

List of Publications

(continued from *Numismatic Notes and Monographs*, 1977, p. 107)

(DK 480) (continued from *Numismatik*)

(DK 480) (continued from *Numismatik*)

København på auktionen over Ole De Vosses's Medalt- og Medalje-Samling, D. 20. Apr. 1879. kr 18,00

The buyers at the auction of Ole De Voss's coin and medal collection, April 20, 1879. This collection of the later medieval and modern coins and medals was so important that the catalogue still is used.

København på auktionen over Ole De Vosses's Medalt- og Medalje-Samling III, 23. de Marts 1881. Cataloguing the antique coins. kr 48,00

The buyers at the auction of Ole De Vosses's medieval coins, September 22, 1879. kr 68,00
(Written in English language). Enormous collection (2,883 coins)

Fortegnelse over J. F. Heggerman-Lindencrone's Medalt- og Penge-samling (Catalogue of J. F. Heggerman-L.'s Coin- and banknote-collection) kr 40,00

København på auktionen over J. P. B. Grønhaard's Samling af norske Medaltier 5te December 1889. kr 12,00
(The buyers at the auction of J. P. B. Grønhaard's collection of Norwegian coins, December 5, 1889)

Morten Esk. Mo telesen & Jørgen Jensen. Bremerholms Kirke. Tattise (The church of the poor at Bremerholm). Listing the provenance of a known specimens of some rare (least five) reference given date, 1781. kr 18,00

Fortegnelse over danske og taskint's-kataloger (Bibliography of Danish coin-auction catalogues) 1684 to 1979. kr 88,00

København på auktionen over J. V. Bergsøe's Samling af Trankebar-Mønter 9de Oktober 1895. kr 3,00
(The buyers at the auction of J. V. Bergsøe's collection of Trankebar-mønter, October 9, 1895). Bergsøe's catalogue is still used as a reference in the bibliography of Bergsøe. Prices realized.

København på auktionen over H. V. Mørck's danske Medaltier og Mønter's af 1817 & 1818 Maj 9. kr 18,00
(The buyers at the auction of H. V. Mørck's Danish medals and coins, April 18 & May 19, 1891) including reprint of Mørck's *The Danish Coins*.

København på auktionen over en Møntsamlings tilhørende H. M. Ernst 1ste Marts 1895. Prices realized.

København på auktionen over C. L. Rübner's danske og norske Medaltier og Mønter af 1817 & 1818 Maj 8. kr 7,00
(The buyers at the auction of C. L. Rübner's collection of Danish and Norwegian coins and medals, May 8, 1891). Prices realized.

All the above mentioned studies handling the physical characteristics of the coins and medals, as well as the historical background of the various collections.

(continued from *Numismatik*)

(continued from *Numismatik*)

(continued from *Numismatik*)

(continued from *Numismatik*)

Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis
MO 63105

July 13 1981

Dear Sir Eric P. Newman

Many thanks for Your friendly and detailed letter of June 26.

Enclosed You will find a corrected copy of my little review.
As You will see, I have rewritten the paragraph concerning the
false countermarks (this was the part which mr. Coffing had
framed).

I hope the paragraph now shows to be moderated, and clearly
points out the author's (Sømods) opinions. But please let me
know if this part still isn't "weak" enough!

The opening line about the US auctionfirms, was intended to
catch the readers attention, but has now been dropped.

I should like to ask You if You would be so kind to edit my
English language.

If You afterwards, please, will forward the review to a suitable
publication of Your choice, I would be very grateful.

Kind regards, Yours

Morten Mortensen

Morten Mortensen

MORTEN ESKE MORTENSEN
»DREJOGÅRDEN«
DREJOGADE 26 F. 504
DK-2100 KØBENHAVN Ø.

I have made ZAC Publishing firm to send You a copy of
the Westindian book.

COUNTERFEIT COUNTERMARKS
from the Danish West Indies

On pages in the book "Mønter fra Dansk Vestindien" are mentioned, in chronological order, the sales, lists and collections of countermarks known to the author. In most cases the buyers' name are given. Many coins can be traced back to the 19th century.

In the Parson collection. Part three, on auction in New Jersey in march 1966, there were some countermarks of which the following may be mentioned: US 1/2 \$ 1855, US 1/4 \$ 1854, US dime 1854 and US cent 1852. The coins used are too recent and the counterstamp is not known on older countermarks. Thus, the coins are fakes. This particular countermark is easy to detect: There is no cross in the top of the crown. In 1967 Ray Burne declared them as fakes, stating that they were manufactured in 1960-65.

In any case, another series of fakes was made from latest 1966, many of which were on the Ray Burne auction - and they were all sold as genuine! The coins used for the fakes came from USA, England, France, Mexico, the Netherlands, Spain and Spanish America. The counterstamps used are not known from any of the early countermarks, and the most commonly employed counterstamp for fakes is seen on a US cent which also served for a counterfeit stamp for the Swedish possession St. Bartholomy (cat. no. 1239). This coin being recognized as a fake was not sold on the Ray Burne auction. This did not happen with other countermarks by the same Danish counterstamp. From the Ray Burne auction some other doubtful countermarks may be mentioned: US 1/2 cent 1832 and Brazil 40 reis 1825. Both have the same counterstamp as a US cent 1839, which in 1967, by Ray Burne, was declared as an early forgery. This counterstamp is not observed of any of the examined early countermarks. Also with regard to England 1/2 penny and English "Lady Godiva token" 1791 a counterstamp was used which is not known from the guaranteed old countermarks.

The early American countermark collections Gutttag, Newcomer and Blom Carlsen, had in common that nearly all their countermarks were bought from Danish collections. The American catalogue writers Scott, Duffield, Blom Carlsen and Raymond did not know the many countermarks now circulating in the USA as they were not manufactured at that

Did you realize that most illustrated countermarks from the Danish West Indies in the Krause/Mishler Standard Catalogue of World Coins are modern fakes?

This and a lot of other informations is found in "Mønter fra Dansk Vestindien" (Coins from the Danish West Indies) by Jørgen Sømød.

The text is in Danish but the over 200 illustrated coins and tokens speak for themselves. Everybody will be able to understand the principal contents of the latest and most comprehensive reference book on the coins and tokens from the U.S. Virgin Islands containing, all you want to know about this numismatical area, such as catalogue, concordance with other works, mintage, alloys, patterns, history etc.

Price: D.Kr 138.- + post (21 \$)

3	copies	-	25%
6	"	-	35%
10	"	-	40%

FORLAGET ZAC/Lars Zachariassen
Gothersgade 10
1123 København K
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From other editors

Sieg:

Jørgen Sønødt: Busmarker & Sportvognspoleter, Danmark 1863-1972. 1972.

13, 25

Jørgen Sønødt: Danmarks mønter fra middelalder til nutid samt Norges mønter 1481-1813

50, --

Vurderingspriser. 1977

Jørgen Sønødt: Mønterne fortæller. Danmark 1808-1977. 1977

44, 65

Mortensen:

Morten Eske Mortensen & Jørgen Sønødt: Bremerholms Kirckis Fattige. 1979.

22, --

Zac:

Did You Know, that most Danish Westindian countermarks mentioned and pictured in the Krause/Mishler-Catalog are modern fakes?

3% of Danish Westindian countermarks in the Ray Byrne Collection were forgeries.

The book Coins from Danish West Indies tells you everything. It is in Danish language, but

a lot of illustrations make it easy to discern.

Jørgen Sønødt: Mønter fra Dansk Vestindien. 1980.

168, --

Jørgen Sønødt



Author and Publisher of
Numismatic Literature

Dealer in all kinds of

Coins

Medals

Orders

Primitive money

Tokens

Bank notes

Stocks

Antiquarian numismatic

literature

&

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SOMOD'S BOOK ON THE COINAGE OF THE U. S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

Review by Morton Eske Mortensen

(edited by Eric P. Newman)

Jorgen Sodom, the well known Danish professional numismatist and scholar, has published a very thorough study of the coinage of the former Danish colony, the American Virgin Islands. It is entitled MONTER FRA DANSK VESTINDIEN. When one reads this material it becomes evident how much is added to what previous writers have contributed to the subject. A substantial part of the book presents new information and opinions covering not only 18th century coinages, but countermarks and merchant's tokens. The author includes an extensive discussion of the distinction between genuine and false countermarks on which there has been so much emotional debate. He has traced listings of countermarked coins through auction catalogs beginning in 1870 and has noted the earliest appearance of each variety of countermark with the name of the buyer wherever possible. He distinguishes between countermarks undertaken by the government and the counterstamping done privately with the government's implied consent. He gives his opinion of the genuineness of the countermarked pieces in various sales, often disagreeing with the listing of the items.

As to coinage of 12 and 24 skilling pieces under King Frederick V (1746-66), he points out the way to distinguish between the work of the two die cutters, Wahl and Bauert. He also makes it clear as to how to distinguish between the pieces struck in the Copenhagen Mint, the Kongsberg Mint in Norway and the Altona Mint in Germany. He points out that some coins under King Christian VII (1766-08) dated in the year 1767 were also struck in 1782, 1790, 1791 and 1800.

His chapter on private merchant's tokens (1887-92) contains a wealth of new detail and information, including amusing biographical background material for the national origins and prior occupations of the issuers. A description and listing of off-strikes is very useful since those monsters are usually overlooked. He traces an 1748 off-strike in lead from its early owner (Guildal) to its apparent disappearance for the present.

There are included hitherto unpublished sketches for new coins dated 1859 proposed by the metallist F. C. Krohn (1806-83).

The author points how dangerous and detrimental it is to have forgeries and undocumented pieces appearing over and over again in various auctions. He names the auctions, the collector and the cataloger in which they are found. In one sale the author points out that there were more false countermarks than there were genuine countermarks. He explains that

ST in monogram which was classified in a sale as that of Saint Thomas is nothing more than a transportation token of Trondheim Sporvei, a tramway in Trondheim, Norway.

He shows that the Danish West India Company gold coins were not intended for circulation in the Virgin Islands, but were for use as trade dollars in Africa.

The book includes a very useful concordance covering all former works on the subject. The author includes all the misspellings and variations in edge design.

Finally he concludes that there are 69 different genuinely counterstamped coin types of the Virgin Islands and that there are no more than 10 examples known of any one variety.

The book, although written in Danish, is so well illustrated (over 200 illustrations) and categorized that it is easily understood and fulfills a great need in a controversial field. The tables, laws, orders and other useful data support its conclusions. It is obtainable from FORLAGET ZAC, Gothersgade 10, 1123 Copenhagen K, Denmark, for 168 Danish Kroner (about \$23). Dealers are entitled to a discount of 25% for 3 copies to 40% for 10 copies.

The publication of a piece of research on the coinage of a popular part of the United States by one steeped in its Danish colonial background is most welcome.

7/24/81