



GREAT BRITAIN

1820 GEORGE IV PROOF 1/2 CROWN CAMEO NGC PR66+



George IV was King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and King of Hanover from the death of his father, King George III, on 29 January 1820 until his own death ten years later. He had already been serving as Prince Regent since 5 February 1811, during his father's final mental illness. His rule was tarnished by scandal and financial extravagance. His ministers found his behavior selfish, unreliable and irresponsible, and he was strongly influenced by favorites. During most of George's regency and reign, Lord Liverpool controlled the government as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. Liverpool's government presided over Britain's ultimate victory over Napoleon and negotiated a peace settlement with the French. After Liverpool's retirement, George IV was forced to accept Catholic emancipation despite opposing it.

M676, S-3807, ESC-2358. Reeded edge. Simply immaculate, a term we use rarely and when wholly warranted as the piece at hand most certainly does. The inaugural 1/2 Crown of George IV's reign, and one that the engraver painstakingly and masterfully executed. Through an exacting strike, the piece at hand is fully embossed upon the specially prepared planchet beneath, each detail fully rendered as was intended, revealing notably frosted devices upon the steely, mirrored canvas. The reverse face is especially strong in its composition, the exceedingly meticulous crowned arms framed by the symbols of the Kingdom: the rose, thistle, and clover. With the coin's advanced state of preservation and coveted "Cameo" superlative, we note this piece is the single-finest Proof 1/2 Crown of either edge variety.

