

## **Silver Quarter Real Counterfeit**

Thomas Jasek C-33

At a recent coin show, I obtained the counterfeit Mexican Quarter Real (Figure 1) illustrated below. I have always enjoyed counterfeits, but this is the first small, silver counterfeit (KM368 series) that I have seen. It appears to be of low silver or, perhaps, white metal composition. However, I did not have a way to check the weight, so I'm not sure how weighs compare. The coin does appear to be struck, but because of its condition, I'm not positive it is.

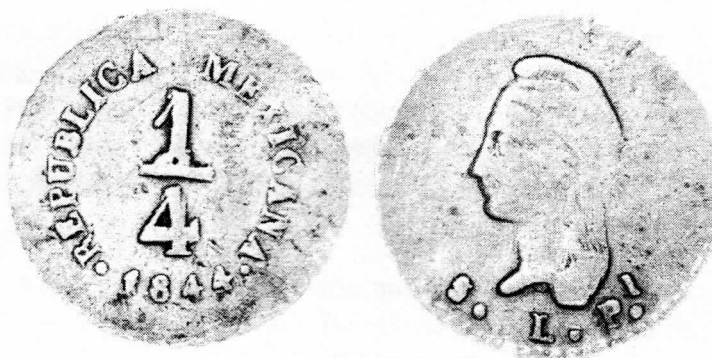
I think four elements make this little counterfeit interesting. First is the blundered legend, especially the spelling of NEXICANA for MEXICANA. In the word REPUBLICA, the C appears to be backwards, besides being totally filled in. The date is also interesting, being 1841 or, perhaps 1847. If it is 1841, that is a year before the official minting of the silver Quarter Real coinage began in Mexico. However, it is not unusual to find Mexican counterfeits with incorrect dates or even non-existent dates, mintmarks, and initials. Thirdly, on the reverse, the head of Liberty is very poorly executed. As a matter of fact, this head actually appears to be very similar to the head found on the Ecuadorian Quarter

Thirdly, on the reverse, the head of Liberty is very poorly executed. As a matter of fact, this head actually appears to be very similar to the head found on the Ecuadorian Quarter Real from this time period. Perhaps it was modeled after this coinage. Finally, there is no indication of a mint or mintmark. Perhaps it was worn off or too weak to strike up.

A Quarter Real from San Luis Potosi is presented for comparison (Figure 2). However, I must point out that San Luis Potosi used only the mintmark on the Quarter Real coinage issued. The other issuing mints showed a mintmark in front of Liberty's head and the initials behind the head.



**Figure 1**  
1841 Counterfeit Quarter  
Real



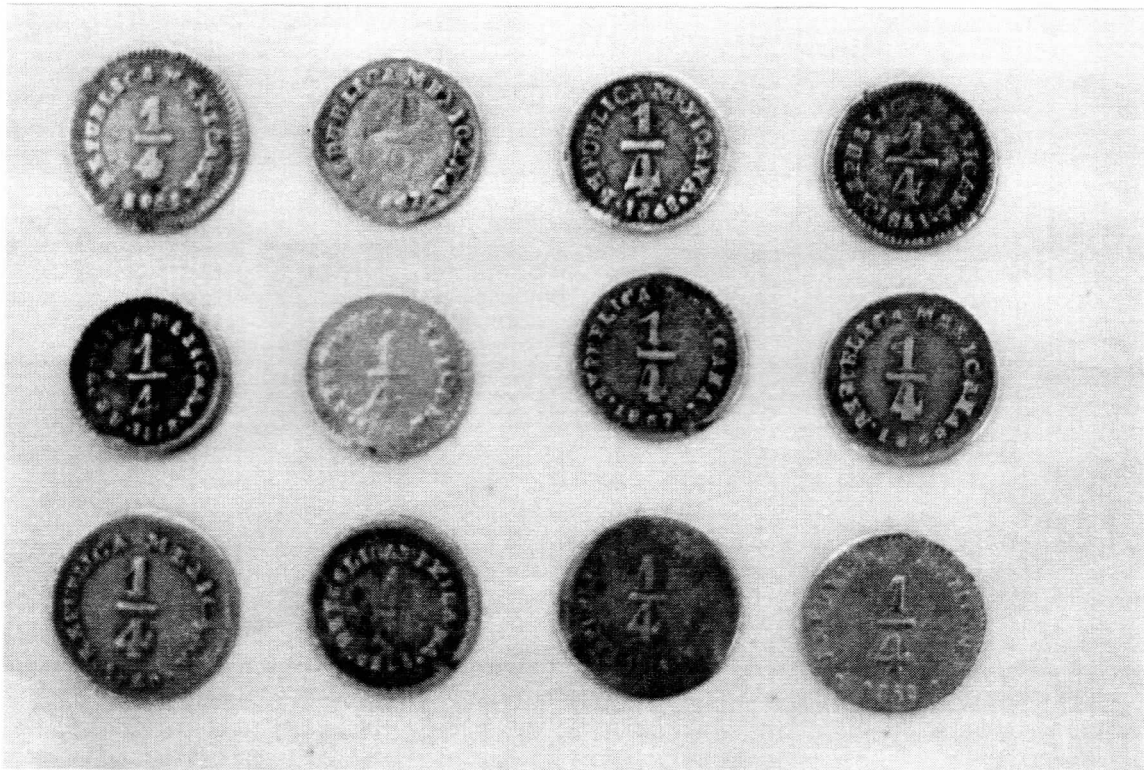
**Figure 2**  
1844 SLPi Quarter Real from San  
Luis Potosi

**COUNTERFEIT REPUBLIC SILVER QUARTER REALS****By Claudio Verrey C-112**

In the June 2003 Journal there is an article by Mr. Thomas Jasek about a counterfeit silver quarter real. I am glad that some people care about what other people would call "insignificant coins", and not just great rarities or expensive coins.

I have been collecting contemporary counterfeits of these "Quartillitas" for over twenty years. Mr Jasek says in his article that he has only seen one of these, and his comments are very fitting.

These counterfeits are of low grade silver, with errors in legends, nonexistent dates, and poor execution of the liberty heads. I would add that this is precisely what makes these fascinating. Mr. Jasek's article encouraged me to submit this article and pictures of the pieces I have collected.





## COUNTERFEIT LISTING IN PHOTOS

1841	Mo	LR
1847	Go	LR
1848	Go	LR
1851	Go	LR
1853	Go	LR
1853	Go	LR

1857	Ga	LR
1858	Go	LR
1860	Mo	LR
1861	Mo	LR
1861	Mo	LR
1862	Mo	LR