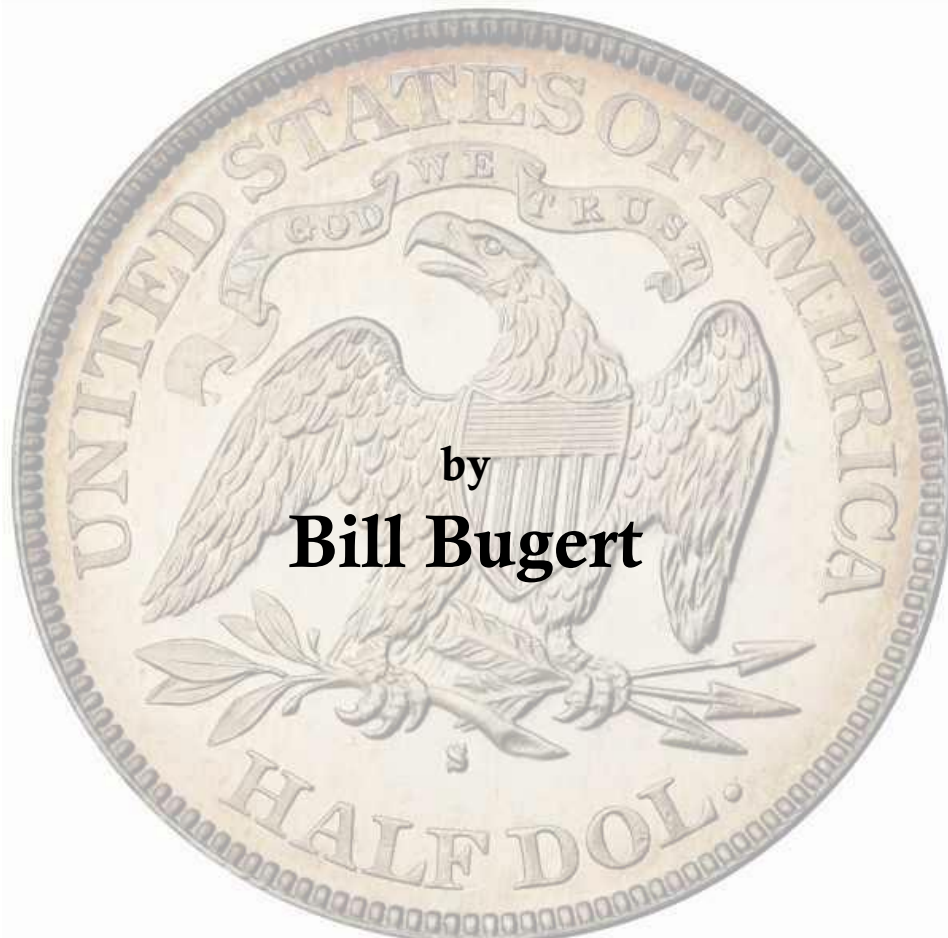




**A Register of  
1878-S  
Liberty Seated Half Dollars**

The image shows the obverse of a 1878-S Liberty Seated Half Dollar coin. It features a seated female figure representing Liberty, holding a shield on her lap and a flag in her right hand. The coin is surrounded by thirteen stars and the word "LIBERTY" is inscribed on the figure's dress. The year "1878" is at the bottom.



**A Register of  
1878-S  
Liberty Seated Half Dollars**

by  
Bill Bugert

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# Foreword

The 1878-S Liberty Seated Half Dollar is one of those classic rarities of the U.S. coin series that always demands attention and respect, and for good reasons. Collecting Liberty Seated half dollars is popular and the 1878-S is the key to the date/mint set. With an extremely low mintage of 12,000, I estimate that not more than 60 examples exist today. Detailed in this booklet are 51 different examples that I have been able to identify with leeway granted for a few that are hidden away and off the market for years.

Owning an 1878-S half dollar in any condition entitles you to informal membership of a very select group of elite collectors. Few collectors have or now own an 1878-S half dollar and, by owning one, you set yourself apart from many others. Simply put, few are available, and they are expensive, often outside the financial resources of most collectors. Even some of the famous coin collections lacked an 1878-S or had a low grade or problem coin. For example, Eric P. Newman did not have one, Anderson-Dupont had a damaged coin, and it was missing from the Garrett Collection. All 1878-S half dollar owners I know are immensely proud to admit they own one.

Randy Wiley and I both have been tallying and researching this date for many decades. It took a lot of time and diligence to record on and off market exchanges of these coins. We spoke with many collectors and dealers and reviewed many price lists and auction catalogues in search of information on 1878-S half dollars. Due to the 1878-S half dollar's value, one most often appears at a public auction. Unfortunately, most auction catalogues older than the 1960s lack sufficient images and lot descriptions to positively identify a specific 1878-S. Consequently, most accurate information on 1878-S half dollars can be found from the past 50-60 years. Luckily, the top modern auction companies maintain detailed online records, easily accessible, and with great images of the offered coins.

I was fortunate to have many what I called "spies" helping me; these were collectors of the series that reported sightings of 1878-S half dollars. Chief among those was LSCC member Bob Hamby who scouted the southern shows. He would often call me from a coin show bourse floor with details and then send me images. Dennis Fortier and John Frost were also key to helping me. To them and others, I am grateful. Many thanks to John Frost and Dennis Fortier for their review of this manuscript – their comments added greatly to the clarity and content.

I hope you find the information contained herein useful. It represents many, many hours of fun researching this date.

Bill Bugert  
Gettysburg, PA

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# Miscellaneous Information

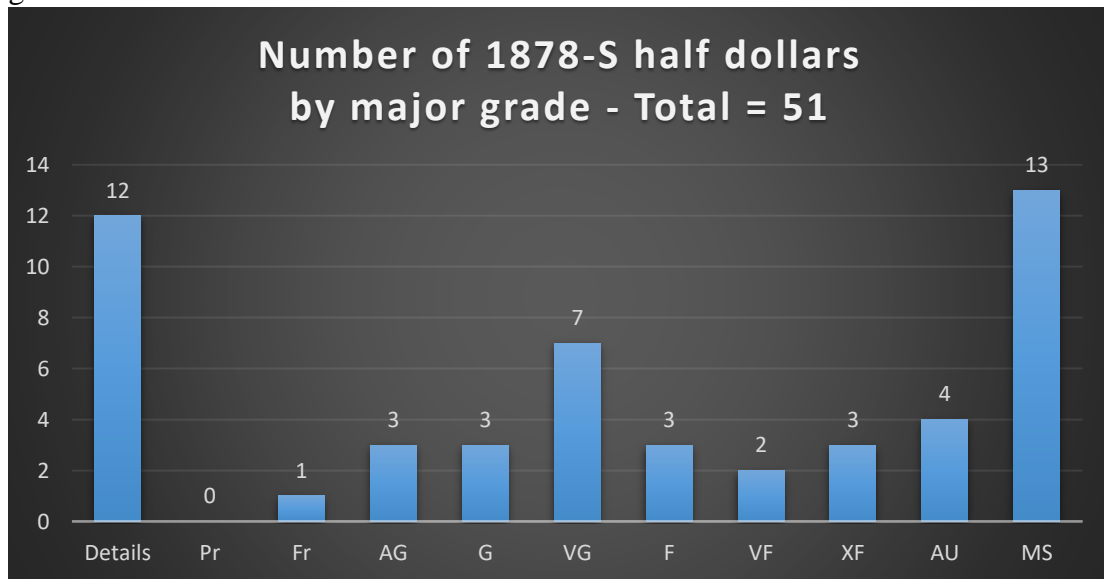
**Purpose of this publication.** With this document, it is my desire and ultimate goal to record information (images, known pedigree, and miscellaneous notes) on all the 1878-S half dollars. I believe there exists approximately 60 examples (51 are detailed here) and finding them all with useful pedigree information and images will be a worthwhile continual task with constant updates. This is my start (although I have been keeping records for decades) at that effort.

I have assigned a BB-## to each coin so that past and future presences of these coins may be easily tracked. Cross references to Randy Wiley’s draft attribution numbers are also contained herein as RW-##.

**Disclaimer.** This *Register* is only as good as the information collected from many sources. For example, my 1878-S BB-11, from the Stack’s sale of the Buddy Byers collection, was described with a pedigree from the James T. Clarke New Netherlands Sale #47, April 1956, lot 1342. That information is not accurate; the New Netherlands coin is actually the “Stellar” half dollar. I have taken great pains to remove similar inaccuracies, but I suspect some information included here may not be accurate and/or incomplete.

Conversely, there are many obvious “holes” in the pedigrees listed herein. For example, 1878-S BB-30 was listed by Julian Liedman in 1994 but not seen again until 2006. That does not mean that Julian had the coin in his possession this entire time. It merely indicates the known ownership or public appearance of that coin.

**1878-S half dollars by grade.** The chart below depicts the census of examples known to me by major grade.



From the chart depicted above, it is readily apparent that about a quarter (24%) of the known coins are in “Details” grade while another quarter (25%) are Mint State. Others are spread across the grades with a heavy concentration in VG. The “Details” graded coins range from Fair to AU.

**How did I collect this data?** I acknowledge that much information is missing from this *Register* and there may be some inaccurate data. I strived to have only accurate information. I researched this date using many sources. They are listed below:

- **Person to person conversations.** In most cases, I recorded the information I received; some was considered questionable until I was able to verify it or discard it.
- **My personal numismatic library of auction catalogues going back to the 1930s.** *Numismatic News' Auction Prices Realized for U.S. Coins* for individual years was a reference time saver. Older catalogues and many catalogues missing from individual libraries are now available on the Newman Numismatic Portal. This portal made many numismatic bibliophiles' libraries outmoded, but it is a great time saver.
- **Online auction company archives.** These reference libraries of auction results usually had great images, slab numbers, and good descriptions and notably include Heritage and Stack's Bowers.
- **Numismatic and dealer publications.** These include but are not limited to *The Gobrecht Journal*, *Coin World*, *Numismatic News*, and dealer price lists and announcements.
- **Coin show bourse and dealer cases.** Roaming the large coin shows sometimes produced an 1878-S half dollar in a dealer's case. Mostly, dealers were cooperative with allowing me to image or draw the details of the coin and record information. In all cases, past pedigree information was not offered.
- **Third party grading companies' online records.** I have more on this in the following sections, but these provided great information and leads for me to follow.
- **My "Spies."** I mentioned this in my Foreword, but it is worth repeating. Many numismatic friends knew of my effort to document all 1878-S half dollars and were proactive in helping me with information. These Spies would find them on bourse floors, online, and in publications and were helpful in my effort to complete this *Register*. Some of these Spies were Randy Wiley, Julian Leidman, Brian Greer, Bob Hamby, Dennis Fortier, John Frost, Rich Uhrich, Dick Osburn, Brian Cushing, Len Augsburger, David Lange, Gene Gardner, Harry Smith, Ed Zimmerman, and other unnamed collectors and dealers.
- **Julian Leidman.** I want to specifically mention Julian for his assistance. Julian prides himself in attending every major numismatic auction. In his copy of the auction catalogues, he recorded his personal notes including condition and comments of numerous coins including 1878-S half dollars. Early on, Julian made his auction catalogue library available to Randy and me. Randy spent many hours photocopying catalogue pages with 1878-S half dollars. These were a great help in researching specific coins and, in some cases, determining condition census.
- **Randy Wiley.** Randy and I researched this date together for many years. He and I often compared notes and worked to eliminate duplicates and understand pedigrees. This *Register* would not have happened without his efforts.

**Credit to Randy Wiley.** Randy Wiley and I have both been tracking information of 1878-S half dollars for decades. His research played a pivotal role in completion of this document. I wish to acknowledge his expertise, diligence, hard work, patience, and expert record keeping practices in tracking these rarities.



**TPG encapsulation statistics**<sup>1,a</sup>. The tables below depict the number of certified 1878-S half dollars as of the date specified.

As of April 9, 2020:

Grade	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>40</u>
PCGS	1	4	1		4	1	1	2			1	1	2
NGC	1		1		3						1 <sup>b</sup>		1
ANACS						2							

Grade	<u>45</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>66</u>
PCGS			1	2	1		2		5	4	2	1
NGC								1	1	2	2	
ANACS	1											

Totals	PCGS <sup>c</sup>	NGC <sup>c</sup>	ANACS <sup>c</sup>
Total encapsulated	36+	17	5
Total graded	36	13	3

<sup>a</sup> SEGS does not publish grading statistics.

<sup>b</sup> This listed VF30 1878-S NGC #2026644-033 is actually a mislabeled 1876-S half dollar.

<sup>c</sup> Note: PCGS and NGC do not list separate “Details” grade coins but include them in the total number graded. ANACS does separate “Details” graded coins by grade.

**Rumored 1878-S half dollar hoard.** I have information from multiple reliable sources that a West Coast (SF Bay area?) collector was hoarding 1878-S half dollars in the early to mid-1990s. Most of the details on this hoard is confidential (and unknown to me) but supposedly the collector accumulated a half roll (10 coins) before liquidating them privately over time.

**Photographs.** Most of the images of 1878-S half dollars depicted in this Register are from other sources. While some are not ideal for a modern state of the art publication, many are the best that I have or can get but are good enough to properly identify a specific coin.

**Confidentiality.** Much information provided to me in confidence (such as current owners) is omitted to protect individual privacy. That information, however, is included in **my personal unpublished reference copy**.

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<sup>1</sup> The total number of coins in the encapsulation statistics table (58+) does not directly correspond to the total number of coins in this book (51). I have not seen all of the encapsulated coins, there are likely some crack-outs and submissions in these totals, and at least four coins are still in the services’ database but certified elsewhere (see Census on the next page).

### Census of 1878-S Half Dollars by Grade and Authentication Service

Grade	PCGS Slab #	BB-#	NGC/NCS Slab #	BB-#	ANACS Holder/Papers	BB-#	Raw	BB-#
MS66	38634061	01						
MS65	33274509	02	<b>551653-026</b> <b>1888925-001</b>	05?				
	50075853	02						
	<b>NK</b>	03						
MS64	4421466	04	<b>291547-026</b> <b>954224-005</b>	?				
MS63	<del>7454708</del>	05	<del>212789-024</del> <del>1716025-070</del>	07 08				
	50080542	06						
	19949281	07						
	<del>9513630</del>	07						
	60162313	08						
50021884	09							
MS62	<del>NK</del>	07	3377927-001	10				
	<del>NK</del>	09						
MS61	06995224	11						
	4641433	12						
MS60							Metro	13
AU58								
AU55	25793690	14						
	36890677 (D)	16						
	25683054	17						
	<del>25238669</del>	17						
AU53	37836870	15						
AU50	82417253 (D)	21	<del>5086049-001 (D)</del>	17			Hunderfund	19
			508478-074 (D)	18				
			<del>3804516-001 (D)</del>	21				
XF45	16044934 (D)	20						
XF40	06836338	22	1805111-001	24				
	<del>06840105</del>	22						
	2763737	23						
VF35	33145850	25						
	<del>25200301</del>	25						
	<del>25217929</del>	25						
VF30	<del>6588585</del>	25	4885008-002 (D) 2026644-033 (1876-S)	37 N/A	<del>2947926 (D)</del>	37		
	25300190	26						
	<del>8318313</del>	26						
F15	21525445	28			Love Token	51		
	21431760	29						
F12	9502333	27						
VG10	06749322	31			<b>1014592</b>	31		
VG8	4765320	30	1828003-002 <del>1871926-001</del> 2692555-001 3892414-001 (D)	34 36 38 44			Grayson Perry	32 48
	33396130	33						
	25574701	36						
	<del>06759967 (D)</del>	38						
	38606555 (D)	43						
G6			<del>1301001-001</del>	34			Skwarek	35
G4	<del>25630741</del>	38					Warner	50
	21168033	39						
	38794902 (D)	45						
	NK (D)	46						
AG3	07014273	40					Briggs	49
	32243343	41						
	38335878	42						
FR02	25335355	47	<b>629300-001</b>	?	<del>NK</del>	44		

NK = Number Not Known (to Bugert)

(D) = Details holder

**Red Bold** = Not seen by BB

Note: SEGS does not publish grading statistics.

**#####** = Still in TPG database records

~~Strike thru~~ = Specific coin's previous TPG number

**Information Needed on these 1878-S Half Dollars by Grade and Authentication Service**

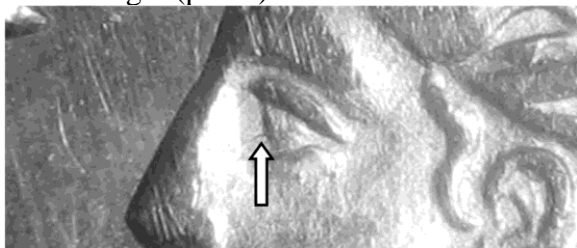
Grade	PCGS Slab #	BB- #	NGC/NCS Slab #	BB- #	ANACS Holder/Papers	BB- #	Raw	BB- #
MS66		01						
MS65			2					
MS64			2					
MS63	1		4					
MS62								
MS61								
MS60								
AU58	1							
AU55								
AU50								
XF45					1			
XF40								
VF35								
VF30								
F15								
F12								
VG10					4			
VG8	1							
G6			4					
G4								
AG3	1							
FR02			1					

## Characteristics of a Genuine 1878-S Half Dollar

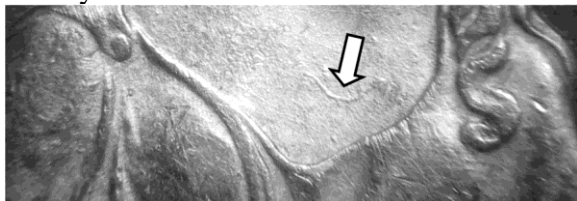
### Obverse 1



- Date right (photo)



- Die line shaped as an eyelash on Liberty (photo) found on very high-grade coins only

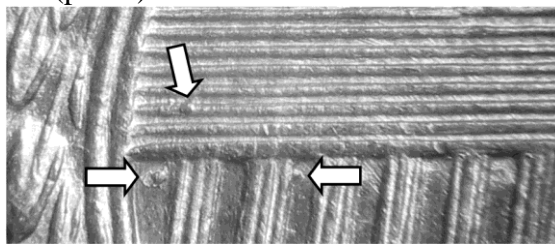


- Wavy line on Liberty's breast (photo) found on very high grade coins only
- Unfinished under Liberty's chin
- Arching lines thru shield and Liberty's lower gown

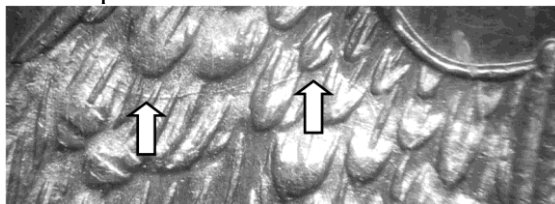
### Reverse A



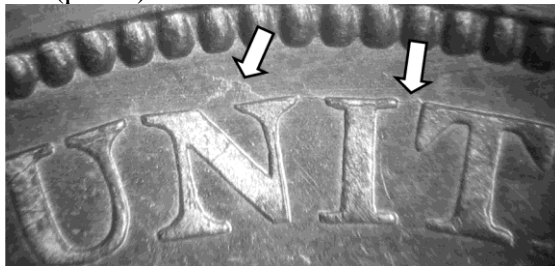
- Very small S mintmark tilted to the left (photo)



- Three lumps in shield as depicted (photo). The lump in the upper left recessed area has long been termed the "Diagnostic Die Chip."



- Raised wavy line in the eagle's left wing (photo)



- Die crack above (U)NI(TED) (photo) found on all 1878-S halves
- This die cracked in 1877 and is transitional with 1877-S.

All high-grade coins have proof-like surfaces.

Date grid: M4.5, .028"	147 reeds only	Typical diameter = 1.208"	Rarity – 5
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Head – Full; Tail - Full	



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# Table of Listings (Continued)

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## 1878-S Half Dollars Summary

Grade	Details	Pr01	FR02	AG03	G04	G06	VG8	VG10	F12	F15
#	12	0	1	3	2		7	1	1	2
Page	31,33,35, 36,52,58, 59,60,61, 63,64,66		62	55,56, 57	54, 65	50	45,47,48, 49,50,51, 53	46	42	43,44

Grade	VF20	VF25	VF30	VF35	XF40	XF45	AU50	AU53	AU55	AU58
#	0	0	1	1	3	0	1	1	2	0
Page			41	40	37,38,39		34	30	29,32	

Grade	MS60	MS61	MS62	MS63	MS64	MS65	MS66
#	1	2	1	4	1	3	1
Page	28	26,27	25	21,22,23,24	19	17,18,20	16

# 1878-S Half Dollar BB-01



Small black spots near star 13 and in front of Liberty's foot

Small mark along the scroll edge between the eagle's head and T(RUST)

Grade: MS66

Certified: PCGS Gold Shield 572258.66/38634061 CAC<sup>1</sup>  
 Labelled "D. Brent Pogue Collection  
 WB-1 Very Small S"

Cross reference: RW-01

### Known Pedigree Details

- ex-Stack's Bowers 3/20/2020:7294 @ \$288,000
- ex-Pogue Family collection, Dallas, Texas (now PCGS MS66)
- ex-Stack's Queller Collection 10/2002:678 @ \$161,000 (raw)
- ex-Stack's Robison Sale 2/1982:1721 @ \$16,000
- ex-Bowers and Ruddy Fairfield Collection 10/1977:552 @ \$8,500
- ex-Stack's E.Y. Clarke 10/1975:352 @ \$8,000
- ex-Stack's RE Cox Collection 4/1962:2024 @ \$2,500
- ex-Stack's Egolf Sale 5/1961:1131 @ \$2,650

Photo credit: PCGSCoinFacts

Note:

1. By far, this is the finest known 1878-S half dollar. It also set a price record at the Stack's Bowers Sale of 2020.



# 1878-S Half Dollar BB-02



Dark streak above (LIB)E(RTY)  
Few black dots in right field (?)

Reverse tarnish spot @ M

Grade: MS65

Certified: PCGS Secure 6360.65/33274509 CAC labelled “Stellar”  
ex-PCGS Series holder 6360.65/50075853 labelled “Stellar”

Cross reference: RW-02

## Known Pedigree Details

A Georgia Collection (as of-8/11/2016)  
ex-Stellar Collection  
ex-The Mint, *Coin World* ad 10/20/1997 (coin #23 of 50 from Inventory Selections)  
ex-Abner Kreisberg Herbert M. Bergen Collection Sale, 10/1979:660 @ \$14,250<sup>1</sup>  
ex-Kagin’s 298<sup>th</sup> Sale, 9/11/1972:341 @ \$7,500  
ex-Kagin’s 250<sup>th</sup> Sale, 3/5/1964:292 @ \$5,100  
ex-New Netherlands 47<sup>th</sup> Sale, T. James Clarke Collection, 4/1956:1342 @ \$775

Photo credit: PCGSCoinFacts

### Notes:

1. Julian Leidman said that he traded Herbert Bergen his UNC coin for an AU. NOT Herstal (B+R 4/1977) coin which JL consigned. [Julian] Does not recall where the Herstal coin came from or deposition of Bergen’s AU.

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-03



Scrape on right forearm

Small dig on (HAL)F

Grade: MS65

Certified: PCGS MS65 Slab number unknown

Cross reference: RW-

### Known Pedigree Details



ex-N/A

Photo credit: PCGSCoinFacts

#### Notes:

1. I do not know which coin this is. Its image appeared on PCGSCoinFacts.com when I first noticed it and I cannot match it anything I have seen. The slab number was listed with no images for quite a while and I thought it was a duplicate or resubmission.
2. Although I have not seen this coin, from the images it appears to be a gem coin. I am therefore tentatively assigning it the third finest known.

# 1878-S Half Dollar BB-04

	
<p>Bagmark in field near star 3 Three bagmarks below Liberty's right breast</p>	<p>Blue peripheral toning</p>
<p>Grade: MS64</p>	<p>Certified: PCGS Gold Shield 6360.64 PL/4421466 CAC labelled "Hansen"<sup>1</sup> ex-PCGS OGH previously labelled "Pryor"</p>
<p>Cross reference: RW-03</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>Known Pedigree Details</b></u></p> <p>D. L. Hansen PCGS Registry Set (as of 5/2017)          Floor Bidder #211 (same as above?)          ex-Heritage Eugene H. Gardner Collection of US Coins, 6/2014:30521 @ \$199,750          ex-Gene Gardner Collection          ex-Heritage CSNS Platinum Sale, Joseph C. Thomas collection, 4/2009:2476 @ \$184,000          ex-Bowers and Merena Dr. Robert W. Swan collection, 3/2004:1510 @ \$92,000          ex-Bowers and Merena James Bennett Pryor collection, 1/1996:237 @ \$70,400          ex-Stack's Charles H. Patten collection, 5/1973:418</p>	
<p style="text-align: right;">Photo credit: Heritage Auction</p>	

Notes:

1. Although all high grade 1878-S half dollars have proof-like surfaces, this is the only 1878-S half dollar with a PL (proof-like) designation on the TPG holder.

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-05



Mark by star 3

Few tiny ticks in the field below the eagle's left wing

Grade: MS65

Certified: NGC MS65 NK<sup>1</sup>  
ex-PCGS MS63 6360.65/7454708

Cross reference: RW-06

### Known Pedigree Details

ex-First American Numismatics (Robert L. Hughes) FPL 2005 @ \$155,000  
 ex-Bowers and Merena Rarities Sale 7/2005:563 @ \$96,600 (as NGC MS65)<sup>2</sup>  
 ex-ANR Kennywood Collection Sale 1/2005:599 @ \$82,800 (as PCGS MS63 #7454708)  
 ex-Unspecified and unverified private transactions including:  
     ex- Ken Smith consigned this coin to the ANR sale  
     ex- Jim O'Donnell (O'D says his friend bought a large SLHD collection @ 1994 ANA in Detroit including this 1878-S which slabbed P63, not nearly as nice as Hawn.) 10/95 – O'D says The Mint bought a Liberty Seated collection (all denominations) for \$850K?  
     ex- The Mint *Coin World* advertisement, 1/30/1995, PCGS MS63 @ \$75,000  
     ex- Dave Davis  
 ex-Stack's James A. Stack Sale 3/1975:555 @ \$7,750 (JL grades 60++)

Photo credit: Stack's Bowers

#### Notes:

1. The NGC slab number is either 551653-007 or 1888925-001.
2. The auction lot description describes this coin as "Likely an Assay Commission Piece."

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-06



Small abrasion on Liberty's right leg below the knee

Grade: MS63

Certified: PCGS Series holder 6360.63/50080542

Cross reference: RW-04

### Known Pedigree Details

Randy Wiley half dollar reference collection

ex-Private sale from Jim O'Donnell to Randy Wiley, 3/2005, @ \$92,500

ex-Superior Fort Lauderdale Elite Sale, 1/2005:288, DNS

ex-Jim Gray Collection, Bowers and Merena Baltimore Sale, 7/2004:2403 (as PCGS MS63) @ \$80,500 to Jim O'Donnell

ex-Stack's March (Halsell) Sale 3/1984:754 (as BU) @ \$15,950

ex-Superior Auction 1980:191 (as MS65) @ \$25,000

ex-Superior 1975 ANA Sale<sup>1</sup> 8/1975:693 (as MS65) @ \$8,750

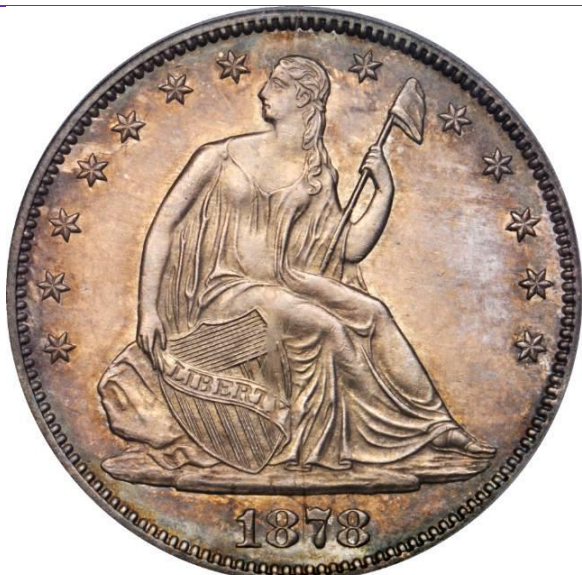
ex-Stack's George O. Walton Sale 10/1963:963 (as Unc) @ \$2,800

Photo credit: Stack's Bowers

Note:

1. February 11, 2011: Len Augsburger purchased Kamal M. Ahwash's copy of the 1975 Superior ANA auction catalog and passed along this information to Randy and me. Kam had handwritten notes on the 1878-S that says "Dings on head, right field, arm & cheek. 60+." Len also says, "Further on this coin there is a loose sheet of paper laid in the catalog with a list of "halves to see for Harry," among which was lot 693, the 1878-S. Possibly referring to Harry Forman, who I know dealt with Kam."

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-07



White spot at star 4 and below 1878  
Tiny nick above star 6

Small nick on olive leaf #5  
Small nick on left wing

Grade: MS63

Certified: PCGS 6360.63/19949281 CAC labelled “**Dick Osburn Collection**”<sup>1</sup>  
ex-PCGS 6360.63/9513630 OGH  
ex-PCGS 6360.62 (slab # unknown)  
ex-NGC MS63 212789-024

Cross reference: RW-05



### Known Pedigree Details

Bidder #9937


ex-Richard Jewell Collection, Stack’s-Bowers ANA Sale, 8/15/2013;4245 @ \$164,500  
ex-Dick Osburn Collection, Stack’s-Bowers Rarities Night, 8/2011:7135 @ \$184,000  
ex-Douglas L. Noblet Collection, Bowers and Merena, 1/5-6/1999:186 @ \$63,000  
ex-Private Investor (Doug Noblet?) from Jim O’Donnell for \$50,000  
ex-Heritage Auctions, Baltimore ANA Sale, 7/1993:6353 @ \$46,200 (to Jim O’Donnell)  
ex-Tim Bauer *Coin World* ad, 3/29/1993, offered at @ \$73,000  
ex- *Gobrecht Journal* #49 advertisement by Jim O’Donnell, \$52,500 (PCGS MS62)  
ex-Dave Akers, Auction 1990, 8/1990:1610 @ \$30,800 (Jim O’Donnell buy back – got **PCGS MS62** slab → broke it out; resubmitted and got PCGS MS63, sold to Tim Bauer)  
ex-*Gobrecht Journal* #47 advertisement by Jim O’Donnell, \$57,500 (as NGC MS63 212789-024)  
ex-Heritage 6/1987:853 @ \$18,700 to Jim O’Donnell (Got NGC MS63 slab → broke it out for Auction ‘90)  
ex-Reed Hawn Collection, Stack’s, 8/28-29/1973:289 @ \$6,500 (JL grades 60++)  
ex-William Cutler Atwater Collection, B. Max Mehl, 6/11/1946 @ \$383

Photo credit: Stack’s Bowers

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-08

	
Scratch in right obverse field thru and in front of Liberty's shin	Dirt in lower (AME)R(ICA) Scratch off lower left wing
Grade: MS63	Certified: PCGS Series holder 6360.63/60162313 CAC No pedigree on label ex-NGC MS63 1716025-070 labelled " <span style="color: red;">Eliasberg/Richmond</span> "
Cross reference: RW-07	
<p><b><u>Known Pedigree Details</u></b></p> <p>ex-Heritage 2005 ANA Platinum Night 7/28/2005:10214 @ DNS  ex-First American Numismatics <i>Coin World</i> advertisement, 9/19/2005, \$105,000  ex-First American Numismatics <i>Coin World</i> advertisement, 6/27/2005, \$110,000  ex-Heritage 4/2005 Internet Auction, DNS  ex-David Lawrence Rare Coins Richmond Sale, 4/2005:1770 @ \$87,400 (NGC MS63 label with "Eliasberg/Richmond" pedigree). National Gold got it slabbed as MS63. Jim O'Donnell traded it to Richmond then to DLRC 7/2004.  ex-Bowers and Merena Eliasberg Sale 5/1997:2049 @ \$39,600  ex-Clapp Estate to Louis Eliasberg, Sr. circa 1942  ex-Chapman 5/1894 to ES Norris</p>	
Photo credit: David Lawrence Rare Coins	

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-09



	
<p>Small nick on Liberty's left neckline            Dark stain near foot            Steel gray, violet, and rose            Microscopic hairlines</p>	<p>Dark stain on UNITED            Steel gray, violet, and rose            Microscopic hairlines</p>
Grade: MS63	Certified: PCGS 6360.63/50021884 ex-PCGS MS62 (slab # unknown)
Cross reference: RW-08	
<u><b>Known Pedigree Details</b></u>	
<p>ex-Heritage U.S. Coin Signature Auction, 3/20/2014:30054 @ \$129,250 (7 bidders)            ex-Donald E. Bently Collection            ex-Jim O'Donnell?            ex-Ron Karp (PCGS MS63)?            ex-R. M. Smythe &amp; Co., NYC Summer Coin Auction<sup>1</sup>, 7/29/2002:6248 @ \$50,600            ex-R. M. Smythe &amp; Co., Nebraska Part V<sup>2</sup>, 5/3/2001:1253 @ \$41,800 (PCGS MS62)            ex-Steve Ivy Gateway Sale, 8/1976:507 @ \$8,000 (catalogued as MS65+)</p>	
Photo credit: Heritage Auctions	

Notes:

1. The lot depicted in the NYC Summer Coin Auction (Nebraska VII) is not an 1878-S but the 1871-CC a few lots earlier.
2. The Smythe auction coin was graded PCGS MS62. As of October 2013, there are no PCGS MS62 1878-S half dollars. This coin was upgraded to a PCGS MS63.





## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-10

	
<p>Bagmark on Liberty's cheek Mark in field above Liberty's toes Small rim nick at K-2</p>	<p>Diagonal white streak thru (ST)A(TES)</p>
<p>Grade: MS62</p>	<p>Certified: NGC MS62 3377927-001 holder labeled "Pioneer Boone Family Col."</p>
<p>Cross reference: RW-11</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>Known Pedigree Details</b></u></p> <p>James A. Bailey (KY Collector – moved to FL 10/2016; deceased 9/17/2019) half dollar collection. James Bailey had this coin slabbed with his collection pedigree. It now resides in the Bailey family collection. ex-Stack's 12/1985:986 @ \$12,650 (½ the half dollars in this sale were Dr. Prado's) to James Bailey ex-Dr. Jose Alvarez Prado, an ex-Puerto Rican Doctor who died in the 1970s, purchased this coin in the 1940s (James Bailey provided this info as it was given to him by Harvey Stack).</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Photo credit: James A. Bailey</p>	

### Notes:

1. This is the raw 1878-S plate coin in *The Complete Guide to Liberty Seated Half Dollars*.
2. This half dollar is featured on the cover of *Gobrecht Journal* volume 16.
3. This coin was raw until an October 2015 update from Lynn Ourso who saw and studied James A. Bailey's collection and provided me with the NGC holder information.
4. 10/21/1992. Jim Gray says Ed Leventhal was Bailey's agent. Calls Ch AU-rub + bag marks.

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-11

	
<p>Light cleaning hairlines in fields Small tick on left forearm Gash across left calf</p>	<p>Nice periheral toning</p>
<p>Grade: MS61</p>	<p>Certified: PCGS 6360.61/06995224</p>
<p>Cross reference: RW-09</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u><a href="#">Known Pedigree Details</a></u></p> <p>Bill Bugert Half Dollar Reference Collection (slabbed by Bill Bugert at the 2008 Baltimore ANA) ex-Stack's Buddy Byers Collection, 10/17/2006:1272 @ \$83,375 (raw) ex-Herb Tobias <i>Numismatic Scrapbook</i> advertisement, 1/1968, \$4,000 ex-Herb Tobias <i>Numismatic Scrapbook</i> advertisement, 1/1966, \$5,500</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Photo credit: Stack's</p>	

### Notes:

1. This 1878-S half dollar, from the Stack's sale of the Buddy Byers collection, was described in that sale's auction catalogue with a pedigree from the New Netherlands James T. Clarke Sale #47, April 1956, lot 1342. That pedigree information is not correct; this is not that same coin.

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-12



Few small field scratches new stars 10-11

Scattered dark toning

Grade: MS61

Certified: PCGS 6360.61/4641433 OGH

Cross reference: RW-10

### Known Pedigree Details

Fort Lee, NJ Collector – verified with him on 1/1/2017

ex-Heritage FUN U.S. Coin Signature Auction, 1/8/2014:5260 @ \$94,000

ex-Donald E. Bently Collection (His second coin)

ex-Larry Briggs offered in *Coin World* advertisements in 12/1996 (\$21,500) and 9/1/1997 (\$33,750)

ex-Bowers and Merena Rarities Sale 8/1996:145 @ \$24,200 (Raw MS60) (photo matched to the Bently Collection catalogue) – see below

ex-American Auction Association Stanislaw Herstal Sale 2/1974:470 @ \$6,000 (?)

ex-Leo Young 4/1961:1592 @ \$1,500

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions

Notes: Scan of color plate in the Bowers and Merena Rarities auction catalogue below:



# 1878-S Half Dollar BB-13



Broad toning @ K-4

Toning dot above A(MERICA)

Grade: BU

Certified: Raw

Cross reference: RW-14

## Known Pedigree Details

Where is this coin?

ex-Stack's Metropolitan NYC Sale, 6/1974:112 @ \$? JL says 60+.

ex-Stack's R.L. Miles, Jr. Collection Sale, 4/1969: 1391 @ \$3,200

ex-Brand Collection (formed in early 1900s, dispersed in 1940s-1950s) [per Miles catalog]

Photo credit: Scan of Stack's auction catalogue

Notes:

1. This could possibly be the Norweb coin? Photo match difficult due to poor quality catalogue image.

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-14

	
<p>Multiple digs on Liberty                  Small dig by right elbow                  Horizontal scrap between stars 10-11</p>	<p>Four black dots near and below scroll's right end</p>
<p>Grade: AU55</p>	<p>Certified: PCGS Secure 6360.55/25793690                  labelled "<b>Dr. Charles Ruby</b>"</p>
<p>Cross reference: RW-22</p>	
<p><u><b>Known Pedigree Details</b></u></p>	
<p>ex-Jim O'Donnell to Jonathan Kern to client via ICCoin                  ex-Superior L.W. Hoffecker Collection Sale 2/1987:3275 @ \$12,500 to Jim O'Donnell                  ex-Superior Dr. Charles L. Ruby Sale 2/1975:798 @ \$4,000                  ex-Stack's C.E. Gilhousen Sale 10/1973:1084 @ \$5,000</p>	
<p>Photo credit: PCGSCoinFacts</p>	

Notes:

1. Ex-XF45 raw, PCGS certified circa late 2016.

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-15

	
<p>Small nicks on Liberty's neck Dark line in front of Liberty's foot and another between stars 2-3</p>	<p>Small rim nick at K-9 Scratch below UNI(TED) to scroll Dark dot between (HAL)F D(OL) Dark toning under UNITED ST(ATES)</p>
<p>Grade: PCGS AU53</p>	<p>Certified: PCGS Secure 6360.53/37836870 labelled <span style="color: red;">"Norweb"</span></p>
<p>Cross reference: RW-18</p>	
<p><u><b>Known Pedigree Details</b></u></p>	
<p>ex-Stack's Bowers Sale of E. Horatio Morgan Collection of Half Dollars: 11/2019: 7309 @ \$50,400 ex-Bowers and Merena Norweb Sale 11/1988:3240 @ \$22,000 ex-Abe Kosoff 1953 ANA: 988 ex-T. James Clarke (Unc. duplicate)</p>	
<p>Photo credit: Stack's Bowers</p>	

# 1878-S Half Dollar BB-16

 <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com</p>	 <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com</p>
<p>Dig on Liberty's stomach Parallel digs in right field</p>	<p>Scratch thru olive leaves to H(ALF)</p>
<p>Grade: AU Details</p>	<p>Certified: PCGS 6260.92/36890677 (Genuine Secure, AU Details)</p>
<p>Cross reference: RW-</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>Known Pedigree Details</b></u></p> <p>California collector and LSCC member  ex-Heritage 2019 FUN U.S. Coins Signature Auction, 1/10/2019:4496 @ \$60,000  ex-Stack's Sale of The Pelletreau Collection of United States Coins, 3/6-7/1959:862 @ \$1250  ex-Mehl Neil Sale 1947 (per pedigree on Pelletreau Sale)  ex-Mehl Ryan Sale 1945 (per pedigree on Pelletreau Sale)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Photo credit: Heritage Auctions</p>	

Notes:

1. Is this the Stack's ANA Sale 8/1976:1292 @ \$6,800?

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-17



Bagmarks by stars 6-7  
Bagmarks on Liberty's upper left shoulder

Scratch between base of letters (UN)IT(ED)  
Two bag marks above upper arrowhead

Grade: PCGS AU55

Certified: PCGS 6360.55/25683054 (HLRC attempted upgrade)  
ex-PCGS Secure AU55: 6360.55/25238669  
ex-NCS AU details #5086049-001, improperly cleaned

Cross reference: RW-19

### Known Pedigree Details

ex-Heritage 2019 FUN U.S. Coins Signature (Big Sky Collection of Half Dollars) Auction, 1/10/2019:4497 @ \$78,000

ex-HLRC client (who owned the PCGS VF30 coin and traded it for this coin (7/2015).

ex-Harry Laibstain Rare Coins website offering (with an image of the slab with the 25238669 number) mid-July 2015 @ \$95,000. Delisted late July 2015. Note: this coin with the 25238669 slab number is not in the PCGS database as of July 14, 2015 although it plainly shows on the HLRC website. Per Harry, he submitted it to PCGS for possible upgrade - unsuccessful. Sold to HLRC client for \$88,000.

ex-Heritage U.S. Coins Signature Auction, Long Beach, CA 6/4/2015:3986 @ \$82,250 (12 bidders)

NFC Coins offering at March 2015 Baltimore bourse, \$101,000 (now PCGS AU55)

ex-Heritage 2014 US Coins Signature Auction, 8/5/2014:5585 @ \$58,750 (5 bidders)

[Certified: NCS AU details #5086049-001, improperly cleaned]

ex-ANR Frog Run Farm Collection 11/2004:1322 @ \$39,100 (Net AU50, sharpness of AU58 (NCS))



ex-Stack's 3/1987:854 @ \$14,300. Purchased by Larry Briggs/Dave Olmstead for Olmstead client.

ex-Abe Kosoff 1953 ANA (Clarke duplicate)

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions



# 1878-S Half Dollar BB-18

	
<p>Dig in field between stars 3-4          Fresh horizontal pin scratch across Liberty's midsection          Dig on Liberty's left thigh          Harshly cleaned</p>	<p>Dig on the eagle's upper left wing          Harshly cleaned</p>
<p>Grade: AU details</p>	<p>Certified: NCS 508478-074 AU Details, Improperly Cleaned labelled "<b>Jules Reiver Collection</b>"</p>
<p>Cross reference: RW-23</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>Known Pedigree Details</b></u></p> <p>ex-Heritage Jules Reiver Collection Auction, 1/26/2006:21386 @ \$58,075 to DORC for a client.          ex-B. Max Mehl Rovensky Sale 11/1954:4042 @ \$320 ? No photo in catalog but description cites a nick on the eagle's right wing. XF+, considerable proof surfaces.  <span style="float: right;">Photo credit: Heritage Auctions</span></p>	



Notes:

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-19

	
<p>Marks around Liberty's right breast and in field to right of Liberty's right arm Marks thru date</p>	<p>Marks in front of eagle's mouth Mark between right end of scroll and the eagle's neck</p>
<p>Grade: AU50</p>	<p>Certified: Raw, cleaned, and many scattered marks</p>
<p>Cross reference: RW-24</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u><a href="#">Known Pedigree Details</a></u></p> <p>ex-Image featured in an 8/18/2007 <i>Numismatic News</i> article, "1878-S Seated Liberty unexpectedly scarce"</p> <p>ex-Bowers and Merena Rarities Sale 8/1996:146 @ \$11,550. Purchased by Larry Briggs.</p> <p>ex-Heritage FPL, 12/1995, offered @ \$20,500</p> <p>ex-Duncan Lee <i>Coin World</i> ad, 10/30/1995, offered @ \$21,500</p> <p>ex-Heritage Auction 10/1995:5419 @ \$10,725, with ANACS certificate. This is Ron Hunderfund's coin.</p> <p>ex-Ron Hunderfund Collection</p> <p>ex-Stack's Bernard L. Copeland Sale, 4/1967:1024 @ \$1,850</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Photo credit: Scan of <i>Numismatic News</i> article</p>	

Notes:



## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-20

	
<p style="text-align: center;">Dark spot in Liberty's hair below her ear and another by star 8 Bagmarks on Liberty's left arm and on her stomach Harshly cleaned and retoned</p>	<p>Harshly cleaned and retoned</p>
<p>Grade: XF45</p>	<p>Certified: PCGS 6360.92/16044934, cleaned</p>
<p>Cross reference: RW-</p>	
<p><b><u>Known Pedigree Details</u></b></p>	
<p>ex-Heritage 2011 January FUN Auction, 1/6/2011:5566 @ \$46,000 ex-Kagin's Sale 1/1975:395</p>	
<p>Photo credit: Heritage Auctions</p>	



Notes:

1. Was this Swampy's (i.e., Charleton Meyer's) coin?

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-21

	
<p>Dig on left forearm Scattered marks in right field</p>	<p>Deep scratch from the eagle's head across the scroll to between (STATE)S O(F). A smaller scrape runs through the (TR)U(ST). Less-noticeable pin scratches zig-zag across (U)NITED to the nearest olive leaf tip.</p>
<p>Grade: AU details</p>	<p>Certified: PCGS "Damaged – AU Details" 6360.98/82417253 ex-NGC "AU Details, Reverse Scratched," 3804516-001</p>
<p>Cross reference: RW-?</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Known Pedigree Details</u></b></p> <p>Kedzie Koins, Chicago, 9/2019, listed on <a href="http://www.kedziekoins.net">www.kedziekoins.net</a> for \$61,000          Kedzie Koins, Chicago, 6/2019, listed on eBay for \$63,000          Kedzie Koins, Chicago, 8/20/2017, \$61,000 (<a href="http://collectorscorner.com">collectorscorner.com</a> has price @ \$63,000          ex-Heritage CSNS Signature Auction 4/26/2017:4061 @ \$43,200 (PCGS holder)          ex-Heritage Summer FUN Signature Auction 7/2016: 3871 @ \$39,950 (NGC holder)          Not previously seen.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Photo credit: Heritage Auctions</p>	

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-22

	
Diagonal dark streak on eagle's left leg	
Grade: XF40	Certified: PCGS 6360.40/06836338 ex-PCGS 6360.40/06840105 (re-slabbed circa 2009)
Cross reference: RW-17	
<p><u><a href="#">Known Pedigree Details</a></u></p> <p>GFRC Registry Set "Newtown Collection"  ex-Heritage 2018 FUN U.S. Coins Signature Auction, 1/3-8/2018:4865 @ \$63,000  ex-Heritage 2012 February Long Beach Auction, 2/2/2012:3655 @ \$86,250  ex-David Lawrence Rare Coins website, 11/22/2011, no price listed  ex-eBay listing by DLRC, 11/22/2011, Buy-it-now for \$95,300 (see above)  ex-Harry Laibstain website, 3/24/2009, offered at \$77,500  ex-Stack's Orlando sale, 1/2009:544, DNS  ex-Harry Laibstain Rare Coins <i>Coin World</i> ad, 11/24/2008, offered at \$87,500  ex-Harry Laibstain Rare Coins website, 10/23/2008, offered at \$95,000  ex-Bowers and Ruddy, 2/1977:459 @ \$7,000  ex-Lester Merkin, 6/1971:777 @ \$2,900  ex-Lester Merkin 3/1968:666 @ \$3,300  ex-Kagin's Sale #267 (Mail Bid), 11/28/1966:1845 @ \$2,600</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Photo credit: Bill Bugert files</p>	

Notes:

1. Apparently, this coin was resubmitted to PCGS in 2009 in hopes of upgrading from XF40. I studied this coin in hand and it appears to be at least an XF45 or possibly AU50 and was likely downgraded for the dark slate-gray toning and/or the planchet streak (?) on the eagle's left leg.

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-23



Spotchy toning



Twin bagmarks to left of and a single bagmark below mintmark  
Shallow "X" scratched in field between (AME)RIC(A) and the eagle's right wing

Grade: XF40

Certified: PCGS 6360.40/2763737 Series holder

Cross reference: RW-27

### Known Pedigree Details

Florida *Redbook* Collector

ex-DORC website offering 12/2014 thru 11/2015 @ \$79,500 (Ross Bailey still owner). Sold 1/2016 for \$75,000.

ex-Stack's-Bowers 2014 ANA Sale 8/6/2014:13108. Consigned by DORC. DNS

ex-DORC stock January 2014, relisted @ \$89,500. DNS

ex-Heritage FUN U.S. Coin Signature Auction, 1/8/2014:5259. DNS. Offered post-sale by Heritage as "Buy-It-Now" for \$99,875. Consigned by DORC.

ex-DORC stock 8-10/2013 (consigned by Ross Bailey), offered at \$94,500. DNS

ex-Ross Bailey Collection ("rwb" on PCGS Registry Set) – consigned to DORC

ex-Heritage Auction CSNS The Yoder Family Collection, 4/2008:2315 @ \$74,750

ex-Lowell Yoder Half Dollar Collection

ex-Lowell Yoder bought this coin from House of Stuart, Ch XF45, \$11,750 in 8/1980.

ex-House of Stuart Price list as VF-XF35, 7/1980, \$11,750

ex-Bowers and Ruddy Rare Coin Review #35, Summer 1980, offered @ \$9,950

ex-Bowers and Ruddy Special Coin Letter, 3/1980, offered @ \$12,500

ex-Bowers and Ruddy Rare Coin Review #34, Winter-Spring 1980, CH VF offered @ \$12,500

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-24

	
<p>Scattered marks</p>	<p>Scattered marks Dirt clogs upper (AMERIC)A</p>
<p>Grade: XF40</p>	<p>Certified: NGC XF40 1805111-001 ex-Hallmark VF30 slab #22144</p>
<p>Cross reference: RW-26</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u><a href="#">Known Pedigree Details</a></u></p> <p>Clarion, PA Half Dollar Collection  ex-Heritage 2004 August Pittsburgh Signature Sale, 8/19/2004:6246 @ \$34,500 to Dick Osburn for a client  ex-Jim O'Donnell <i>Gobrecht Journal</i> advertisement 11/1990 Hallmark VF30 @ \$16,250  ex-Bowers Rare Coin Review #77, Summer 1990  ex-Bowers and Merena Special Coin Letter #1090, 7/2/1990 @ \$17,500 to Jim O'Donnell 6/1990 @ \$13,500, offered for sale @ \$14,500  ex-Bowers and Merena <i>Numismatic News</i> advertisement, 5/22/1990 @ \$17,500  ex-Stack's Robison Collection Part III 12/1982:639 @ \$7,900</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Photo credit: Heritage Auctions</p>	

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-25



Lightly cleaned, bright  
Horizontal cleaning marks in right field  
Small dig by star 12



Lightly cleaned, bright  
Small digs around eagle's mouth

Grade: VF35

Certified: PCGS 6360.35/33145850 (attempted upgrade?)  
ex-PCGS 6360.35/25200301 (Steve Fischer attempted upgrade)  
ex-PCGS 6360.35/25217929 (HLRC upgrade)  
ex-PCGS 6360.30/6588585 Series holder (until early 2015)  
ex-raw VF30

Cross reference: RW-28

### Known Pedigree Details

NC Collector, Spring 2016 @ \$65,000

ex-Jim Long Numismatic News advertisement, 9/22/2015 thru 1/31/2016, @ \$65,000 (Steve's coin)

ex-Jim Long *Coin World* advertisement, 9/21/2015, @ \$65,000 (Steve's coin)

Steve Fischer dealer coin stock @ 2015 ANA 8/2015 (now in #25200301 3-prong holder) offered at \$62,000

ex-Harry Laibstain website and offering at March 2015 Portland ANA show, \$69,500, now in PCGS VF35 #25217929 holder. [Jointly offered by Harry Laibstain and Steve Fischer.] Delisted mid-July 2015

Jim Matthews, Stack's-Bowers cataloguer, showed this to me at the June 2014 Baltimore bourse saying Steve Fischer was asking \$64,000

Steve Fischer Collection (WV dealer) [PCGS 6360.30/6588585 Series holder]. Steve got it graded and slabbed.

ex-Steve Fischer purchased for \$60,000 from Reeded Edge Coins



ex-old time southern (NC/SC?) collection; circa 2010 to The Reeded Edge Coins

ex-Goldberg's Dr. Jon Kardatzke Collection (Wichita, KS), Part I, 2/6-8/2000:1119 @ \$25,300 as a raw VF30

Photo credit: HLRC website, 2-2015



# 1878-S Half Dollar BB-26

	
<p>Choice original Weak E Small dig in field to right of date Small dig above Liberty's left shoulder Fresh gash to left of cap</p>	<p>Choice original Many horizontal digs above upper left wing tip Gash thru H(ALF) and O(F) Tiny edge nick above (U)N(ITED)</p>
<p>Grade: VF30</p>	<p>Certified: PCGS 6360.30/25300190 ex-PCGS 6360.30/8318313 OGH (slab # not valid 4/2015) – Harry Laibstain attempted upgrade.</p>
<p>Cross reference: RW-29</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u><a href="#">Known Pedigree Details</a></u></p> <p>RURC client, 11/2015 ex-Rich Uhrich Rare Coins 11/2015 – Harry consigned it to Rich @ \$49,500 ex-Harry Laibstain Rare Coins website, 7-10/2015, offered at \$57,500. HLRC client traded this coin in for \$50,000 credit towards the AU55 coin later offered by Harry. ex-HLRC client ex-Harry Laibstain Rare Coins website, 5/2014, offered at \$57,500; sold to client for \$52,000. ex-Heritage CSNS Signature Auction, 4/23/2014: 5603 @ \$49,937.50 (6 bidders) to HLRC ex-Donald E. Bently Collection ex-Teletrade Auction 9/1/1993:492 @ \$12,000 ex-Kagin 1993 ANA Auction? ex-Winthrop Carner <i>Coin World</i> ad, 3/29/1993 offered @ \$12,000 ex-Jim McGuigan <i>Coin World</i> ad, 3/29/1993 offered @ \$12,500 ex-James E. Long inventory, 3/29/1993 offered @ \$11,500 (see note 1) (to Tony Terranova to Kagin's?) ex-Larry Briggs <i>Gobrecht Journal</i> advertisement 11/1990 PCGS VF30 @ \$15,000, traded to Jim Long. ex-Larry Briggs, 11/1989 ex-Stack's Southern Gentleman's Collection Auction 6/1989:1876 @ \$10,450</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Photo credit: Heritage Auctions</p>	

Notes:

1. Jim Long offered me this coin at the Fall 1993 Vienna, VA coin show for \$10,500. He was willing to trade anything of value for it including my WV land. I regrettably declined thinking the price was too high.
2. This coin has a small edge nick above the (U)N(ITED) in the 6/1989 Stack's auction catalog. It is not visible in the later PCGS slab images nor do I remember it when I inspected it in 1993.

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-27



Weak (LIB)E(RTY)  
 Black residue in lower loop of first 8  
 Dark spot along dentils above head  
 2 small scrapes in field by elbow

Two dark splotches above D(OL)  
 Small nick below tip of branch

Grade: F12

Certified: PCGS 6360.12/9502333

Cross reference: RW-32

### Known Pedigree Details

California Collection

ex-Dick Osburn for a client, 1/2000 @ \$24,500

ex-Jim O'Donnell

ex-DORC *Coin World* advertisement 9/13/1999 @ \$24,500

ex-Dick Osburn circa 7/1999 (from his personal collection after he purchased an MS coin)

ex-Superior Premier Sale 1/1995:830 @ \$7,810

ex-Larry Briggs *Coin World* advertisement, 7/5/1993 @ #10,500

ex-Brian Greer, 1/1993 @ \$9,700

ex-Alpine Fixed Price List 5/1992 @ \$10,750 (Slabbed by Alpine)

ex-Bowers & Merena Brilliant/Sieck Collections FUN 1/1995:1231 @ \$5,775 (with ANACS certificate)

ex-RARCO 8/1970:1094 @ \$850

Photo credit: Scan from BM 1/1992 catalogue

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-28



Rough black splotches thru shield and Liberty's left ribs

Dark roughness near olive leaves and upper arrowhead

Grade: F15

Certified: PCGS Series holder 6360.15/21525445

Cross reference: RW-33

### Known Pedigree Details

ex-Stack's Bowers October 2018 Baltimore Sale, Session 3-Rarities Night, 10/25/2018:  
2080 @ \$42,000

ex-Park Avenue Numismatics, 6/2018 @ \$59,500 – offered for \$55,00 at the 2018 ANA bourse

June 12, 2018 – Long Beach show vendor (Park Avenue?) offered it to Rich Uhrich at \$55,000

ex-Heritage Long Beach Signature Auction 9/25-28/2013: 6444 @ \$47,000

ex-The Strawberry Fields Collection

ex-Dick Osburn Rare Coins, 3/2004 @ \$33,500

ex-Jonathan Kern *Coin World* ad (as "F12, lt. planchet defect Obv. Shield"), 10/9/1985 @ \$6,750

ex-Stack's Slawson Sale 4/1970:1195 @ \$550

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions

### Notes:

- Jonathan Kern's 1878-S showed up in collection handled by L. Briggs at 2004 FUN show. Larry Briggs sold the collection to Jim O'Donnell for \$52,000 at March [2004] Baltimore show. Jim slabbed the 1878-S as P15/21525445, asking \$25,500. Osburn bought entire set for \$61,000, kept about 20 coins for his price list, and sold rest to internet dealer, asking \$33,500 [for this coin] in web list. [4/06/2004]

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-29



Scrapes along the rim from K-9 to K-12

Grade: F15

Certified: PCGS Series 6360.15/21431760

Cross reference: RW-31

### Known Pedigree Details


ex-Stack's Bowers August 2012 Philadelphia ANA Sale, 8/10/2012: 11456 DNS  
 ex-David Lawrence Rare Coins website 1/2012, minimum bid \$57,230  
 ex-eBay offering by David Lawrence Rare Coins, 12/10-22/2011, Buy-it-now for \$66,400  
 ex-eBay offering by Robert L. Hughes (as "neyronix"), 11/24/2011, Buy-it-now for \$72,500  
 ex-Robert L. Hughes Enterprises *Coin World* ad, 9/12/2011, \$72,500  
 ex-Stack's Bowers August 2011 Chicago ANA sale, 8/18/2011: 7376 @ \$51,750  
 ex-Dick Osburn stock 8/2008 thru at least 2/2009, offered at \$67,500  
 ex-Mike Hanford, Pennsylvania Half Dollar Collector  
 ex-Jim O'Donnell (had this coin PCGS certified)  
 ex-Randy Wiley 8/22/1996 @ \$8,500 to Jim O'Donnell  
 ex-Floyd Farley Half Dollar Collection  
 ex-Ross 3/1967

Photo credit: Stack's Bowers

### Notes:

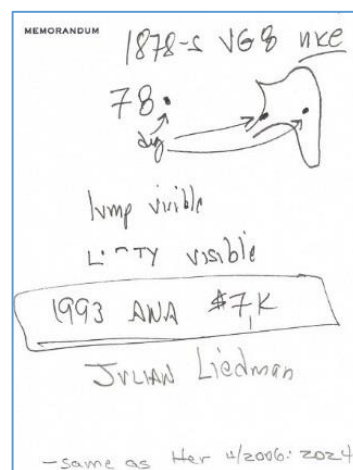
1. Randy Wiley offered me this coin for \$8,500 on August 22, 1996; I declined it because I did not like the reverse file marks on the rim. I studied this coin raw. I made and have a foil impression of this coin.
2. Bugert notes: reeds 147, diameter = 1.208", date grid M4.5, .028"

# 1878-S Half Dollar BB-30

	
<p>Small nick to right of date Small nick in field to right of stars 1-2</p>	<p>Two small nicks on eagle's right wing Scattered marks around mintmark Dark splotch on olive leaf stem</p>
<p>Grade: VG08</p>	<p>Certified: PCGS 6360.08/4765320 OGH CAC</p>
<p>Cross reference: RW-38</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Known Pedigree Details</u></b></p> <p>ex-Heritage 2008 FUN Signature Auction 1/10/2008:2888 @ \$40,250  ex-Heritage Steve Glenn Collection 2006 CSNS Signature Auction, 4/26/2006:2024 @ \$37,375 from Steve Glenn Collection  ex-Julian Leidman <i>Numismatic News</i> advertisement, 2/22/1994 @ \$7,500. JL sold it to another dealer then to a collector.  ex-Julian Leidman <i>Numismatic News</i> advertisement, 2/1/1994 @ \$7,500  ex-Julian Leidman dealer stock, 1993 ANA @ \$7,000 (raw?)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Photo credit: Heritage Auctions</p>	

Note:

1. I saw this coin in Julian Leidman's stock at the 1993 ANA; took notes and hand drawing of nicks (see scan at right). Julian offered it to me for \$7,000.



## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-31



Rough rim at K-4 by foot  
Old light vertical scratch in right field

Grade: VG10

Certified: PCGS 6360.10/06749322

ex-ANACS VG10 small white holder #1014592

Cross reference: RW-35

### Known Pedigree Details

Indiana collection, late April 2015 @ \$43,000

ex-RURC website listed at \$50,000 (4/6/2015) to a client



ex-Rich Uhrich personal collection until listed above (Rich purchased it in the ANACS holder and crossed it to PCGS in 2014)

ex-H. Edwards Rare Coins in ANACS holder, circa 1995 @ \$8,000 to Rich Uhrich

ex-Jim O'Donnell, 6/1992 @ \$7,750 (per Randy Wiley)

Photo credit: Bill Bugert freehand photos

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-32

	
<p>Dig in dentils by stars 5-6 and in field above Liberty's left shoulder</p>	<p>Dirt around eagle's head and in upper left wing feathers</p>
<p>Grade: VG08</p>	<p>Raw</p>
<p>Cross reference: RW-42</p>	
<p><u><a href="#">Known Pedigree Details</a></u></p>	
<p>Maryland Collection  ex-Randy Wiley  ex-Roy Pohler  ex-Bill Grayson  ex-Stack's 2/1976:785 @ \$1,600. Catalogued as "Good. Date and mintmark clear. Rare." No plate for this coin in the auction catalogue.</p>	
<p>Photo credit: Bill Bugert</p>	

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-33



Weak rims  
(Note: light spots on rim are not dings but photography glare.)

Dark streak at left wing to scroll  
Weak rims above AMERICA  
AG reverse

Grade: VG08

Certified: PCGS 6360.08/33396130 CAC

Cross reference: RW-44

### Known Pedigree Details

NY collector and LSCC member at \$35,500

ex-HLRC 1/2019 @ \$37,500

ex-West Coast Coins, 2018 ANA, sold it to a private collector, \$34,000

ex-Ed Hammond JKC Coins (Austin, TX) Dalton, GA show bourse, 4/21/2017 @ \$37,500  
(in PCGS holder)

ex-Ed Hammond's cousin, Jimmy Clark, Columbia TN, had it in a Whitman holder and submitted it to PCGS

ex-Harry Smith client

ex-Harry Smith in a 1991/1992 private purchase from Dave Lange @ \$5,000 (raw)

ex-David Lange Collection

ex-Kurt Krueger 1984 ANA Sale, 7/1984:1860 @ \$4,510

ex-Kurt Krueger 1984 FUN Sale, 1/1984:2269 @ \$3,740, DNS (bought back)



Photo credit: PCGSCoinFacts

### Notes:

1. See Dave Lange's *Gobrecht Journal* article Collective Volume II, page 293, March 1983.
2. Ex-G4 raw, PCGS certified VG8 circa late 2016.
3. I saw this coin at the LSCC's 2018 SeatedFest II in Baltimore.
4. May 2020 – David Sunshine posted on Facebook that he handled this coin, no other details available.



## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-34

	
<p>Two small hits in the field to the left of the date</p>	<p>Scratch thru mintmark Weak rims above UNIT(ED) and AMERICA Gouge between the right wing and CA</p>
<p>Grade: VG08</p>	<p>Certified: NGC VG8 #1828003-002 ex-NGC G6 1301001-001</p>
<p>Cross reference: RW-39</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>Known Pedigree Details</b></u></p> <p>To Jim McGuigan for a client ex-Heritage Pittsburgh Signature Sale 8/2004:6245 @ \$23,000 (as NGC VG8) ex-The Paulsboro Collection, Part III ex-Bowers and Merena Lucien M. LaRiviere Part III 5/2001:1507 @ \$12,650 (as NGC G6) ex-Tangible Assets/Superior/Keystone <i>Coin World</i> advertisement, 9/10/2001 @ \$18,000</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Photo credit: Heritage Auctions</p>	

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-35





<p>Small dig in dentils above Liberty's head<sup>1</sup>          Scratch between stars 10-11          Scratch on left forearm</p>	<p>Rim weakness at K-4          Roughness thru (ST)A(TES)?</p>
<p>Grade: G06</p>	<p>Raw</p>
<p>Cross reference: RW-</p>	
<p><u><a href="#">Known Pedigree Details</a></u></p> <p>Whitman bookshelf half dollar collection<sup>2</sup> (as of 3/2018); purchased from Jim O'Donnell at the 1989 Pittsburgh pre-ANA @ \$6,500          ex-Superior Casterline, Hall, and Mathews Collections, 5/1989: 2919 @ \$5,775 to Jim O'Donnell</p>	
<p>Photo credit: Scan from Superior auction catalogue</p>	



Notes:

1. The obverse dig above Liberty's head is mentioned in the Superior 5/1989 auction lot description.
2. Per email to me (3/2018): "I still own the coin. It's still raw and is housed in a Whitman Bookshelf album and is part of my collection of seated halves. I agree that it's a choice G-6. I can't provide additional photos but can assure you that its surfaces and color have not changed over the years. I distinctly remember buying it from Jim O'Donnell at the pre-ANA (not the ANA) in Pittsburgh in 1989. I didn't know where he had obtained it but now, I know. Jim O'Donnell had three 1878-S halves available at the time. One was a MS63 and way out of reach. The other was a low-grade love token as I recall with no reverse and an attribution based on the obverse die. (Is that even possible?) It was a real stretch for me to buy it at the time and Jim O'Donnell took my postdated check. When I got back home, I had to hustle to cover the check, but I'm glad I was able to add it the collection."

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-36

	
<p>Nicks on Liberty's left arm, right obverse field, star 13, and on left breast</p>	<p>Planchet flaw at the tips of the upper left leaves on the reverse just below the end of the eagle's left wingtip</p>
<p>Grade: VG08</p>	<p>Certified: PCGS 6360.08/25574701 ex-NGC VG8 #1871926-001 (NGC # still valid as of 4/2015)</p>
<p>Cross reference: RW-40</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Known Pedigree Details</u></b></p> <p>Pennsylvania Collection, April 2011 @ \$41,000 (crossed to PCGS 6/18/2011 by Rich Uhrich)  ex-Rich Uhrich, 4/1/2011 @ \$38,000  ex-Duncan Lee, 4/1/2011 @ \$36,000  ex-Heritage Auctions 2011 FUN, 1/6/2011:5567 @ \$32,200  ex-Heritage 2010 ANA 8/2010:3165 @ \$31,050  ex-Heritage 2010 CSNS Platinum Sale, 4/28/2010:2128, DNS. Offered on “buy-it-now” @ \$39,500  ex-DORC website 6/18/2009, NGC VG8, asking \$47,500.  ex-David Lawrence Rare Coins fixed price list 5/21/2009 @ \$39,500  ex-David Lawrence Rare Coins auction #372 5/2009:816, DNS  ex-Dick Osburn Rare Coin website 5/2009 @ \$39,500 to Harry Criswell (a PA collector)  ex-American Numismatic Rarities Old West and Franklinton Collections 8/2006:642 @ \$34,500 to Dick Osburn</p>	
<p style="text-align: right;">Photo credit: Heritage Auctions</p>	



## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-37

	
<p>Dig in rock support below the shield Dig in field above Liberty's left shoulder Scratch in right field in front of Liberty's knee</p>	<p>Reengraved detail on the olive branch, the eagle's left leg, shield, and right wing Smoothed field near the eagle's head and left scroll end</p>
<p>Grade: VF30</p>	<p>Certified: NGC VF Details, #4885008-002, Engraved, Repaired ex-ANACS small holder #2947926, Reverse Reengraved, Repaired-Cleaned</p> <div data-bbox="1032 1014 1364 1121" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> <p>VF 30 DETAILS 1878-S 50C 2947926 REVERSE REENGRAVED REPAIRED-CLEANED</p> </div>
<p>Cross reference: RW-30</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u><a href="#">Known Pedigree Details</a></u></p> <p>ex-Heritage Long Beach US Coins Signature Auction, 9/2019:4763: @ \$24,000 (now in NGC holder) ex-Poulos Family Collection, Part II (per Heritage 9/2019 lot pedigree)) ex-Heritage 2007 Charlotte ANA Money Show 3/15/2007:823 @ \$37,375 (<del>Robert Korver</del>) ex-The Reginald Byron Mason Half Dollar Collection ex-Sold to Reg Mason, Oklahoma City, OK on 11/1998 via Larry Briggs, Silverton, and Jerry Brown for \$9,250 [per Jim O'Donnell- appeared tooled on reverse.] ex-Stack's Empire Sale 11/15/1957:1469 @ \$360 to Abner Kreisberg? Plate shows pre-repaired coin. ex-Stack's Anderson DuPont Collection 11/54:2214 @ \$350 (plate pre-repair)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Photo credit: Heritage Auctions</p>	

Notes:

1. Could this be the Cox XF?

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-38

	
Digs thru stars 2-5 and in left field	Small rim ding at K-12 Scratches above and thru the left edge of the motto
Grade: VG08	Certified: NGC VG8 #2692555-001 ex-PCGS Genuine, Tooled – G Details, 6360.98/25630741 ex-PCGS 6360.92/06759967 VG details ex-SEGS 630101101400204311 VG8 Scratches
Cross reference: RW-43	
<p><b><u>Known Pedigree Details</u></b></p> <p>West Coast Coins, 12/2018-6/2019, listed on eBay at \$44,975                  West Coast Coins, CPG Market Review, Oct-Dec 2018 advertisement offered at \$46,500                  ex-eBay, West Coast Coins, 6/2017, Buy-It-Now for \$49,500, DNS                  ex-West Coast Coins (Revick Galstaun) offering at 2016 ANA for \$45,000 (his website says \$47,500 as of 11/11/2016)                  ex-John Schuck coin stock, Baltimore July 2016, now in NGC VG8 holder for \$35,000 (dealer price)                  ex-Stack's Bowers March 2016 Baltimore Sale, Session 4, 3/2016:13083 DNS (reserve \$24,000) (in PCGS G details Tooled holder)                  ex-Jerry Priemo collection, seen at the 3/2014 Baltimore Show in a complete DANSCO set of mostly low-grade problem Liberty Seated half dollars.                  ex-John Schuck, CA coin dealer. Sold to CA collector Jerry Priemo for \$35,000 (circa early 3/2014).                  ex-Jim Carr coin stock seen at 11/2013 Baltimore Show, listed for \$31,000 for a client who also has a PCGS F15 1878-S half dollar. Sold to dealer John Schuck at the 2/2014 Long Beach coin show for \$30,000.                  ex-Dick Osburn Rare Coins inventory, 6/2009 @ \$39,500                  ex-Stack's Bowers J.A. Sherman and Roraima Shield Collections, 8/5/2007: 708 DNS                  ex-Dick Osburn Rare Coins website 11/2006 @ \$39,500                  ex-Larry Briggs sale to Harry E. Smith (\$6,750) to Dick Osburn (low-\$30,000) [per Harry, 3/2019]</p>	
Photo credit: Bill Bugert, freehand at 6/2009 Baltimore Show	

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-39



Marks near stars 4-5

Weak rims

Grade: G04

Certified: PCGS 6360.04/21168033

Cross reference: RW-

### Known Pedigree Details

ex-DORC website listed 5/2007 at \$49,500

ex-DORC client purchase (consigned back to DORC in 2007)

ex-DORC website listed 3/2004 at \$19,500

ex-Eggiman to DORC 12/2003 at \$17,00 (per Randy Wiley)

ex-Stack's Vanberg Collection Sale, 12/2002: 419 @ \$13,225

Photo credit: Scan of Stack's auction catalogue

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-40



Small dig in field in front of Liberty's right knee

Two black dots at the right base of the eagle's neck

Grade: AG03

Certified: PCGS 6360.03/07014273

Cross reference: RW-47

### Known Pedigree Details

ex-Heritage Long Beach US Coins Signature Auction, 9/2019:4762: @ \$21,600  
 ex-Jason Carter Numismatics (per Brian Greer, 3/1/2019 at Baltimore)  
 ex-Brian Greer  
 ex-Eagle Eye Rare Coins, Laurel, MD  
 ex-Heritage 2011 Pittsburgh Signature Auction, 10/13/2011 @ \$28,750  
 ex-Dick Osburn Rare Coins stock, 8/2008, offered at \$39,500  
 ex-DORC *Coin World* advertisement, 4/24/2006 @ \$24,500. Sold 4/19/2004 @ \$24,500  
 ex-Russell Prinzing Collection (consigned to DORC in 2004)  
 ex-Stack's Metropolitan NY Sale 6/1974:186 @ \$625

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions

# 1878-S Half Dollar BB-41



Ancient scattered scratches	Well worn Roughness below the eagle's chin
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Grade: AG03	Certified: PCGS 6360.03/32243343 CAC Secure 30 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary holder <sup>1</sup>
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Cross reference: RW-

### Known Pedigree Details

Dennis Fortier Half Dollar Collection  
 ex-Heritage Long Beach Expo U.S. Coins Signature Auction 2/22/2018:3910 @ \$24,000  
 ex-PCGS Registry Set Chris (and son, Jacob) "Merrill Collection" (2017)  
 ex-Chris Merrill (Texas half dollar collector – January 2017)  
 ex-Heritage 2016 Spring ANA Sale 3/3-6/2016:4906 @ \$19,975



Photo credit: PCGSCoinFacts

#### Notes:

1. I had not seen this coin before the Heritage 2016 Spring ANA auction.
2. Dennis submitted this coin for a successful CAC sticker in February 2019.



# 1878-S Half Dollar BB-42

	
<p>Weak rims</p>	<p>Well worn Pin scratch from wing at K-3</p>
<p>Grade: AG03</p>	<p>Certified: PCGS Secure 6360.03/38335878 CAC</p>
<p>Cross reference: RW-</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Known Pedigree Details</u></p> <p>Coast to Coast Coins advertisement, 1/15/2020 @ \$29,995</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Photo credit: Coast to Coast Coins</p>	

**Notes:**

1. I had not seen this coin before this advertisement.



## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-43

	
<p>Rough surfaces Small digs by star 9 Graffiti in right field</p>	<p>Rough surfaces Small dig under eagle's beak</p>
<p>Grade: VG Details - Graffiti</p>	<p>Certified: PCGS Genuine 6360.98/ 38606555</p>
<p>Cross reference: RW-</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>Known Pedigree Details</b></u></p> <p>ex-Stack's Bowers March 2020 Baltimore Rarities Sale, 3/2020: 3166 @ \$19,200 ex-E. Horatio Morgan Collection</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Photo credit: Stack's Bowers</p>	

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-44



Edge bruise at K-11:30  
 Dig in field by left forearm  
 Small dig in drapery below elbow  
 Digs in front of Liberty's nose and chin  
 3 small digs to left of date

Many scattered digs and scratches: notably,  
 below (AME)R(ICA), below (TR)U(ST),  
 and below (ST)A(TE)S  
 Scratch thru Eagle's neck

Grade: VG cleaned

Certified: NGC VG details #3892414-001, improperly cleaned  
 ex-ANACS Fair-2, small white holder

Cross reference: RW-

### Known Pedigree Details

Lano Balulescu, seen at the Greater Worcester Coin Show in Auburn MA (2/8/2020)  
 ex-Great Collections auction, 1/26/2020: 793635 @ \$17,437.50  
 ex-NJ collector and LSCC member, per conversations with him on multiple occasions  
 ex-circa 1993, the NJ collector purchased this (and many other rare coins over a 5-year period)  
 from a local Cherry Hill, NJ woman who made sandwiches. Her husband purchased this  
 coin in the 1960s over the counter from Stack's NYC. She inherited this and many other  
 coins when her husband died; she did not know he had them – they were stored in their  
 basement. Supposedly, this coin has not been in a public auction.

Photo credit: NJ Collector



## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-46



Heavily worn  
Dig in field near star 3  
Scattered black splotches  
Harshly cleaned surfaces

Heavily worn  
Dig at tip of arrowhead 3  
Scattered black splotches  
Harshly cleaned surfaces

Grade: Good minus

Certified: PCGS 6360.92 Genuine

Cross reference: RW-

### Known Pedigree Details

ex-Stack's Bowers Baltimore Sale 11/06/2010:2027 @ \$12,765.

Photo credit: Stack's Bowers

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-47



Heavily worn  
Horizontal scratches at K-3

Heavily worn  
Dig near rim below (D)OL

Grade: FR02

Certified: PCGS 6360.02/25335355  
ex-ANACS photo certificate

Cross reference: RW-

### Known Pedigree Details

Florida Collection, Aug 2014 ANA purchase, \$14,500.

ex-Stack's Bowers iAuction 3490, 7/20/2014:20301 @ DNS (\$15,750 reserve).

Featured in a *Coin World* article with images, 6/30/2014, page 5.

ex-Stack's Bowers Baltimore Sale, 6/27/2014:1453 @ DNS (\$15,000 reserve).

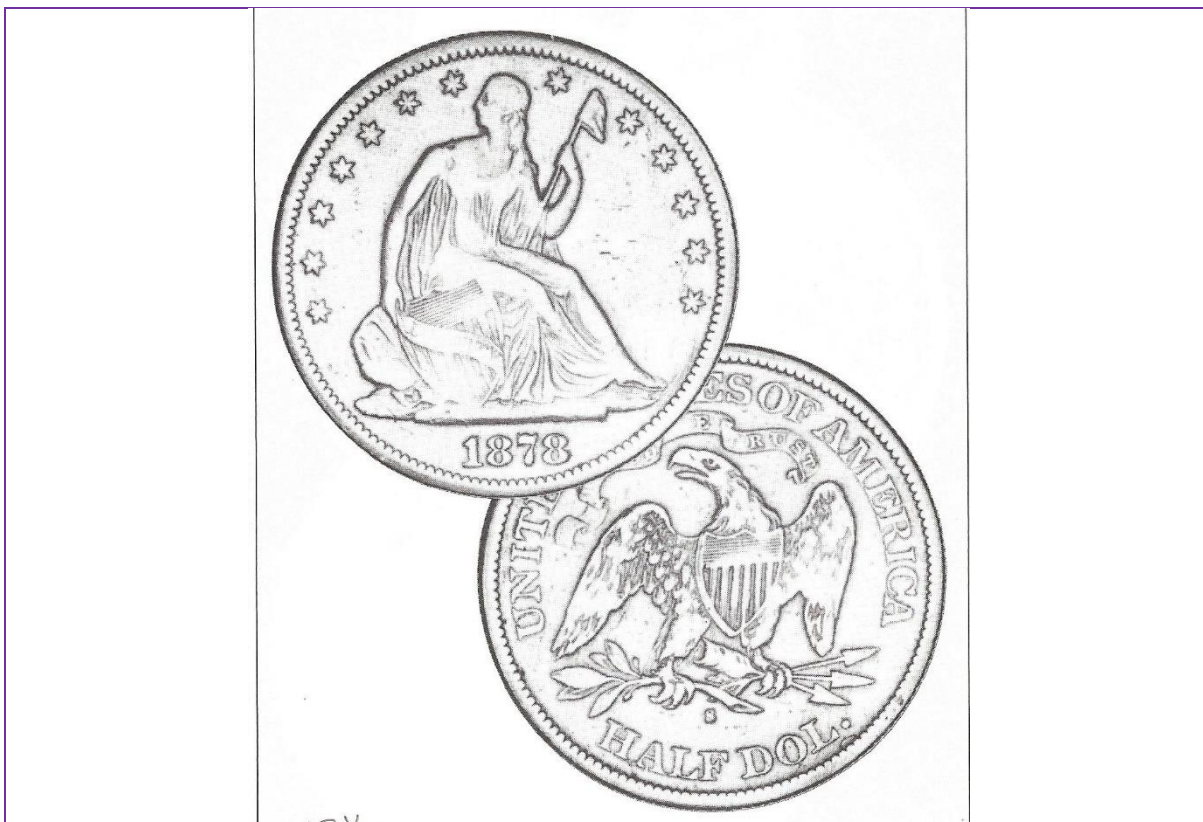
ex-Unknown owner(s).

ex-Brian Greer who gives this account of the pedigree of this half dollar (at Baltimore, June 27, 2014):

In 1993/4, while visiting Jason Carter, he stopped at a Ponca City, OK jewelry shop that advertised coins. The shop had sets of Liberty Seated coins and Brian purchased this coin along with an 1870-CC dollar. This coin had an ANACS certificate and his cost was \$3,000. Brian sold it sight unseen to Oregon dealer George Eggiman for \$3,400 who sold it to a West Coast (SF Bay area?) collector who was hoarding 1878-S half dollars. Brian said this coin previously belonged to an investment banker who purchased it at auction.

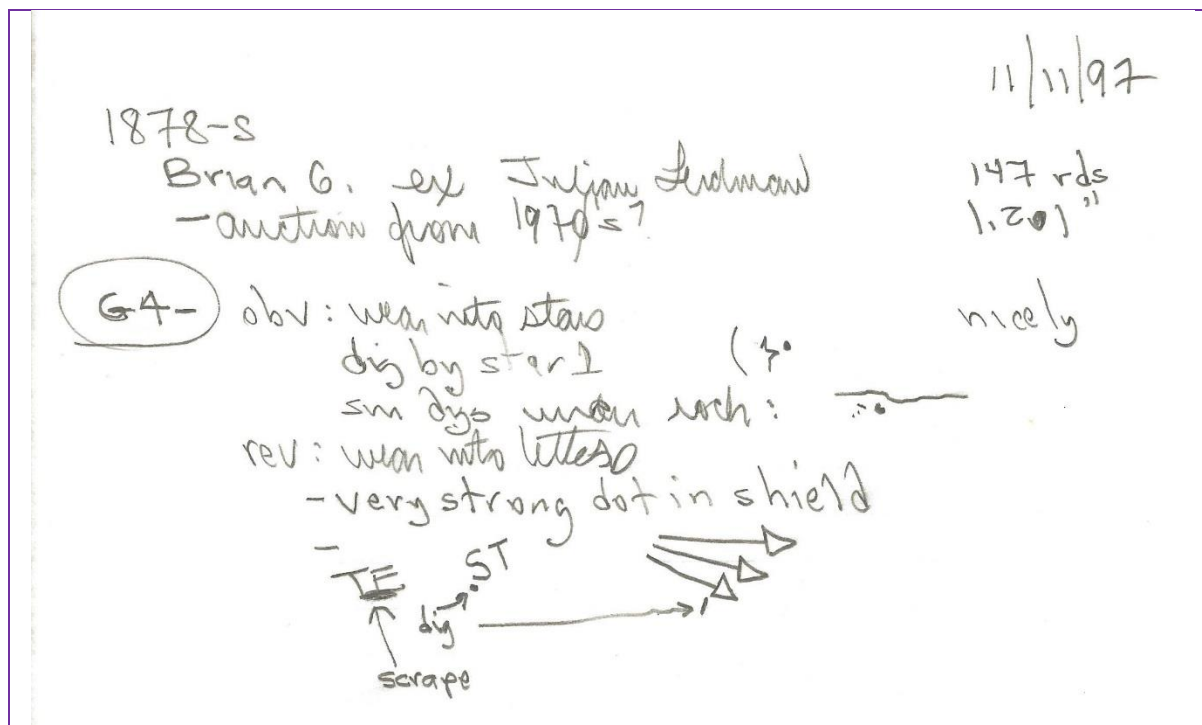
Photo credit: Stack's Bowers

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-48



Polished Hits in right field and near stars 9-10 and 12-13	Polished Scattered dark spots
Grade: VG08	Certified: Raw
Cross reference: RW-	
<p><b><u>Known Pedigree Details</u></b></p> <p>ex-Bowers and Merena Commodore Matthew C. Perry Sale 1/1995:1106 @ \$6,325. The lot description says, "From the holdings of an old-time western dealer, now retired."                  ex-Bowers and Merena Salisbury Sale 9/1994:1228 @ \$6,600</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Photo credit: Scan of B&amp;M 1/1995 Auction lot listing</p>	

# 1878-S Half Dollar BB-49



<p>Dig by star 1 Small digs under left side of rock support</p>	<p>Scrape under (UNI)TE(D) Dig by lower left base of S(TATES) Small dig below lower arrowhead</p>
<p>Grade: G4-</p>	<p>Certified: Raw, then TPG graded as bent and straightened (Fair-2?)<sup>1</sup></p>

Cross reference: RW-

### Known Pedigree Details

Where is this coin?

ex-Larry Briggs *Coin World* ad, 2/1998 @ \$9,250, Good minus but bent

ex-Brian Greer, 12/1997 (submitted it for grading - Fr02 uneven wear – **bent and straightened**) to Larry Briggs

ex-Julian Leidman 11/1997 (I took notes on this coin – see above) @ \$5,000 to Brian Greer

ex-Auction from the 1970's (per Julian Leidman)


Photo credit: Bill Bugert notes

Notes:

1. TPG grader and grade unknown to me – possibly NGC Fr02 629300-001.




## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-50

 <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 10px;">Lot 585</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid green; border-radius: 50%; width: 80%; margin: 0 auto; padding: 20px;"> <p style="font-size: 1.2em;">Image not available</p> </div>
Weak rims Small mark on Liberty's right shoulder Black dot on rim at K-5 (only in photo?)	
Grade: G4	Certified: Raw
Cross reference: RW-46	
<p style="color: purple; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;"><u>Known Pedigree Details</u></p> <p style="margin-top: 20px;">Where is this coin?</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">ex-Robert L. Hughes Phillip Warner Sale, 1/1980:585 @ \$3,200</p> <p style="text-align: right; margin-top: 5px;">Photo credit: Scan of auction catalogue</p>	

Notes: No image of the reverse.

## 1878-S Half Dollar BB-51

	
<p>Scratch at lower left rock to rim Scratch thru second 8</p>	<p><b>Love Token</b></p>
<p>Grade: F/VF details</p>	<p>Certified: ANACS papers</p>
<p>Cross reference: RW-</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>Known Pedigree Details</b></u></p> <p>Stanford, CT collector (died circa 2004 per Larry Briggs [10/2014 at the Fall PAN Show]) ex-Larry Briggs Rare Coins, <i>Gobrecht Journal</i> Issue #44, 3/1989, advertisement, \$1,500. “OBV F/VF, REV Love Token, attributed by date position and edge reeding.” Attribution letter by Randy Wiley, 147 reeds. ex-Jim O’Donnell at the 1989 pre-ANA show in Pittsburgh</p>	
<p style="text-align: right;">Photo credit: Bill Bugert</p>	



# 1878-S Half Dollar Background Information

**When were the 1878-S Half Dollars Minted?** According to records found on the Newman Numismatic Portal as shown below, the 12,000 1878-S half dollars were minted on a single day, February 27, 1878.

*San Francisco, Cal.,* *February 1878.*

DATE	SILVER.				TOTAL SILVER.	TOTAL GOLD AND SILVER.
	TRADE DOLLARS.	HALF DOLLARS.	QUARTER DOLLARS.	DIMES.		
1 <sup>st</sup>	60,000				60,000	60,000
2 <sup>nd</sup>	58,000				58,000	58,000
4 <sup>th</sup>	70,000				70,000	70,000
5 <sup>th</sup>	75,000				75,000	285,000
6 <sup>th</sup>	90,000				90,000	130,000
7 <sup>th</sup>	54,000				54,000	374,000
8 <sup>th</sup>	85,000				85,000	385,000
9 <sup>th</sup>	85,000				85,000	85,000
11 <sup>th</sup>	33,000				33,000	33,000
12 <sup>th</sup>	50,000				50,000	50,000
13 <sup>th</sup>	36,000				36,000	376,000
14 <sup>th</sup>	110,000				110,000	410,000
15 <sup>th</sup>	124,000 <sup>+</sup>				124,000 <sup>+</sup>	124,000 <sup>-</sup>
16 <sup>th</sup>						
18 <sup>th</sup>	76,000				76,000	76,000
19 <sup>th</sup>	50,000		15,000		65,000	465,000
20 <sup>th</sup>	34,000 <sup>+</sup>		20,000		54,000 <sup>+</sup>	654,000
21 <sup>st</sup>	68,000 <sup>+</sup>				68,000 <sup>+</sup>	268,000
23 <sup>rd</sup>	132,000				132,000	492,000
25 <sup>th</sup>	54,000				54,000	784,000
26 <sup>th</sup>						440,000
27 <sup>th</sup>	56,000	6,000			56,000	556,000
28 <sup>th</sup>	38,000				38,000	1058,000

6000      35

**Reverse die chip.** Julian Leidman stated<sup>2</sup> that he and Joe Flynn discovered the reverse die chip characteristic in the early 1970s. I can find no earlier reference to refute this.

Jim O'Donnell claims to have handled 18 different 1878-S half dollars in last 5½ years (undated but circa 1990).

<sup>2</sup> Private conversation with Julian Leidman and Dennis Fortier on March 23, 2018 at the Whitman Baltimore Spring 2018 Coin Expo.

# Abbreviations

ANA	American Numismatic Association
ANACS	American Numismatic Association Certification Service
ANR	American Numismatic Rarities
BB	Bill Bugert
CAC	Certified Acceptance Corporation
CSNS	Central States Numismatic Society
D	TPG Details Holder
DNS	Did Not Sell
DORC	Dick Osburn Rare Coins
FPL	Fixed Price List
FUN	Florida United Numismatists
HLRC	Harry Laibstain Rare Coins
JL	Julian Leidman
LSCC	Liberty Seated Collectors Club
NCS	Numismatic Conservation Service
NGC	Numismatic Guaranty Corporation
NK	Slab number not known
O'D	Jim O'Donnell
OGH	(PCGS) Old Green Holder
PCGS	Professional Coin Grading Service
RARCOA	Rare Coin Company of America
RW	Randy Wiley
S	Mintmark of the San Francisco Branch Mint
SEGS	Sovereign Entities Grading Service
TPG	Third Party Grade(r)(d)

# Recognitions

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