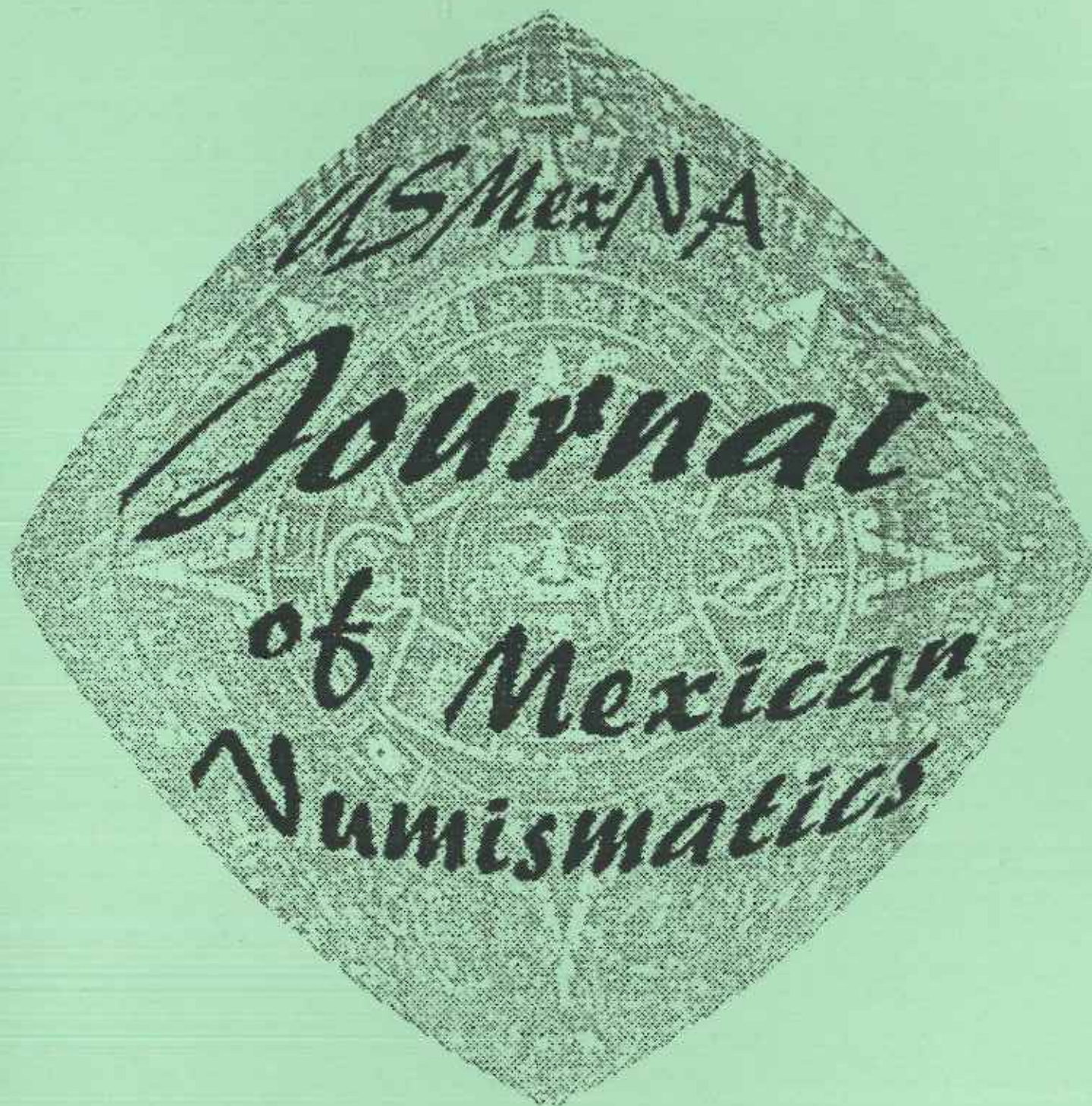


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NO. I



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Don Bailey, Editor

250 D So. Lyon Ave. #139

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**THE SOCIEDAD NUMISMATICA DE MEXICO SETS DATE FOR THEIR  
INTERNATIONAL NUMISMATIC CONVENTION**

**The Sociedad has set the dates of October 5- 8, 2005 for the next International Numismatic Convention. The hotel location is the Hotel Del Prado, at Av. Marina Nacional No. 399, Col. Veronica Anzures, Mexico City, where they have been held most often in recent years.**

**Further information will be provided as it becomes available.**

**VIVA LA REVOLUTION**

Joe Flores C-2

As I mentioned in the last Journal, Vol. 9 No. 4, about Verne Walrafen's rare coin collection auction of Mexican Revolution coins by Richard A. Long in his sale #95, November 2004.

Coins from the state of Morelos-Atlihuayan, as in the 10 centavos copper, no date G.B. (1) 272, 273 and 274. The first two coins 272 and 273 are very common. 274 is indeed a rare coin. All these coins were struck with the same obverse die. All the coins that I have seen have a very crude and pitted obverse.

After doing some research on what caused the pitting of these coins, I came up with the following scenario. After the rolling of the sheets they were washed with acid to remove all foreign matter, and did not use or not enough of neutralized for the removal of the acid. They proceeded to stamp out the blanks that generate the coins and time took care of the acid left on these coins that caused the pitting.

I must note that the coin in this report is the G.B. (1) plate coin. I was very lucky to have purchased this unique coin, known as G.B. (1) 274.

(1) *Mexican Revolutionary Coinage*, Hugh S. Guthrie & Merrill Bothanley

Joe Flores C-2  
P. O. Box 4484  
Stockton, CA 95204  
E-Mail [pepef@msn.com](mailto:pepef@msn.com)



OBV.



REV.



# PORFIRIO DIAZ ALIVE AND WELL IN HEMET, CA

The following Chase Credit Card invitation was just received, and it good to know that Diaz can save his business money. He can now rest in peace

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XX



1789. Mexico City.

Obverse, a bust of Carlos IV to the right, wearing the Order of the Golden Fleece, and the Cross of Carlos III.

CAROLO \* IV \* HISP \* ET \* IND \* REGI \* FELICITER \* INAUGURATO \*

Reverse, in front of an eagle is a coat of arms of Mexico City.

• EN • SU • EXALTACION • AL • TRONO • LA • CIUDAD • DE • MEXICO •

On the exergue, in two lines.

EN • 27 • DE • DICIEMBRE

DE • 1789 •

Engraver: below the bust.

.GIL.

45 mm.

Silver.

Museo Nacional.

C-4

# The Pancho Villa Tribute Rifle

## Ride With Pancho Villa



America Remembers Salutes The Liberator of Mexico

**RESPONSE TO SIMON PRENDERGAST'S COMMENTS**

Dear Don:

Greetings from Mexico City !!.

When I received the USMEXNA Journal N.IV, Vol. IX, I gladly saw an extensive letter that Mr. Simon Prendergast wrote regarding my article published in the same magazine but N.-III, titled <Pre-Revolutionary Vouchers of the Mining Company "La Republica". A Numismatic Discovery>. In attention to it, I request the following answer:

Dear Mr. Simon Prendergast:

I carefully read the letter you sent to the USMEXNA magazine regarding my article (Pre-Revolutionary Vouchers of the Mining Company "La Republica". A Numismatic Discovery. N.-III, Vol. IX) I appreciate your interest in it and what you express on your letter. It is stimulating for me to keep on researching and publish my conclusions when they tempt a reaction, because this motivates numismatic dialog and the interest in sharing our thoughts, as well as experiencing the fact of making public some of the important pieces we possess, like you have done.

All the above has the generous benefit of enriching the numismatic knowledge, especially Mexican numismatics in this case.

On the other hand, I coincide with you regarding the morality of possessing official documents, now in the hands of collectors who rarely allow the study or research of them. This is why the study of the document in question which was the fact of the research, before it was "LOST" in the personal archive of a collector. My ethic moved me to publish it and let it be a part of our numismatic community.

Kind Regards,  
Dr. Luis G. Wulschner  
USMEXNA member # C-118



**ONE REAL 1785, FF OR FM?**

Claudio Verrey, C- 112



This is a question I ask myself regularly, about coins that exist with two different assayer's initials in the same year. That is, which one is scarcer? Generally speaking catalogs do not reflect this fact accurately. When I started collecting colonial coins some years ago, I asked two old specialized dealers if there was a difference in scarcity between the two assayers. Both dealers told me that FF was scarcer. At that time I did not have either of them, so I began to look for at least one of each. To my surprise I was able to acquire three FF pieces and none of the FM's.



Then I began to doubt the truthfulness of the information I was told. The only way to know for sure was buying and recording as many pieces as possible. After six years I arrived at the following conclusions, which are correct at present, but not necessarily definitive. It took that long, because regardless of the initials, the One Real pieces of this date are very scarce.

The FF pieces are at least twice as scarce as the FM. Advanced collectors have both pieces, and most of the 1785 One real pieces (80%), appear in low grades of fair to very good

Claudio Verrey C- 112  
[mexhistcollect@yahoo.com](mailto:mexhistcollect@yahoo.com)



**Joe Flores, C-2 Speaks at CSNA's Education Symposium**

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**Joe Flores**

### **"Viva La Revolucion (Mexican Revolution 1910 - 1920)"**

A well-known author on the subject, he owns the largest and most complete collection of Mexican Revolution coins in the world. Some of his rarest coins were displayed at the ANA Money Museum in Colorado Springs during 2003 - 2004.



***Coins of Charles & Johanna  
Struck in the First Mint of  
The Americas in Mexico City  
1536-1572***

**Presented by Clyde Hubbard  
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Rosemount, Illinois  
Saturday, April 23, 2005**

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**BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT C&J COINS OF MEXICO 1536-1572**

1. Decree of May 11, 1535 authorized the establishment of the Mexico Mint only.
2. First Viceroy to Mexico, Antonio de Mendoza, arrived in Veracruz November, 1535.
3. Dies for coins were made by punching elements of the design. Dies were not engraved.
4. First letter punches were of Gothic type. When broken they were replaced by Latin type.
5. Early series of coins with no waves under pillars were struck years 1536-1542.
6. Silver coins of denominations  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 3 and 4 reales were made.
7. Metal alloy was approximately 93% silver with 7% copper.
8. Coins bore a single initial of an assayer to guarantee correct silver percentage.
9. Assayer initials R, G, F or P appear on early series coins.
10. Late series coins 1543-1572 with waves under pillars bear assayer initials G, A, R, S, L or O. Denominations were  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2 and 4 reales.
11. The mintmark m or M with or without o indicates made in the Mexico mint.
12. Coin inscriptions are in Latin.
13. Copper coins of 2 and 4 Maravedis were made. 34 maravedis = one real.
14. Coining of gold was specifically prohibited. Gold coins were first made in Mexico in 1679.
15. Coins were undated. Dates first show on Mexican colonial coins of Philip III, in 1607.
16. Blanks were of fairly regular thickness and form. C&J coins are NOT COBS.
17. Weight of individual coins was not specified. Sixty-seven reales were to be made from one mark of silver.
18. One Mark was equivalent to 230 grams so a new one real coin should weigh 3.432 grams.
19. Coins were hammer-struck with no fixed relation of obverse and reverse.
20. The fixed bottom die was the obverse which took longer to make. This was the shield side.
21. The hand-held top die was the reverse or pillar side. It broke more frequently.
22. All official positions in the mint were held by Spaniards through purchase.
23. All physical labor of coinage was performed by so-called Indians and black slaves.
24. The Mint in Mexico City was the first of several Spanish American mints.
25. All coins of Mo mintmark were made there from 1536-1809.
26. Branch mints in New Spain made coins from 1810-1822 because of the war for independence turmoil.
27. A high percentage of Mexican silver coins was exported either to Spain or to other parts of the empire.
28. C&J coins were still circulating in Costa Rica as late as 1846.
29. The Coinage of the First Mint of the Americas at Mexico City 1536-1572 by R.I. Nesmith is a recommended reference book. First published in 1955 by ANS, it has been reprinted twice.
30. Kent Ponterio has suggested that the 1572 date is wrong for the changing of C&J coinage to Philip II. However, I disagree. A document of June 28, 1570 shows a payment to Juan Paulo Proxini for new dies and punches to replace the pillar types used in Mexico and Peru.
31. Kent has had access to numerous hoard coins enabling him to contribute new information about the Charles and Johanna coinage. We hope he continues with these studies.



## DOÑA JUANA OF CASTILE, LEON, ARAGON & SICILY

Daughter of Ferdinand V and Isabel I,  
Catholic Kings. Born November 6, 1479,  
Died April 12, 1555, in Tordesillas.

## PHILIP I, ARCHDUKE OF AUSTRIA

Son of Emperor Maximilian I of Germany  
And his wife Mary of Burgundy. Born  
July 22, 1478, in Bruges, died November  
25, 1506 in Burgos, Spain.

Their children were:

LEONOR, born November 15, 1498.  
First married March 24, 1518 to King  
Manuel I of Portugal, widower of her  
aunts Isabel and Mary. Second marriage:  
to King Francis I of France,  
CHARLES, born February 24, 1500  
in Ghent; died September 21, 1558  
in Yuste Monastery, Spain.

King of Castile, Leon, Aragon and  
Sicily from January 23, 1516 to  
January 16, 1556. Emperor of Germany  
from July 10, 1519 to January 16, 1556.  
ISABEL, born July 15, 1501 in  
Brussels, died in 1525. Married King  
Christian II of Denmark.

FERDINAND, born March 10, 1503  
in Alcala de Henares, died July 25, 1564,  
in Vienna. Married in 1521 to Ana,  
daughter of Ladislas VI; was King of  
Hungary and Bohemia. Became  
Ferdinand I by the abdication of his  
brother Charles I of Spain and V of  
Germany, in Brussels, January, 1556.  
He was also Emperor of Germany  
from 1556 to 1564.

MARY, born September, 1505 in  
Brussels. Married in 1522 to King  
Luis II of Hungary. When widowed,  
governed in the name of her  
brother Charles I, the States of  
Flanders in 1525.



Queen of Castile and Leon from  
November 26, 1504 to April 12,  
1555. Queen of Aragon and  
Sicily from January 23, 1516 to  
April 12, 1555.



King of Castile and Leon from  
June 27, 1506 to November 25,  
1506.

CATHERINE, born January 14, 1507, in Torquemada, died February 12, 1578, in Lisbon. On February 5, 1525, married King John III of Portugal, who was the son of King Manuel I and his second wife, Mary, daughter of the Catholic Majesties.

Royal families arranged marriages among their children for the sole purpose of maintaining or improving positions of power. An ideal matrimonial tie could result in territorial aggrandizement and in having an additional ally in case of war. The principal protagonists in the early part of sixteenth century Europe were kings Francis I of France, Henry VIII of England and Charles I of Spain.



Identified as Charles V, he was only Charles I, King of Spain, when this portrait was made. He is seen wearing the Order of the Golden Fleece. Born in Ghent and educated by tutors, Charles spoke no Spanish at the time of his first visit to Spain at age 17.

1. Charles V at the Time of his First Visit to Spain (1517)

By Bernard van Orley

Paris, Musée du Louvre





CHARLES & JOHANNA EARLY SERIES 1 REAL 1536-1542

1. Assayer R Nesmith 3b

3. Assayer F Nesmith 14

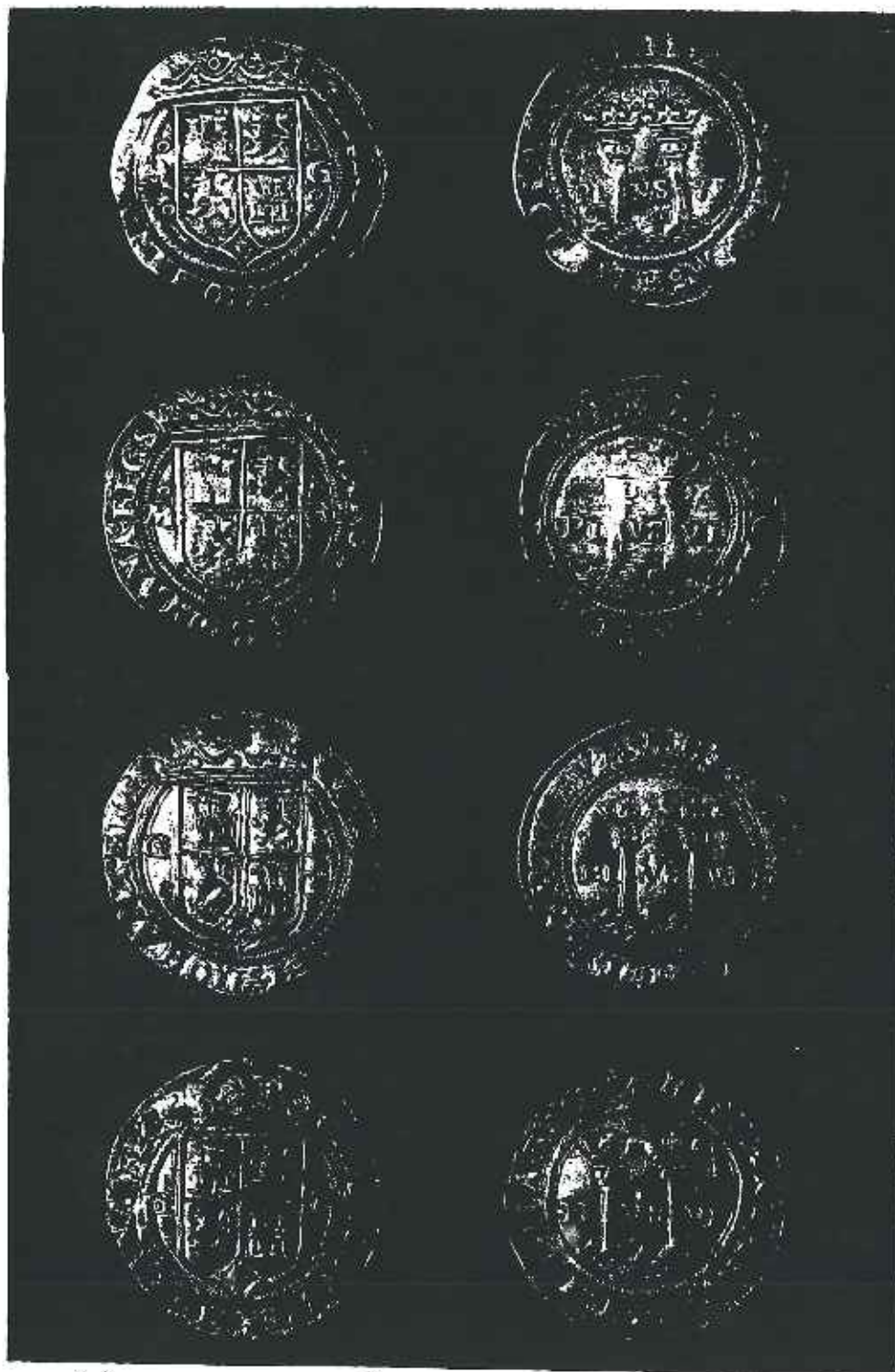
2. Assayer G Nesmith 9a

4. Assayer P Nesmith 19a

## CHARLES &amp; JOHANNA LATE SERIES 1 REAL TYPES

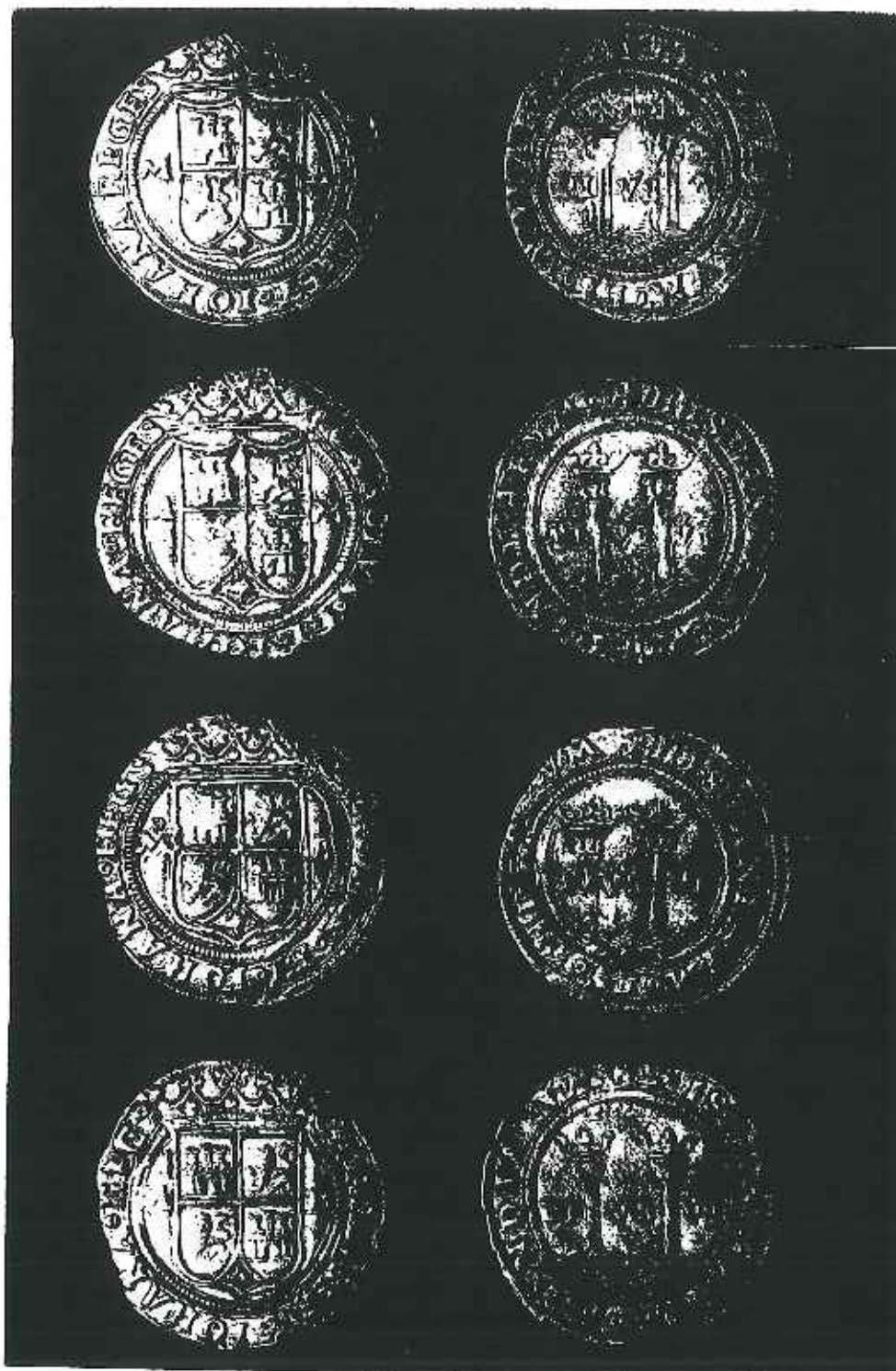
	N#	Obv. Des.	Rev. Des.	Obv. Leg.	Rev. Leg.
$\overset{\circ}{M} - \overset{\circ}{G}$	32	1	A	CH7	a
$\overset{\circ}{M} - \overset{\circ}{G}$	36	2	A	CH12	b
$G - \overset{\circ}{M}$	40	3	A	12	b
G - M	44	2	A	CH8	p
M - A	56	9	A	29	bb
A - M	60	9	A	24	bb
$\overset{\circ}{M} - A$	64	10	A	26	aa
M - R	68	10	C1	26	aa
M - S	76	12	C	31	aa
L - M	80	10	C1	26	bb
M - L	84a	10	C1	24	aa
$\overset{\circ}{M} - L$	88a	12	D	24	aa
$L - \overset{\circ}{M}$	92a	12	D	26	aa
O - M	96a	12	D	26	aa
M - O	100a	12	D	26	aa
$O - \overset{\circ}{M}$	104a	12	D	26	aa
$\overset{\circ}{M} - O$	108d	13	E	33	X3





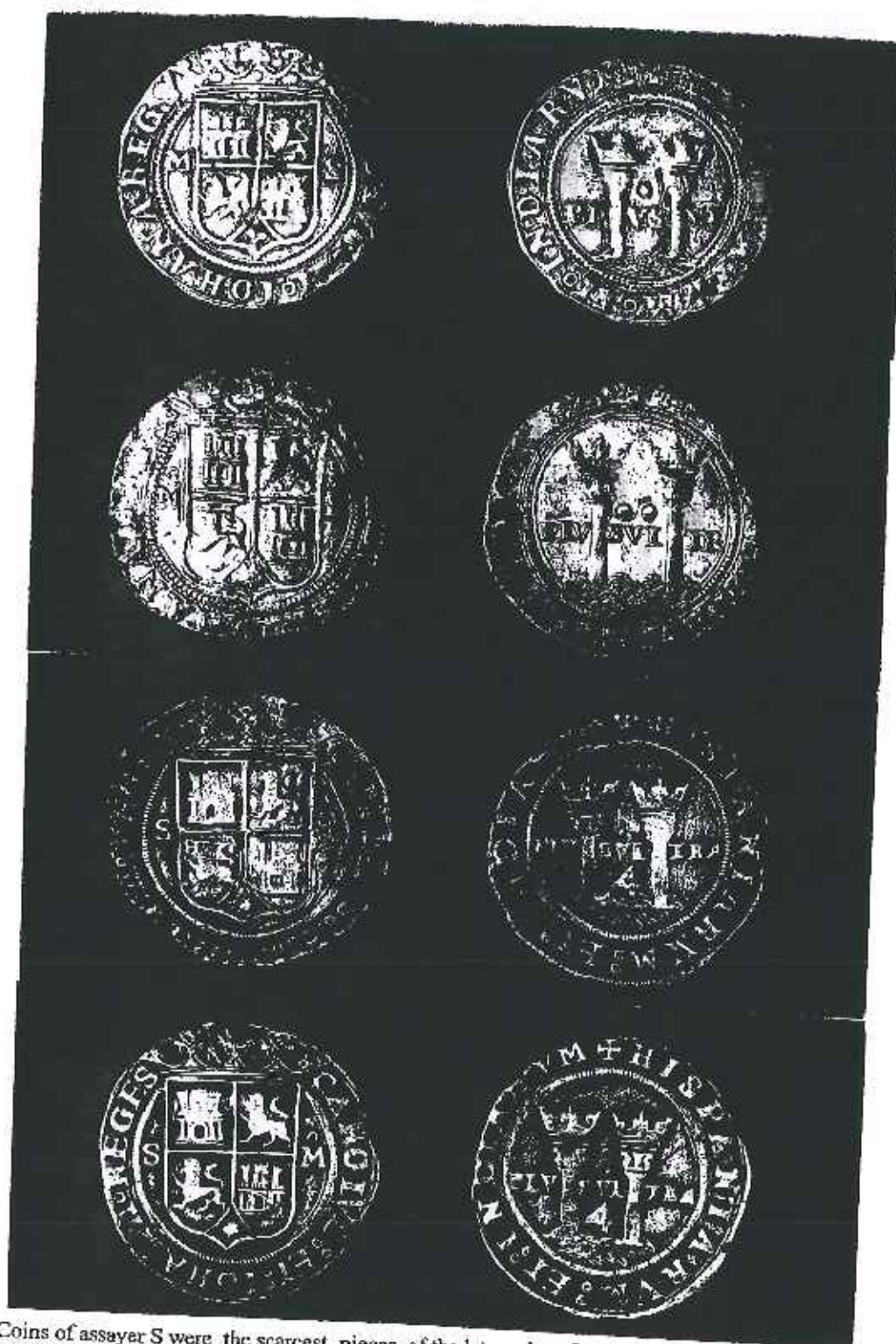
1 Real  $\overset{0}{M}-\overset{5}{G}$  Nesmith 32      1 Real  $\overset{0}{G}-\overset{5}{M}$  Nesmith 40 (unlisted)

1 Real  $\overset{12}{M}-\overset{6}{G}$  Nesmith 36      1 Real  $\overset{0}{G}-\overset{0}{M}$  Nesmith 44



1 Real M-A Nesmith 56    1 Real <sup>o</sup>M-A Nesmith 64  
 1 Real A-M Nesmith 60    1 Real M-R Nesmith 68





Coins of assayer S were the scarcest pieces of the late series of Charles and Johanna when Nesmith wrote his book. Some varieties then unknown to the author have since been identified. For this reason we have devoted a special page to illustrate denominations in addition to those of one real.



1 Real L-M Nesmith 80 1 Real  $\bar{M}$ -L Nesmith 88a

1 Real M-L Nesmith 84a 1 Real L- $\bar{M}$  Nesmith 92a





1 Real O-M Nesmith 96a 1 Real O- $\bar{M}$  Nesmith 104a

1 Real M-O Nesmith 100a 1 Real  $\bar{M}$ -O Nesmith 108a

## REFERENCES TO COPPER FROM ACTS OF THE MEXICO CITY COUNCIL

#1100 April 17, 1542

Councilman Gonzalo Ruiz presented a written objection to the coining of copper money. The indians hoard it and do not want to exchange it for cocoa beans, cotton, corn or other items. They have neglected cultivation. It was agreed to meet again next Friday to deal with the matter.

#1101 April 21, 1542

The City Council postponed discussion about copper money because Gonzalo de Salazar and the treasurer Juan Alonso de Sosa were absent.

#1185 June 5, 1543

A public announcement has been ordered to the effect that all persons should accept the copper cuartos that were struck by order of the Viceroy. Penalty for non-acceptance is 100 lashes.

#1313 December 22, 1544

Councilman Ruy Gonzalez testified again that copper money should not be made and that silver money should not be used by the natives. Reason is that they hoard it and cause prices to increase.

#1516 September 12, 1547

Garcia de Moron who bid and won the concession to sell meat at a fixed price for one year, asked that he not be paid in copper coins. Reason is that when he buys cattle he is only allowed to pay in gold or silver. A vote was taken reference the quantity of meat that could be bought using copper as payment. The vote results were submitted to the Viceroy for his decision.

#1520 September 27, 1547

The mayor Jeronimo Ruiz de Mota and councilman Antonio de Carbajal informed the meeting of the Viceroy's decision that the butcher shops accept in payment for meat up to four coins of 4 maravedis. If the price is more than that amount it must be paid in silver. This was proclaimed publicly and so noted.





#1707 March 6, 1550

II. It was agreed to consult with Viceroy Antonio de Mendoza about discontinuing silver and copper money since it has caused great loss due to the haughtiness and miserliness of the indians. They have stopped cultivating the land and are doing other tasks dedicating their time to commerce, resulting in a shortage of food.

#1737 August 25, 1550

Butcher shops were ordered to receive copper coins in payment of meat as provided by law. The shops were notified of this order.



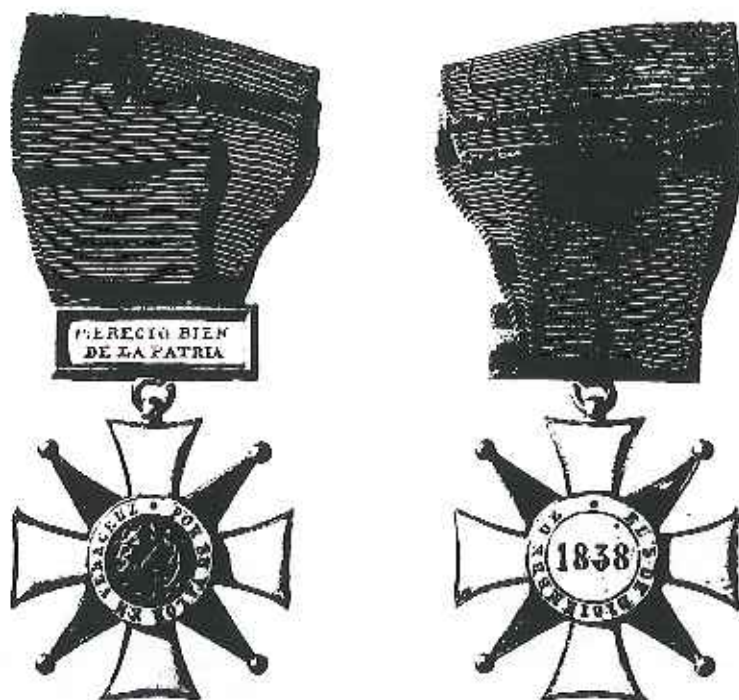
The severity of the June 5, 1543 law is an extreme unparalleled in the history of peacetime money use. Refusal by a native to accept coins of insignificant value (34 maravedis = 1 silver real) could cost him a severe beating. The solution was: do not offer anything for sale to Spaniards and get rid of the coppers by throwing them into Lake Texcoco. These acts of passive resistance were so effective that no more copper coins were struck in New Spain until 1814.

Hundreds of silver coins of Charles and Johanna were examined and classified by Mr. Nesmith in the preparation of his book. However, he was able to locate only 67 pieces of copper, many of them so badly preserved that he said it would be presumptuous to consider cataloging them. Last year a lifetime collection of 4 maravedi pieces was made available to me for classification. Together with what I had they still total less than a hundred pieces. Many of these I classified as UNC, meaning UNCollectible. Three turned out to be modern counterfeits.

This raises a question What happened to make the coppers disappear so completely? Page 38 of the book *Treasure Bars from New World Shipwrecks* by Alan K. Craig and Ernest J. Richards, Jr. shows a detail of cargo placed aboard Spanish ships returning from Veracruz to Spain in 1554. Included in the manifest were : "Maravedis (copper coins) 706,510 (2,597 ps.)" The ships never reached Spain. Salvage of ships wrecked on Padre Island and near Cayo Ines de Soto, Cuba, seem to fit the case. If anyone has information about copper coins being found I would appreciate hearing about it.

The combination of names of king and mother instead of king and queen on coins is unusual, so there must be a reason for the departure from the norm. When Charles I came to Spain with a retinue of Flemish followers, the latter had a monopoly of choice positions in the court, much to the distress of officials in Castile. Even though Charles' mother Johanna was considered incompetent to rule, the Spaniards insisted that she be joint ruler in name if not in fact. This accounts for the strange arrangement for laws to be issued in Johanna's name even though she had never seen them. The decree of 1535 that authorized the mint in Mexico is an example. It is signed as I THE QUEEN. By Order of His Majesty, His Majesty being her son, Charles I.

\*\*\*\*\*



**1838. Cruz de Veracruz.**

Obverse, a four-armed, white-enamelled cross on a red-enamelled, four-pointed, ball-tipped star. On the green-enamelled medallion is a wreath and two swords with their points up.

Around the medallion is an inscribed white-enamelled band.

**POR SU VALOR EN VERACRUZ.**

Reverse, on the white-enamelled medallion.

**EL 5 DE DICIEMBRE DE . 1838**

The suspension bar is inscribed in two lines.

**MERECIO BIEN DE LA PATRIA**

The 40 mm. wide ribbon is red.

D-47

38 mm.

Enamelled metal.

Carlos Pérez Maldonado.



**A GUTHRIE - BOTHAMELY UNLISTED VARIETY OF A  
50¢ CAMPO MORADO**

Claudio Verrey C-112



I am not a self-appointed expert in Revolutionary coins, and probably advanced collectors will say that this particular coin was already described in a previous article.

What I am stating is that this particular coin is not in the GB catalog. A year ago I had the opportunity to look over an old time accumulation of almost 200 Campo Morado 50¢ pieces. This gave me a very good idea of the scarcity of most of the varieties cataloged by G.B. Among them, in the photos I discovered the variety shown in these photos.

The reverse according to GB, is die "C", but the obverse is quite special, the "R" of Republica is punched over a star. (As you can appreciate in the enlarged photo). As far as I can determine this coin is very rare, with probably only a few known.

Claudio Verrey C- 112  
[mexhistcollect@yahoo.com](mailto:mexhistcollect@yahoo.com)



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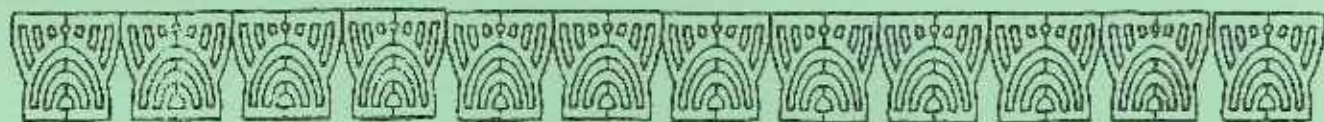
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