

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

Introduction

Inextricably entwined with the 1876 Centennial and, thus, popular as topics for Centennial medals are the events of 1775 and 1776 surrounding the American Revolution and culminating in the Declaration of Independence on July 4th, 1776.

History is a slippery thing. Even though we may think that what has already happened cannot change; and, if it cannot change, it cannot *be changed*. Surprisingly to most, and disappointingly to some, history is seldom fixed. Accomplished facts in the past do not actually change, of course, but that amorphous account of those facts changes constantly, sometimes for good reasons, sometimes not. For example, scholars (and collectors, I might add), are constantly studying the past and discovering previously unknown evidence that changes and, it is to be hoped, corrects the historical record. It is also possible that even well-intending scholars may misinterpret that evidence and alter the past incorrectly. After all, they're only human. However, we humans are not only fallible, but we are also social animals, and, at the human level, social inevitably leads to political, which inevitably leads to agendas, the bane of accurate history. Historians with an agenda can do and have done more harm to the historical record than all well-intended, even incompetent, historians combined.

Another challenge to freezing the historical record is that the language in which it is written is normally not frozen. The meaning of many, if not most, words changes over time, or have more than one meaning. A pertinent example is the fuzzy concept of "centennial," highlighted in the Prologue. What period of time is encompassed by the term American Centennial? Centennial of what? Traditionally, we consider THE Centennial to be the 100th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence on July 4th, 1776. Never mind that historians do not agree on that date!. It is true that the accepted text of the Declaration opens with "In Congress, July 4, 1776," and the copy that exists today with the signatures of 56 of the 58 delegates (two of them never did sign) contains the date of July 4th, but many historians believe that engrossed copy, date and all, was actually created on July 19th. So what did actually happen on the 4th of July. Not much, apparently. The Second Continental Congress voted (12 of the 13 states, New York abstaining) to adopt the Declaration of July 2nd. John Adams wanted that day to be the birthday of American Independence. The official record of the Second Continental Congress during 1776 was not published until 1777, and that record states that the Declaration was adopted by Congress on July 4th, and that became the traditional and official, if not accurate, anniversary of the signing of the Declaration.

Most historians agree that the document could not have been signed by many of the delegates on July 4th, because most of them were not even in town on that day. It is thought by some that at least Jefferson and Adams signed it upon hearing that Congress had voted to adopt it on that day. It was not until July 19th, however, that the engrossed copy (the fair copy written in a large, clear hand) was completed. That is thought to be the copy that all 56 of 58 delegates (two never signed) eventually signed.

I'll not resolve the controversy in this tome, but the story does serve to illustrate the difficulty of answering the simple question of when was the Centennial of America. Holding tightly onto the literary license granted to me as the author, I state the following: for the purposes of this Centennial Cabinet, I consider to be Centennial the 100th anniversary of any Revolutionary event starting with the Mecklenburg Declaration of May 20, 1775, and ending with the Battle of Trenton on December 26, 1776. Having said that, I immediately confess to exceptions, such as the Lord's Prayer medal redated 1877 for sale at Fairmount Park after the close of the Centennial Exhibition and the 1876 Lafayette medal, even though Lafayette did not join the fray until July 27, 1777. I include the former because the 1877 medal is inextricably part of the 1876 set, and the latter states on its reverse that it was issued to celebrate the unveiling of Lafayette's statue in 1876 during the Centennial. Further, I reserve the right to add other "before and after" Centennials if/when I so decide. I encourage all other collectors to exercise the same right with their own collections.

That said, on with the the medals commemorating the Centennial of American Revolutionary-era events!

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2740. Wash Nude Bust R/Crossing the Delaware



(2.1x)



(2.1x)

Obverse: Large undraped bust of George Washington to right; at left: "GENERAL"; at right: "WASHINGTON"; in the truncation of the neck: "1776."

Reverse: A depiction of Emmanuel Luetz's 1851 painting, "Washington Crossing the Delaware," showing George Washington standing up in a boat with a soldier holding a partially furled American flag while seven sailors feverishly negotiate the ice-choked Delaware River on the night of December 25, 1776, enroute to the victorious attack against British Hessian mercenaries at the outset of the Battle of Trenton; above, around from 10:00 in two curved lines: "WASHINGTON CROSSING / THE DELAWARE."; below in two lines: "DECEMBER 25TH / 1776".

Cross-refs: Not listed.

Diameter: 38.1 mm. **Edge:**

Alloy **No.**

White Metal 2740wm



Emmanuel Leutze completed this oil painting in 1851. He used artistic license to portray the people in Washington's boat to represent a cross-section of the American colonies, including (in the bow) a Western rifleman in a coonskin cap, an androgynous, perhaps female, rower in a Scottish bonnet, and a black man. The rower amidships on the port side appears to be a woman; the man at her left is a farmer; behind him appears to be a wounded cavalryman; and at the stern a man who looks to be Native American. The man standing behind Washington and holding the American flag is Lieutenant James Monroe, who would be President of the United States 41 years later.

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Leutze's painting is a massive work; the canvas alone measures 21.25 feet wide by 12.4 feet high. It hangs in the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art, where it takes up the entire wall at the end of the American Arts wing. The frame is new. It took the framer ten years to carve and gild it. It was unveiled in January 2012.



Medals Commemorating Historical Events

2750. "I DID IT"/Patent Date



(4.2x)



(4.2x)

Obverse: Shaped like the head of a hatchet with a soldered loop on top; in five curved lines: "I DID / IT / WITH MY / LITTLE HATCHET"; the "IT" is flanked left and right with a dash; separating "WITH MY" and "LITTLE" are two dashes with a dot in the center.

Reverse: In two straight lines: "PAT D / APR 22, 1876".

Cross-refs: Not listed.

Size: 19.4 mm wide x 23.9 high

Edge: Plain

Alloy **No.**

Bronze 2750bz

White Metal 2750wm

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2760. 1776/1876 Hatchet



Obverse

(4.4x)



Reverse

Obverse: In the shape of a hatchet with handle; loop at end of handle integral to planchet; in one straight incuse line: "I CANNOT TELL A LIE 1776".

Reverse: In one straight line, INCUSE: "1876 I DID IT WITH THIS HATCHET".

Cross-refs: Not listed.

Size: 36.1 mm wide x 12.8 mm high. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.
Bronze	2760bz

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2770. "I DID IT" Uniface Shell Pin



Obverse: A left-facing uniface shell in the shape of a hatchet; on the handle: "I DID IT WITH MY HATCHET."

Reverse: Pin-back, otherwise blank.

Cross-refs: Not listed.

Size: 38.7 wide x 13.4 mm high **Edge:**

Alloy	No.
Bronze	2770bz

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

2780. GW undraped/Assumed Command



(2.9x)



(2.9x)

Obverse: In a depressed ovoid panel, an undraped bust of George Washington to right, below, the "GW" monogram; around, thirteen five-pointed stars; in the border: above, in an outlined oval in two lines: "JUNE / 3D"; at 11:00: "1775"; at 2:00: "1875"; at 7:00: "I.F.W."; at 5:00: "G.H.L.".

Reverse: In a sunken circular field, dress and service swords crossed behind two crossed palm branches; above, clockwise from 10:00: "GRACING EACH OCCASION"; below, counterclockwise from 8:00: "WITH LIKE MODESTY"; in the raised border: clockwise from 10:00: "HE ASSUMED COMMAND"; counterclockwise from 8:00: "AND RESIGNED IT IN 1783"; four small pellets at 9:00 and 3:00 divide the upper and lower inscriptions.

Cross-refs: B-438

Diameter: 27.7 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.
Silver	2780si
Gilt	2780gi
Bronze	2780bz
White Metal	2780wm

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2790. GW uniformed/Assumed Command



Proxy Pic



(2.9x)

Obverse: In a depressed ovoid panel, a uniformed bust of George Washington to right, below, the "GW" monogram; around, thirteen five-pointed stars; in the border: above, in an outlined oval in two lines: "JUNE / 3D"; at 11:00: "1775"; at 2:00: "1875"; at 7:00: "I.F.W."; at 5:00: "G.H.L.".

Reverse: In a sunken circular field, dress and service swords crossed behind two crossed palm branches; above, clockwise from 10:00: "GRACING EACH OCCASION"; below, counterclockwise from 8:00: "WITH LIKE MODESTY"; in the raised border: clockwise from 10:00: "HE ASSUMED COMMAND"; counterclockwise from 8:00: "AND RESIGNED IT IN 1783"; four small pellets at 9:00 and 3:00 divide the upper and lower inscriptions.

Cross-refs: B 439

Diameter: mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.
Silver	2790si
Gilt	2790gi
Bronze	2790bz
White Metal	2790wm

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2800. Washington Monument, no Masonry, 1876 (?)



(2.1x)



(2.1x)

Obverse: Within a circle formed by a thin raised line, an undraped bust of George Washington to right; "LOVETT" in truncation; above, clockwise around from 9:00: "1775 — 100 YEARS — 1875"; below, counterclockwise from 7:00: "I.F.W. DES."; from 5:00: "G.H.L. FEC."; Outside the circle, clockwise from 9:30: "FIRST IN WAR AND IN PEACE"; below, counterclockwise from 7:00: "LAST IN SECURING". (This inscription is continued on the reverse.) There are two six-pointed stars, at 8:30 and 3:30.

Reverse: Within a depressed central field: the Washington Monument in its unfinished state, with blank sides (i.e., not showing the stonework details); above, clockwise from 10:00: "(PRESIDENCY OF U.S. GRANT)"; vertically to left: "WASHINGTON"; to right: "D.C."; below, counterclockwise from 8:30: "WOOD'S SERIES "C" NO. 3"; in the raised outer ring: clockwise from 11:00: "A MONUMENT", flanked left and right by a six-pointed star; counterclockwise from 10:00: "CORNER STONE LAID 1848 — COMPLETED 1876 (?)".

Cross-refs: B-321

Diameter: 39.7 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.
Silver	2800si
Bronze	2800bz
White Metal	2800wm

This medal was designed and marketed by Isaac F. Wood and engraved by George H. Lovett. This is No. 3 in Wood's Series C. It is a satire on what Mr. Wood considered to be the embarrassing delay on the part of Congress to honor our first president.

Construction of the Washington Monument began in the spring of 1848 and continued until 1854, when donations ran out. The next year, Congress voted to appropriate \$200,000 to continue the work but rescinded it before the money could be spent because of disputes that arose among the sponsoring

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Freemasons. The depiction that appears on this medal depicts the unfinished state of the monument at this stage, less than one-third complete.

In 1876, Congress appropriated another \$200,000 to resume construction. After three years of dispute over the final design, construction resumed in 1879 under the direction of Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Lincoln Casey of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Since builders were unable to find the same quarry stone used in the initial construction, the top two-thirds of the monument is slightly darker in color, a difference that is visible to this day.

The monument was completed on December 6, 1884, and it was finally dedicated on February 12, 1885 and opened to the public on October 9, 1888. It remained the tallest structure in the world until the Eiffel Tower was built in 1889.

This medal takes a deliberate poke at what had become a national embarrassment. Here it was, 1876, one hundred years after the Declaration of Independence, and the nation still had not memorialized its premier founding father, George Washington. It was not for want of trying. In 1783, Congress proposed an equestrian statue. Washington himself discouraged the idea. In 1791, Charles L'Enfant included a site for Washington's memorial in his plan for the layout the nation's new Capitol. Upon Washington's death in 1799, interest in his memorial was renewed. John Marshall suggested that a sepulcher should be erected somewhere in the Capitol, but once again lack of funds stalled any progress. Marshall was a patient man, and in 1833, he joined James Madison and others in proposing the Washington National Monument Society, which Congress approved.

The Society was charged with the mission to build the largest monument in the world for the most famous and most respected person in American history. The Society announced its intention to construct a monument "[w]hose dimensions and magnificence shall be commensurate with the greatness and gratitude of the nation which gave [George Washington] birth [and] whose splendor will be without parallel in the world" by starting a public campaign to fund the monument. Counting on overwhelming and widespread response from the public, the Society limited individual contributions to one dollar so that more citizens could participate. Nevertheless, fundraising stalled once again, and by 1836 the public subscription amounted to only \$28,000. It was, however, enough to hold a design competition, and that same year the Society announced the winner, Robert Mills, whose design, he said, would emulate Washington himself in its grandeur and simplicity. It would be an obelisk 555' 5 1/2" tall and 55' 1 1/2" wide at the base. Mills estimated the cost of construction at one million dollars.

Faced with the estimated price tag, the Society scrapped its one-dollar contribution limit, but it was another twelve years before the Society had raised \$88,000, enough money to begin construction. The groundbreaking ceremony took place on the National Mall on July 4, 1848. Construction continued for six years before funds petered out



The Washington Monument in 1860, before work recommenced in 1876.

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once again in 1854. In 1855, Congress voted to appropriate \$200,000 to continue the work but rescinded it before the money could be spent because of disputes that arose among the sponsoring Freemasons.

Politics, the War Between the States, and Reconstruction relegated the monument to the back burner until the patriotic fervor of the Centennial rekindled interest and sparked new fundraising efforts, including the striking of this medal, which pictures the monument as it had been since 1854, only 152 feet above ground, less than one-third complete. In 1876, President Ulysses S. Grant signed a bill for the Federal government to complete the structure. Then followed three more years of dispute over the final design, but construction resumed in 1879 and was completed six years later under the able direction of Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Lincoln Casey of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Like the Revolution itself, what had stalled under politicians ultimately succeeded after they called in the Army [pro-military bias intended].

Due to the long delays, builders were unable to match the quarry stone used in the initial construction, so the top two-thirds of the monument is slightly darker in color than the base, a difference that is visible to this day. The monument was completed on December 6, 1884, and it was finally dedicated on Washington's birthday, February 12, 1885. It would be another three years before the monument's interior was completed and it was opened to the public on October 9, 1888. It remained the tallest structure in the world until the Eiffel Tower was built in 1889.

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2810. Washington Monument, with masonry, (?) 1876



(2.1x)



(2.1x)

Obverse: Within a circle formed by a thin raised line, an undraped bust of George Washington to right; "LOVETT" in truncation; above, clockwise around from 9:00: "1775 — 100 YEARS — 1875"; below, counterclockwise from 7:00: "I.F.W. DES."; from 5:00: "G.H.L. FEC."; Outside the circle, clockwise from 9:30: "FIRST IN WAR AND IN PEACE"; below, counterclockwise from 7:00: "LAST IN SECURING". (This inscription is continued on the reverse.) There are two six-pointed stars, at 8:30 and 3:30.

Reverse: Within a depressed central field: the Washington Monument in its finished state, with detailed sides (i.e., showing the stonework details); above, clockwise from 10:00: "(PRESIDENCY OF U.S. GRANT)"; vertically to left: "WASHINGTON"; to right: "D.C."; below, counterclockwise from 8:30: "WOOD'S SERIES "C" NO. 3"; in the raised outer ring: clockwise from 11:00: "A MONUMENT", flanked left and right by a six-pointed star; counterclockwise from 10:00: "CORNER STONE LAID 1848 — COMPLETED — ? — 1876".

Cross-refs: B-322

Diameter: 39.7 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.	Note
Silver	2810si	
Bronze	2810bz	
Brass	2810bs	
White Metal	2810wm	

This medal differs from the previous version in two aspects. First, the inscription on the reverse is "...COMPLETED — ? — 1876" as opposed to "... COMPLETED 1876 (?)". (Note the placement of the question mark. Second, the depiction of the unfinished monument in this version shows the outlines of the granite stones, whereas the previous version does not show those details.

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Lovett's Battle Series

One historian places the total number of battles in the Revolutionary War in the year 1776 at 109. That was definitely a tough schedule for a rookie team in only its second season up against the big boys. The box score commentary for the Americans was discouraging, to say the least: "The underdog Yanks got off to a great start early in the season, but the deeper bench of the Lobsterbacks took its inevitable toll. The patriots ended the year, sadder but definitely wiser, with a disappointing record of 46 wins, 54 losses, and 9 draws. Disappointing, yes, but that victory at Trenton on the day after Christmas was a real shot in the arm for this bunch of red-shirt walk-ons who had never taken the field before. Unfortunately, they only get a 4-day rest before the start of their grueling 1777 schedule, with six engagements in five days. I'm not one to prognosticate, but the odds makers are treating this rookie team like David before he whittled his first slingshot."

William H. Lovett selected eight battles from the 1776 schedule, and memorialized them in his Battle Series for the 1876 Centennial. It is not known what were his selection criteria, but his series scorecard fairly reflected the overall season for the Americans, with a score of three victories, four losses, and a draw.

The Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge, 27 Feb 1776

In January 1776, the royal governor of North Carolina, Josiah Martin, mustered his Loyalist militia to join and augment an expected British Army expedition. Local Continental Army units and Patriot militiamen blockaded several likely travel routes in an attempt to prevent the Loyalists from joining up. Eventually, on February 27, 1776, the Loyalists attempted to break through by crossing Moore's Creek Bridge. They were repulsed by a withering fusillade of musket fire, killing one Loyalist leader, capturing another, scattering the remainder, and arresting many in the days following. As a result, North Carolina was not again threatened until 1780, and even then, the memory of the battle severely hindered General Cornwallis' attempts to recruit Loyalists. Score an American victory.

The Battle of Sullivan's Island, 28 June 1776

During the First Siege of Charleston, British Admiral Peter Parker and General Henry Clinton led a fleet to Charleston, South Carolina, which was defended by yet-unfinished fort on Sullivan's Island. On June 28, 1776, every British foray was turned back by the Americans. The British naval bombardment had little effect on the fort's resilient palmetto logs, a land assault failed because the water around the island was too deep to wade, and an attempted amphibious landing was successfully repulsed. At the end of the day, the British withdrew and did not return until the Second Siege of Charleston. Score it as a draw.

The Battle of Long Island, 27 August 1776

The Battle of Long Island, also known as the Battle of Brooklyn Heights, was not a victory for the Americans, but it was the first major battle of the Revolutionary War, the largest engagement of the entire war, and the first time that the Continental Army directly confronted the British Army. After defeating the British in the Siege of Boston on March 17, 1776, General Washington marched the Continental Army to Manhattan to defend New York City. On August 27, the British landed on Long Island and marched the twelve miles to Manhattan, where they attacked. The unseasoned Americans panicked and ran, but a determined stand by 250 Maryland volunteers held off the British until the retreating Americans could flee to the main defenses at Brooklyn Heights. The British encamped for a long siege, but on the night of August 29-30, in a brilliant display of leadership and coordinated logistics, Washington successfully evacuated his entire army without the loss of material or a single life. Chalk up a British win in this one.

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The Battle of Harlem Plains, 16 September 1776

The Battle of Harlem Plains is also known as the Battle of Harlem Heights. The Americans were encamped on the Harlem Heights where they were safe from the cannons on Admiral Lord Howe's fleet in the harbor. The American defense of New York had not seen much in the way of American victory. Retreat had been the order of the day for the Americans, but on September 16, 1776, they engaged the British on the Harlem Plains, at what is now Broadway and 106th Street (known as Off-Broadway today). Though outnumbered almost three to one, the 1,800 Americans under General Washington and Major General Nathaniel Greene drove the British back until they were reinforced by Germans. Sensing a trap and not wanting to risk another defeat, General Washington ordered retreat, which proceeded in an orderly military manner until a British bugler sounded "Gone to Ground," a fox-hunting call signaling an enemy's headlong retreat. This infuriated the Americans, especially the Virginians to whom the hunt was a sacred tradition. They halted their retreat, flanked the British, and inexorably pushed them back until the Redcoats were the ones retreating. This ended up being General Washington's first battlefield victory and gave the Continental Army a much-needed boost in confidence. Chalk this one up as an American victory served up by an overconfident opponent.

The Battle of Lake Champlain, 11 October 1776

In June, 1776, after the British brought in overpowering reinforcements, the Continental Army retreated from Quebec to Fort Crown Point and ultimately to Fort Ticonderoga. Ticonderoga, originally built by the French, was captured by the British in 1759 during the French and Indian War. It became an American stronghold when Ethan Allen's Green Mountain Boys and state militiamen under Benedict Arnold captured it in May, 1775. The name "Ticonderoga" comes from the Iroquois *tekontaró:ken*, meaning "it is at the junction of two waterways," Commanding the La Chute River between Lake George and Lake Champlain.

The Governor of Quebec, General Guy Carleton, was anxious to field his 9,000-man army in the Hudson Valley. Land routes were scarce, so he began building a navy to ferry his troops down Lake Champlain, through the La Chute into Lake George, and then south into the Hudson Valley. The Americans had a smaller fleet under the command of Benedict Arnold, who massed them in the strait between New York and Valcour Island. Unfortunately, Arnold's bravery exceeded his maritime skills, and the Americans were soundly defeated in one of the first naval battles of the war. Nevertheless, the American defense of Lake Champlain stalled the British drive to the Hudson Valley and marked the entry of the United States' fledgling navy into the war. The series so far is tied at 2 victories each and one draw.

The Battle of White Plains, 28 October 1776

On October 28, 1776, 4,000 British and Hessians under General Sir William Howe attacked about 1,500 Americans under General Washington. The Continentals were dug in on Chatterton's Hill (today called Battle Hill), about six miles east of White Plains, New York. The British got the upper hand and displaced the Patriots from Chatterton's Hill. Having lost the high ground, Washington decided that further defense of the position was untenable, and he led his army northward to fight another day. General Howe was unable to capitalize on his victory because of heavy rains in the days following the battle. Though a loss on balance for Continental Army, the Americans inflicted 224 casualties on the British, at a cost of 154 Continental casualties. This was a close one, but ya gotta give the nod to the Brits.

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The Battle of Fort Washington, 16 November 1776

After his victory at White Plains, General Howe marched on Fort Washington on Manhattan Island, the last American stronghold in New York. Washington considering abandoning the fort and retreating to New Jersey, but Nathaniel Greene talked him into defending the fort. On November 16, 1776, the British attacked from the north, south, and east. The American southern and western fronts collapsed quickly, and the northern front resisted gamely but was eventually overwhelmed. The fort surrendered, suffering 59 Americans killed and 2,837 captured. This defeat allowed the British to chase the retreating Continental Army out of New York, through New Jersey, and all the way into Pennsylvania. Score this one for the British, but don't count the Americans out yet. The season ain't over!

The Battle of Trenton, 26 December 1776

After several defeats in New York and the long retreat through New Jersey across the Delaware River into Pennsylvania, American morale was at rock bottom and many enlistments would be running out at the end of the year. Washington desperately needed a victory to keep his army together through the impending winter. He settled on a daring attack on a Hessian garrison in Trenton, just across the Delaware River. On Christmas night, he and Major Generals Nathaniel Greene and John Sullivan successfully ferried 2,400 American under the cover of darkness and a fortuitous but biting snowstorm across the river, using commandeered wooden river boats. In the Hessian encampment were three German regiments with Hessian jaegers and a troop of British 16th Light Dragoons, numbering 1,500 troops altogether. They made the eastern shore at about 3:00 AM and marched 9 miles to Trenton. Greene and Sullivan took up positions northeast of town to set up artillery and cut off a German retreat. The Germans had lowered their guard after Christmas feasting. A local Tory tried to sound the alarm to commanding Colonel Johann Gottlieb Rall, but Rall ignored the warning. Washington attacked from the northwest at about 8:00 AM, while Greene and Sullivan opened up with their artillery. Surprise was total, and within ninety minutes it was all over. The Germans suffered 20 fatalities, 100 casualties, and more than 900 captured. Four Americans were wounded during the battle, and two soldiers had been lost to exposure during the crossing. In addition, Washington captured six cannon, forty horses, and a mountain of supplies that were quickly ferried back to Pennsylvania. Though small as battles go, probably a mere annoyance to the British, Trenton was huge for the upstart new country. Their army had won its first victory in the field over enemy regulars; their General had proven himself in battle; and morale improved to the point that wholesale losses due to expiring enlistments were averted. This one was a thumping victory for the Patriots!

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The complete set of the eight silver Battle medals in their original presentation case. The ribbon on the inside cover reads, "GEO. H. LOVETT. / MEDALIST / NEW YORK." The photos were taken by Shelley Gunderson, and they are provided courtesy of Dave Baldwin.



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2820. Washington Bust R/Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge



(2.4x)



(2.4x)

Obverse: Undraped bust of George Washington right; surrounded by thirty-four stars in a circle; outside, clockwise around from 7:00 to 5:00: "THE CENTENNIAL YEAR OF OUR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE"; below: "1876".

Reverse: Inside a beaded circle edged around by rays in the pattern of an eight-pointed star: "1776"; above, clockwise around in two lines: "BATTLE OF MOORE'S CREEK BRIDGE / FEBRUARY 27"; below, in two lines "1 / NO. CAROLINA"; the whole surrounded by a continuous wreath of oak leaves.

Cross-refs: B-440, F-26, H-44, HK-90-92.

Diameter: 34.1 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.
Silver	2820si
Bronze	2820bz
White Metal	2820wm

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2830. Washington Bust R/Battle of Sullivan's Island



(2.4x)

Proxy Pix



(2.4x)

Obverse: Undraped bust of George Washington right; surrounded by thirty-four stars in a circle; outside, clockwise around from 7:00 to 5:00: "THE CENTENNIAL YEAR OF OUR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE"; below: "1876".

Reverse: Same as above except for the inscriptions: "BATTLE OF SULLIVAN'S ISLAND / JUNE 28" and "2 / SO. CAROLINA".

Cross-refs: B-441, F-27, H-45, HK-93-95.

Diameter: 34.1 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.
Silver	2830si
Bronze	2830bz
White Metal	2830wm

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

2840. Washington Bust R/Battle of Long Island



(2.4x)



(2.4x)

Photos courtesy of
Stack's

Obverse: Undraped bust of George Washington right; surrounded by thirty-four stars in a circle; outside, clockwise around from 7:00 to 5:00: "THE CENTENNIAL YEAR OF OUR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE"; below: "1876".

Reverse: Same as above except for the inscriptions: "BATTLE OF LONG ISLAND ' AUGUST 27" and "3 / NEW YORK".

Cross-refs: B-442, F-28, H-46, HK-96-98.

Diameter: 34.1 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.
Silver	2840si
Bronze	2840bz
White Metal	2840wm

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

2850. Washington Bust R/Battle of Harlem Plains



(2.4x)



(24x)

Obverse: Undraped bust of George Washington right; surrounded by thirty-four stars in a circle; outside, clockwise around from 7:00 to 5:00: "THE CENTENNIAL YEAR OF OUR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE"; below: "1876".

Reverse: Same as above except for the inscriptions: "BATTLE OF HARLEM PLAINS / SEPTEMBER 16" and "4 / NEW YORK".

Cross-refs: B-443, F-29, H-47, HK-99-101.

Diameter: 34.1 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.
Silver	2850si
Bronze	2850bz
White Metal	2850wm

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

2860. Washington Bust R/Battle of Lake Champlain



(2.4x)



(2.4x)

Obverse: Undraped bust of George Washington right; surrounded by thirty-four stars in a circle; outside, clockwise around from 7:00 to 5:00: "THE CENTENNIAL YEAR OF OUR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE"; below: "1876".

Reverse: Same as above except for the inscriptions: "BATTLE OF LAKE CHAMPLAIN / OCTOBER 11 & 12" and "5 / NEW YORK".

Cross-refs: B-444, F-30, H-48, HK-102-104.

Diameter: 34.1 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.
Silver	2860si
Bronze	2860bz
White Metal	2860wm

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

2870. Washington Bust R/Battle of White Plains



(2.4x)



(2.4x)

Photos courtesy of Stack's

Obverse: Undraped bust of George Washington right; surrounded by thirty-four stars in a circle; outside, clockwise around from 7:00 to 5:00: "THE CENTENNIAL YEAR OF OUR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE"; below: "1876".

Reverse: Same as above except for the inscriptions: "BATTLE OF WHITE PLAINS / OCTOBER 28" and "6 / NEW YORK".

Cross-refs: B-445, F-31, H-49, HK-105-107.

Diameter: 34.1 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.
Silver	2870si
Bronze	2870bz
White Metal	2870wm

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

2880. Washington Bust R/Battle of Fort Washington



(2.4x)



(2.4x)

Photos courtesy of
Stack's

Obverse: Undraped bust of George Washington right; surrounded by thirty-four stars in a circle; outside, clockwise around from 7:00 to 5:00: "THE CENTENNIAL YEAR OF OUR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE"; below: "1876".

Reverse: Same as above except for the inscriptions: "BATTLE OF FORT WASHINGTON / NOVEMBER 16" and "7 / NEW YORK".

Cross-refs: B-446, F-32, H-50, HK-108-110.

Diameter: 34.1 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.
Silver	2880si
Bronze	2880bz
White Metal	2880wm

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

2890. Washington Bust R/Battle of Trenton



(2.4x)



(2.4x)

Obverse: Undraped bust of George Washington right; surrounded by thirty-four stars in a circle; outside, clockwise around from 7:00 to 5:00: "THE CENTENNIAL YEAR OF OUR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE"; below: "1876".

Reverse: Same as above except for the inscriptions: "BATTLE OF TRENTON / DECEMBER 26" and "8 / NEW JERSEY".

Cross-refs: B-447, F-33, H-51, HK-111-113.

Diameter: 34.1 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.
Silver	2890si
Bronze	2890bz
White Metal	2890wm

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

2900. Wash Bust L/Battle of Moore's Creek



(2.4x)

Proxy Pix



(2.4x)

Obverse: Draped bust of George Washington to left, inside a tied wreath composed of a palm branch to left and an oak branch to right; clockwise in two lines around from 8:00: "100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECLARATION / OF INDEPENDENCE"; below, counterclockwise from 7:00: "JULY 4 , 1876" flanked left and right by a six-pointed embroidered star.

Reverse: Inside a beaded circle edged around by rays in the pattern of an eight-pointed star: "1776"; above, clockwise around in two lines: "BATTLE OF MOORE'S CREEK BRIDGE / FEBRUARY 27"; below, in two lines "1 / NO. CAROLINA"; the whole surrounded by a continuous wreath of oak leaves.

Cross-refs: B-448, H-115.

Diameter: 34.1 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.
Silver	2900si
Bronze	2900bz
White Metal	2900wm

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

2910. Wash Bust L/Battle of Sullivan's Island



(2.4x)



(2.4x)

Photos courtesy of Stack's

Obverse: Draped bust of George Washington to left, inside a tied wreath composed of a palm branch to left and an oak branch to right; clockwise in two lines around from 8:00: "100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECLARATION / OF INDEPENDENCE"; below, counterclockwise from 7:00: "JULY 4 , 1876" flanked left and right by a six-pointed embroidered star.

Reverse: Same as above except for the inscriptions: "BATTLE OF SULLIVAN'S ISLAND / JUNE 26" and "2 / SO. CAROLINA".

Cross-refs: B-448, H-116.

Diameter: 34.1 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.
Silver	2910si
Bronze	2910bz
White Metal	2910wm

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

2920. Wash Bust L/Battle of Long Island



Photos courtesy of
Stack's

(2.4x)

(2.4)

Obverse: Draped bust of George Washington to left, inside a tied wreath composed of a palm branch to left and an oak branch to right; clockwise in two lines around from 8:00: "100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECLARATION / OF INDEPENDENCE"; below, counterclockwise from 7:00: "JULY 4 , 1876" flanked left and right by a six-pointed embroidered star.

Reverse: Same as above except for the inscriptions: "BATTLE OF LONG ISLAND ' AUGUST 27" and "3 / NEW YORK".

Cross-refs: B-448, H-117.

Diameter: 34.1 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.
Silver	2920si
Bronze	2920bz
White Metal	2920wm

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

2930. Wash Bust L/Battle of Harlem Plains



(2.4x)



(2.4x)

Obverse: Draped bust of George Washington to left, inside a tied wreath composed of a palm branch to left and an oak branch to right; clockwise in two lines around from 8:00: "100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECLARATION / OF INDEPENDENCE"; below, counterclockwise from 7:00: "JULY 4 , 1876" flanked left and right by a six-pointed embroidered star.

Reverse: Same as above except for the inscriptions: "BATTLE OF HARLEM PLAINS / SEPTEMBER 16" and "4 / NEW YORK".

Cross-refs: B-448, H-118.

Diameter: 34.1 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.
Silver	2930si
Bronze	2930bz
White Metal	2930wm

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

2940. Wash Bust L/Battle of Lake Champlain



(2.4x)



(2.4x)

Proxy Pix

Obverse: Draped bust of George Washington to left, inside a tied wreath composed of a palm branch to left and an oak branch to right; clockwise in two lines around from 8:00: "100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECLARATION / OF INDEPENDENCE"; below, counterclockwise from 7:00: "JULY 4 , 1876" flanked left and right by a six-pointed embroidered star.

Reverse: Same as above except for the inscriptions: "BATTLE OF LAKE CHAMPLAIN / OCTOBER 11 & 12" and "5 / NEW YORK".

Cross-refs: B-448, H-119.

Diameter: 34.1 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.
Silver	2940si
Bronze	2940bz
White Metal	2940wm

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

2950. Wash Bust L/Battle of White Plains



(2.4x)

Proxy Pix



(2.4x)

Obverse: Draped bust of George Washington to left, inside a tied wreath composed of a palm branch to left and an oak branch to right; clockwise in two lines around from 8:00: "100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECLARATION / OF INDEPENDENCE"; below, counterclockwise from 7:00: "JULY 4 , 1876" flanked left and right by a six-pointed embroidered star.

Reverse: Same as above except for the inscriptions: "BATTLE OF WHITE PLAINS / OCTOBER 28" and "6 / NEW YORK".

Cross-refs: B-448, H-120.

Diameter: 34.1 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.
Silver	2950si
Bronze	2950bz
White Metal	2950wm

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

2960. Wash Bust L/Battle of Fort Washington



(2.4x)

(2.4x)

Obverse: Draped bust of George Washington to left, inside a tied wreath composed of a palm branch to left and an oak branch to right; clockwise in two lines around from 8:00: "100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECLARATION / OF INDEPENDENCE"; below, counterclockwise from 7:00: "JULY 4 , 1876" flanked left and right by a six-pointed embroidered star.

Reverse: Same as above except for the inscriptions: "BATTLE OF FORT WASHINGTON / NOVEMBER 16" and "7 / NEW YORK".

Cross-refs: B-448, H-121.

Diameter: 34.1 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.
Silver	2960si
Bronze	2960bz
White Metal	2960wm

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

2970. Wash Bust L/Battle of Trenton



(2.4x)

Proxy Pix



(2.4x)

Obverse: Draped bust of George Washington to left, inside a tied wreath composed of a palm branch to left and an oak branch to right; clockwise in two lines around from 8:00: "100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECLARATION / OF INDEPENDENCE"; below, counterclockwise from 7:00: "JULY 4 , 1876" flanked left and right by a six-pointed embroidered star.

Reverse: Same as above except for the inscriptions: "BATTLE OF TRENTON / DECEMBER 26" and "8 / NEW JERSEY".

Cross-refs: B-448, H-122.

Diameter: 34.1 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.
Silver	2970si
Bronze	2970bz
White Metal	2970wm

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

2980. 1st & 2nd Obverse Mule



(2.4x)

Proxy Pix



(2.4x)

Obverse: Undraped bust of George Washington right; surrounded by thirty-four stars in a circle; outside, clockwise around from 7:00 to 5:00: "THE CENTENNIAL YEAR OF OUR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE"; below: "1876".

Reverse: Draped bust of George Washington to left, inside a tied wreath composed of a palm branch to left and an oak branch to right; clockwise in two lines around from 8:00: "100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECLARATION / OF INDEPENDENCE"; below, counterclockwise from 7:00: "JULY 4 , 1876" flanked left and right by a six-pointed embroidered star.

Cross-ref: NASCA 4/29-29/1981; lot #1926; sold for \$120.00.

Diameter: 34.1 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.	Note
Silver	2980si	
Bronze	2980bz	

"This set of mules must be considered very rare, as but one was struck in silver and ten in bronze, and the reverse dies were then destroyed." (Holland 122)

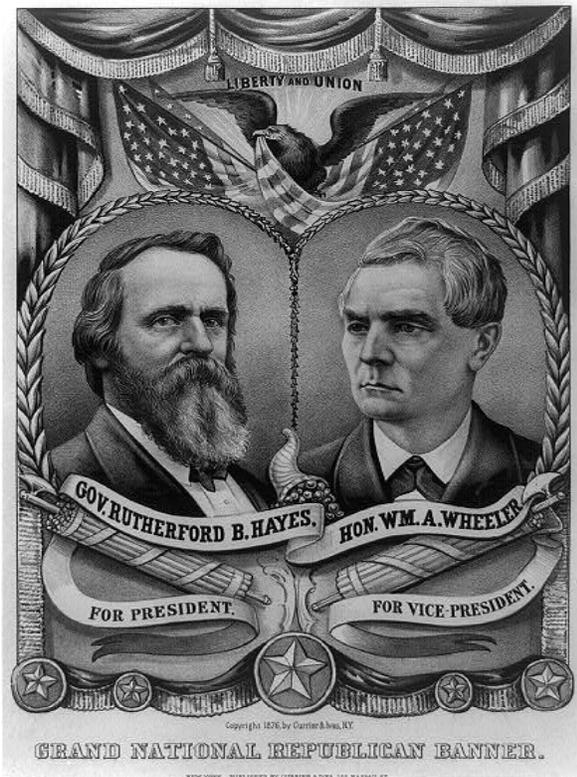
"Mule of the obverses of B-440 and B-448. Both of these obverses were ordinarily paired with the same "Moore's Creek Bridge" Battle series reverse and resulting medals by themselves are rated R-8. Muling in this series was not an entirely unknown practice. Silver." -- NASCA 4/28-29/1981, lot 1926, sold for \$120.

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

The Presidential Election of 1876

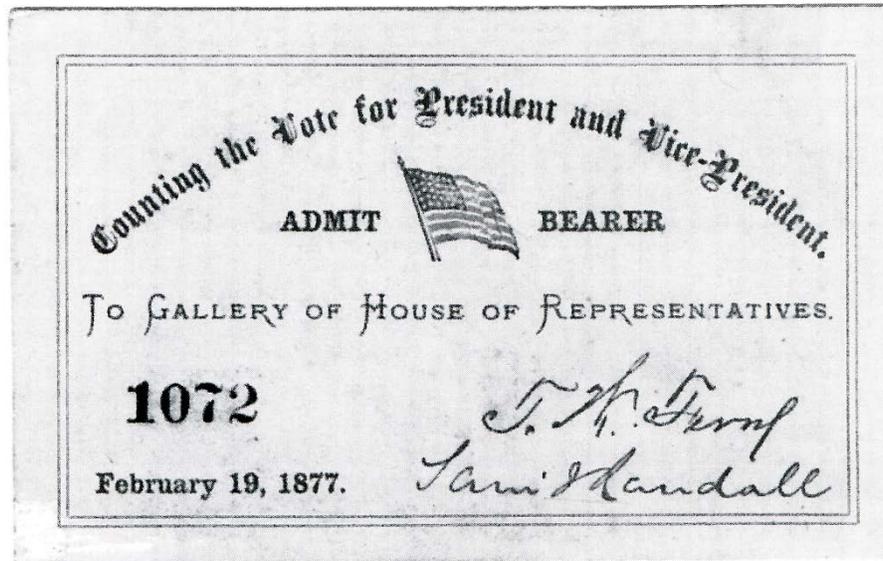
Many of us remember the disputed Presidential election of 2000. With 538 electoral votes in play, 270 were needed to win the election. On the morning after the election, three states (New Mexico with 5 votes, Oregon with 7, and Florida with 25) were still too close to call. In the next few days, New Mexico and Oregon were resolved in All Gore's favor, but Florida's 25 votes still controlled the final outcome. It was not until December 12th, after a Supreme Court ruling finally halted the Florida recount, that the election results were final. George Bush had won the Electoral College with a final tally of 271 to 266 (there was one abstention), despite the fact that Gore had won the popular vote by a margin of 543,895 votes.

Believe it or not, the election of 1876 was closer and even more acrimonious. After the polls closed, the Democratic candidate, Samuel J. Tilden led Rutherford B. Hayes, the Republican, by 184 to 165 electoral votes, with 20 undecided: Louisiana with eight, South Carolina with seven, Florida with four, and Oregon with one disqualified elector. The dispute in Oregon was quickly settled by appointing a replacement elector, who cast his vote for Hayes.



Medals Commemorating Historical Events

With the elimination of Oregon from contention, the three remaining southern states all suffered disputes in their statehouses that resulted in each state sending two results, one for each candidate. Still no decision. That left it up to Congress, which had a Republican Senate and a Democratic House. On January 29, 1877, they sidestepped the problem (you thought that was a recent innovation?) by forming an Electoral Commission, composed of Senators (all Republicans), five Representatives (all Democrats), and five Supreme Court Justices (two Democrats and two Republicans, who would elect the fifth, who turned out to be a Republican.) On March 2, 1877, the eight Republicans trumped the seven Democrats and awarded all 20 of the disputed electoral votes to Hayes, giving Hayes a 185-184 one-vote margin of victory. On March 5, 1877, Rutherford B. Hayes was inaugurated the 19th President of the United States. He had lost the popular election by 247,338 votes, but won the Electoral College by exactly one vote.



Gallery Pass for the 1876 Election Re-count

Controversy still surrounds the elections of 1876 and 2000. Some say that the 1876 election was closer, with narrower margins in both the Electoral College (one vote) and the overall popular vote. Others claim that the election of 2000 was closer, because Bush's win in Florida, with the deciding electoral votes, was decided by only 537 popular votes or 0.000529294% (about one-half of one thousandth of one percent!).

More controversial than just numbers, the political maneuverings surrounding both elections are still mired in argument and even mystery. The conflicting rulings of the Florida and Federal Supreme Courts in the 2000 election will probably be debated in law schools for decades to come. The back-room maneuverings that influenced the final decision in 1876 are still mysterious today. There is a popular theory that the outcome was actually decided by the Compromise of 1877, also known as the Corrupt Bargain. According to this theory, Hayes was awarded the White House over Tilden in exchange for an understanding that President Hayes would remove the remaining federal troops that were propping up Republican state governments in South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana. As a result, the incumbent President, Republican Ulysses S. Grant, immediately removed the soldiers from Florida, and newly-inaugurated President Hayes then removed the remaining troops from South Carolina and Louisiana, thus effectively ending Reconstruction.

The primary source for the following political Centennial medals is Edmund B. Sullivan's *American Political Badges and Medalets 1789-1892*. However, not all political medals dated 1876 are Centennial in nature. Only those that take note of the Centennial itself (other than simply having the date of 1876) are included. The dies for these medals were engraved by George H. Lovett of New York.

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

2990. Hayes-Wheeler First Obverse, small“OF THE”



(2.6x)

(2.6x)

Obverse: Draped bust of Rutherford B. Hayes, to half-left; “1876” below; around the outside, clockwise: "RUTHERFORD B. HAYES"; counterclockwise: "FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES" ("OF THE" is in a smaller font); inside that, to left clockwise: "CENTENNIAL 1876" and to right: "AMERICA".

Reverse: Draped bust of William Wheeler, to quarter right; around the outside, clockwise: "WM. A. WHEELER"; counterclockwise: "FOR VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES"; inside that, to left clockwise: "CENTENNIAL 1876" and to right: "AMERICA".

Cross-ref: Sullivan RBH 1876-4

Diameter: 31 mm. **Edge:** Reeded and Plain

Alloy	No.	Note
Silver Plate	2990sp	Silver over brass.
Brass	2990bs	

Sullivan states that David Prosky was the authority for the claim that only six of these medals were struck. Lot # 149 in Presidential Auction #63, 15 Nov 1997 offered a brass example with a plain edge.

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

3000. Hayes/Wheeler, small "OF THE" Obverse and Reverse



(x)

(x)

Obverse: Draped bust of Rutherford B. Hayes, to half- left; "1876" below; around the outside, clockwise: "RUTHERFORD B. HAYES"; counterclockwise: "FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES" ("OF THE" is in a smaller font); inside that, to left clockwise: "CENTENNIAL 1876" and to right: "AMERICA".

Reverse: Draped bust of William Wheeler, to half right; around the outside, clockwise: "WM. A. WHEELER" ("OF THE" is in a smaller font); counterclockwise: "FOR VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES"; inside that, to left clockwise: "CENTENNIAL 1876" and to right: "AMERICA".

Sullivan RBH 1876-5

Diameter: 31 mm. **Edge:** Reeded

Alloy	No.
Bronze	3000bz
Brass	3000bsp

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

3010. Hayes/Wheeler, small "OF THE" Obverse and Reverse



(x)

(x)

Obverse: Draped bust of Rutherford B. Hayes, to half- left; "1876" below: around the outside, clockwise: "RUTHERFORD B. HAYES"; counterclockwise: "FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES" ("OF THE" is in a smaller font); inside that, to left clockwise: "CENTENNIAL 1876" and to right: "AMERICA".

Reverse: Blank

Sullivan RBH 1876-5a

Diameter: 31 mm. **Edge:** Reeded

Alloy	No.
Bronze	3010bz
Brass	3010bsp

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

3020. Hayes/Wheeler First Obverse with Diamonds



(2.5 x)

(2.5 x)

Obverse: Draped bust of Rutherford B. Hayes, to half left; around the outside, clockwise from 10:30: "RUTHERFORD B. HAYES" (the period after "B" is shaped as a diamond); counterclockwise: "FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES" ("OF" in a smaller font); inside that, clockwise: "CENTENNIAL 1876" and from 2:00: "AMERICA".

Reverse: Draped bust of William Wheeler, to quarter right; around the outside, clockwise: "WM. A. WHEELER" (periods after "WM" and "A" are shaped as diamonds); counterclockwise from 10:00: "FOR VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES" ("OF" in smaller letters); inside that, clockwise from 8:00: "CENTENNIAL 1876" and from 2:00: "AMERICA".

Cross-ref: Sullivan RBH 1876-6

Diameter: 31 mm. **Edge:**

Alloy **No.**

Nickel 3020ni

White Metal 3020wm

According to Levine in Presidential Auction #63 on 15 Nov 1977: "Another piece which we have never seen before. Since all of these Hayes variations are more or less rare, there seems to have been no good reason for so many minor variations other than to create rarities for collectors."

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

3030. Hayes/Wheeler, no date in truncation



(2.5 x)



(2.5 x)

Obverse: Draped bust of Rutherford B. Hayes, to quarter left; around the outside, clockwise from 10:30: "RUTHERFORD B. HAYES"; counterclockwise from 8:30: "FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES" ("OF THE" is in a smaller font); inside that, clockwise from 7:00: "CENTENNIAL 1876" and from 2:00: "AMERICA". Note: no date in truncation.

Reverse: Draped bust of William Wheeler, to quarter right; around the outside, clockwise from 11:00: "WM. A. WHEELER" (periods shaped as diamonds); counterclockwise from 10:00: "FOR VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES" ("OF THE" in smaller letters); inside that, clockwise from 8:00: "CENTENNIAL 1876" and from 2:00: "AMERICA".

Cross-refs: Not listed.

Diameter: 31 mm. **Edge:**

Alloy	No.	Note
Bronze	3030bz	

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

3040. Hayes/Wheeler “Centennial America”

(2.6 x)

(2.6 x)



Obverse: Draped bust of Rutherford B. Hayes, to half-left; “1876” below; around the outside, clockwise: "RUTHERFORD B. HAYES"; counterclockwise: "FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES"; inside that, to left clockwise: "CENTENNIAL" and to right: "AMERICA".

Reverse: Draped bust of William Wheeler, to quarter right; around the outside, clockwise: "WM. A. WHEELER"; counterclockwise: "FOR VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES"; inside that, to left clockwise: "CENTENNIAL 1876" and to right: "AMERICA". The reverse was originally struck as WM. H. WHEELER (note the incorrect middle initial).

Cross-ref: Sullivan RBH 1876-1

Diameter: 31 mm. **Edge:** Reeded, except the white metal, which is plain

Alloy	No.	
Silver	3040si	
Gilt	3040gi	Gilded brass.
Bronze	3040bz	
Brass	3040bs	
White Metal	3040wm	
Silver Plate	3040sp	Silvered bronze.
Nickel Plate	3040np	nickel-plated white metal

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

3050. Hayes/Laurel Wreath Border



(x)

(x)

Obverse: Draped bust of Rutherford B. Hayes, to half-left; "1876" below; around the outside, clockwise: "RUTHERFORD B. HAYES"; counterclockwise: "FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES"; inside that, to left clockwise: "CENTENNIAL" and to right: "AMERICA".

Reverse: A laurel wreath surrounding a blank field.

Cross-ref: Sullivan RBH 1876-2

Diameter: 31 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy **No.**

Silver 3050si

Bronze 3050co

According to Levine in his Auction #63: A rare variety – we have never seen another.”

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

3060. Hayes/Swastika Border



(x)

(x)

Obverse: Draped bust of Rutherford B. Hayes, to half-left; "1876" below; around the outside, clockwise: "RUTHERFORD B. HAYES"; counterclockwise: "FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES"; inside that, to left clockwise: "CENTENNIAL" and to right: "AMERICA".

Reverse: A border of swastika surrounding a blank field. The swastika as used here is a purely decorative geometric figure, whose origin is in ancient India, with no political content. The word "swatika" comes from the Sanskrit meaning "to be good."

Sullivan RBH 1876-3

Diameter: 31 mm. **Edge:**

Alloy **No.**

Bronze 3060bz

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

3070. Hayes/Hayes



(2.5 x)

(2.5 x)

Obverse: Within a border of twenty-six stars, a bust of Hayes to half-left; around: "RUTHERFORD B. HAYES".

Reverse: Around the outside: "RUTHERFORD.B.HAYES 1776 CENTENNIAL 1876", within that inscription: "NATIONAL REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA".

Sullivan RBH 1876-8

Diameter: 31 mm. **Edge:** Reeded and plain

Alloy **No.**

Bronze 3070bz

White Metal 3070wm

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

3080. Wheeler/Blank



(2.5 x)

(2.5 x)

Obverse: Draped bust of William Wheeler, to quarter right; around the outside, clockwise: "WM. A. WHEELER"; counterclockwise: "FOR VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES"; inside that, to left clockwise: "CENTENNIAL 1876" and to right: "AMERICA".

Reverse: Blank

Sullivan WAW 1876-3

Diameter: 31 mm. **Edge:**

Alloy	No.
Bronze	3080bz

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

3090. Tilden/Hendricks



(2.5 x)



(2.5 x)

Obverse: Draped bust of Samuel Tilden to quarter left; around the outside, clockwise from 8:30: "FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES"; below, counterclockwise from 8:00: "SAMUEL J. TILDEN"; inside, clockwise from 7:00: "CENTENNIAL 1876" and from 2:00: "AMERICA".

Reverse: Draped bust of Thomas Hendricks to quarter left; around the outside, clockwise from 8:00: "FOR VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES"; counterclockwise from 8:00: "THOS A. HENDRICKS"; inside, clockwise from 7:00: "CENTENNIAL 1876" and from 2:00: "AMERICA".

Sullivan SJT 1876-1

Diameter: 31 mm. **Edge:** Reeded

Alloy	No.	Note
Silver Plate	3090sp	Silvered bronze and brass
Bronze	3090bz	
Brass	3090bs	
Nickel Plate	3090np	

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

3100. Tilden/Hendricks Lead Trial



(2.5 x)

(2.4580645161290322 x)

Obverse: Draped bust of Samuel Tilden to quarter left; around the outside, above: "SAMUEL J. TILDEN"; below: "FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES"; inside that, clockwise from 7:00: "CENTENNIAL 1876" and from 2:00: "AMERICA".

Reverse: Draped bust of Thomas Hendricks to quarter left; around the outside, clockwise from 8:00: "FOR VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES"; counterclockwise from 8:00: "THOS A HENDRICKS"; inside, clockwise from 7:00: "CENTENNIAL 1876" and from 2:00: "AMERICA".

Sullivan SJT 1876-2

Diameter: 31 mm. **Edge:**

Alloy	No.	Note
Lead	3100ld	Probably a trial piece.

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

3110. Tilden/Inscription



(2.5 x)

(2.5 x)

Obverse: A bust of Tilden to quarter-left; above, 39 six-pointed stars in two rows, the outside row 12 stars left and 12 right; the inside row with 7 left and 8 right; below, counterclockwise from 8:00: "SAMUEL A. TILDEN".

Reverse: In ten lines, the top and bottom four curved, the middle two straight: "NATIONAL / DEMOCRATIC / REPUBLICAN / CANDIDATE / FOR / PRESIDENT OF / OF THE / UNITED / STATES OF AMERICA / 1776 CENTENNIAL 1876.

Sullivan SJT 1876-3

Diameter: 31 mm. **Edge:**

Alloy	No.	Note
Silver	3110si	
Bronze	3110bz	
White Metal	3110wm	

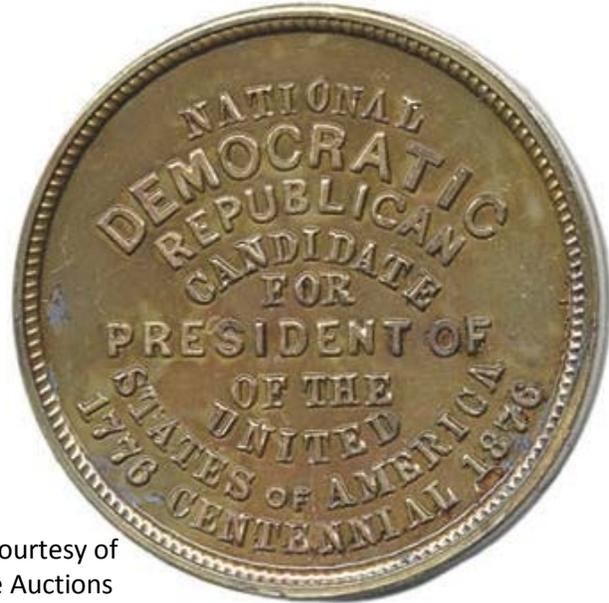
It is a bit surprising to see 39 stars on this medal. The year 1876 started out with 37 states in the union and ended with 38, after the admission of Colorado on August 1st.

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

3120. Tilden/"OF OF" Inscription



(2.5 x)



(2.5 x)

Photos courtesy of
Heritage Auctions

Obverse: A bust of Tilden to quarter-left; above, 39 six-pointed stars in two rows, the outside row 12 stars left and 12 right; the inside row with 7 left and 8 right; below, counterclockwise from 8:00: "SAMUEL A. TILDEN".

Reverse: Inscription, NATIONAL / DEMOCRATIC / REPUBLICAN / CANDIDATE / FOR PRESIDENT OF / OF (sic) THE / UNITED / STATES OF AMERICA / 1776 CENTENNIAL 1876. (Note the word "OF" incorrectly repeated in lines six and seven.)

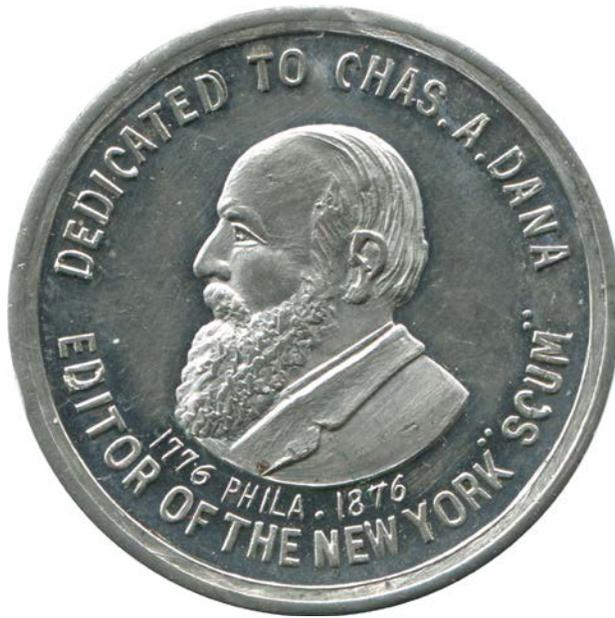
Sullivan SJT 1876-4. According to David Proskey, a 19th-century cataloger, six sets were struck and sold at \$6.00 per set.

Diameter: 31 mm. **Edge:**

Alloy	No.
Silver	3120si
Bronze	3120bz
White Metal	3120wm

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

3130. Charles Dana/Chinese Stink Pot



(2.5 x)



(2.5 x)

Obverse: Draped bust of Charles Dana to left; above, around, clockwise from 9:30: "DEDICATED TO CHAS.A.DANA; below, counterclockwise from 7:00: "1776 PHILA . 1876"; counterclockwise from 8:30: "EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK "SCUM".

Reverse: Inscription around, clockwise from 7:00: "THE CHINESE STINK-POT OF AMERICAN JOURNALISM" enclosing in four straight lines: "Harmless / but / oh!so foul!! / Phew!"

Charles Anderson Dana was the editor and part-owner of the New York Sun from 1868 until his death in 1897. His stated goal was to publish "a daily photograph of the whole world's doings in the most luminous and lively manner." His journalistic approach was apparently successful, because by 1876 he had tripled the Sun's circulation to 130,000. Dana and the Sun supported Ulysses S. Grant for the Presidency in 1868, then turned against him during his first term, and supported his unsuccessful opponent, Horace Greeley, in 1872. In the highly contentious 1876 election, the Sun favored Samuel Tilden over Rutherford Hayes. Those who think that the "Politics of Personal Destruction" was a 20th century invention can look to this medal for a stellar example at least a century older.

Made for Isaac F. Wood.

Sullivan SJT 1876-8

Diameter: 31 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy **No.**

Bronze 3130bz

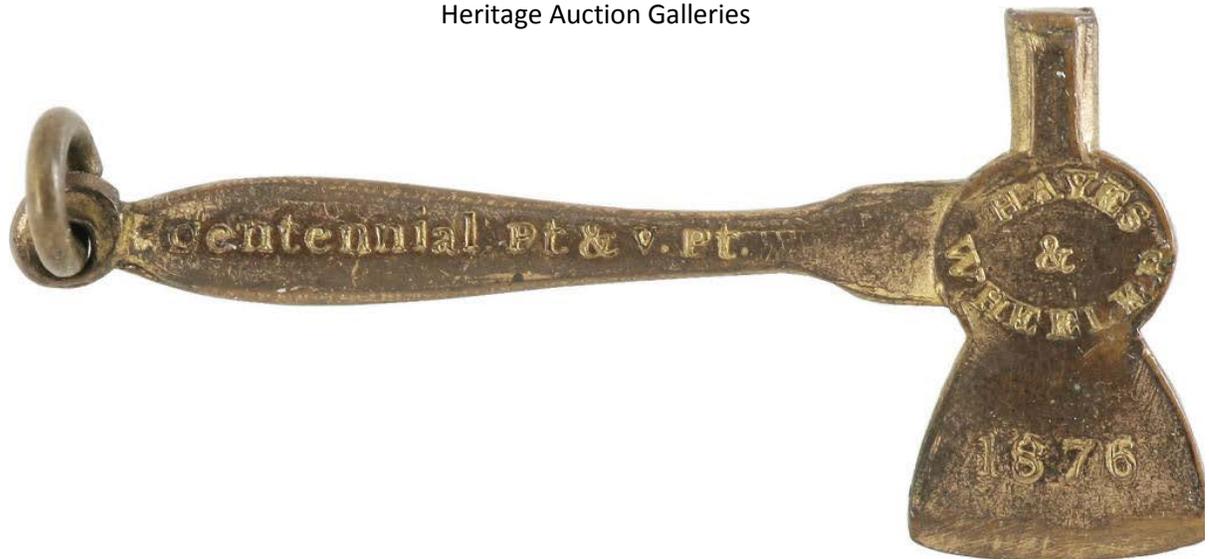
White Metal 3130wm

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

3140. Hayes & Wheeler Hatchet



Photos courtesy of
Heritage Auction Galleries



(5.7x)

Obverse: In the shape of a hatchet, with hatchet head facing left, nude bust of Washington left; "1776" beneath; "PAT." to right; "TRUTH" on the handle; molded suspension ring at the end of the handle.

Reverse: With the head of the hatchet facing right, on the handle: "CENTENNIAL .Pt (diamond) & .Pt."; in a circle on the center of the hatchet head: "HAYES // & // WHEELER"; below: "1876".

Cross-refs: Not listed.

Size: 39 mm. wide x 13 mm high **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.	Note
Gilt	3140gi	

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

3150. Warren/Battleground



(2.2x)

Photos courtesy of
Chris Papadakis



(2.2x)

Obverse: Bust of Warren in civilian dress, facing front; around, clockwise from 11:00: "JOSEPH WARREN."; and counterclockwise from 9:00: "BORN , 1741 . DIED . JUNE 17 , 1775."

Reverse: The Bunker Hill monument and its fence; around, clockwise from 8:30: "BUNKER HILL BATTLE GROUND"; in exergue both to the left and the right: "RANDALL SG"; below: "1875."

Holland and Frossard both describe this medal's obverse inscription to include the "KILLED" instead of "DIED." If they were correct, then there would be another medal not included in this catalog. However, I believe this medal to be what was intended by Holland 5 and Frossard 38.

Cross-refs: F-38, H-5.

Diameter: 36.5mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy **No.**

White Metal 3150wm

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

3160. Bunker Hill/Centennial



(3.0x)



(3.0x)

Obverse: A depiction of Trumbull's "Death of General Warren at the Battle of Bunker Hill," killed in the third and final assault of the battle; around, clockwise from 8:30: "BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL,"; counterclockwise from 7:00: "JUNE 17, 1775."; a five-pointed star at 8:00 and 3:00, separating the inscriptions.

Reverse: The Bunker Hill monument; around, clockwise from 8:00: "CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY"; counterclockwise from 7:00: "JUNE 17, 1875."; . around and within the monument and old fence. Brass, pierced; copper and white metal; size 17.

Cross-refs: F-39, H-7.

Diameter: 27.4 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy	No.
Bronze	3160bz
Bronze	3160bz
White Metal	3160wm

Medals Commemorating Historical Events

3170. Monument/Warren Shield



(3.0x)



(3.0x)

Obverse: A view of the Bunker Hill monument; around, clockwise from 10:00: "BUNKER HILL"; and a view of the monument.

Reverse: A shield emblazoned in three lines: "JUNE / 17TH / 1775"; in chief, 13 stars; above, a rising sun; above, clockwise from 11:00: "WARREN"; behind the shield, two flags left and two right; the whole surrounded by a tied laurel wreath open at the top.

Cross-refs: F-40, H-8.

Diameter: 27.4 mm. **Edge:** Plain

Alloy **No.**

White Metal 3170wm