

## John Hancock Pens a letter in August of 1776,

remanding three men suspected of sedition to the council of safety in Philadelphia. Written on the back of an Autographed Letter Signed by Robert Hanson Harrison, George Washingtons Personal Secretary and Aide de Camp during the Revolutionary War.

John Hancock (Born 1737 & Died 1793)

He was a Merchant, Statesman and Patriot.

One of the Founding Fathers

President of the Continental Congress (November 23, 1785 – June 5, 1786)

He was the first signer of The Declaration of Independence (What he is most known for today).

His signature was so bold and beautiful on the Declaration of Independence his signature is referenced today, when someone ask for a personal signature, they say “I need your John Hancock.”

His signature is arguably the most famous signature in the history of The United Sates of America.

Transcript of his side of the letter (Where he autographed)

To the officer of guard at the Indian Queen Hotel (Indian Queen Hotel was a POW Camp during the Revolutionary War)

“You are to take the within nam’d persons now in your custody to The Council of Safety of Pennsylvania, who are Requested to examine them touching the matters alleged against them and if nothing be found against them they be discharged by order of congress”

Robert Harrison (Born 1745 Born & Died 1790)

American lawyer and jurist

Aid-de -camp to general George Washington 1775 to 1781

Secretary to George Washington

Executed most of George Washington’s commands or military duties during the Revolutionary War

Transcript of his side of the letter (Where he autographed)

“To Jacob Schaefer of the city of New York where this is full reason to apprehend that certain Thomas and Patrick Ballantine and Robert Gilmore late of the colony of Virginia who passed from the above said city this morning to are persons unfriendly **to the rights and liberties of the United States of America,** and are carrying on sundry malpractices against the interest of the said states there are therefore to require you to make diligent pursuit after all and every of the person aforesaid and them having been found, the same and all sincerely delivered to the committee of the town or county that shall be most contagious to be by them safely conveyed to the city of Philadelphia and then deliver to the honorable president of the Continental Congress by his excellencies command Robert H Harrison secretary

headquarters N York August 17th 1776 all friends to America are requested to aid and assist that said Jacob Schaefer and the execution of this warrant.”

## **SUMMARY (Important Points)**

This document is arguably one of the most important documents to come out of the Revolutionary War, this document is recorded and registered with the National Archives. The document was originally owned by the Gratz family who was a well-known Philadelphia family who collected only documents of the highest importance from the Revolutionary War and the civil war.

First thing that really makes this document interesting is the people who are obviously on this document you have John Hancock who was one of the founding fathers of the United States and one of the most well-known individuals in United states history. He was the first signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Robert Harrison was the second longest serving aide- de-camp to general George Washington during the Revolutionary War. He was his personal secretary and friend. Only orders of the highest importance during the Revolutionary War from George Washington went through Robert Harrison.

Second, take a look at the dates noted, on John Hancock 's side you have August 22nd 1776, Robert Harrison side you have August 17th 1776. Most people think that we were considered the United States of America on the 4th of July that's when the Declaration of Independence was signed and publicized. However, the Declaration of Independence was ratified and finalized on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. This document was signed just a little over two weeks after we were “really” considered The United States of America for the first time in history.

What I really like about this document is that on Robert Harrison side it says “persons unfriendly to the rights and liberties of the United States of America” with the emphasis on the verbiage United States of America. This is one of the earliest documents noted and survived that uses the verbiage United States of America.

Lastly this document is all about the concept of sedition, sedition during the Revolutionary War was a major war crime. George Washington was relentless and ruthless to those who were suspected and convicted of sedition. These three American men were running for their lives from Virginia to seek refuge in New York because at the time in 1776 New York was primarily under British rule. George Washington heard about these three men suspected of sedition he immediately directed Robert Harrison to look for these three men in New York and if found bring them to the Indian queen hotel the prisoner of war camp in Philadelphia, to face a trial, if they were found guilty, they would be executed.

According to the national archives John Hancock penned a letter to George Washington saying that the men were captured and are being examined. There are no answers to what happened to the three men, but history shows George Washington was ruthless to those even suspected of sedition, in my opinion they were probably executed.

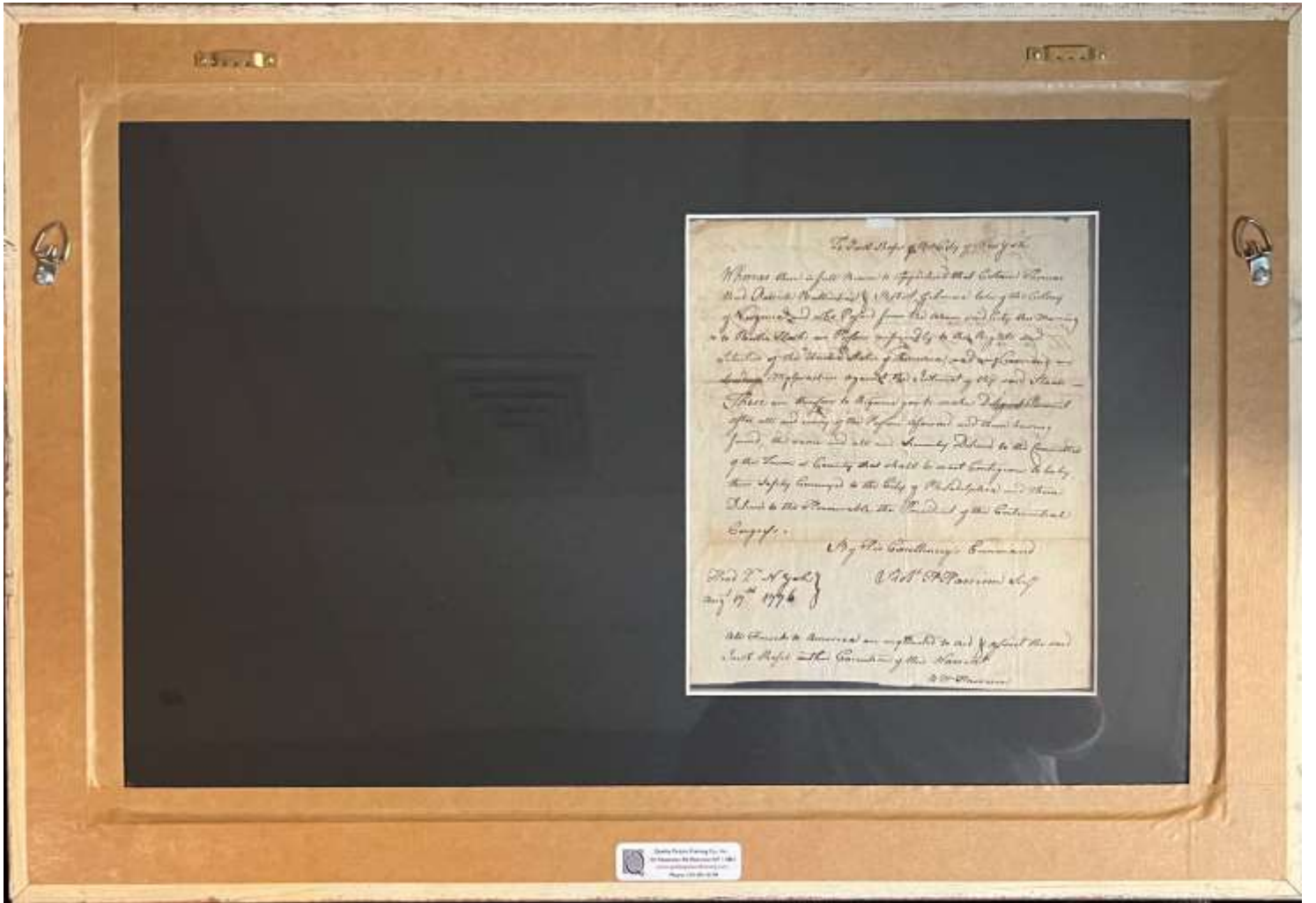
This Document has everything a true collector and historian looks for. The content is outstanding, the theme of sedition which echoes current events today. The dates noted (1776), the inception of our country, and of course the notable people involved, lastly its providence. Who wouldn't want to own a recorded piece of history like this.

Here is the link to the National Archives where the letter is cited in Paragraph 3, as well as John Hancock's response to George Washington noted at the top.

<https://founders.archives.gov/documents/Washington/03-06-02-0093>

**OFFER PRICE \$26,000**





To the Honorable Commandant

Whereas the Honorable Commandant of the City of Philadelphia has been informed by the Honorable Council of the City of Philadelphia that the Honorable Council of the City of Philadelphia have resolved that the Honorable Council of the City of Philadelphia should be constituted in the City of Philadelphia in the County of Philadelphia in the State of Pennsylvania and that the Honorable Council of the City of Philadelphia should be constituted in the City of Philadelphia in the County of Philadelphia in the State of Pennsylvania and that the Honorable Council of the City of Philadelphia should be constituted in the City of Philadelphia in the County of Philadelphia in the State of Pennsylvania

By the Honorable Commandant  
W. M. *(Signature)* May 17th 1776

Witness my hand and seal of the City of Philadelphia in the County of Philadelphia in the State of Pennsylvania this 17th day of May 1776

W. M. *(Signature)*

Quality Paper Printing Co., Inc.  
1000 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20004  
Phone: 202-462-1111

# Famous Sculptor Augustus Saint Gaudens Typed and Autographed Letter to George Kunz Vice President of Tiffany & CO in 1906.

Falling ill of cancer Augustus St. Gaudens sends a letter to vice president of Tiffany and Co George Kunz explaining how he could not complete the project of the 1906 bicentennial Ben Franklin philosophical medal because of his illness, and his pupil Henry Herring will take over and act on Saint Gaudens behalf.

## Augustus Saint Gaudens (Born 1848 & Died 1907)

Born in Dublin Ireland

Arguably the most Famous Sculptor in history

President Teddy Roosevelt commissioned him to re-design US Coinage in 1907

Designer of the \$20 Gold Double Eagle and \$10 Indian Eagle

\$20 Gold Double Eagle design hailed as the most beautiful gold coin ever issued in American History.

Sculpted the famous statue Abraham Lincoln: *The Man*, which stands in Lincoln Park, Chicago

Sculpted the famous William Tecumseh Sherman Victory Memorial, which stands right in front of the plaza hotel in NY. The obverse of Saint-Gaudens' 1907 United States Saint Gaudens double eagle coin, portraying Liberty is based on his sculpture of Victory.

## Transcript of the letter (Where he autographed)

"Dear Mr. Kunz, I thank you very much for your valuable and prompt assistance on the Franklin medal my own illness which confines me to my bed prevents my attending to it in person but I wish to introduce to you Mr. Henry Herring the bearer of this letter will act for me and whatever he decides as best in the matter I should like to have followed yours truly Augustus St. Gaudens"

## George Kunz (Born 1856 & Died 1932)

Born in Manhattan, NY

Vice President of Tiffany & CO

Mineralogist & Mineral Collector

He gained much notoriety for identifying a new gem variety of the mineral which was named "Kunzite" in his honor.

He also supervised the cutting of the very large stone that became the notable [Tiffany Yellow Diamond](#).



Worked on the striking of the 1906 Bicentennial Ben Franklin Philosophical Medal, by Tiffany & Co.

## **SUMMARY (Important Points)**

Our company purchased this document from a very reputable document dealer in France. What we like about this document is that it is extremely rare and unique. You would find it very hard pressed to find a document that is numismatically related (coin related) attributed to Augustus Saint Gaudens. There have been two documents that have been publicly sold at auction regarding coins & Augustus Saint Gaudens. Both documents sold for over six figures.

The medal noted in the document is a very rare piece commemorating Ben Franklins Bicentennial in 1906. The Medal was authorized by congress in 1904 and commissioned Tiffany & CO to strike the medals. The American Philosophical Society were then to distribute them. One Gold Medal was made and presented as a gift to the French State. Tiffany & CO made 150 medals in bronze, when those ran out the Philadelphia Mint took on the project and minted another 200 in February of 1907. The 150 Medals Produced by Tiffany are branded with the Tiffany & CO hallmark on the edge of the medal. The 200 minted at Philadelphia have no hallmark. The Medals are exceedingly rare in any case.

There has been a lot of debate on who actually designed the medal. Some say it was Louis Saint Gaudens, Bother of Augustus Saint Gaudens (who was known to be a better sculptor but lacked the detail and work ethic of his brother Augustus). Some say Augustus was the designer because he saw the project through from inception to completion. In a recent coin world article a letter was found from Homer Saint Gaudens (son of Augustus and nephew to Louis) to the American Numismatic Society stating that his uncle (Louis) was the true designer of the medal and his father was not. This makes things interesting because Louis Saint Gaudens supposedly left the project in 1905, For Augustus to complete. But This letter may represent something different. In the letter Augustus introduces his pupil Henry Hering, to see the project through, since Augutus was too ill to continue the project. Henry Hering was noted to finishing the designs for the \$20 Double Eagle & \$10 Indian Eagle. So, should Henry Hering be the one credited with this design? This letter may be the document that cracks the code based on the dates and timelines of the project. It's all a mystery in history. Which makes this piece so interesting and unique.

This Document is a piece to the puzzle, but it opens doors to new theories. As mentioned, should Henry Hering be credited for the design? Should Louis? Should Augutus? Maybe a mix of the three famous artists? In any case to have an authentic Augustus Saint Gaudens letter, signed by him, relating to anything numismatically is something truly rare and unique.

**OFFER PRICE \$8,500**

AUGUSTUS SAINT-ARON  
WOODBORO' VERMONT

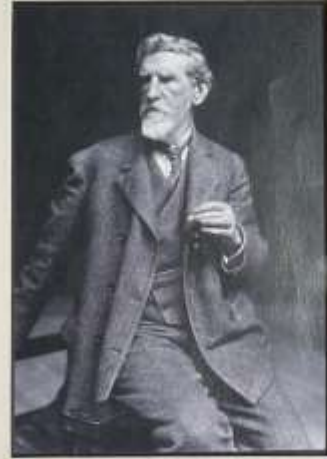
Feb 21 1900.

Dear Mr. Merrill-

I thank you very much for your valuable and prompt assistance in the Franklin medal. My own illness which confines me to my bed prevents my attending to it in person, but I wish to introduce to you Mr. Henry Haring, the bearer of this letter, who will act for me and whatever he decides is best in the matter I should like to have followed.

Yours truly,

Augustus Saint-Aron



AUGUSTUS SAINT-GAUDENS  
WINDSOR VERMONT.

Feb 21 1906.

Dear Mr. Kunz:-

I thank you very much for your valuable and prompt assistance on the Franklin medal. My own illness which confines me to my bed prevents my attending to it in person, but I wish to introduce to you Mr. Henry Hering, the bearer of this letter, who will act for me and whatever he decides as best in the matter I should like to have followed.

Yours truly,

Augustus Saint-Gaudens



# Abraham Lincoln & Edwin Stanton Signed Civil War Military Commission, July of 1862

Civil War Military Commission signed by Abraham Lincoln refers to an official document issued during the American Civil War (1861-1865). This commission was typically a written directive that authorized a specific individual to hold a military position or perform a particular duty within the Union Army. As the President of the United States during the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln held the authority to appoint and commission officers, grant promotions, and establish military roles. These commissions played a crucial role in shaping the leadership and organization of the Union forces during a pivotal period in American history.

## Abraham Lincoln

(1809-1865) was the 16th President of the United States, serving from 1861 to 1865. He is widely revered for his leadership during the American Civil War and for his efforts to abolish slavery. Born in a humble background, Lincoln rose to prominence as a lawyer and politician, eventually becoming the first Republican president. His Emancipation Proclamation in 1863 declared slaves in Confederate states to be free, and he pushed for the passage of the 13th Amendment, which permanently abolished slavery in the United States. Tragically, Lincoln's life was cut short when he was assassinated in 1865, just days after the Civil War ended. His legacy as a unifying leader and champion of human rights continues to influence American history and culture.

## Edwin Stanton

(1814-1869) was an influential American lawyer and politician who served as the Secretary of War under Presidents Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson during the Civil War and Reconstruction eras. Stanton played a pivotal role in managing the Union war effort, overseeing military operations, recruitment, and supply. He is best remembered for his integral involvement in President Lincoln's assassination investigation and subsequent trial of the conspirators. Stanton's strong leadership and organizational skills contributed significantly to the Union's victory in the Civil War.

## General John A. Dix

(1798-1879) was a prominent military figure during the American Civil War. He served as a Union Army general and held various key commands. Notably, he was assigned to oversee the defense of Baltimore in the early days of the war. He later led forces in Virginia, participating in the Peninsula Campaign and the Battle of Antietam. General Dix is perhaps best known for his famous order "If any man attempts to haul down the American flag, shoot him on the spot," which he issued as a military commander in Baltimore in 1861. This order became a rallying cry for patriotism during the war.

## William H. Ludlow

(1831-1911) served as an aide-de-camp to General John A. Dix during the American Civil War. General Dix was a Union Army officer who held various commands during the war. Ludlow's role as an aide-de-camp involved assisting General Dix with administrative tasks, communication, and coordination. He

would have played a key role in relaying orders, managing information, and supporting the general in his duties. Ludlow's service as an aide-de-camp exemplified the important role that staff officers played in facilitating the efficient functioning of military commands during the Civil War.

## **SUMMARY (Important Points)**

A truly remarkable historical artifact to present to you. We are offering an exceptional piece of American history – an Abraham Lincoln and Edwin Stanton signed military commission dated July 28, 1862. This commission promotes William H. Ludlow to the prestigious position of aid-de-camp to General John A. Dix, a role of great significance during this tumultuous period in our nation's history.

This meticulously preserved document showcases not only the signatures of two influential figures during the Civil War era, but also boasts exceptional paper quality, a full seal, beautiful vignettes, and a tastefully crafted frame.

This military commission is a tangible link to a pivotal time in American history. The signatures of Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States, and Edwin Stanton, the Secretary of War, are featured prominently on this document. Dated July 28, 1862, this commission holds the weight of a nation at war and symbolizes the leadership and determination that defined that era.

The paper itself is a testament to the attention to detail that went into its creation. Crafted with the utmost care, it showcases remarkable durability and preservation. The paper's quality speaks to the historical significance it holds and the care taken to ensure its longevity.

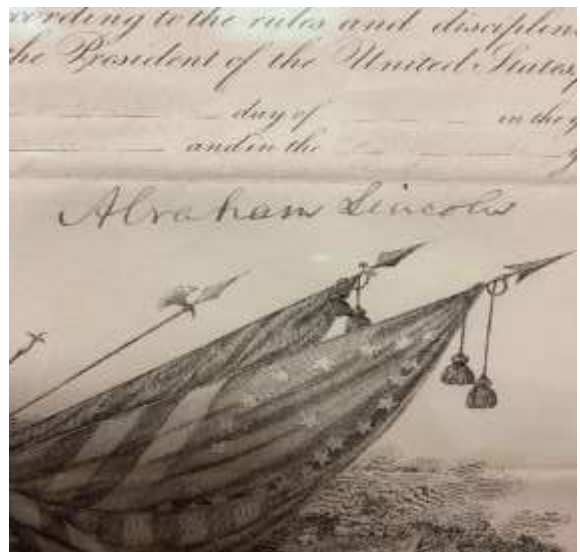
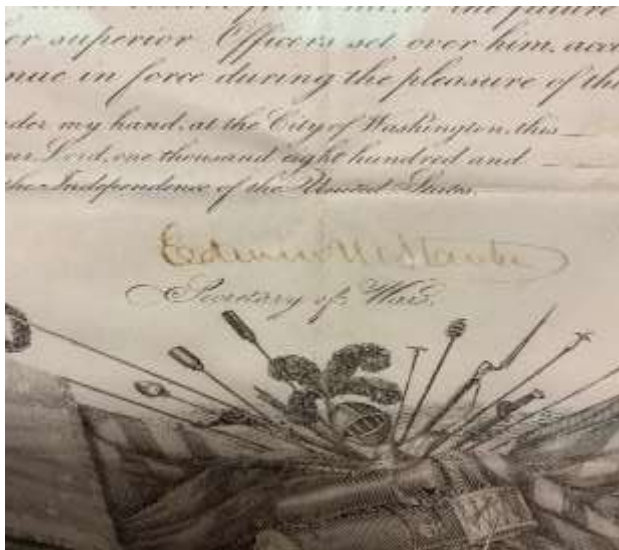
Adding to the document's allure are the full seal and beautiful vignettes that adorn its borders. These artistic touches elevate the commission from a mere document to a piece of art, capturing the essence of the era and the gravitas of the occasion.

To truly enhance the visual impact of this historical artifact, we've taken the utmost care in framing it. The frame has been carefully selected to complement the aesthetics of the document while providing protection and presentation befitting such an important piece of history.

Owning this Abraham Lincoln and Edwin Stanton signed military commission isn't just an acquisition; it's an investment in history. Whether displayed in your home, office, or a historical collection, this document is sure to spark conversations and preserve the legacy of one of the most transformative periods in American history.

In closing, this Abraham Lincoln and Edwin Stanton signed military commission is an unparalleled piece of history, expertly preserved and presented. Its exceptional paper quality, full seal, beautiful vignettes, and tasteful framing make it a unique and compelling addition to any collection. Don't miss out on the opportunity to own a tangible piece of the past that continues to inspire and resonate with the present.

**OFFER \$18,000**





THE  
**PRESIDENT of the United States of AMERICA,**



*To all who shall see these presents greeting*

**Know Ye** That, reposing special trust and confidence in the patriotism, valor, fidelity, and abilities of *John Fremont*, I have nominated, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, do appoint him in the service of the United States: to rank as such from the *1st* day of *July* *1846* and *1846*. He is therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duty by doing and performing all manner of things thereunto belonging. And I do strictly charge and require all Officers and Soldiers under his command to be obedient to his orders as *usual*. And he is to observe and follow such orders and directions from time to time, as he shall receive from me, or the future President of the United States of America, or the General, or other superior Officers set over him, according to the rules and discipline of War. This Commission to continue in force during the pleasure of the President of the United States for the time being.

GIVEN under my hand, at the City of Washington, this *1st* day of *July* *1846* in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and *46* and in the *19th* year of the Independence of the United States.

By the President

*Edmund M. Stanton*  
 Secretary of War

*Abraham Lincoln*



# *Signed Letter to Walter Breen From Anthony de Francisci (Designer of the Peace Dollar) in 1962 about a Rare Peace Dollar, Accompanied by Original Typewritten Draft of a Two-Page Appreciation of the Anthony de Francisci by Breen, with Handwritten Corrections*

## Anthony de Francisci

Anthony de Francisci was an Italian-American sculptor and artist renowned for his contribution as the designer of the iconic Peace Dollar. Born in Italy in 1887, de Francisci immigrated to the United States at a young age, where he later pursued a career in the arts.

His most notable achievement came in 1921 when he won a national competition to design the new Peace Dollar, a commemorative coin intended to symbolize peace after the First World War. His winning design showcased Lady Liberty on the obverse, wearing a radiant crown representing freedom and enlightenment. On the reverse side, a majestic bald eagle perched upon a rock, clutching an olive branch, symbolized the nation's aspiration for tranquility.

De Francisci's design was praised for its artistry and symbolism, capturing the sentiment of the era. The Peace Dollar became an enduring numismatic treasure, admired by collectors and history enthusiasts alike. His work on this coin not only solidified his place in American numismatic history but also highlighted his ability to infuse powerful symbolism into his art.

Anthony de Francisci's legacy lives on through his significant contribution to the numismatic world, where his artistic vision continues to be celebrated through the beauty and meaning of the Peace Dollar.

## Walter Breen

Walter Breen was a notable numismatic scholar and a prominent figure in the world of coin collecting and numismatics. Born on September 1, 1928, Breen was known for his extensive knowledge and expertise in coins, tokens, and currency, as well as his controversial personal life.

Breen's contributions to numismatics were significant and multifaceted. He authored several influential books, including "Walter Breen's Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins," which became a go-to reference for coin collectors and researchers. His meticulous research and detailed cataloging of coins helped advance the understanding of American numismatic history.



Walter Breen's legacy in numismatics remains complex. While his scholarly work made valuable contributions to the understanding of coins and their history. His impact on numismatics is still felt today, as his research and writings continue to guide collectors, historians, and scholars interested in the world of coins and currency.

### **SUMMARY (Important Points)**

An interesting letter bringing together two 20th-century American numismatic icons. Anthony de Francisci was the designer of the Peace Dollar, first struck in 1921. Widely considered one of the more beautiful and artistically accomplished of U.S. coin designs, de Francisci's work has many admirers in the numismatic field. Breen was apparently one of them, as his two-page appreciation (a draft of which accompanies the letter from Francisci) makes clear.

Breen's initial letter to de Francisci, if it has survived, is not known to us. It is possible that Breen had sent the artist a copy of his article, "The 1922 Type of 1921 Peace Dollar," which had appeared in the July 1961 issue of The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine. However according to the Red book of 1962, the most expensive Peace Dollar was the 1934 S (San Francisco) for \$75. We believe Anthony de Francisci made a typo and meant to say \$60 rather than \$60,000.

Breen genuinely admired de Francisci's work, and he would go on to write a lengthier article on the Peace Dollar for the November and December 1964 issues of the Whitman Numismatic Journal. This letter from the artist to the numismatist is of considerable interest and bears a bold signature by de Francisci.

In conclusion Anthony De Francisci's Autograph is a difficult one to acquire. He was a very humble, quiet person. As you can see from his response in the letter, he has a self-deprivation sense of humor. He couldn't believe something with his initials was worth anything of value. One can probably assume he was not one to be in the spotlight or give out his autograph.

**OFFER \$6,500**

Anthony de Francisci

246 West 80th Street  
New York City 24 N.Y.  
February 26th 1962

Mr. Walter Breen  
2404 Grove Street  
Berkeley Cal, 9.

Dear Mr. Breen:  
I appreciated your mathematic pamphlet very  
much! Your world is simply a fascinating la-  
byrinth involved in previous minutes.  
My usually chronic lack of approval of my own  
work as a sculptor received a shot in the arm  
when reading that one of the silver dollars bear-  
ing my initials can bring in \$ 6000. EXTRAORDI.

Well good luck to you. With my regards  
I am,

Sincerely yours  
*Anthony de Francisci*  
Anthony de Francisci



Anthony de Francisci

246 West 80th Street  
New York City 24 N.Y.  
February 26th 1962

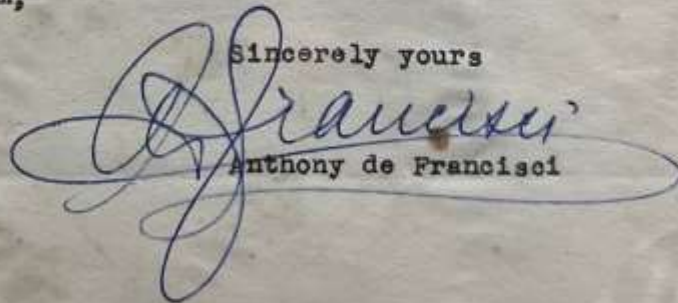
Mr. Walter Breen  
2404 Grove Street  
Berkeley Cal, 9.

Dear Mr. Breen;  
I appreciated your numismatic pamphlet very  
much. Your world is simply a fascinating la-  
byrinth involved in precious minutiae.

My usually chronic lack of approval of my own  
merit as a sculptor received a shot in the arm  
when reading that one of the silver dollars bea-  
ring my initials can bring in \$ 6000. FANTASTIC!.

Well good luck to you. With my regards  
I am,

Sincerely yours

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Francisci', is written over the typed name. The signature is highly decorative with many loops and flourishes.

Anthony de Francisci

draft

## ANTHONY DE FRANCISCI: AN APPRECIATION

Collectors tend to forget that medals can be works of art--sculpture within the limitations of bas-relief and, usually, circular composition--rather than merely souvenirs or commercially exploitable property. Yet ever since the earlier days of the Roman Empire, medallions have been prized for their aesthetic value, and from the Renaissance to the present day sculptors of all degrees of ability have found a never-ending challenge in this restrictive medium of expression. It is too easy to associate the signatures on medals merely with the medals themselves, too easy to forget that these individuals are artists and sculptors.

America has not been without its share of excellent sculptors known to numismatists as designers of coins or medals. The names of Paul Manship, A.A. Weinman, James Earle Fraser, and Anthony de Francischi, in particular, have an entirely different connotation to connoisseurs of American art and to coin collectors.

With the appearance on the numismatic scene of a new medal by Anthony de Francischi it seems appropriate to acquaint collectors with some facts about his life and work, facts which will perhaps justify in part the opinion in National Sculpture Review (Winter 1959-60) calling him "one of the foremost medallists of today".

Anthony de Francischi was born in Palermo, Italy, June 13, 1887. He studied at Casper Union and thereafter at National Academy of Design and Art Students League. Among his teachers were A.A. Weinman and J.E. Fraser. It is therefore quite understandable that de Francischi was early attracted to medallic work, and his principal efforts have been in this field and in monumental sculptures such as the Union Square <sup>Indp.</sup> Memorial (NYC), the "Night" and "Day" panels on the Post Office building in Washington, and an allegorical group for Eli Lilly & Co. in Indianapolis, as well as various examples in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Clifton Museum, Brookgreen Gardens (S.C.) and the Mint Museum of the Hotel de Monnaie, Paris. His medallic work is more famous: the Congressional Medal for General Pershing, the Maine commemorative half dollar, the Peace dollar, US Army insignia, the World War II discharge button or "ruptured duck", and various medals for the Society of Medallists and numerous industries.



*Henry Conrad pens a letter to Consul of Bremen  
Germany from the legation of Haiti informing of  
President Lincoln's Assassination, days after  
Lincoln was assassinated.*

President Lincoln's assassination on April 14, 1865, left an indelible mark on the United States and the world. His dedication to freedom, equality, and unity continues to resonate across borders. It is in this spirit of shared values that we propose a gesture of commemoration that transcends national boundaries.

This is a very legible penned letter from Henry Conrad the Secretary in Charge at the Legation in Port au Prince Haiti on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1865. He writes the letter to Charles Steencken esq, Consul of Bremen in Germany. He wanted to notify the consulate in Germany to lower the flags at half-mast at 3 o'clock the following day to show tribute and solidarity to President Lincoln.

Lowering flags at half-mast is a tradition steeped in symbolism and respect. It serves as a visible representation of mourning and remembrance for those who have left an enduring legacy.

This commemorative act presents a unique opportunity to strengthen diplomatic ties between Haiti, Germany, and the United States. It showcases the Legation of Haiti's willingness to engage in a meaningful dialogue with history and international relations. By standing in solidarity with the United States during this period of remembrance, the Legation of Haiti can exemplify the values that underpin diplomatic relationships.

The letter is Paired with the original Enveloped addressed to Charles Steencken, as well as a Abraham Lincoln assassination/death medal that was given out at the funeral of President Lincoln.

**OFFER \$3,500**



Charles Henckes Esq  
Consul Genl of Bremen  
Bremen.



Legation of the U. S. of America  
at Bremen, Hagen, May 2<sup>nd</sup> 1868

Charles Henckes Esq  
Consul Genl of Bremen  
Sir,

It is my painful duty to inform you  
of the awful assassination of His Excellency  
The President Lincoln (of the U.  
S. of America) on the 14<sup>th</sup> ultimo.

In view of this sad circumstance  
the flag of this Legation and Consulate,  
will be placed at half-mast during the  
morning the 3<sup>rd</sup> instant.

Your response to this, will be  
considered as a mark of sympathy and  
friendship towards the Government of U. S.

I have the honor to be Sir,  
Truly Yr. Servant,  
Henry Conrad  
Secretary in Charge  
Legation

Legation of the U. S. of America at  
Port-au-Prince, Hayti May 2<sup>nd</sup> 1865.

Charles Steenken Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Consul Gen<sup>l</sup>. of Bremen.

Sir,

It is my painful duty to inform you  
of the wilfull assassination of His Excellency  
The President Lincoln, (of the U.  
S. of America) on the 14<sup>th</sup> ultimo.

In view of this sad circumstance,  
the Flag of this Legation and Consulate,  
will be placed at half-mast during to  
morrow the 3<sup>rd</sup> instant.

Your response to this, will be  
considered as a mark of sympathy and  
friendship towards the Government of U. S.

I have the honor to be Sir  
Truly Y<sup>rs</sup>. Your O<sup>b</sup>d<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>,

Henry Couard  
Secretary in Charge  
of Legation



Charles Steenken Esq.  
Consul Genl. of Bremen.  
Present.



# Franklin Delano Roosevelt countersigned, (Assistant Secretary of the Navy), Woodrow Wilson Naval Appointment, 1913.

Military Commission signed by Woodrow Wilson and countersigned by Franklin Delano Roosevelt as Assistant Secretary of the Navy. This commission was typically a written directive that authorized a specific individual to hold a military position or perform a particular duty.

## Franklin Delano Roosevelt (FDR)

Franklin D. Roosevelt served as Assistant Secretary of the Navy from 1913 to 1920 under President Woodrow Wilson. During this time, he played a crucial role in naval affairs. Later, Roosevelt was elected as the 32nd President of the United States, taking office on March 4, 1933, amid the Great Depression. He implemented the New Deal policies and led the nation through World War II until his passing on April 12, 1945, leaving a lasting impact on both domestic and international fronts.

## Woodrow Wilson

Woodrow Wilson, the 28th President of the United States, served from 1913 to 1921. Elected in 1912, he focused on progressive reforms, including the Federal Reserve Act and the Clayton Antitrust Act. Wilson led the nation through World War I, advocating for the League of Nations in the post-war peace negotiations. Despite facing opposition to the League in the Senate, Wilson left a significant impact on both domestic and international fronts during his presidency.

## SUMMARY (Important Points)

The 1913 Naval appointment document, bearing the distinguished signatures of President Woodrow Wilson and the historic figure Franklin Delano Roosevelt, represents a captivating relic from a pivotal moment in American history. Notably, FDR's ascent to the position of Assistant Secretary of the Navy at the tender age of 31 marks a unique and compelling aspect of this artifact.

Roosevelt, later to become the 32nd President of the United States, left an indelible mark on the nation, and this document serves as a tangible link to the early stages of his remarkable career. The fact that he achieved the distinction of being the youngest Secretary of the Navy underscores the significance of this document, elevating it to a cherished piece of historical memorabilia.

Beyond the illustrious signatures, the document's pristine condition enhances its value, providing a clear and vivid window into the past. The beautifully preserved vignettes not only add aesthetic appeal but also offer visual insights into the naval themes of the time, creating a multisensory connection to the historical context in which this document originated.

As a collector or enthusiast, possessing such an artifact transcends mere ownership; it is a testament to the evolving landscape of American leadership and naval affairs during the early 20th century. The carefully maintained condition of the document and the artful preservation of its vignettes make it a valuable and rare piece, inviting admiration from historians, collectors, and anyone with an appreciation for the rich tapestry of the nation's past.

the 1913 Naval appointment document signed by President Woodrow Wilson and Assistant Secretary of the Navy Franklin Delano Roosevelt stands as a symbol of historical significance. Its pristine state and thoughtfully preserved vignettes contribute to its allure, making it a tangible bridge to a bygone era and an invaluable addition to any collection dedicated to preserving and appreciating the intricate threads of America's storied past.

Woodrow Wilson's signature is visible but is a bit faded, FDR's signature is extremely strong and bold. Anyone buying this piece should be buying it more so for FDR's signature as it's a very early signature from him in his political career. Also, this piece is extremely rare considering the signatures of two presidents on one document. The piece is now protected behind museum/UV protected glass to stop anymore fading. It is framed in a beautiful mahogany and gold frame.

**OFFER \$5,500**







Madam Wilson

President of the United States of America.

TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS.

Warning:

Know Ye, that upon my special Trust and Confidence in the Honorable Value, Ability and Integrity of **Arthur W. Stevens**, I have appointed and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, do appoint him a **Assistant Naval Constructor in the Navy with the rank of Lieutenant**, from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July 1813, in the service of the **UNITED STATES**. He is therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duties of an Assistant Naval Constructor, by doing and performing all manner of things therein belonging.

And I do strictly charge and require, all Officers, Sailors and Marines under his Command to be obedient to his Orders as an Assistant Naval Constructor; And he is to observe and follow such Regulations and Instructions from time to time as he shall receive from me, or the future **PRESIDENT** of the United States of America, or his Successors, as may hereafter be necessary in the Execution and Discharge of his said Office.

This **COMMISSION** is to continue in force during the pleasure of the President of the United States for the time being.

By the President

James M. Smith

Given under my Hand at Washington, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1813, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirteen, and in the 13<sup>th</sup> year of the Independence of the United States.



Approved by the  
Secretary of the Navy  
James M. Smith, Secy of the Navy



Woodrow Wilson

President of the United States of America

TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS.  
Greeting:

Know Ye, that upon special Trust and Confidence in the Patriotic Value, Fidelity and Ability of Arthur W. Franke, I have nominated and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate do appoint him an Assistant Naval Constructor in the Navy with the rank of Lieutenant, from the 1st day of July, 1913 in the service of the **UNITED STATES**. He is therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the Duties of an Assistant Naval Constructor, by doing and performing all manner of things thereto belonging. And I do strictly charge and require all Officers, Seamen and Marines under his Command to be obedient to his Orders as an Assistant Naval Constructor. And he is to observe and follow such Orders and Directions from time to time as he shall receive from me, or the future **PRESIDENT** of the United States of America, or his Regular Officers set over him, according to the Orders and Discipline of **THE NAVY**. This **COMMISSION** to continue in force during the pleasure of the President of the United States for the time being.

By the President

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Given under my Hand at Washington, this twenty second day of July, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirteen, and in the 35th year of the Independence of the United States



Approved: Mr. P.  
The Naval Secretary  
same date as to same.