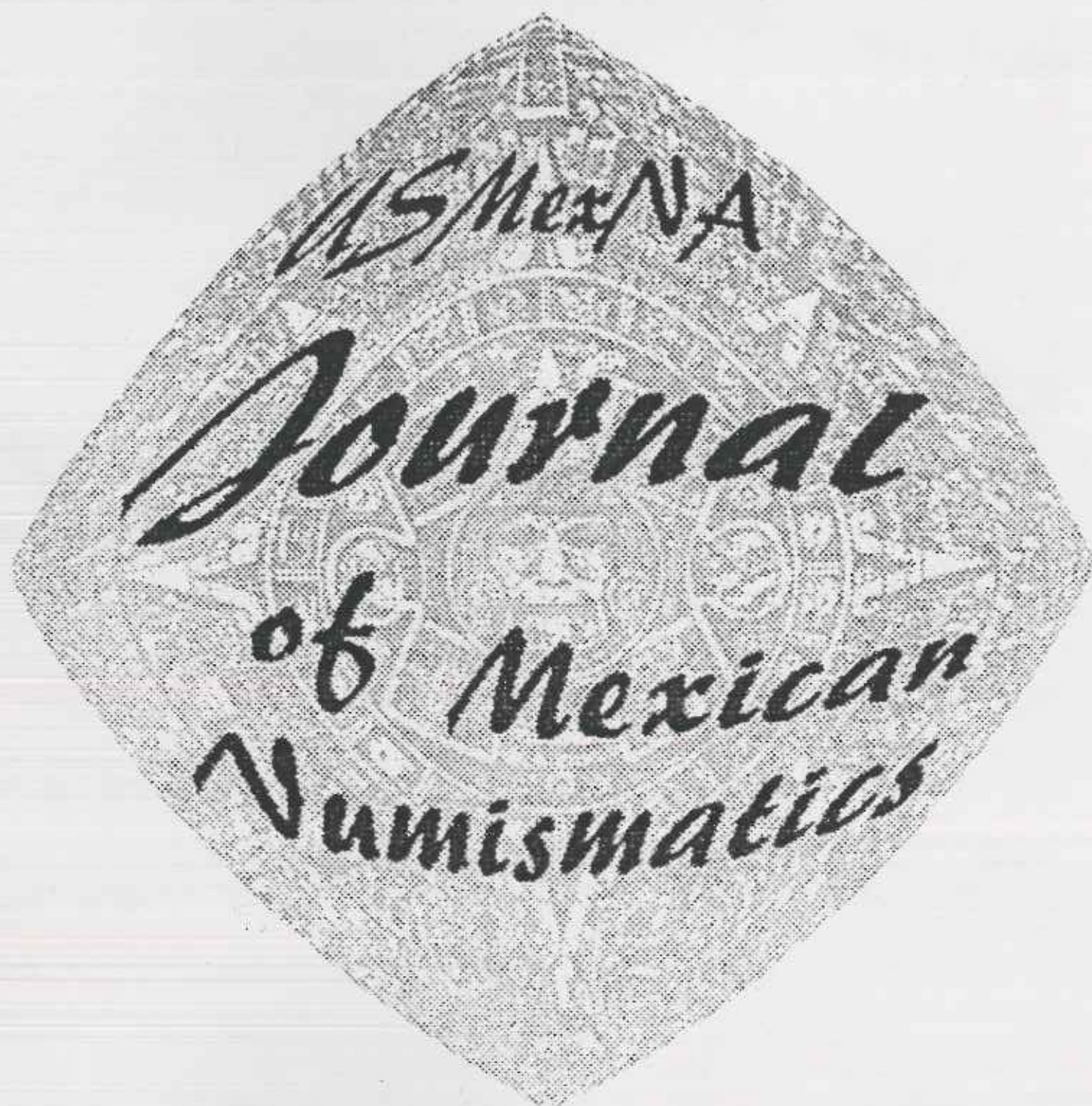


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Mike Ontko, R201

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**SOCIEDAD NUMISMATICA DE MEXICO SET DATES FOR THE  
XLVII CONVENCION NUMISMÁ INTERNACIONAL AT  
SEPTEMBER 03, 2008**

The Sociedad Numismatica de Mexico announced that the Next Mexico City numismatic convention will be held September 03 - 06, 2008 at the Hotel del Prado in Mexico City.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting the society at their e-mail address [sonumex@snnm.org.mx](mailto:sonumex@snnm.org.mx)

## VIVA LA REVOLUCION

By Don Bailey, C-1

In this issue of Joe's column I have taken editorial privilege to tell our members more about Joe Flores than he may like us to know.AA

As most of us know, Joe recently has broken up his revolutionary collection, the largest and finest collection known. This has generated some questions. Why would a collector sell a collection that he has spent half of his life assembling? Will he still be active in the numismatic field?



Joe's decision to sell was not a snap decision and he started thinking about this around four years ago. As a collector, this is a very hard decision to sell something that has been a part of your life for so many years.

His biggest reason was, that he was concerned That if something happened to him, the burden of disposing of this mass collection would have fallen on his family. As in lot of our collecting activities our families in many cases have no interest and know very little about it, or the values that collections can bring. No one wants their collections to be sold for peanuts.

Joe has indicated that he will still be active in the numismatic field with his involvement in the USMEXNA, of which he was one of the original three founders, Joe Flores, Sal Falcone and Don

Bailey. He will continue to write this column, as well as other articles on revolutionary coins.

Joe once made a statement to a young numismatist about the number of old timers who have passed away, and without skipping a beat this young man told Joe "You are one of the old timers". Joe's running mate in the early days, now deceased, Woody Woodworth once said "We are only keepers of the coins for a short time".

In all the years that I have known Joe, collecting has been his driving interest. I remember for years Woody and Joe coming to all the California shows and buying revolutionary coins. They would turn up without fail at the Queen Mary, Buena Park, SIN, and COIN shows always together. Over the years Joe has known most of the icons in Mexican numismatics, and now he is included in that group. Many years ago I suggested that he attend the Mexico City shows and he expanded his collection of coins



and life long friends from that. Joe and I have traveled together to the Mexico shows for a long time, and it has been a lot of fun.

Joe co-authored "*LA VENTANA OAXACA THE WINDOW TO THE REVOLUTIONARY COINAGE OF OAXACA 1915*" with C. "Woody" Woodworth in 1988. Joe and I co-authored *¡ VIVA LA REVOLUCIÓN! The Money of the Mexican Revolution in 2005*. This is the Museum catalog of the exhibit that was at the ANA Museum that Joe and I were instrumental in putting together. Joe was very generous in the loan of about 300 coins from his collection for the exhibit and the book, and shared his vast numismatic information on this subject.

As most collectors, Joe had a "Day Job". He started work as a layout man at Cundiff Steel Fab. & Erecting in Orange California and as the years past he kept being advanced up to Chief Operations Officer before his retirement. Each movement upward resulted in higher responsibilities and duties.

I had asked Joe for pictures of his favorite coin and he sent pictures of the "Plan De Ayala coins, G.B. 285.

Thanks for your past contributions Joe.



Plan De Ayala, G.B. 285

**CARVAJAL WOODHOUSE BONDS**  
**Estados Unidos de Mexico, Estados TaTamaullipas**  
**and San Luis Potosi, July 4, 1865**

This \$1000, 15 ½" X 11" colorful bond with our Presidents, George Washington and Abe Lincoln pictured was issued bilingually. This has an interesting story that goes with it.

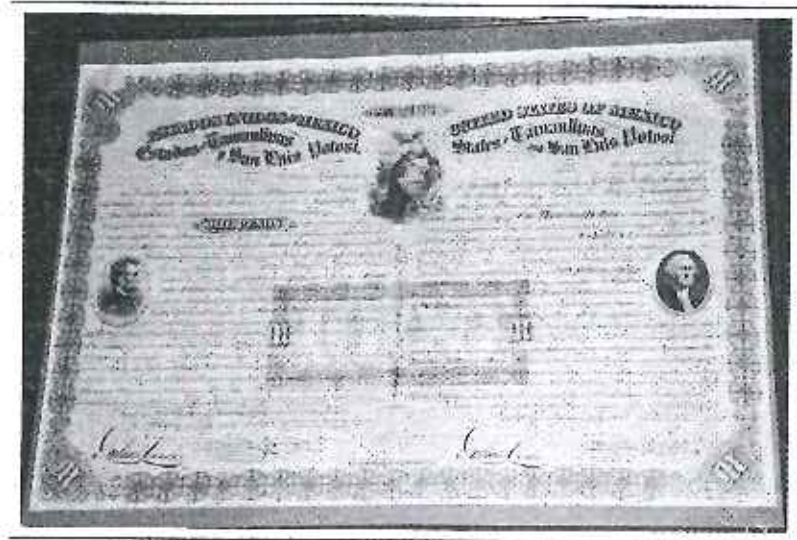


Figure #1, CARVAJAL WOODHOUSE BOND

On November 12, 1864, Juarez appointed General Jose M. Carvajal as a special commissioner with authority to float a \$30,000,000 bond issued at New York. As General Sanchez Ortega had done previously when he negotiated the sale of \$10,000,000 worth of Juarez bonds to buy ships, rifles and other war supplies he was to use the proceeds from the sale of such bonds to purchase war supplies and recruit 10,000 men for the Mexican Army. The bonds were to pay 6% Interest and were secured by a pledge of revenue from the State of Tamaulipas including the custom duties from Matamoros and Bagdad. Carvajal believed that the Americans were so sympathetic to Juarez's plight that they would readily buy the bonds. When General Sanchez Ochoa arrived, he and Carvajal agreed that it would be impossible to sell both bond issues simultaneously since their interest rates and discounts were different. Therefore, they decided to attempt to sell only the larger Carvajal issue.

Late in July 1865, Carvajal met with Daniel Woodhouse, secretary and financial agent of the United States, European and West Virginia Land and Mining Company. They agreed that the company would negotiate the sale of all of the Carvajal bonds. However, repayment of the bonds was to be additionally secured by a mortgage on 500,000 acres of select mineral lands and 5,000,000 acres of select agricultural lands in the states of Tamaulipas and San Luis Potosi. The mortgage would also include 80% of all federal and state revenue from such states. As commission for the sale of the bonds, the company



was to be granted 2,169,232 acres of vacant agricultural land, and 2,136 mining tracts covering 50 acres each. It would also receive a concession to build a double track railroad and telegraph line from Matamoros to the West boundary of the State of San Luis Potosi. The concession would allow the company to build branch railroads and telegraph lines to Tampico, Soto la Marina and Mazatlan. The company was to receive a further 5% commission of all proceeds obtained from the bond sales. If the bonds were sold for gold coin and if the discount rate was less than 60%, the company was to receive additional commissions. The size of the bond issue was to be enlarged to \$50,000,000. The annual interest rate was to be increased to 7% and the sales price was to be discounted up to 60% of face value.

A secret side agreement was made whereby the company was to pay Carvajal \$3,000,000 cash upon the final execution of the contract by Carvajal. He had been advised by legal counsel not to sign the contract until he had been paid under the side agreement. Carvajal and Woodhouse went to a notary public on 24 July 1865, to sign the base contract which, for some unknown reason had been backdated to 15 May 1865. Without Carvajal's knowledge, Woodhouse obtained an executed copy of the contract from the notary without paying Carvajal the money due him under the side agreement. Once he had a copy of the contract, Woodhouse knew he could safely repudiate the side agreement and Carvajal could not attempt to enforce it without disclosing his unfaithful self dealing activities. Upon further investigation Carvajal learned that Woodhouse was a complete fraud and had badly deceived him from the very beginning. His company was a sham with no funds. Also, Woodhouse was a lawyer of the lowest class with little financial responsibility. Carvajal obviously was the victim of a speculative scam. When Woodhouse threatened to blackmail him if he failed to proceed, Carvajal agreed to submit the contract to Matias Romero for final approval. Romero, the Mexican Minister to the United States, whose approval of all documents between the United States and Mexico was required before they became effective refused to sanction the arrangement on the grounds Carvajal had exceeded his authority. Romero contended that the contract granted the company the right to sell the bonds for an unreasonably low price. Notwithstanding this statement, it appears that Romero's main objection to the contract was the inclusion of the railroad rights.

Although Romero had denounced the contract, Woodhouse continued to claim that it was valid and had the bonds printed. Of course, Woodhouse could have been arrested for fraud but Carvajal, for obvious reasons, was against taking any legal action against him or his company. Carvajal contended that the scandal would harm the Mexican cause and discredit the sale of Mexican bonds in the United States. It was also mistakenly believed that Woodhouse, out of gratitude, would not cause any further trouble. However, Woodhouse continued to harass the Mexican government and even went as far as to sell some of the spurious bonds.

Once Romero had repudiated the Woodhouse contract, Woodhouse dropped out of the picture and Carvajal made arrangements with a reputable financial house, name unknown at this time, to proceed with the issuance of the \$30,000,000 worth of Mexican bonds. The financial institution agreed to sell the bonds for a reasonable commission and at a

price of not less than 60% of their face value. Although a serious effort was made to sell the bonds, few purchasers were found. Only \$9,000 worth of bonds were sold over a period of eighteen months. The Republic's stability was not strong enough to attract many buyers. Carvajal and Romero attempted to have a bill passed through Congress whereby the United States would guarantee their payment, but the bill received little support.

Finally, Herman Sturm, who had served with distinction during the war as Chief of Ordnance for the state of Indiana, was hired by Carvajal as his purchasing agent. Sturm found a practical solution to Mexico's

financial problems. He convinced a number of American military manufacturing companies to accept the bonds discounted at 60% of face value as payment for the goods Mexico needed. These bonds are assumed to be the one in Figure #1. A greatly relieved Romero reported to Juarez that by trading bonds for war supplies, Mexico had obtained tremendous amount of material



Figure #2, Carvajal to Sturm Receipt for \$4,414.25

assistance in exchange for the assumption of an insignificant financial debt. Soon a virtual flood of men and supplies was reaching the Juarists from the North, East and West.

U. S. General Grant assisted Juarez by having 30,000 surplus Civil War muskets from the Baton Rouge arsenal sent to the Rio Grande. They were stacked on the bank of the river without security and mysteriously disappeared.

General Lew Wallace of the Battle of Shiloh fame was one of the Union generals who wanted the United States to invade Mexico. In the spring of 1865, he met Carvajal on the Rio Grande. Carvajal told him of Juarez's plan to issue bonds to finance a corps of American mercenaries to fight in Mexico. Wallace expressed an interest in becoming its commander when Carvajal told him that the job would pay \$100,000 win or lose. Wallace accompanied Carvajal to New York to help him arrange the shipment of military stores that had been purchased under Sturm's arrangement. Carvajal also asked Wallace to help Ortega recruit an American volunteer corps of 40,000 men for service in Mexico.

The Austrian Foreign Minister protested the recruiting of Americans for service in Mexico as being a violation of Seward's neutrality policy. Therefore, Seward advised Romero to stop such activities. The only effect of Seward's warning was the printing of a disclaimer in a New York paper by Ortega that Mexico was recruiting men for military service. The newspaper article claimed that Ortega's recruitment was merely for immigration purposes. Shortly thereafter, Ortega expanded his operations to include recruitment offices in Philadelphia, Baltimore and St. Louis.



One of Wallace's most active recruiting agents was Colonel H. Clay Crawford, a former Confederate officer. He was not only eager to lead a brigade to Mexico, but was willing to use his own money for its organization. On 4 November 1865, he was sent to Brownsville to meet with Colonel "Rip" Ford who had already recruited about a thousand men for service in the Juarist army. They were encamped on the river above Brownsville. Crawford was instructed to form them into a brigade. They were to be supplied with arms, uniforms and other provisions from the shipment that Wallace was sending to the Rio Grande. Wallace wrote Grant and requested him to help supply the needs of the brigade from New Orleans. When he arrived at Brownsville, Crawford had trouble in enlisting recruits for he lacked the funds to pay the necessary enlistment bonuses. However, he was able to gather about 500 followers, mostly Negroes. He promised to pay each of them \$50 a month plus a share of any loot they were able to capture. Soon they were being prepared for offensive action.

By using the Carvajal Bonds to obtain the financial support, Juarez was able to turn the tide of the war around. His forces stopped retreating at the Rio Grande and began pushing the French troops southward. With increased diplomatic pressure from Washington, Juarez' success in the field and growing discontentment in France, Napoleon III decided it was time to abandon his "Mexican Adventure". This decision led to Charlotte's disastrous trip to Europe and her mental breakdown and insanity. When the French forces withdrew, the downfall of Maximilian's Empire was finally sealed. The success of Napoleon III's scheme, which just before Carvajal's trip to the United States seemed assured, evaporated with the issue of his bonds. Thus, a seemingly insignificant financial event, led to a major change in the course of history.

The above information on the "Carvajal Woodson Bonds" was published in *"Continuous Turmoil"*, 1995. A limited edition of only 20 by J.J. Bowden, and supplemented by additional information from JJ Bowden We appreciate the permission to use this interesting information and the supplemental information. Thanks JJ.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

SELLO QUINTO.



MEDIO REAL.

AÑOS DE MIL OCHOCIENTOS CUARENTA Y CUATRO Y MIL OCHOCIENTOS CUARENTA Y CINCO.

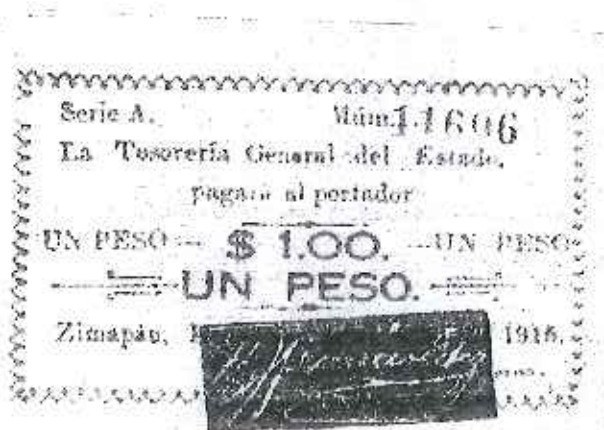
## NEW VARIETIES OF HIDALGO NOTES HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED

By Elmer Powell R-438

The Gaytan catalog showed a 1 peso HGO-92/SI-HID-7 with straight borders while the Encyclopedia of Mexican Paper Money shows a 1 peso with a fancy border. For the 2 peso HGO-93/SI-HID-8 the two catalogs showed the same inconsistency. Therefore two varieties of each denomination exist where one has a straight border and the other a fancy border. Ken Tabachnick is to be credited with identifying the difference and pointing it out to collectors.

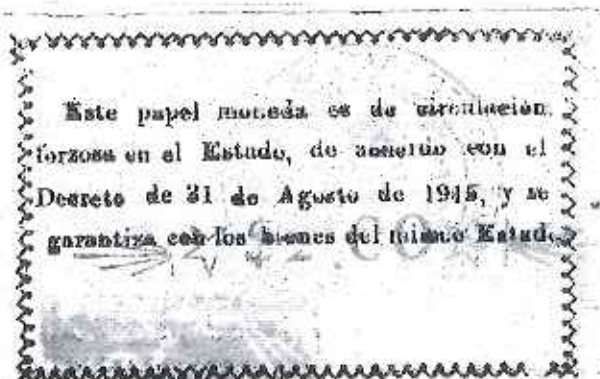


1 peso Gaytan plate note – straight line border

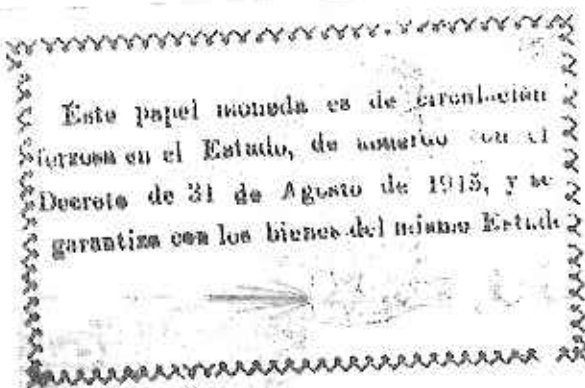


1 peso note – fancy border





2 peso – straight line border



2 peso (EMPM) plate note – fancy border

### RECORDS SET AT DUANE DOUGLAS'S MEXICAN AUCTION

New sales records at public auction for Mexican Paper Money were set at the April 3, 2008 auction organized by Duane Douglas (El Mundo de la Moneda) at the International Numismatic Convention sponsored by the Sociedad Numismática de México in Mexico City (April 2-5, 2008). The leading piece was a One Thousand Peso, ABNC, Banco Minero (Chihuahua) 1909 (Pick-S169) note in good condition which hammered for \$121,000.00 Mexican Pesos (approximately 11,524 U.S. Cy) including the 10% sales fee. The piece went to an anonymous mail bidder who had been searching for this note for many years. Only three pieces are known to exist. The runner-up was also a mail bidder who, obviously was quite disappointed.

Another important note that was auctioned at the convention at a record price was a Ten Peso, ABNC, Banco de Chihuahua, 1889 note (Pick-S122) in Poor to Fair condition for the U.S. dollar equivalent of \$ 2,515.00 including the sales fee; only two pieces are known. Also, a Five Peso, ABNC, Banco Mexicano (Chihuahua) 1888 note in Fair condition of which four signed and issued notes are known, realized a total of U.S. dollar equivalent of \$2,230.00.

From the same bank (Banco Mexicano de Chihuahua) an 1888 Ten Peso ABNC (Pick-S156) in Poor to Fair condition went for U.S. 2095.00 with only three known issued examples.

Another outstanding example of Mexican paper money sold at this auction was a Twenty Peso 1888, ABNC, Banco Mexicano note (Pick-S157) with only four or five known examples, in Fair condition which found a new owner for the sum of U.S. 1885.00.

Also presented was a 1889, Twenty Peso, ABNC, Banco Comercial de Chihuahua note (Pick-S129A) which was hammered for 650.00 U.S.

The activity in general for paper money and coins was quite active both by mail and floor bidders. Three hundred lots of Mexican paper money were auctioned among which several set new records.

Six hundred and sixty seven lots of Mexican coins were also auctioned. Some of the key pieces were an 1822 Eight Escudo coin of Agustín de Iturbide (gold) struck by the Mexico City Mint in almost uncirculated condition which went for U.S. 11,524.00 including the sales commission; an 1823 Eight Escudo coin also of Agustín de Iturbide from the Mexico City Mint in EF/AU which was hammered at U.S. 9,952.00. Another classical rarity which exchanged hands was a one-year type 1823 hooked-neck eagle 8 Escudos in Very Fine to Extremely Fine which went for U.S. 15,715.00.

Collectors attended the show from all over Mexico and abroad and interest was keen, far beyond that of the last few years.



## **The Balance Scale Quarters of the Republic of Mexico.**

By Mike Ontko R201

### **Scope.**

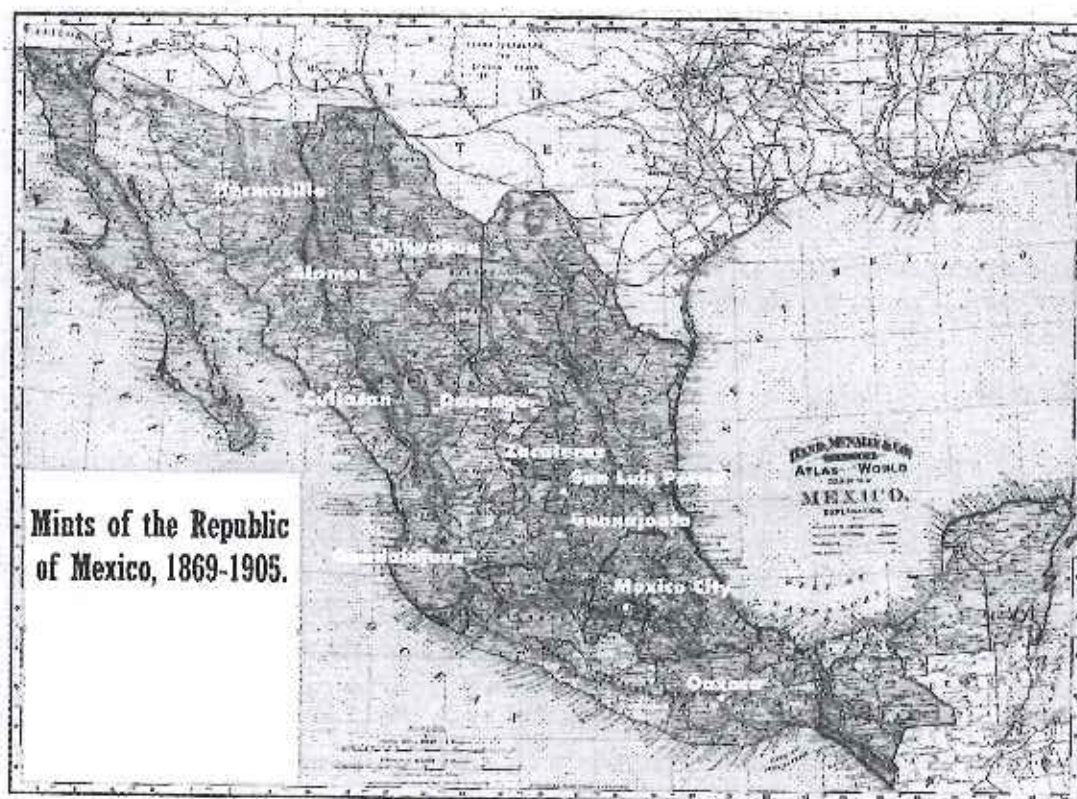
This article examines the story of the Balance Scale 25 Centavos coin minted in Mexico, 1869-1892. We examine the coin's ancestors, successors and a mint mark set.

### **Background.**

The story of Mexico during the first decades of independence exemplifies Gibbon's dictum that "history is indeed little more than the register of the crimes, follies and misfortunes of mankind." In the late 1850's, the liberals, led by Benito Juarez, ousted Gen. Santa Anna (of Alamo fame) and fought a three year war with the conservatives. They achieved victory and broke the power of the Church but the destruction was immense. Anarchy, disunity and credit flight pushed Mexico to the edge of becoming a "failed state." Mexico was poorer than it had been in colonial times. They had barely begun reconstruction when the French invaded in 1862. The republicans scored some initial victories but could not defeat Napoleon III's well equipped veterans and Juarez retreated to Chihuahua. The French installed an Austrian prince, Maximilian, but left in 1866 when Napoleon needed soldiers to face the Germans. Without their support, Maximilian's regime collapsed and he was captured and shot in 1867. Benito Juarez resumed the presidency and served until his death in 1872.

### **Numismatic History.**

In 1863, as part of the program to decimalize the currency, President Benito Juarez announced the replacement of the *reales* and *escudos* system with the peso and the centavo. Small quantities of decimal coins appeared that year but full production commenced in 1869. The new 25 centavos equaled the old 2 *reales*. The branch mints continued to mint the old denominations until 1873.



**Figure 1. The mints of the Republic of Mexico, 1869-1905. Note that while Oaxaca was active during this period, no 25 centavos were struck there.**

Eventually, ten mints issued the Balance Scale quarter: Mexico (mintmark Mo, Fig. 4), Guanajuato (Go, Fig. 3), Zacatecas (Zs, Fig. 5), Hermosillo (Ho, Fig. 3), Culiacan (Cn, Fig. 2), Chihuahua (Ca, Fig. 2), Guadalajara (Ga, Fig. 3), Alamos (A, Fig. 2), San Luis Potosi (Pi, Fig. 3) and Durango (Do, Fig. 2). Mintages for many issues are not known but the highest recorded mintage is 613,000 for the 1886Zs. Mexico City, Guanajuato and Zacatecas are the commonest mints and Guadalajara and Chihuahua the scarcest but no mint is really rare, unlike many other series. The coin was not hoarded so uncirculated specimens are not common. Certain dates of Mexico City and Guanajuato are occasionally available in Uncirculated, all others are rare in high grade.





*Figure 2. 1874A-L, 1888CaM, 1892CnM, 1889DoC 25 centavos.*



*Figure 3. 1884GaB, 1880GoS, 1888HoG, 1871PiO 25 centavos.*



*Figure 4. 1875MoB 25 centavos.*

### **The design.**

Despite common practice at coin shows, Mexican law decrees that the eagle side is the obverse. The obverse depicts an eagle displayed, perched on a cactus, grasping a snake. Around the edge is "REPUBLICA MEXICANA", an oak branch, an olive branch and the date. The reverse shows a balance scale, a sword and a scroll. These represent the judicial, executive and legislative branches of government. Surmounting these is a liberty cap shining its light. Below are the denomination, mintmark, mint master's initials and fineness. The design is shared with the contemporary balance scale fifty centavos, peso, five pesos, ten pesos (*Fig. 5*) and twenty pesos.



*Figure 5. 1883ZsS 25 centavos, 1891ZsZ 10 pesos.*



### Collecting balance scale quarters.

As a type (there are no subtypes), the coin is not scarce; some of the coins shown in this article cost less than ten dollars. A complete set of dates and mintmarks is 167 coins; by comparison, a complete date and mintmark set of Seated Liberty quarters (1838-91) is 109 coins. Adding the dates with multiple mint masters raises the total to 175 (Fig. 6).

| Mintmaster Initials on Balance Scale Vienticinco Centavos. |    |    |      |      |    |    |    |      |    |      |      |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|------|------|----|----|----|------|----|------|------|
| Año                                                        | As | Ca | Cn   | Do   | Ga | Go | Ho | Mo   | Oa | Pi   | Zs   |
| 1869                                                       |    |    |      |      |    |    |    | C    |    | S    |      |
| 1870                                                       |    |    |      |      |    | S  |    | C    |    | G, O | H    |
| 1871                                                       |    | M  | P    |      |    | S  |    | M    |    | O    | H    |
| 1872                                                       |    | M  | P    |      |    | S  |    | M    |    | O    | H    |
| 1873                                                       |    |    | P    | P    |    | S  |    | M    |    | O    | H    |
| 1874                                                       | L  |    | P    |      |    | S  | R  | M, B |    | H    | H, A |
| 1875                                                       | L  |    | P    |      |    | S  | R  | B    |    | H    | A    |
| 1876                                                       | L  |    | P    |      |    | S  | F  | B    |    | H    | A, S |
| 1877                                                       | L  |    |      | P    |    | S  | F  | M    |    | H    | S    |
| 1878                                                       | L  |    | P, S | E, B |    | S  | A  | M    |    | H    | S    |
| 1879                                                       | L  |    | D    | B    |    | S  | A  | M    |    | H, E | S    |
| 1880                                                       | L  |    | D    | B    | A  | S  | A  | M    |    | H    | S    |
| 1881                                                       | L  |    | D    |      | S  | S  | A  | M    |    | H, E | S    |
| 1882                                                       | L  |    | D, M | C    | S  | S  | A  | M    |    | H    | S    |
| 1883                                                       | L  | M  | M    |      | B  | B  | M  | M    |    | H    | S    |
| 1884                                                       | L  |    | M    | C    | B  | B  | M  | M    |    | H    | S    |
| 1885                                                       | L  | M  | M    | C    |    | R  | M  | M    |    | H    | S    |
| 1886                                                       | L  | M  | M    | C    |    | R  | G  | M    |    | C, R | S, Z |
| 1887                                                       | L  | M  | M    | C    |    | R  | G  | M    |    | R, B | Z    |
| 1888                                                       | L  | M  | M    | C    |    | R  | G  | M    |    | R    | Z    |
| 1889                                                       | L  | M  | M    | C    | S  | R  | G  | M    |    | R    | Z    |
| 1890                                                       | L  |    | M    | C    |    | R  | G  | M    |    | R    | Z    |
| 1891                                                       |    |    |      |      |    |    |    |      |    |      |      |
| 1892                                                       |    |    | M    |      |    |    |    |      |    |      |      |

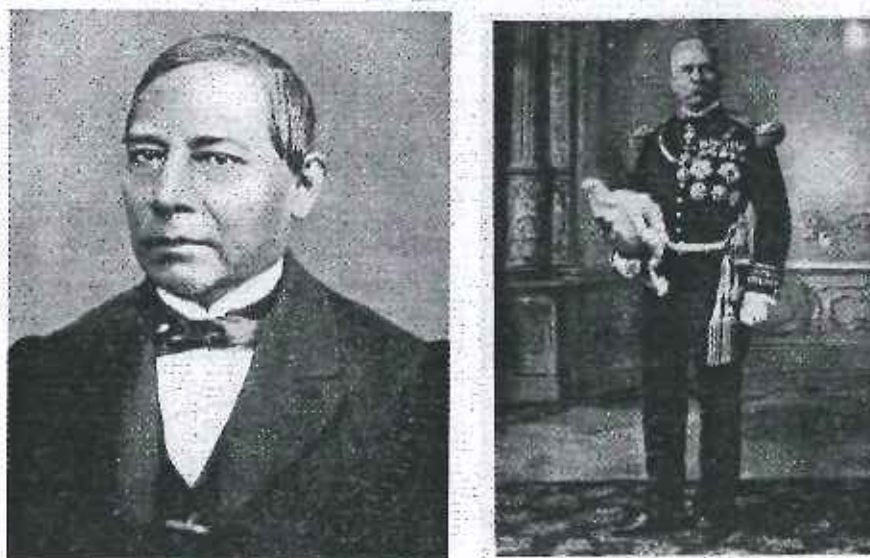
*Figure 6. Mint master initials appearing on Balance Scale 25 centavos.*

There are a large number of overdates and repunched mintmarks and assayers' initials. A number of issues have less than ten known specimens, all in low grade. A noted collector of the author's acquaintance has collected this series for over twenty years and has not finished. In that time he completed and sold sets of United States Liberty Seated quarters and

Barber quarters. Shown below for comparison are an 1872A-AM 2 *reale* (Fig. 7).s and a 1950 billion 25 centavos



*Figure 7. 1872A-AM 2 reales, 1950 25 centavos.*



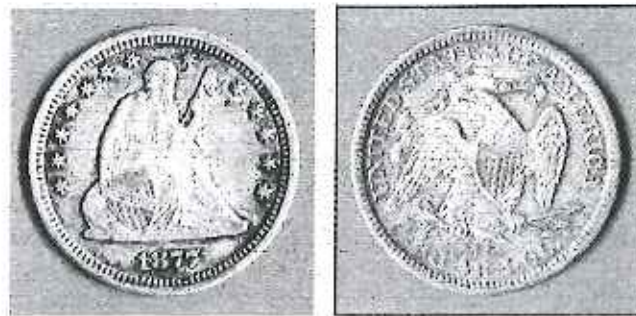
*Figure 8. Benito Juarez, 1806-72, President of Mexico 1855-72, called the Lincoln of Mexico. Leading the Liberal party, he broke the power of the Church and resisted the French invasion of 1862-67. Died of a heart attack while in office. Porfirio Diaz, 1830-1915, President of Mexico 1876-80 and 1884-1911, ended the chaos resulting from the French invasion and began the development of Mexico. Convinced only he could run the country, he engineered his repeated reelection until ousted by the Revolution. As the revolutionary leaders slaughtered each other, he retired to a luxurious Paris apartment.*



The mintage of the 25 centavos ended in 1892. In 1898, President Porfirio Diaz decreed a coinage reform. The 25 centavos was replaced by a new 20 centavos. The eagle was redesigned and spruced up. The 20 centavos proved more popular than the 25 centavos and was continued after the reform of 1905. Two attempts to revive the 25 centavos, in 1950-53 and 1964-66, were failures.

### Specifications.

The balance scale 25 centavos has the same specification as its predecessor, the Cap & Ray 2 *reales*, i.e., 6.77 g, .903 fine silver. While the diameter of the 2 *reales* varied, the 25 centavos is consistently 25 mm. The contemporary U.S. quarter (Fig. 9) was 6.25 g, .900 fine with a 24.3 mm diameter.



*Figure 9. United States 1877CC quarter.*

### Sources.

R. S. Yeoman and K. Bressett, *A Guide Book of United States Coins*, 54<sup>th</sup> Edition, New York: St. Martin's Press, 2000.

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Michael C. Meyer and William L. Sherman, *The Course of Mexican History*, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, New York: Oxford University Press, 1995.

Jamie Rodriguez O., 1980 lecture, "Down From Colonialism: Mexico's 19<sup>th</sup> Century Crisis," posted on <http://www.historicaltextarchive.com/>



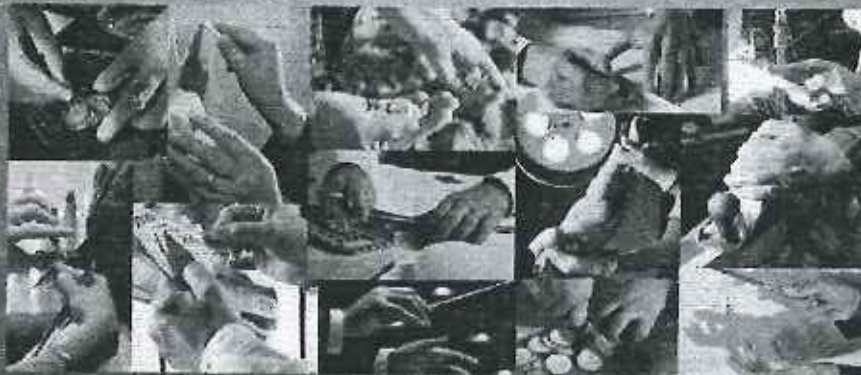


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#### ANVERSO

Como motivo principal ostenta la efigie del Padre de la Patria, Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla.

Nació el 8 de mayo de 1753 en la Hacienda de San Diego de Corralejo, Pénjamo, Guanajuato. Cursó estudios en el Colegio de San Nicolás en Valladolid, del que llegó a ser rector. En 1803 se hizo cargo de la parroquia de Dolores, Guanajuato, preocupado por mejorar las condiciones de sus feligreses, casi todos indígenas.

En 1809 se unió a una sociedad secreta para reunir un congreso que gobernara la Nueva España y obtener la independencia del país. El 16 de septiembre de 1810 lanzó el llamado grito de Dolores que inició la gesta independentista tomando Guanajuato y Guadalajara.

El 11 de enero de 1811 Hidalgo fue derrotado y condenado a muerte por las fuerzas realistas.

La imagen de Hidalgo está complementada con una viñeta compuesta por la campana y dos torres de la iglesia de Dolores, que hacen referencia al grito de independencia.

#### REVERSO

El elemento principal es una vista en perspectiva de la Universidad de Guanajuato. Como complemento tiene el vitral de su interior y el relieve de una de sus puertas, así como una rana que hace referencia a Guanajuato (lugar o cerro de las ranas) y una representación de la arquitectura de esta ciudad.

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Zapata's soldiers having breakfast in Sanborn's "House of Titles"

1914 photo Agustin V. Cassola

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