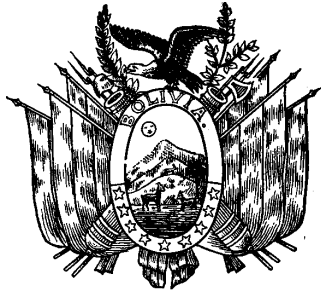


Modern Dime Size Silver Coins of the World

BOLIVIA



Coat of Arms - Eagle surmounting oval shield of rayed sun behind Mount Cerro de Potosi, llama to the left, tree to right, trophy of military arms behind.

BOLIVIA, REPUBLIC of
LA PAZ MINT

½ SOL 17MM .900 FINE 1.65 GRAMS

1855 u/m BO#32
1856 u/m BO#32+

^OV: Head of BOLIVAR, facing left, LIBRE POR LA CONSTITUTION (Freedom through the Constitution) around / BOLIVAR across base of bust.

∇RV: Two llamas under palm tree, ★★★★★★★★ (nine stars) above, REPUBLICA BOLIVIANA (Republic of Bolivia) around / •PAZ• (mintmark) DATE •P• below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: •PAZ• = LA PAZ

ASSAYER: P = unknown

REFERENCE: Y-17, KM-127

FOOTNOTE: Two Bolivian mints struck coinage of this series; La Paz and Potosi between 1853 and 1900 when small silver was discontinued. Listings are arranged first from La Paz followed by Potosi and the in date order, As with most former Spanish colonies, the practice of identifying the assayer by initials was followed by Bolivia, although most are not identified here. The issues are separated by assayer initials. The first denominations are the ½ sol of La Paz 1855-56, followed by 1858. The first listings of Potosi is the ½ sol starting with 1853. Denominations listed changed to 1/8 peso of 1859-63. In 1864-7 the 1/10 boliviano was the denomination on the dime size coinage of Bolivia. Starting in 1870 the denomination became the 10 centavos which continued through 1900 when the last of the silver issues of this size were struck.

FOOTNOTE: La Paz, a city and capital of the Department of La Paz is situated on the Chuquiapu river, 30 miles southeast of Titicaca, more than 12,000 feet above sea level, and has a cool and healthful climate. It has paved streets, and there are twenty bridges crossing the river. In its early history it suffered several times from Indian uprisings, being once besieged for four months by 100,000 Indians. It was the first Peruvian city to revolt against Spain. It has an active trade in agricultural products of the surrounding district. Gold, copper, silver and tin are the chief mineral products of the region. *New Internatinal Encyclopedia, 1910.*

FOOTNOTE: Bolivia - A gentleman in La Paz may send a servant in the morning to the heights above to bring down a load of ice for the household, and another to the lower levels for pineapples and other tropical fruits; both will return at noon with their commodities. *Commercial Geography, 1912.*

BOLIVIA, REPUBLIC of
LA PAZ MINT

½ SOL 17MM .900 FINE 1.65 GRAMS

1858 u/m BO#32++

^OV: Head of BOLIVAR, facing left, LIBRE POR LA CONSTITUTION (Freedom through the Constitution) around / BOLIVAR across base of bust.

∇RV: Two llamas under palm tree, ★★★★★★★★ (nine stars) above, REPUBLICA BOLIVIANA (Republic of Bolivia) around / •PAZ• (mintmark) DATE •P• below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: •PAZ• = LA PAZ

ASSAYER: P = unknown

REFERENCE: Y-17b, KM-132



Street Kitchen - La Paz - 1902

FOOTNOTE: Last of the Spanish Colonies to gain its independence, was upper Peru in 1825, which was renamed Bolivia after the Liberator. The coat of arms of Bolivia was approved in 1888 on the basis of arms of 1825: Mount Cerro de Potosi, the sun rising behind it, symbolizes minerals, the llama for wool, and the sheaf of corn and breadfruit tree for fertility. The stars are for the nine provinces. The weapons symbolize the will to defend and the banners stand for patriotism. In the upper left is the Liberty cap for Liberty and the upper right an Inca battle axe.

BOLIVIA, REPUBLIC of
POTOSIMINT

1/2 SOL 17MM .900 FINE 1.65 GRAMS

1853 u/m BO#17

▲OV: Head of BOLIVAR, facing left, LIBRE POR LA CONSTITUTION (Freedom through the Constitution) around.

▼RV: Arms, REPUBLICA BOLIVIANA (Republic of Bolivia) above / BOLIVAR under arms / P (mintmark) 1853 .F.P. below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: P = POTOSI

ASSAYER: F.P. = unknown

REFERENCE: Y-2, KM-118.1

FOOTNOTE: The mintmark for the Casa de la Moneda de Potosi (Potosi Mint) is the superimposed letters P-T-S-I with a small circle above = P.

FOOTNOTE: In 1825 the southern portion of Peru, under the leadership of General Sucre, established an independent republic which took the name of Bolivia, in honor of the great South American Liberator, Bolivar. *Catalogue of Coins, Tokens, and Medals in the Numismatic Collection of the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, Pa., Washington, 1912.* [Mint]

BOLIVIA, REPUBLIC of
POTOSIMINT

1/2 SOL 17MM .900 FINE 1.65 GRAMS

1856 u/m BO#21

▲OV: Head of BOLIVAR, facing left, LIBRE POR LA CONSTITUTION (Freedom through the Constitution) around / BOLIVAR across base of bust.

▼RV: Two llamas under palm tree, ★★★★★★★★ (nine stars) above, REPUBLICA BOLIVIANA (Republic of Bolivia) around / •P• (mintmark) 1856 •F•J• below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: P = POTOSI

ASSAYER: F.J. = unknown

REFERENCE: Y-2, KM-118.1

FOOTNOTE: Potosi, one of the most famous mining towns of South America, lies 50 miles south west of Sucre on the Cerro de Potosi at 13,325 feet above the sea. Potosi had a population of 170,000 and was the highest town in the world and the largest city in the New World. The total output of silver per year up to 1850 was over \$5,000,000.

FOOTNOTE: Assayer (Ensayadores in Spanish) is designated usually by two initials, the first initial of the Chief Assayer followed by the first initial of his assistant. The placing of initials on the die guaranteed the silver fineness of the coinage.



1855 - 1/2 SOL - OBVERSE

BOLIVIA, REPUBLIC of
POTOSIMINT

1/2 SOL 17MM .900 FINE 1.65 GRAMS

1854 u/m BO#18

1855 u/m BO#19

1856 u/m BO#20

▲OV: Head of BOLIVAR, facing left, LIBRE POR LA CONSTITUTION (Freedom through the Constitution) around / BOLIVAR across base of bust.

▼RV: Two llamas under palm tree, ★★★★★★★★ (nine stars) above, REPUBLICA BOLIVIANA (Republic of Bolivia) around / •P• (mintmark) DATE •M•J• below.

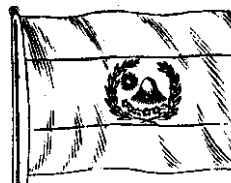
EDGE: Reeded

MINT: P = POTOSI

ASSAYER: .M.J. = unknown

REFERENCE: Y-2, KM-118.1

FOOTNOTE: Potosi is situated on a declivity of the mountain which contains the celebrated mines of Potosi. The streets are narrow and irregular. The houses are built of stone or brick, of only one story, with balconies of wood, but without chimneys. Potosi is the center of trade between the United Provinces and the Pacific, and is noted for the gaiety and dissipation of its inhabitants. *Olney's Geography, 1849.*





1855 - 1/2 SOL - REVERSE

FOOTNOTE: Bolivia had few competent and patriotic leaders, save the Liberator, who the country was named after, and his young successor, Jose de Sucre, for whom the capital was named. Forced out by a mutiny among his own troops, he returned to Ecuador (where his name became the unit of monetary value). 1829-39 was the period of Santa Cruz who created the Bolivian-Peruvian Confederation in 1836. Following the ejection of Santa Cruz, Bolivia was left to the mercy of his rivals; Jose Ballivan 1841-47 and then Isidoro Belzu and his inept successor during the 1850's and 1860's. The most lurid ruler of Bolivia, Mariano Melgarejo (1864-71), a cholo bastard, fearless, illiterate, physically powerful, he commanded a private army, which for six years, put down revolts with cruelty. In order to get money, he created a new currency, calling the new unit the 'Melgarejo'. During this period many dime size silver tokens, without denominations were produced by the mints of Bolivia with patriotic or political inscriptions. Several of these from the author's collection are shown. Though not coins, they undoubtedly did circulate along with the coinage of Bolivia at the time.



Mining silver in 1849



1856 - 1/2 SOL - OBTVERSE

BOLIVIA, REPUBLIC of
POTOSI MINT

1/2 SUELDO 17MM .900 FINE 1.65 GRAMS

1856	u/m	BO#25
1857	u/m	BO#26
1858	u/m	BO#27

▲OV: Head of BOLIVAR, facing left, LIBRE POR LA CONSTITUCION (Freedom through the Constitution) around / BOLIVAR across base of bust.

▼RV: Arms, REPUBLICA BOLIVIANA (Republic of Bolivia) around / ★★★★★★★★ (nine stars) •P• (mintmark) 1/2 • DATE •F•J• below.

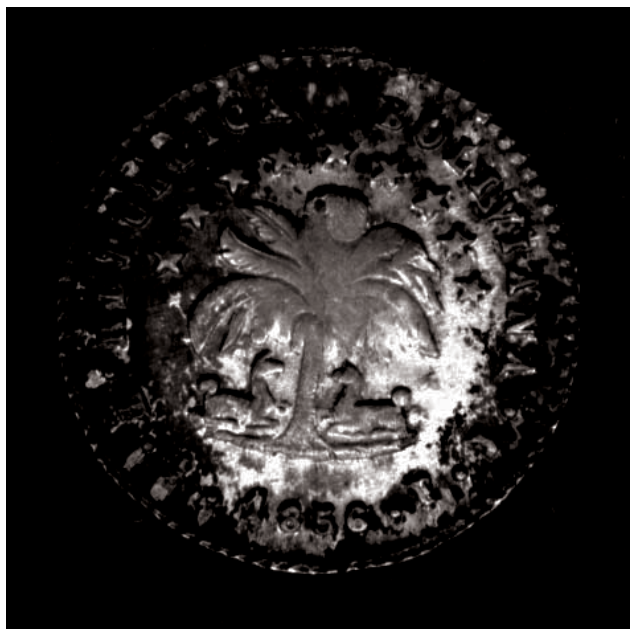
EDGE: Reeded

MINT: P = POTOSI

ASSAYER: F.J. = unknown

REFERENCE: Y-2A, KM-118.2

FOOTNOTE: The silver mines of Potosi, so celebrated throughout the world, were accidentally discovered in 1545 by a Peruvian Indian named Hualpa, as he was pursuing some wild goats up the mountains. Arriving at a steep place, he laid hold of a bush to assist him in his course, but the shrub, unable to support his weight, was torn up by the roots, and disclosed to the hunter a rich mass of silver. For a time, Hualpa concealed the knowledge of his discovery even from his friends. But his sudden and abounding wealth soon excited their suspicions, and they at length induced him to reveal the secret to them. A quarrel happening between him and his Indian associates, Hualpa made known the existence of the mine to his master, who was a Spaniard. From the time of first discovery to 1803 these mines yielded 1,476,372,174 dollars in silver, besides a large amount of gold. *Olney's Geography, 1849.*



1856 - 1/2 SOL - REVERSE

BOLIVIA, REPUBLIC of POTOSIMINT			
1/2 SUELDO	17MM	.900 FINE	1.65 GRAMS

1859 u/m BO#34

▲OV: Large Head of BOLIVAR, facing left, LIBRE POR LA CONSTITUCION (Freedom through the Constitution) around / BOLIVAR under bust.

▼RV: Two llamas under palm tree, ★★★★★★★ (nine stars) above, REPUBLICA BOLIVIANA (Republic of Bolivia) around / •P• (mintmark) 1859 •F•J• below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: P = POTOSI

ASSAYER: F.J. = unknown

REFERENCE: Y-2B, KM-118.3

FOOTNOTE: From the foundation of the Republic of Bolivia until 1863 the old Spanish monetary system of gold scudos and silver soles or peso of 8 reales was retained in Bolivia. *Mint, Washington, 1912.*

FOOTNOTE: In 1868, the dictator Melgarejo insulted the British Minister to Bolivia, by tying him on a donkey, facing him backward and riding him around the public square of the capital. When word reached the British Queen Victoria of this offending country, the Queen called for a map, drawing rough lines across Bolivia, she declared "Bolivia no longer exists".

FOOTNOTE: Bolivia, formerly Upper Peru, was so named in honor of General Bolivar. *Olney's Geography,*



1856 - 1/2 PESO - OBVERSE

BOLIVIA, REPUBLIC of POTOSIMINT			
1/2 PESO	18MM	.903 FINE	2.6 GRAMS

1859 u/m BO#310

▲OV: Head of BOLIVAR, facing left, LIBRE POR LA CONSTITUCION (Freedom through the Constitution) around / BOLIVAR under bust / • PESO 50 Gs below.

▼RV: Arms, • REPUBLICA BOLIVIANA (Republic of Bolivia) around / ★★★★★★★ (nine stars) P (mintmark) 10 D 20 Gs (10 dineros 20 granos) 1859 F•J• below.

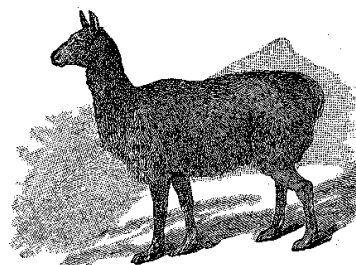
EDGE: Reeded

MINT: P = POTOSI

ASSAYER: F.J. = unknown

REFERENCE: Y-8, KM-134.1

FOOTNOTE: In 1859 a new unit, the Peso with lower weight replaced the 8 sueldos with the new weight indicated on the coinage. The subsidiary coinage followed with the 1/2 peso indicating weight 50 Gs (50 grains).



Llama



1859 - 1/2 PESO - REVERSE

FOOTNOTE: The new coinage law of 1863, established a new unit on the decimal system, the silver boliviano of 100 centavos. The new unit was 25 grams weight and 900 thousandth fine, and thereafter the equivalent of the 5 franc piece of the Latin Monetary Union. *Mint, Washington, 1912.*



1861 - 1/8 PESO - REVERSE

BOLIVIA, REPUBLIC of
POTOSIMINT

1/8 PESO 18.5 MM .903 FINE 2.6 GRAMS

1859	u/m	BO#311
1860	u/m	BO#312
1861	u/m	BO#313

^OV: Head of BOLIVAR, facing left, • LIBRE POR LA CONSTITUTION • (Freedom through the Constitution) around / BOLIVAR under bust / 50 G_s below.

∇RV: Arms dividing 10 D_s (10 dineros) and 20 G_s (20 granos), REPUBLICA BOLIVIANA (Republic of Bolivia) around / ★★★★★★★★(nine stars) •P• (mintmark) DATE •F•J• below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: P = POTOSI

ASSAYER: F.J. = unknown

REFERENCE: Y-8A, KM-134.2

POPULATION: In 1861 the population of Bolivia of European origin was estimated to be 1,742,352.



1861 - 1/8 PESO - OBVERSE




BOLIVIA, REPUBLIC of
POTOSIMINT


1/8 PESO 18.5 MM .903 FINE 2.6 GRAMS

1862 u/m BO#314
1863 u/m BO#315

▲OV: Head of BOLIVAR, facing left, LIBRE POR LA CONSTITUTION (Freedom through the Constitution) around / BOLIVAR under bust / .50 G_s below.

▼RV: Arms dividing 10 D_s (10 dineros) AND 20 GS. (20 granos), REPUBLICA BOLIVIANA (Republic of Bolivia) around / ★★★★★★★★ (nine stars) /  (mintmark) DATE •F•P• below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT:  = POTOSI

ASSAYER: F.P. = unknown


REFERENCE: Y-8A, KM-134.2

BOLIVIA, REPUBLIC of
POTOSIMINT


1/10 BOLIVIANO 18MM .900 FINE 2.5 GRAMS

1864 u/m BO#470
1865 u/m BO#471
1866 u/m BO#472
1867 u/m BO#473

▲OV: Arms, REPUBLICA (Republic) left, BOLIVIANA (Bolivia) around / ★★★★★★★★ (nine stars) below.

▼RV: 1/10 / BOLIVIANO / 50 G_s / 9 D_s FINO (9/10 fine), within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below, LA UNION ES LA FUERZA (The Union is Strength) around /  (mintmark) DATE •F•P• below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT:  = POTOSI

ASSAYER: F.P. = unknown

REFERENCE: Y-27. KM-150

FOOTNOTE: **Bolivar, Simon**, the founder and first president of the Republic of Columbia, known as "The Liberator of the South America." Born in Venezuela, 1783, he was educated in Madrid, and traveled in Europe and the United States. When the revolt against the Spanish yoke broke out in Venezuela, he joined it, but had to fly. In 1813 he returned, and gathering a force together, defeated General Monteverde at Caracas. The tide then turned, and Bolivar fled to Jamaica, but he shortly returned, and after varying fortune in 1819 won the battle of Bojaca, resulting in the inauguration of the Republic of Venezuela in the same year, to which was afterwards united New Granada. In 1822 Bolivar went to help the Peruvians in their struggle for liberty, and was given the command. After a long campaign he won the great battle of Ayacucho. *The Standard Dictionary of Facts, Buffalo, N.Y. 1912.*




1870 -10 CENTAVOS - OBVERSE

BOLIVIA, REPUBLIC of
POTOSIMINT

10 CENTAVOS 18MM .900 FINE 2.5 GRAMS

1870 u/m BO#475

▲OV: Arms, REPUBLICA (Republic) left, BOLIVIANA (Bolivia) around / ★★★★★★★★ (eleven stars) below.

▼RV: DIEZ C_{ts} (ten centavos) / 2 G_{ms} Y 5 D_s (2 grams and 5/10) / 9 D_s FINO (9/10 fine), within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below, LA UNION ES LA FUERZA (The Union is Strength) around / •E•R• 1870 • (mintmark) below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT:  = POTOSI

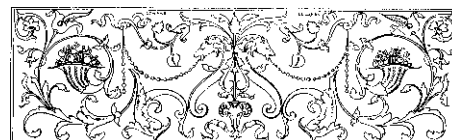
ASSAYER: .E.R. = unknown

TYPE: I - Eleven stars, 2.5 grams weight, .E.R.(three stops)

REFERENCE: Y-34, KM-153.1

FOOTNOTE: Currency of Bolivia - 100 centavos = 1 peso

FOOTNOTE: **Bolivar** (continued) Upper Peru was constituted a separate republic with the title of Bolivia. As President of Columbia he had to endure much factious hostility; but though he tended his resignation more than once it was never accepted, the supreme power being confirmed in him in 1828. Bolivar died in 1830. *The Standard Dictionary of Facts, Buffalo, N.Y. 1912.*





1870 -10 CENTAVOS - REVERSE

BOLIVIA, REPUBLIC of
POTOSIMINT

10 CENTAVOS 18MM .900 FINE 2.0 GRAMS

1871 u/m BO#476

^OV: Arms, REPUBLICA (Republic) left, BOLIVIANA (Bolivia) around / ★★★★★★★★ (eleven stars) below.

∇RV: DIEZ Cts (ten centavos) / 2 Gms Y 5 Ds (2 grams and 5/10) / 9 Ds FINO (9/10 fine), within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below, LA UNION ES LA FUERZA (The Union is Strength) around / E.R. 1871 •S• (mintmark) below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: S = POTOSI

ASSAYER: E.R. = unknown

TYPE: II - Eleven stars, 2.5 grams weight, E.R. (two stops).

REFERENCE: Y-34A, KM-153.2



Bolivia, South America

BOLIVIA, REPUBLIC of
POTOSIMINT

10 CENTAVOS 18MM .900 FINE 2.5 GRAMS

1871 u/m BO#477

^OV: Arms, REPUBLICA (Republic) left, BOLIVIANA (Bolivia) around / ★★★★★★★★ (eleven stars) below.

∇RV: DIEZ Cts (ten centavos) / 2 Gms Y 5 Ds / 9 Ds FINO (9/10 Fine), within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below, LA UNION ES LA FUERZA (The Union is Strength) around / F.P. 1871 S (mintmark) below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: P = POTOSI

ASSAYER: .F.P. = unknown

TYPE: II - Eleven stars, weight.

REFERENCE: Y-34, KM-153.1



The Andes Mountains

BOLIVIA, REPUBLIC of
POTOSIMINT

10 CENTAVOS 18MM .900 FINE 2.5 GRAMS

1871 u/m BO#476A

^OV: Arms, REPUBLICA (Republic) left, BOLIVIANA (Bolivia) around / ★★★★★★★★ (eleven stars) below.

∇RV: DIEZ Cts (ten centavos) / 9 Ds FINO (9/10 fine), within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below, LA UNION ES LA FUERZA (The Union is Strength) around / E.R. 1871 •S• (mintmark) below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: S = POTOSI

ASSAYER: E.R. = unknown

TYPE: III - Eleven stars, no weight.

REFERENCE: Y-34A, KM-153.2



1872 -10 CENTAVOS - OBVERSE

BOLIVIA, REPUBLIC of
POTOSI MINT

10 CENTAVOS 18MM .900 FINE 2.5 GRAMS

1872 u/m BO#478

^OV: Arms, REPUBLICA (Republic) left, BOLIVIANA (Bolivia) around / ★★★★★★★★ (nine stars) below.

▽RV: DIEZ (ten) / CENT. (centavos) / 9 D_S FINO (9/10 fine), within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below, LA UNION ES LA FUERZA (The Union is Strength) around / F.E. 1872
•S• (mintmark) below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: S = POTOSI

ASSAYER: .F.E. = unknown

TYPE: IV - Nine stars, no weight, stop after CENT.

REFERENCE: Y-34B, KM-153.3



1872 -10 CENTAVOS - REVERSE



1873 -10 CENTAVOS - OBVERSE

FOOTNOTE: Bolivia was at war with Chile 1879-83. Known as the Pacific War, it was a frontier dispute over the Atacama Desert nitrate deposits. Bolivia lost the war and all direct access to the ocean and the little port of Cobija., which has since disappeared. The frontier with Chile was settled by the peace treaty of 1904. The last coins of this series were minted in 1900. Bolivia was on the silver standard after 1872. In 1904 to 1908 steps were taken towards adoption of the gold standard. Gold bank notes were issued with subsidiary nickel coins.




1928 - UN BOLIVIANO NOTE
Featuring the portrait of Simon Bolivar

BOLIVIA, REPUBLIC of
POTOSIMINT

10 CENTAVOS 18MM .900 FINE 2.5 GRAMS

1872	u/m	BO#480
1873	u/m	BO#481
1874	u/m	BO#482
1875	u/m	BO#483
1876	u/m	BO#484
1877	u/m	BO#485
1878	u/m	BO#486
1879	u/m	BO#487
1880	u/m	BO#488
1881	u/m	BO#489
1882	u/m	BO#490
1883	u/m	BO#491
1884	u/m	BO#492

^OV: Arms, REPUBLICA BOLIVIANA (Republic Bolivia)
around / ★★★★★★★★ (nine stars) below.

▽RV: DIEZ (ten) / CENTs (centavos) / 9 D_s FINO (9/10
fine), within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below, LA
UNION ES LA FUERZA (The Union is Strength) around / • (mintmark) DATE F.E. below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT:  = POTOSI

ASSAYER: .F.E. = unknown

TYPE: I - no line under cents (centavos).

REFERENCE: Y-48, KM-158.1




1885 -10 CENTAVOS - OBVERSE

10 CENTAVOS
BOLIVIA, REPUBLIC of
POTOSIMINT

10 CENTAVOS 18MM .900 FINE 2.5 GRAMS

1885	u/m	BO#485
1886	u/m	BO#486
1887	u/m	BO#487 rare
1888	u/m	BO#488
1889	u/m	BO#489 rare
1890	u/m	BO#490

^OV: Arms, REPUBLICA BOLIVIANA (Republic Bolivia)
around / ★★★★★★★★ (nine stars) below.

▽RV: DIEZ (ten) / CENTs (centavos) / -- / 9 D. FINO
(9/10 fine), within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon
below, LA UNION ES LA FUERZA (The Union is Strength) around
/ • (mintmark) small DATE F.E. below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT:  = POTOSI

ASSAYER: .F.E. = unknown

REFERENCE: Y-48A, KM-158.2

TYPE: II - Line -- under Cents (Centavos)

POPULATION: Bolivia - 1890 - 2,325,000.

FOOTNOTE: There is a rare Pattern dated 1884 of this issue.

FOOTNOTE: Bolivia, having no seacoast and few railroads, has
but little commerce. Peruvian bark and silver ore are exported
through Buenos Ayres.



1873 -10 CENTAVOS - REVERSE



1885 -10 CENTAVOS - REVERSE

FOOTNOTE: Two varieties of the 1884 exist, line and no line.

BOLIVIA, REPUBLIC of
POTOSIMINT

10 CENTAVOS 18MM .900 FINE 2.5 GRAMS

1890	u/m	BO#491
1891	u/m	BO#492
1893	46,104	BO#493

^OV: Arms, REPUBLICA BOLIVIANA (Republic Bolivia) around / ★★★★★★★★(nine stars) below.

▽RV: DIEZ (ten) / CENTs (centavos) / -- / 9 D. FINO (9/10 fine), within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below, LA UNION ES LA FUERZA (The Union is Strength) around / •S• (mintmark) DATE C.B. below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: S = POTOSI

ASSAYER: C.B. = unknown

REFERENCE: Y-49A, KM-158.2

FOOTNOTE: Potosi in southwestern Bolivia, is situated on the Cerro de Potosi at an altitude of 13,325 feet, being probably the highest town in the world. It lies several hundred feet above what has been considered the highest inhabitable altitude, and owing to the rarity of the atmosphere, infant mortality is so great that the population can be kept up only by immigration. The city is now only a shadow of its former self. A large part of it lies in ruins, through which passes the now deserted prado, lined with statues and other evidence of former grandeur. There are several fine and solid buildings, such as the great granite Cathedral, and the Mint, the later built in 1562 at a cost of over a million dollars, but no longer used (1900). Potosi owes its origin to the silver lodes which were discovered in the Cerro in 1546, and which for (continued)

(Continued - Potosi) a long time remained the richest silver mines in the world. The total output for the next 300 years up to 1850 was estimated at \$1,600,000,000, or an average of over \$5,000,000 per year. The city itself grew rapidly, and in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries was the largest city in the world, its population being then estimated as high as 170,000. The mines are now almost abandoned, only a few of the 2,000 shafts still worked by the remaining inhabitants which number 20,910. *New International Encyclopedia, 1910.*

BOLIVIA, REPUBLIC of
POTOSIMINT

10 CENTAVOS 18MM .900 FINE 2.5 GRAMS

1895	u/m	BO#493B	rare
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^OV: Arms, REPUBLICA BOLIVIANA (Republic Bolivia) around / ★★★★★★★★(nine stars) below.

▽RV: DIEZ (ten) / CENTs (centavos) / -- / 9 D. FINO (9/10 Fine), within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below, LA UNION ES LA FUERZA (The Union is Strength) around / •S• (mintmark) 1895 E.S. below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: S = POTOSI

ASSAYER: E.S. = unknown

REFERENCE: Y-48A, KM-158.2

FOOTNOTE: Potosi, once the largest city in South America in the seventeenth century is fast decaying with most of the silver mines abandoned.

BOLIVIA, REPUBLIC of
POTOSIMINT

10 CENTAVOS 18MM .900 FINE 2.5 GRAMS

1899	u/m	
1900	28,163	BO#494

^OV: Arms, REPUBLICA BOLIVIANA (Republic Bolivia) around / ★★★★★★★★ (nine stars) below.

▽RV: DIEZ (ten) / CENTs. (centavos) / -- / 9 D. FINO (9/10 fine) within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below, LA UNION ES LA FUERZA (The Union is Strength) around / •S• (mintmark) small DATE M.M. below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: S = POTOSI

ASSAYER: M.M. = unknown

POPULATION: Bolovia - 1900 - 1,744,568, capital Sucre with 27,350 inhabitants and mint city Potosi about 25,000.

REFERENCE: Y-48A, KM-158.2

BO# = *The Coins of Bolivia 1820-1970 by Dale Seppe and Alcede Almanzar, San Antonio, 1970.*