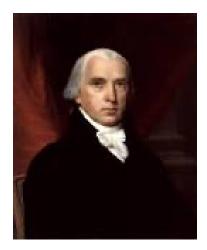


1 (844) HAM - GOLD



UNITED STATES

1811 \$5 MS65



President James Madison

The Capped Bust half eagle, which circulated from 1807 to 1812, was designed by engraver John Reich, an immigrant from Germany who Thomas Jefferson recommended to the mint that he be employed. The Capped Bust motif Reich created for the 1807 half eagle features a buxom Miss Liberty facing left, flanked by seven stars to the left and six to the right. Reich's Liberty has a distinctly European look, completely different from any previous depiction. The reverse design depicts an eagle with outstretched wings, perched on a palm branch and holding three arrows in its claws.

The half eagle coinage of 1811 consisted of 99,851 coins, according to Mint records, although the real total may have been a much smaller number. This is a frosty and highly lustrous example with brilliant light yellow-gold surfaces.



