment of scepter heads and handles to motto letters provides the basis for differentiating between the two Tun privy varieties of this family. In Figure 11, the dexter scepter head aligns with, and intersects, the vertical bar of the letter T. In Figure 12, the scepter head points to the second bottom serif of the letter. Similar differences can be seen for the other scepter head and both handles. The letter As all appear to have been made from an unbroken puncheon.



Figure 12. Tun privy #2 Lennox counterfeit.

### Coronet Privy #1

The Coronet privy was used on two different Lennox Muffintop counterfeits. This one bears silent testimony to the success of this counterfeiter's work. It was purchased from a mudlark and its orange hue tells of centuries spent in the preserving embrace of the Thames River foreshores. That it was found so far from Scarborough speaks to its ability to circulate alongside legitimate Lennox farthings – at least for a little while! Counterfeit farthings could be demonetized by folding them in half, as was done to this one. Perhaps it was convincing enough to circulate in the rural north but not in the shadows of the Tower of London where it was found.

Figure 13 shows Coronet privy #1 from this family. The visual distinction between #1 and #2 is the dexter scepter handle touches different letters. On #1, the handle touches the A in MAG. On #2, it touches the M.



Figure 13. Coronet privy #1 Lennox counterfeit.

## Coronet Privy #2

Only one example (see Figure 14) of Coronet privy #2 from this family has been identified. It's extraordinarily unusual in that it bears an undertype of what appears to be a counterfeit Maltravers farthing. If so, that indicates the Lennox roller die survived at least 10 years of retirement and was pressed back into service in an apparent attempt to convert an obvious Maltravers forgery into a more passable Lennox farthing.



Figure 14. Coronet privy #2 Lennox counterfeit.

## Key Horizontal Privy

The Key Horizontal privy is visually similar to that found on authentic Lennox farthings, with only subtle differences. Both privies feature a circular head, a barrel extending horizontally to dexter, and teeth (or wards, more properly) hanging downward from the tip of the barrel. On the Muffintop counterfeit, the key's head also features a small protrusion from 3 o'clock on the head to sinister. This feature is not present on authentic Lennox Key Horizontal farthings.

Perhaps a more telltale sign of the illicit nature of this farthing's origin can be seen in the shape of the obverse crown. It is almost perfectly square, much like 9-jewel Lennox farthings, with the exception of the upper part of the dexter half-cross. The half-cross leans outward thus imparting the muffintop appearance. See Figure 15.



Figure 15. Key Horizontal privy #1 Lennox counterfeit.

### Annulet Privy

Authentic Lennox farthings with five-jewel architecture and Annulet privy marks are quite rare. Any such farthing should be immediately examined for the number of harp strings and harp architecture. If authentic, it will have six harp strings whereas the Muffintop Family's version will only have five strings. The ET in the reverse motto is actually misspelled using the F puncheon. See Figure 16.



Figure 16. Annulet privy Lennox counterfeit.

### Fusil Privy

The Fusil privy was used repeatedly throughout the production of Lennox and Richmond farthings. It comes as no surprise that forgers would also seize upon this symbol. The Muffintop Family created a passable version of the rare Lennox 5-jewel Fusil privy farthing (see Figure 17). Discerning this forgery from its legitimate counterparts is a matter of examining the diagnostics presented in this paper.



Figure 17. Fusil privy Lennox counterfeit.

### Cross Patee Fourchee Privy

I have only been able to acquire one example of a Muffintop forgery with a Cross Patee Fourchee privy...and that privy is all but obliterated! This farthing is shown in Figure 18. Under extreme magnification the outline of the privy becomes faintly visible. Positive attribution will require matching the alignments of scepter heads and handles to motto letters with a better-preserved example of this variety.



Figure 18. Cross Patee Fourchee privy Lennox counterfeit.

### **The Richmond Forgeries**

Thanks to the discovery of numerous uncut strips from the Scarborough Castle well, we know more about the CARA farthings than virtually any other counterfeit. Having been made on the same roller die, all privy varieties were made in approximately equal quantities. Thus, surviving examples should be approximately equally rare.

There has been considerable speculation as to why CARO was misspelled as CARA on every die image on the Muffintop Richmond obverse die. Two main theories are: the diesinker didn't have an O puncheon, or was deliberately trying to offend the king. The earlier counterfeits bear the properly abbreviated king's name of IACO so we know they had an O puncheon at some point in time. If the puncheon had broken, the blacksmith should have been able to make a new one, as had been done with the broken A puncheon from the Lennox era. That this mistake was repeated on every die image seems to rule out an unintentional cause. Perhaps it was meant to send a message to Royalists? We will likely never know the truth behind the CARA motto.

It is important to recognize that not all Richmond-style forgeries with the king's name misspelled as CARA emanated from Scarborough Castle. There were at least two other forgers operating during the reign of Charles I whose farthings also featured CARA in the motto. Their works are much cruder and immediately recognizable as being from different hands. As rare as the Muffintop CARA farthings are, it is much more difficult to find the cruder CARA forgeries. This speaks to a much more limited production run, and easier cull from circulation.

The Scarborough Castle CARA farthings are sufficiently rare and desirable that I do not have one of each. The examples presented here are from my collection and should adequately demonstrate what to look for in a Muffintop counterfeit. Some degree of environmental damage is normal for this issue so don't judge any you find too harshly.

### Fusil Privy

The Fusil privy Muffintop Richmond features a sloppy Fusil (not unlike the exceedingly rare real Richmond with Fusil privy), and a clearly lopsided crown on both sides. My specimen is shown in Figure 19. There is a slight asymmetry in the obverse to reverse die alignment, but no detail beyond denticles was lost on this example.



Figure 19. Fusil privy Richmond counterfeit.

### Key Horizontal Privy

This farthing uses the same close-but-not-perfect Key Horizontal privy as seen on its earlier Lennox counterpart. The critical distinction being the knob protruding toward sinister from the key's ring. Unlike the typical farthing from this counterfeiter, this one has been clipped and mistreated resulting in an odd not quite circular shape. See Figure 20.



Figure 20. Key Horizontal privy Lennox counterfeit.

### Annulet Privy

The obverse and reverse dies for the Annulet privy CARA forgery are also slightly mistimed but not to the extent that would impede attribution. See Figure 21.



Figure 21. Annulet privy Richmond counterfeit.

### **Conclusion**

This family of counterfeits must rank amongst the best known and most desirable of all patent farthing counterfeits. In addition to the incredibly rare BRITA Lennox counterfeit, the quixotic CARA farthings have long been prized by collectors. Ironically, the other Lennox style forgeries from Scarborough Castle have languished unappreciated and unattributed. By studying the puncheons used to make these well-known forgeries, it is possible to identify others from this source. This article, though not complete, is intended to facilitate the research needed to complete our understanding of the Scarborough Castle forgeries.





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## C4N REWIND

*[Editor's Note: With the 2025 onset of auction sales from the Richard August Collection, conducted by StacksBowers, we thought it would be appropriate to reprint highlights from one of Dick's many auction reviews appearing in C4N. This one, from one of the Heritage Newman sales in 2014, is particularly sprinkled with many of Dick's witticisms. We can only imagine how Dick would comment on his own lots!]*

### AUCTION REVIEW – NEWMAN V

(Richard August)

What can I say about the Heritage sale of the Newman collection Part V? I hate the expression: so and so "speaks for itself." But in this case, virtually every lot is an example of a masterpiece of a colonial coin. To find any fault with most of these coins is to seek imperfection in virtual perfection. To do so is to only reflect imperfection on oneself. There are a few lots though that can be criticized. We all have a few coins, a few old friends that we accept and like, even with their flaws. So here goes...and forgive me:

Lot 3002, a Pitt farthing in choice VF brought \$30,550. This is more likely a Betts listed medalet and not a coin, but still it is a very rare and nice item of Americana. I wish I owned one...even with a hole.

Lot 3003, a Pitt halfpenny choice UNC went for \$20,562. It was well struck and choice. Nice. . . no, extra nice . . . like choice candy only you can't eat it.

Lot, 3005 a choice AU 1783 Chalmers 6p brought \$88,125. Very, very choice and the finest I have ever seen or heard about. The strike is fantabulous.

Lot 3010, a Nova Constellatio 2B in UNC 66 that could easily be called 68 brought \$41,125 – a monster coin with full eye, full eye ball and full eye lash – the finest Nova I've ever seen!

Lot 3017, the 1786 Machin's Mills Nova 1B was graded VF, but I would call it a crude Fine. It brought a healthy \$21,150. Thank the lord I already have one! Most of these coins come in much lower condition, and I've only seen 2 distinctly better ones.

Lot 3018, a 1785 Inimica Tyrannis Cent in choice UNC. It is finest known by far, and brought a well-deserved \$352,500. What a coin. What art.

Lot 3019, a 1785 Confederatio copper in VF brought \$44,062. You can't buy one at the local coin store in the next 1,000 years.

Lot 3022, a 1785 Immune Columbia-Nova Constellatio reverse in AU struck in silver brought \$135,125. This coin is so outstanding that it would not fit in my collection!

And now for the Fugios

Lot 3062, a 10-T "1 over 1" graded AU55 brought \$25,850. I would grade this coin XF45 CAC, and I would not wish to denigrate it, as it is still high condition census for the coin.

Lot 3075, a 21-I graded VF25 brought \$1,351. I really didn't care for the grade of this coin that much as I called it VG10 -- just my opinion. Everyone is free to have there own opinions (to a point!).



## **NOTICE:**

### **TUITION ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE**

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#### World's Fair of Money in August 2025

The ANA has made financial credits available to C4. We plan to use these to:

- offset the cost of ANA Summer Seminar tuition for one person;
- or
- for two C4 members to attend the technical seminar at the World's Fair of Money in Oklahoma City in August 2025 tuition-free.

Applicants must be a member of both ANA and C4. Please see the President's Message on page 3 for details, requirements, and application information.

**Deadline to apply is May 7, 2025.**



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1. New Netherlands, *Fifty-First Catalog of Rare US Coins Public Auction*, 19-20 June 1958, New York, NY. Extensive colonial offerings, 246 colonial lots, many rare and seldom seen types/varieties, extensive descriptions, some plates, Good to Very Good. **\$35**
2. Bowers and Ruddy Galleries, *Long Beach International Coin and Stamp Exposition Public Auction - The Newport Collection*, 30-31 January & 1 February 1958, Long Beach, CA. 77 colonial lots, some not seen that often, Good. **\$8**
3. Stack's Bowers, *The Robert M. Martin Collection of US Colonial Coins*, 15 & 19 November 2019, Baltimore, MD. One of the iconic collections of Connecticut coppers, also a superb collection of over 50 lots of Massachusetts silver, New with C4 Stamp, spiral bound. **\$20**
4. McCawley & Grellman, *C4 Auction 12 October 1996 – The Second Annual C4 Convention Sales of US Colonial Coins*. Deluxe hardcover edition with leatherette cover, no stamps, New. **\$40**
5. Raymond, Wayte, *The Early Medals of Washington 1776 - 1834*, Wayte Raymond, New York, NY, 1941. A 16-page booklet with descriptions and photos, Good to Very Good. **\$7**
6. Vlack, Robert A., *An Illustrated Catalogue of The French Billion Coinage in the Americas*, The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2014. New. **\$75**
7. Marsh, John, *Clip A Bright Guinea – The Yorkshire Coiners of the Eighteenth Century*, Robert Hale, London, UK, 1971. A hard-to-find text highlighting counterfeiting in 18th century England, great reading, book is Good, dust cover Good with large cut, multiple library stamps, C4 and EAC stamps. **\$25**
8. Bowers & Ruddy Galleries, *The Garrett Collection Sales for the Johns Hopkins University – Part 1*, 28-29 November 1979, New York, NY. 72 colonial lots including the finest-known Brasher Doubloon, Good to Very Good with C4 stamp and dirt spots on the cover. **\$10**
9. Bowers & Ruddy Galleries, *The Garrett Collection Sales for the Johns Hopkins University – Part 3*, 1-2 October 1980, New York, NY. Over 300 colonial lots, extensively described with many photos, a landmark colonial sale, Good to Very Good with C4 stamp. **\$12**
10. Jordan, Louis, *John Hull the Mint and the Economics of Massachusetts Coinage*, C4 Publications, Lebanon, NH, 2002. Extensive study of the production and politics of Massachusetts silver coinage, Like New, C4 stamp. **\$10**



## 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](http://www.colonialcoins.org). These books may be ordered directly from: Charles Davis' website at [www.numisbook.com](http://www.numisbook.com). Books marked with an asterisk are also available from Kolbe & Fanning Numismatic Booksellers at [www.numislit.com](http://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) Moore, Roger A., Eugene Andrews, Robert Bowser, John Howes, John Louis, David Palmer, Jeff Rock, Rickie Rose, Clem Schettino, and Byron Weston. *Contemporary Counterfeit Halfpenny and Farthing Families*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2018, Available from Barnes & Noble, Amazon books, and other mass market retailers.
- (12) Siboni, Roger S., John L. Howes, and A. Buell Ish. *New Jersey State Coppers*, American Numismatic Society and Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2013. Price \$85. \*
- (13) Siboni, Roger S., John L. Howes, and A. Buell Ish. *New Jersey State Coppers Companion*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2024. **OP \***
- (14) 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.



## Medals from the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 25<sup>th</sup> 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!

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C4 25th Anniversary Medals



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.

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## C4 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Medals

Hot off the presses to celebrate C4's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary is a counterstamping of our 25<sup>th</sup> 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 (25<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> 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 Chris Pretsch at [treasurer@colonialcoins.org](mailto:treasurer@colonialcoins.org). Chris will respond verifying availability and give payment instructions.

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C4 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Annual dues are currently \$30.00 for Regular Membership (\$55 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 can pay via Paypal (preferred) on the C4 website (colonialcoins.org) or may mail checks (made out to "C4") to: Chris Pretsch, C4 Treasurer, 301 Fifth Avenue, #622, Pittsburgh, PA 15222. Thank you for paying in a timely manner. It makes his job easier and will be much appreciated!

NOTE: See President's Message on Page 3 regarding upcoming dues increases.

PROSPECTIVE NEW 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 why 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 :

Lawrence Forte - NY	Nathaniel Bayer Hafran - CA	Benjamin Hellings - CT	Michael Joffre-Canada
Tim Mauro-NH	Shimon Nussbaum-NY	George Pieraccini-NY	Hayden Simon-NJ

OBTAINING BACK COPIES OF C4N AND C4 AUCTION CATALOGS

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, Chris Pretsch, whose contact information is on page 2. Upon receipt of the money, he will contact Wayne, who will mail out the material. Back copies of the *Newsletter* are \$17 for the first and \$11 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 or 609-261-6662 (Home).

C4N IS ON THE NEWMAN NUMISMATIC PORTAL

Issues of C4N that are more than three years old, and a plethora of other important numismatic resources, are available online, through The Newman Numismatic Portal, at: www.archive.org/details/newmannumismatic. Newer issues of C4N are available in the Members Only section of the C4 website.)

INDEX OF PAST C4Ns

C4N has an index available on our website at colonialcoins.org. There are two indexes: one by author and a second by title/topic. 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.

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### **Answer to *What is it?* (from page 12):**

1787 Nova Eborac (New York) Small Head, Crosby 3-D variety, (Photos courtesy of HA.com)



## CLASSIFIED 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 C4 Treasurer, Chris Pretsch, 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**.  
**EDITOR NOTE: FREE Classified Ads that have run for four consecutive issues will be discontinued unless instructed otherwise by the advertiser. See counter next to ad, e.g. [1/4].**

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.

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For Sale to a Good Home:

Leo_J_Shane@hotmail.com

Complete Sets of 1894 and 1896 "The Numismatist", Also, 11 of 12 Issues for 1895.

Other Issues from 1905 to 2024 also available. Email me for details and price.

Coin Galleries, 11 Mar 2009, Mike Ringo Counterfeits Part III, \$8 +Ship

Coin Galleries, 18 July 2007, National Collection of Counterfeit 2 Reales, \$18 +Ship

Heritage, Wittier Collection of Latin America Silver & Copper Coins, 2 June 2006, \$9 +Ship

Heritage, Platinum Night, 14-19 August 2018, 1792 Gold Eagle & More, \$8 +Ship

EAN, Sale #2, ca July 1985, Mass Silver, Lord Baltimore, State Issues, Fugios & More, \$12 +Ship

Stacks Bowers, Baltimore Auction, C4 Sale, 5-10 Nov 2015, \$17 +Ship

Check Out ebay site, ID "colonialnut" for more catalogs, Email me before buying.

[2/4]

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For Sale: A set of 13 C4 catalogs from 1995 to 2010 (only missing 1996, 1998, and 2002). The 1995 is autographed by John M. Griffiee and William Anton.

\$250 includes UPS ground shipping.

Contact Frank at [fpweisensee@gmail.com](mailto:fpweisensee@gmail.com)

[3/4]

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Brasher Doubloon Watermarked Stationary

1 case/10 reams/24lb/ivory. Custom made. No longer available.

\$100 plus shipping based on zip code.

spencerpeck@comcast.net

[1/4]

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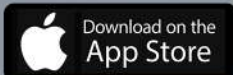
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972-310-9497

Travis Hollon  
[travis@earlycentsauctions.com](mailto:travis@earlycentsauctions.com)  
214-912-6644

Lyle Engleson  
[lyle@earlycentsauctions.com](mailto:lyle@earlycentsauctions.com)  
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