

Medal for Efforts in the Emancipation of the Serfs, 1861.

In silver, measures 34.6 mm in height (incl. eyelet), 28.0 mm in width, 2.6 mm thick at the edge; weighs 13.5 grams without suspension. The obverse shows image of Emperor Alexander II "the Liberator" and inscription "I Am Thankful, 19 February 1861".

In very fine to excellent condition. Details are magnificently well preserved on both sides. There are occasional dings and small scratches, mostly on the reverse. The medal comes on a more recent suspension with a period St. Alexander Nevsky ribbon which may be original to the medal.

The silver medals were issued to members of the regional noblemen committees for "placing" serfs as well as secretaries of these committees. The medals were struck in 1861 at the St. Petersburg Mint. Only 650 silver medals were ever made according to Dmitry Peters (some of these were awarded repeatedly to the same person for wearing on different uniforms). Extremely rare.

/Dimitri Romanov, The Orders, Medals and History of Imperial Russia, pp. 180, 181/, also Mikhail Diakov, "Medals of the Russian Empire, Part 5, 1855-1881", p. 118.

Item# 30087

\$4,950.00









