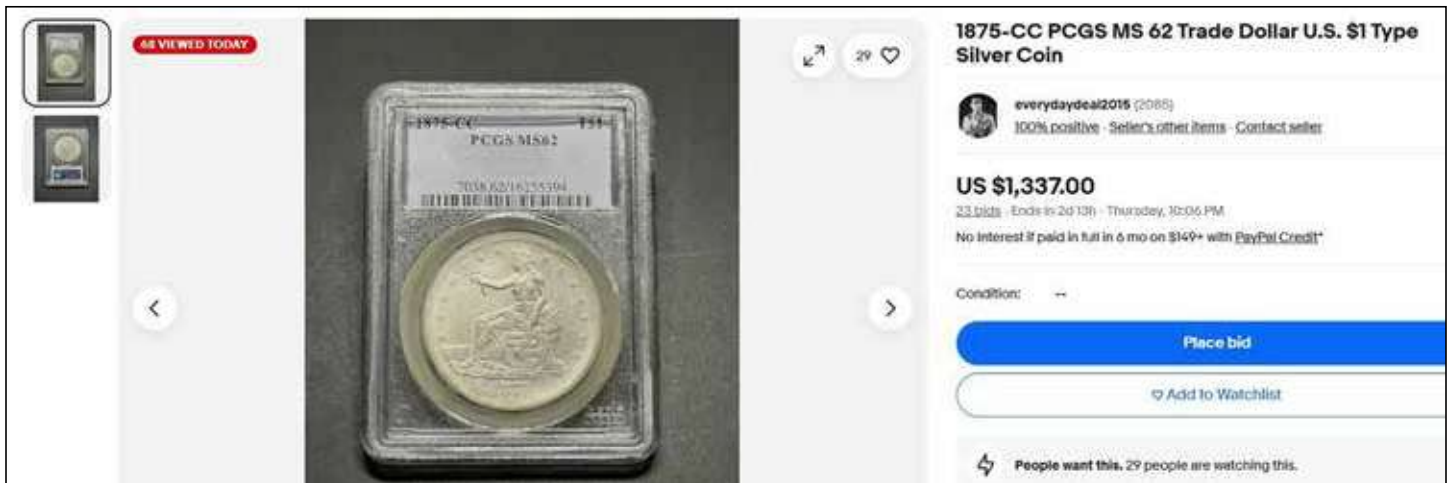


An Update on A Family of Counterfeit “Notched R” Trade Dollars

By Jack D. Young

Dumpster diving on the “Bay” (ebay.com) recently turned up an interesting “PCGS” Trade Dollar for sale.



Images weren't great but the reverse had the look of one I wrote about in the Summer 2025 Gobrecht Journal (#153) article on counterfeits, which I nicknamed the “notched R” Trade \$’s:



Author's Example of the “Notched R” family of Trade Dollars

Checking the on-line PCGS site for the cert # on the label was no help, as there were no images or auction records available there.



Screen-shot from the PCGS site for the claimed cert #

So I asked the seller for a better reverse image and that sealed the deal- a definite counterfeit coin! Image shows a known counterfeit 1874-CC, my 1875-CC and the subject example reverses:



3 fakes and their reverses!

Note, the subject example is an 1875-CC like mine from the article, which does not attribute as a genuine variety in any of my references. It has the notched “R” feature and a die break at the “F” in OF like most examples seen. I did note there are examples without the die break, so there appear to be different die states of the common reverse die.

And a full image of the reverse and matching attribution marks follows:



Subject reverse and matching attribution marks

Not an expert on PCGS slabs, my go to guy on them responded that it was fake as well. I did note scanning the label barcode came up “no barcode found”, another good clue...

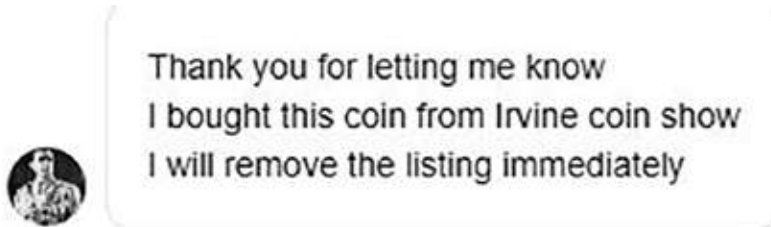


To my eye, surfaces look odd for an MS!



Images posted in the Bay listing

I notified eBay as well as my contact at PCGS while the bids keep climbing past \$1,600.00 with two days left, but the seller actually ended the auction after a couple of messages between us:



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