



The E-Gobrecht

Liberty Seated
Collectors Club

2014 Volume 10, Issue 5
May 2014 (Whole # 112)

LSCC Meets at Central States

About 20 LSCCers gathered at the club meeting held at the Central States show on April 25, 2014 in Schaumburg, Illinois. [Editor: See image below of pre-meeting gathering]. Secretary-Treasurer Len Augsburger led the meeting which included discussion of the upcoming Eugene Gardner Collection sales to be held by Heritage, officer transition within the LSCC, and status of the various book projects in development by LSCC members.

Following remarks by Len, club members shared recent show purchases and grading results. Club members were encouraged to prepare tributes to outgoing President John McCloskey to be shared at the annual LSCC meeting which will be held at the Chicago ANA Convention in August. John's 39-year record of service to the club as Editor and President is an unparalleled achievement, and we hope that as many members as possible can attend and express their recollections and appreciation of John's contributions.



Image and text graciously provided by Len Augsburger.

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The *E-Gobrecht* is an award winning informal electronic publication of the Liberty Seated Collectors Club (LSCC). The LSCC is a non-profit organization dedicated to the attributions of the Liberty Seated Coin series. The LSCC provides the information contained in this email newsletter from various sources free of charge as a general service to the membership and others with this numismatic interest. You do not have to be a LSCC member to benefit from this newsletter; subscription to the *E-Gobrecht* is available to anyone. All disclaimers are in effect as the completeness and/or accuracy of the information contained herein cannot be completely verified. Contact information is included at on the last page.



Auction News

by Jim Gray, LSCC #664

The **Heritage** Central States Numismatic Society Sale featured an XF 1846 half dime that sold for \$2,820.

Dimes had an 1838-O graded AU58 that sold for \$1,935 and an 1852-O in MS63 did not sell. An MS62 1858-S soared to \$14,100. An AU50 1873-CC was strong at \$38,188 as was an 1874-CC graded

AU53 for \$41,125.

Quarter dollars contained a MS64 1840-O No Drapery that soared to \$32,250. An 1873 closed 3 in AU58 sold for \$9,988 and a nice MS65 1878-CC hit \$3,819.

A splendid 1840 (O) Medium Letters Reverse of 1838 half dollar graded MS65 went for \$55,813 and a XF45 1842-O Small Date was worth \$4,401. An 1851 graded MS61 sold for \$1,558 and an AU58 1852 hammered for \$2,585. 1856-S and 1857-S pieces in AU50 and XF45 went for \$2,233 and \$1,528. An 1870-CC in VG10 hit \$4,113 and an 1871-CC sold for \$1,645 in VF30. An 1873-CC No Arrows hit \$1,410 in VF35. 1874-CC pieces graded in XF40 and AU53 sold for \$3,525 and \$4,700 with the latter having a number of black spots. An 1878-S graded VF30 rang the bell for \$49,938 [*Editor: Images of this 1878-S half dollar at right are courtesy of Heritage Auctions*]. Wow!

An 1854 dollar graded AU50 sold for \$9,400. XF40 and XF45 1871-CC pieces hit \$12,925 and \$17,575. 1872-CC dollars graded XF40, AU58, and MS62 went for \$6,756, \$15,275 and \$44,063. An 1872-S AU50 was worth \$5,288.



LSCC Calendar

Now thru May 29, 2014, articles and advertisements accepted for *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #120.

May 9, 2014, **LSCC regional meeting**, Denver Coin Expo, National Western Complex, Denver, CO, Friday, 1 PM. Seminar room.

July 2014, ***Gobrecht Journal*** Issue #120 published. This is John McCloskey's last issue as Editor.

August 7, 2014, **LSCC Annual Meeting**, ANA World's Fair of Money, Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, Rosemont, IL, Thursday, 9 AM. Room number TBD.



Regional News

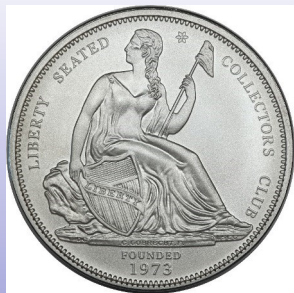
by Gerry Fortin, LSCC #1054

It is hard to believe that the wood stove is still fired on April 30 as Maine weather remains seasonally cold. Spring will be late to arrive this year as the forsythias are just starting to expose their yellow flowers. On a positive note, the late spring will delay arrival of wood ticks and the ever present black flies when working outside.

Separately in this *E-Gobrecht* issue, Len Augsburger reports on the Central States Numismatic Society meeting with strong club member attendance and a chance for a social get together to share new purchase and grading results.

The next LSCC regional meeting will be held at the Denver Coin Expo on Friday May 9, 1 PM in the Seminar room at the National Western Complex on Humboldt St. I will be hosting this meeting since Rare American Coins has a table at the show. Plans are for an LSCC overview for guests and then an educational presentation concerning the purchase of Liberty Seated coins with attention on strike and original surfaces. After Denver, the balance of May is quiet in terms of formal LSCC activities. One can call this "the calm before the storm!"

June brings about much excitement for Liberty Seated collectors. We start the month in Long Beach, CA with the now traditional after hours club meeting at the Rock Bottom Brewery on June 5 Meeting time for drinks and dinner is 7 PM and the session will be hosted by Brian Cushing. The end of June will be busy for Liberty Seated dealers and collectors alike as the first Eugene Gardner auction sale takes place on June 23 at Heritage Auctions' New York City office on Park Avenue. I do hope to be in attendance and there is discussion about a club member dinner the evening before the sale. That same week, the club will meet at the Whitman Baltimore show on Friday June 27, 9:00am and I'm sure the enthusiasm and auction stories from the Eugene Gardner sale will carry into our Friday session. The Baltimore meeting is also the last formal get together before the annual meeting at the August ANA. This meeting will have a packed agenda including Hall of Fame induction, club awards, the recognition of the retirement of John McCloskey as President/*Gobrecht Journal* Editor and finally, the LSCC transition to Bill Bugert as *Gobrecht Journal* Editor starting with the November 2014 issue. Please plan to attend a historic LSCC annual meeting on Thursday August 7.



40th Anniversary Medal Submissions to NGC

Recently, a club member submitted his LSCC 40th Anniversary silver medal to Numismatic Guaranty Corporation for encapsulation (not grading as NGC will not grade them). The medal was returned raw with a notice that NGC does not encapsulate them.



Please recall that when the medals were initially distributed to recipients, Dave Lange at NGC coordinated that we would be able to submit them. That offer still stands but readers need to make sure that the submission is annotated to the attention of either Scott Heller or Dave Lange. Dave states that "No one else would know about it at this late date. We will still do them."

Thanks again, Dave, for taking care of this! The LSCC appreciates it.



The Curious Collector

by Len Augsburger, LSCC #1271

Miscellaneous Musings

The mailbox is always full of coin-related items, and this month is no exception. I recently received a copy of Q. David

Bowers and Robert Gallette's *U.S. Liberty Head \$20 Double Eagles*. Both Dave and Robert are long time friends and members of LSCC. I wasn't sure quite what to expect when I ordered the book, I thought it might perhaps be a die variety study or collecting guide for double eagles. If I ever win the lottery, it is good to be prepared in advance. Well, that's not what it is. For starters, we have plenty of eye candy with lots of full page photographs of famous \$20s. But the real meat of the book is a year-by-year view of American economic and numismatic history from 1849 to 1907. Gold and silver have been inextricably tied throughout the American narrative (indeed, gold ore coming out of the ground frequently contains silver) so there is quite a bit here for the silver collectors as well. Indeed, this book could have been easily tailored to any denomination of coinage as the history presented is generally applicable to all of them. This book won't teach you how to get rich quick by speculating in Liberty Seated varieties but you will learn a lot about our financial history and how it influenced the coinage. Background like this makes collecting a lot more interesting, more than a recitation of the latest guide value or auction result. The hardbound book is available for \$45 from Stack's and is illustrated in full color. I rate books by whether I store them in my office, in the basement, or in the crawl space, and this book wins the highly coveted office real estate.

Also crossing my desk this month is the first Heritage preview for the Eugene Gardner sale to be held in New York in June. There will be four auctions spread across 2014 and 2015. Do not miss these auction lot viewings! The last sale comparable to this was Eliasberg - almost 20 years ago. Get there on a plane, a train, or whatever it takes. Even if you have no intention of buying a single coin, the

opportunity to see a collection like this again in person will not come soon. I expect at least one LSCC get-together surrounding the first New York sale (June 23) - probably the evening of the 22nd - anyone interested please email me [Editor: Len's email address is leonard_augsburger@hotmail.com] and we will work out the details.

Finally, this month also brings the latest edition of *Penny-Wise*, the journal for early copper collectors. Dr. Harry Salyards consistently writes the most provocative editorials, and this issue is no exception. Salyards has picked up on a trend within the copper community where value seems to be leaning more towards condition than rarity. The full-red

Mint State large cent from the 1850s is getting more attention than the lower grade and much rarer variety of another date. Within seated coinage, I've always felt that the gem Mint State and up examples typically were going into type sets while the scarcer dates (something like an 1855-O quarter in XF) were solidly pursued by the collector camp doing date and mintmark sets. In other words, a somewhat bifurcated market. The Eugene Gardner collection stands on its own as an exception - an unparalleled combination of rarity and condition. For the rest of us, rarity is one of the inherent characteristics of the Liberty Seated series and one of the attractions for new collectors. And for many issues, even though only a few hundred coins might exist (back to our 1855-O quarter), nice examples can still be had a reasonable prices when they can be found. Collecting trends will come and go, but rarity seems to be a constant theme within the realm of Liberty Seated collectors.

PENNY-WISE
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Quarter of the Month

by Greg Johnson, LSCC #1460

A couple of months ago I heard from veteran variety collector Ray Lathrop. He forwarded a seven-year-old email regarding a newly discovered die marriage of 1856-S that had, at the time, been recently reported by Bill Mackrides. Our

discussion was essentially “whatever happened to that information?” and “wouldn’t it make a good E-Gobrecht column?” We concluded that it would, indeed, make a good E-Gobrecht column and here it is. Bill’s notes were forwarded on to Len Augsburger who wrote them up and posted on the seated quarter message board (<http://seateddimes.yuku.com/directory#.U1LPG15qlvA>) on May 5, 2007. After 7 years it seems like a good time to revisit this interesting, and apparently very rare, variety. In the spirit of historical accuracy, laziness, and a realization that I cannot improve upon the writing, I am reproducing Bill’s notes and Len’s post verbatim.

Bill Mackrides writing to Ray Lathrop (5/3/2007):

This 1856-S Quarter has the following characteristics that just make me think that it is a new variety. It's a decent looking VF but has been cleaned.

OBVERSE

1 ^ 6/7 which places the Date farther right than any other known.

8 & 5 in the date polished down a good bit.

1 in the date polished down, but to a lesser degree than 8 & 5.

Vertical Line # 9 in the Shield extends into Horizontal Shield Lines.



REVERSE

Same Size and Shape and position of Mintmark as the S/s but does not show signs of the smaller "S" under the Larger "S".

Die Cracks from Top Left of "M", "R", "I" in America to Denticles.

Let me know what you think about it.



Below are pictures of Obverse and Reverse.

*Respectfully,
Bill Mackrides*

Len Augsburger wrote it up and posted only two days later (5/5/2007) – apparently he wasn’t quite as overbooked back then:

In 1991, Briggs described five reverses for the 1856-S quarter in his Seated Quarter Encyclopedia. Three of these, reverses A, B, and D, show a placement of the mintmark to the left, underneath the arrow feathers. Reverse C has a centered mintmark, while reverse E, also centered, is the popular S/s variety. All of these have a large S.

The S/s variety has been gathering certain traction as of late, along with other varieties in the seated quarters, especially those which are readily visible with the naked eye. The 1854-O Huge-O led this trend, starting in the fall of 2003 when it was valued at \$750 in EF in Coin World Trends. By January 2004, Trends editor Mark Ferguson had ratcheted up the price in the

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same grade to \$5,000. Long time observers of the seated market questioned the valuation, but there was no arguing when the coin started trading at the new levels across all grades.

The 1856-S/s variety indicates some experimentation with a smaller s punch during the 1850s. Until the 1866-S, the first with motto San Francisco quarter, nearly all of the San Francisco mintmarks are large. Besides the 1856-S/s, the only other exception is a most curious specimen, an 1857-S quarter reported by John McCloskey in Gobrecht Journal #89. The mintmark there is of medium size, and possibly identical to the smaller s on the 1856-S/s. This, along with a beautiful AU specimen of the 1856-S/s reported in Gobrecht Journal #84 by Scott Pavlik, are just two examples of the great finds that can be made by those who diligently search for interesting seated quarters.

Returning to the 1856-S varieties, Bill Mackrides has recently reported a new variety for this date and mint. Unlike other varieties for this issue distinguished by the reverse mintmark, this coin has a

most unusual date placement on the obverse. The date is placed far to the right, and significantly slopes down from left to right. The 5 in the date appears to be polished down, resulting in more space between the vertical line and the lower ball of 5, as opposed to the other 1855-S obverse varieties. The mint was clearly trying out different things with the 5 punches in this period compare against the slant 5 type on the 1855, or the small, thin 5 on the 1859, and also notice how the top horizontal of the 5 changes between 1856 and 1857. The reverse mintmark is centered, similar to Briggs reverse C, or reverse E without the under mintmark.

The very low date on the coin is reminiscent of the proof 1875 (Briggs 4-E) quarter which also comes with a low date. The variety is readily visible to even a casual observer, and most collectible as such. Many thanks to Bill for reporting this variety and supplying the photographs.

After 7 years I am still aware of only three examples of this die marriage. The pictured discovery coin and two certified examples – one F12 and one VF35.



Very Early Die State of 1868-S WB-7 Half Dollar Found: '86' digits in dentils by Bill Bugert, LSCC #455

In my 2009 reference, *A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties, Volume I, San Francisco Branch Mint*, I described and plated a late die state of the 1868-S WB-7 with an errant 6 in the dentils. I still think it is an R-4 rarity.

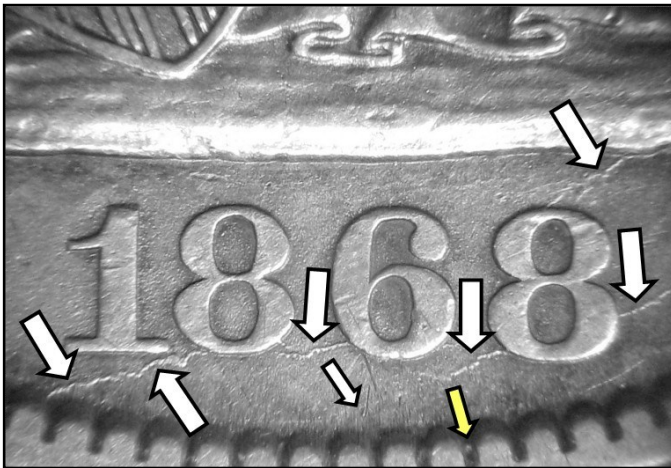
Recently, Mike Clark and Vic Bozarth of Bozarth Numismatics Inc. identified a very early die state (VEDS) of this die marriage and sent it to me for study. I confirmed it was a WB-7 and, in this very early die state, it has at least three different digits in the dentils and possibly others.

I've included images of the plate coin from my book as well as close up images of the date area

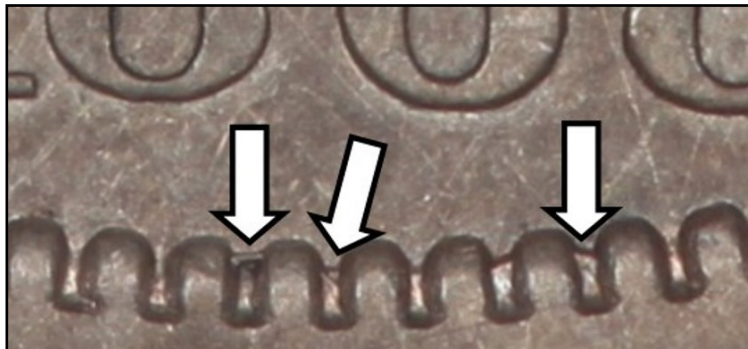
of the VEDS coin. In the VEDS images of the PCGS XF40 coin, note the extra digits in the dentils below the right edge of the first 8, left edge of the 6, and another below the right edge of the 6. There may be an additional digit centered below the 6.

On the late die state coin, the digit in the dentil is annotated with a yellow arrow. There is only that remnant of the digit between the 68 and that appears to be the strongest of the errant digits when compared to the VEDS images.

I hope you enjoy this die state and are able to add an example to your collection. Good luck!



1868-S WB-7 half dollar. Plate coin from Bugert's book (above left), new VEDS discovery (above right and close up centered below). Note the digits in the dentils below the date.





New Lapped Die Seated Dime Variety Surfaces: Classified as 1890 San Francisco F-119

by Gerry Fortin, LSCC #1054

I am always amazed when new die varieties surfaces on well studied dates. The Liberty Seated dime series has been studied by a host of advanced collectors since the mid 1980s after the release of Kamal Ahwash's *Encyclopedia of United States – Liberty Seated Dimes 1837 – 1891* followed by Brian Greer's *The Complete Guidebook to Liberty Seated Dimes* during 1992. Those books stimulated die variety research resulting in the consolidation of years of findings into my web-book at www.seateddimevarieties.com.

Even with all the searching, unlisted die varieties continue to appear. For common Philadelphia dates starting 1875 and onward, we will probably continue to locate new dies for years to come due to the difficulty with reverse die attributions and the amount of effort to conduct new die verifications. Branch mint coinage is much easy to attribute due to hand punched mintmarks and those later dates have been well studied and characterized. So, when an obvious new die pairing appears, I am somewhat taken back on how we could have missed this one over the years. Case in point is a new 1890-S die variety from Dr. Tim Cook submitted for inclusion in the web-book this winter. Read on...

The new die variety from Tim features a new obverse with date positioned the furthest left for the 13 known 1890-S dies. The Denticle Ruler measurement is -1B0 and the shifted left date punch is quite noticeable. This obverse is in a very early die state with considerable die polishing at the top and to the right of the shield. The new obverse is labeled Obverse 13.



1890-S Obverse 13

Paired with Obverse 13 is a lapped reverse die. The lapping is evident with much of the lower left wreath details and left ribbon end effaced.

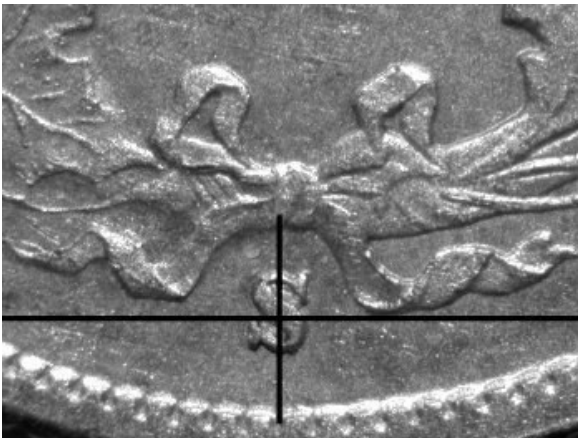


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1890-S Reverse M.2

Attempting to identify the pre-lapped reverse die can be difficult since devices exhibit some size changes including the mintmark. The reverse die research process started with a check of the 14 known dies via the 1890-S Reverse Die and Mintmark Position Guide that accompanies each branch mint date in the web-book. There were a few potential matches and I emailed Tim Cook suggesting the pre-lapped die could be Reverse J. The initial conclusion proved to be incorrect. The macro images for the new reverse die were taken and marked with cross hairs to determine the exact mintmark position with respect to the ribbon bow and ribbon ends. This process resulted in Reverse M being the best match though the previously seen Reverse M mintmark was a blob while the mintmark on the new lapped reverse was well defined.



Medium S, [mm C,H,TR4]

Reverse M.2 – Lapped Die



Medium S, [mm C,H,TR4]

Reverse M – Early Die State

(Continued on page 10)



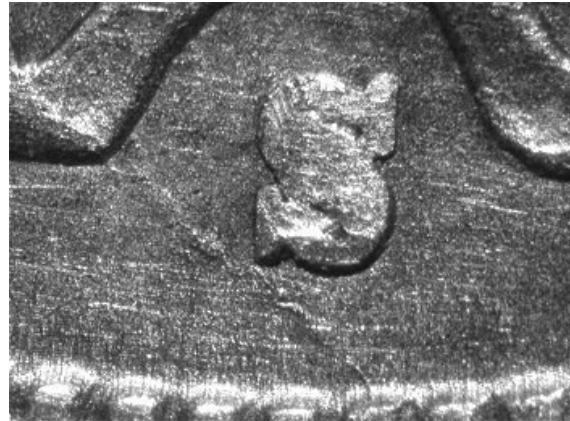
(Continued from page 9)

Another diagnostic point was needed to render the identification an open and shut case. Luckily, Reverse M and the new lapped die both exhibited a die crack from the left ribbon end to the rim below the Medium S mintmark; confirmation was achieved. On the late die state lapped die, much of the earlier die crack was removed.



Die crack from left ribbon to rim

Reverse M.2 – Lapped Die



Die crack from left ribbon to rim

Reverse M – Early Die State

An initial rarity rating of R6+ is assigned to the F-119 die pairing variety and will be adjusted based on incremental pieces surfacing or the lack there of. I suspect this die pairing will prove to be rare since the 1890-S date has been well researched.

As Always, Happy Hunting.....



Another theory: Limited Liberty Seated coinage from 1879-1890 by Jim Laughlin, LSCC #876

Like many Liberty Seated collectors, young and old, over the years I have pulled out my trusty *Red Book* and pondered the low mintage seated Philadelphia coins of the 1879-1890 period. I often wondered: why did the Philadelphia Mint bother to make 5,000 to 15,000 Liberty Seated Quarters year after year, when only a few years earlier they made 17 million? By chance I happened across a copy of the Director of the Mint's Report for 1888, which included among the tables and charts a letter from Mint Director James Kimball supporting legislation to eliminate further coinage of the gold dollar and three dollar pieces. The House had already passed this legislation, but it had stalled in the Senate. While reading what was in essence a position paper by the Cleveland administration, it became evident that the argument made by the Chief Officer at the Mint regarding the gold dollar proof and circulation coinage may also have applied to the silver coinages of 1879-1890.

This article clings to what the Director Kimball wrote and what I believe he meant back then, so here is the sentence as it appeared in print in 1888 regarding his support for the elimination of the gold dollar ... *"Since 1862 (except for two years) the coinage, at a single mint, of this piece has been limited to such a number as would satisfy the demand for it as a "proof coin" and to such a supplementary coinage as was deemed sufficient to prevent an undue enhancement of value of the proof coin."*

What I believe Director Kimball meant in the above sentence was ... Since 1862, the coinage of the gold dollar at the Philadelphia Mint has been limited to such a number that would satisfy the demand for it as an individual proof coin and to such a supplementary circulation coinage as was deemed sufficient to prevent an undue increase in the amount of demand for additional proof gold dollars. I believe it is quite possible that a similar rationale existed at the Philadelphia Mint for the limited Liberty Seated circulation strike coinage for the period 1879-1890. It was meant to prevent an increased amount of demand for additional proof coins.

(...James Kimball had a PhD. in Geology from Germany and had been a Geology Professor at Harvard. His sentence which is so pertinent to my theory is a bit hard to clearly understand in this day and age. His ending, "undue enhancement of the value of Proof coin" didn't seem to fit. Why would the Mint care once a Proof coin left the Mint what it was worth? On checking Webster's; the word "Value" in math or science means "quantity" or "amount"; and Webster indicates "enhancement" means "enlargement" or "increasing". It makes more sense that Kimball being an Academic and scientist, that his use of the word "value" doesn't mean a monetary sum, but an amount or quantity....)

I've seen or heard over the years two basic stories regarding the limited mintages for 1879-1890 circulation silver coinage. Breen in his *Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins* blames the Bland-Allison Act of 1878 for monopolizing the Mint's machinery so as to strike the required amount of Morgan Silver Dollar, as well as buying up all the available silver stocks. The other argument was that in early 1879 there was a tremendous glut of subsidiary silver coinage that had returned to the Treasury and Sub-Treasuries following the wrap up of the Specie Redemption Act. No one had predicted the worldwide drop in silver price, and the return from both overseas and domestically of large amounts of subsidiary seated coinage that hadn't been seen in circulation since 1862. The glut of excess Liberty Seated coinage was literally sacked and stored in the Treasury vaults and was expected to last the country for years; no new circulating coins were needed or wanted for some time.

Both stories are plausible, but it still doesn't quite make sense. Why strike any Liberty Seated coins if there was a glut of coins stored at the Treasury and Sub-Treasuries? Additionally, at least for most of the 1885-1889 period, the Carson City Mint stood idle and there is no reason why they couldn't have shipped silver bullion in by rail as they did at other times during that particular Branch Mint's his-



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tory, and strike millions of subsidiary coins if there really was a demand for them; or they could have moved the machinery out to San Francisco where there were only four presses operating; or on to New Orleans. Silver was decreasing in value and only during 1878 and into 1879 period have I seen any reference that silver was not being offered to the Mint at the Mint's set price. (The Mint price followed closely the International price for Silver traded at London, and telegraphed around the world).

While Kimball was speaking specifically of gold dollars in the Report, it is possible that the argument made was actually a long standing Mint policy and possibly the actual reason behind why the Mint made circulation strikes for the 1879-81 dimes, the 1879-1889 quarters and the 1879-1890 half dollars. The circulation strikes were meant to prevent an increase demand for an additional amount of proof coinage. As Kimball makes reference to, "since 1862", it is possible that the same reasoning applies earlier for the small Philadelphia circulation strike coinage for the 1863-1867 half-dimes and dimes and possibly even the 1866-69 quarters.

Speculating further, you wonder why the mint then was trying to limit the public demand for Proof coinage. Was it that the premium charges for Proofs failed to cover the Mints actual cost with respect to the preparation and polishing of the dies, the handling and striking of the coins, and the additional time spent handling the orders and preparing shipments? If you made circulation strikes then you could have the Clerks refer the person looking for a current date to look for them in change or at the bank (anyone ever see a 2009 US Virgin Island commemorative quarter in circulation? There are 41 million Denver ones out there somewhere, and a like number of Philadelphia Mint strikes) and if need be, the Clerk could offer that for a premium over face value you could buy a Proof set or possibly an individual Proof if you really, really wanted one of that date. (The 1888 Mint report does actually indicate a "net profit" of over \$3,000 for the sale of "Medals and Proof coins." It however does not break down the Medals versus the Proofs or provide any further information on how profits were determined.)

The concept that there was always to be a

supplemental circulation strike coinage to go along with the Proof coinage at Philadelphia seems to hold true, with the exception that there were no circulation strike coinage for the 1877-78 three cent and five-cent nickels; the disgraced 1877 and 1878 twenty-cent piece; and the repudiated Trade Dollar of 1878-1883; the gold half eagle of 1887 and the Double Eagles of 1883-84, and 1887 were struck only in proof format with no circulation strikes.

I still wonder with all the Mint shenanigans that had gone on (such as the creation of the transitional 1860 half-dime and dimes; the no motto 1866 coins; the re-strike 1851-52 Dollars; the 1879-80 Stellas, etc.) whether the supplemental circulation strike coinage starting maybe as far back as 1863 was really a "trade item" or stock material for a "quid pro quo" under the control of the Mint elite. These may have been a source of favors or patronage during the close of the "gilded age." It would be interesting to see if the National Archives show anything regarding the distribution of these limited mintage circulation strikes, but I suspect the records would just indicate the amounts of coins transferred, and there would be no way to find out if they were dated 1879-1889 or whether they were from the huge stocks of 1876s or 1877s that may have been sitting idly in the Treasury vaults.

In summary, I suggest that Kimball's argument regarding the coinage of circulation strike gold dollars was in fact a general Mint policy, or was at least as much a part of the reasoning why there was a small circulation striking of the subsidiary silver Liberty Seated coinage during the 1879-1890 period and perhaps even during the whole 1860-1891 era. As always, I'll occasionally contemplate the *Red Book* Liberty Seated coin mintages and price estimates and stare at a beautiful 1881 BU Quarter I bought some time ago, then spend an equal time with her poorer sister that grades a scruffy Very-Good, and wonder about who and why they were made and the different paths they may have taken.

Sidelights:

The 1888 Director of the Mint Report is available on line through Google Books. The report is for the fiscal year, July 1, 1887 thru June 30, 1888. Director Kimball's arguments regarding the gold dollar are on page 88 of that document.

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Here is a review of the gold dollar production: for the period 1863 to 1887, excepting the years 1873 and 1874 where the mintages were 125,100 and 198,800, the average number of circulation strikes was 6,657 annually. The Proof mintages varied from 20 to 50 pieces from 1863 to 1880. The 1881-82-83 proof mintages increased to 207 pieces, and then the final run 1884-1888 the proof mintages were slightly

less than 1,100 pieces yearly. The final year, 1889 had the greatest proof mintage of 1,779 pieces (and occurred after the House had passed legislation in 1888 eliminating the denomination).

As a comparison, the 1879-1889 Philadelphia Liberty Seated quarters had an average circulation strike coinage of 11,582 pieces and an average 956 proofs struck annually.

Request for Assistance: Explain Reverse Anomaly on 1877-CC F-116 Seated Dime by Gerry Fortin, LSCC #1054

New LSCC club member Jim Poston from Louisburg, Kansas sent along the following 1877 Carson City dime and asked for help explaining the reverse anomaly. The dime is the Type 2 Reverse F-116 die pairing with excessively polished reverse die. *Note the large "bubble" or raised metal area in the upper left wreath.* In hand, the raised area appears to be solder but inspection with a loupe reveals struck wreath details on the "bubble".

Inspecting the obverse reveals no metal dis-

turbance that would correspond with the reverse anomaly while weight is normal at 2.4 grams. It is difficult to measure the metal height of the "bubble" but estimated at an incremental 20% of the normal thickness when viewed on edge.

I would appreciate *E-Gobrecht* subscriber comments as to potential explanations. Inputs will be published in the June *E-Gobrecht* issue.





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Wanted to Buy. Collector of Liberty Seated Dollars wants engraved and/or counter-stamped (love tokens) or rotated reverses. All mints, any condition, holed OK. Carl Feldman: carlscoins@gmail.com or (973) 479-9956.

Buying and Selling Seated Dime Varieties. Gerry Fortin, Liberty Seated Dime Varieties Web-book author, is buying and selling dime varieties including Top 100, major die cracks and cuds. New discoveries posted in web-book as a courtesy. Consignments and want lists wanted. Over 25 years in hobby with proven integrity and customer service. Other denominations also offered. Web: www.seateddimevarieties.com (Rare American Coins - For Sale Lists), Email: wuximems@hotmail.com, Cell: 207-329-9957.

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Larry Briggs Rare Coins. New updated website with many photos—check us out at: www.larrybriggsrarecoins.com

David Kahn Rare Coins. Please check out my website—I have an easy to use website and list many original bust and seated coins with excellent photos. www.davidkahnrarecoins.com

1879-1890 Quarters and Halves Wanted to Buy. I'm looking for Philadelphia mint 1879-1890 quarters and halves, grades 35-45 only. Must be absolutely original, never cleaned or dipped. What do you have? Denis Loring, 561-207-6180, dwloring@aol.com.

Seated and Bust Coinage for Sale. Rich Uhrich Rare U. S. Coins Inc. specializes in Bust and Seated silver coins, especially scarce and rare dates and varieties. His website

www.richuhrichcoins.com lists his complete inventory, has pictures of coins over \$100, and is updated frequently. He offers a newsletter which notifies you when significant new purchases are available and offers his take on the coin market in general as well as Bust and Seated silver. He also actively services want lists. He is an authorized PCGS and NGC dealer and a member of ANA, LSCC, EAC, and JRCS. Contact him at richuhrichcoins@comcast.net, 717-533-2935 or 717-579-8238.

Dr. Eugene Bruder is constantly updating his website, www.typecoins.com, which features a nice selection of bust and seated material for sale. Pictures are generally available for all coins, and can be obtained if not posted. His website is fully searchable by die variety for most series of coins. He will also take consignments for exposure at shows and the website. He attends most major shows, and will try to accommodate want lists. You can reach him at 530-894-0922 or email at: gene@typecoins.com.

Brian Greer, well known dealer, collector, and numismatist, has an extensive listing of many new dates and varieties listed on his website. Check them out at: <http://www.briangreerrarecoins.com/>

Liberty Seated Quarter Cuds Wanted among other things: Yes, I am still looking to purchase cuds, major die breaks, and shattered dies on LDS Liberty Seated Quarters. While I have been able to add quite a few examples during the long time of running this ad, there are more pieces out there missing from the 'ole collection. Also, cuds on other U.S. series and denominations wanted too, not to mention major reverse rotations on all U.S. series. Please reply directly to Paul Kluth at pcmdmp@msn.com even if its just to share what you have for the fun of it. Thanks!

Rotated Reverse Seated Dimes Wanted. I am looking for rotated reverse Liberty Seated dimes. Any interested parties can email Jason Feldman at jason@seated.org

Wanted to Buy. Nice, problem-free bust and seated material. We specialize in affordable collector coins. Puro's Coins and Jewelry, web: www.vtcoins.com, email: pu-ro@vtcoins.com, phone: 1-800-655-1327.

Seated Dime Die Varieties Wanted. I am paying high prices for Seated Dimes with major cuds, die cracks, and rotated reverses. Contact David Thomas at davethomas333@hotmail.com or 1-949-929-2830.



Liberty Seated Collectors Club

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LSCC Mission

To encourage, promote, and dispense numismatic knowledge of the Liberty Seated coins; to cultivate fraternal relations among its members and all those interested in the science of numismatics.

LSCC Membership Information. Dues remain bargain priced at \$20 per year and include three issues of the *Gobrecht Journal*, an award winning numismatic publication. To join the Liberty Seated Collectors Club, for *Gobrecht Journal*/mailing address changes, or for other membership questions, correspond with the LSCC Secretary.

Articles, comments, or advertisements for publication in the *Gobrecht Journal* may be addressed to the LSCC President.

Information, input, comments, or suggestions for improvements to this *E-Gobrecht* are actively solicited from anyone and may be sent to the Editor, *E-Gobrecht*.

To be added or removed from the *E-Gobrecht* mailing list, send an email message with the words "Subscribe/Unsubscribe" in the subject line of the message to: wb8cpy@arrl.net.

Wanted: Material for this newsletter!

Please consider submitting something for print. It need not be elaborate; it can be something as simple as a short note on your favorite variety, neat find, nice cherry pick, happenings at a coin show, rare Liberty Seated coinage coming up for auction, etc. If you are interested in it, rest assured, others will be too! Sharing information is a goal of this newsletter and you need not be an experienced or famous writer to submit something. This is a continuing plea.

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