REVIEWS.¹

The Numismatic Chronicle and Journal of the Royal Numismatic Society, 1904. Quaritch, London, 20s. (issued in four quarterly numbers at 5s. each, 8vo, paper covers).

The principal papers relating to British Numismatics are the following:

_A New Type of Carausius_, by Sir John Evans. The coin now brought to light is stated in a footnote to have formed part of a hoard of small brass coins, found in or about the year 1873 at Barley Pound, near Crondall, Hants, consisting of some 200 pieces, the earliest being of Claudius Gothicus and the latest of Allectus. Sir John Evans describes it thus:

Obverse.—IMP. CARAVSIVS P AVG. Draped and radiate bust of the Emperor, right.

Reverse.—GENIO BRITANNI in exergue C. Youthful partly draped Genius standing left, holding in his right hand a patera above a lighted altar; in his left a cornucopia. Æ 3.

The type is absolutely new to our knowledge of the coins of Carausius, and is interesting in that it bears the representation of the Genius which, as the author explains, differs from that of the Continental coins, inasmuch as the modius or a turreted crown is absent.

W. J. A.

_The Coinage of William I., and William II._, by F. Spicer. In considering this paper we must remember that the death of its author during its preparation, left it, as to the first portion, in the form of a

¹ Publishers and others forwarding works for review will oblige by stating price.
first rough draft, and as to the remainder, merely as unassorted notes; therefore, as its Editors remark, it may not wholly represent his views had he lived to complete it. The writer of these lines can well endorse this possibility, for only a few hours before the sudden heart-seizure, which deprived all those who were associated with Mr. Spicer of a close friend or esteemed colleague, he explained his thorough concurrence with the deduction in *Buried Treasure*, that the Beaworth hoard was the Conqueror's bequest to the Church of Winchester. This meant that he would have removed Type 243, which was present at Beaworth, from William II. to William I., and that removal would have also corrected his association of Types 243 and 247 as one Type. Thus, had he been able to revise his arrangement of the order of types, it would probably have approached very nearly to that of Mr. Carlyon-Britton, which is so cogently welded in the pages of this volume. In like manner the *Table of Mints, Moneyers, and Types*, which he was preparing was far from completion, and it would therefore have been wiser on the Editors' part to have omitted it, than to publish a list which will lead collectors and cataloguers who have not access to this volume, to form a very erroneous view of the extent of the known coins of this period.

Mr. Spicer's interest in British historical numismatics was second to none, and he was always a strong advocate for the establishment of a Society devoted to that object. His line of research was peculiarly his own, for he rarely followed the beaten track, but spent his leisure hours in the Rylands Library, at Manchester, searching the pages of historical works and records rarely asked for, and still more rarely noted. This trait of character lends a charm to his paper, for on nearly every page there is some passage or folk-lore of history or numismatics, which we have never seen elsewhere, and which often points a meaning to facts and details which would never have occurred to us. Mr. Carlyon-Britton in his "*Numismatic History of William I. and II.*," has, time after time, recognised the assistance Mr. Spicer has rendered to the elucidation of the coinage of these two reigns, and quotes many of his theories and deductions. In fact, to that work must we look for the practical review of Mr. Spicer's paper, and no
one would have been more pleased than he, to know that he has helped to clear away the seemingly hopeless ambiguities, which interlined one of the most difficult chapters in our British numismatic history.

W. J. A.

The Coinage of Richard II., by Frederick A. Walters, F.S.A. The paper, evidently one of a series, deals with the coinage particularly in relation to the mint accounts, which are quoted from Ruding. Mr. Walters has given a useful list of all the major varieties of gold and silver coins issued during the reign. References are made to several privy marks on the gold coins, and some not very satisfactory attempts are made to explain them, by supposing them to have represented parts of the armorial bearings of mint officers. Mr. Walters has himself shown what slender grounds exist for such a supposition, when he quotes the same mark, a lion, as gracing both London and Calais nobles. Several new varieties of coins are described, notably a groat belonging to Mr. J. G. Green of Dublin, a special feature of the reverse being the unbarred N in London. The coin in question is shown in illustration, and notice is taken of a crescent on the breast. Mr. Walters boldly considers this to have been struck in Henry IV.'s time and to be the representative of the heavy groats of this monarch. We regret that we are unable to endorse his view that here, indeed, is the missing heavy groat. Every variety of the heavy silver and gold coinage of Henry IV., with the exception of the groat, is known, and it is in the highest degree improbable that the largest silver piece should have been issued under Richard's name. The paper will prove of value to those studying the Plantagenet coinage on account of its many unpublished varieties carefully described.

L. A. L.

An Advertising Medal of the Elizabethan Period, by Sir John Evans. This piece, bearing the Tudor rose on the obverse within the legend HANS HAN FORMENSNIKER 1577, and the royal arms, with two lions rampant as supporters, surrounded by the motto HONI SOEIT QVI MAL PENSE, upon the reverse, is an advertising jetton of a Dutch or German formschneider, or wood-block cutter. As such it ought to have had but a depressing influence, for with the exception
of those in his own name, all the letters N are retrograde, the rosettes of pellets dividing the words irregular, the supporters to the royal arms heraldically wrong, the French bad, and the metal lead. Perhaps its best advertisement comes now, after three centuries, when Sir John Evans has managed, in his versatile vein, by combining with the subject an illustration from Amman's *Stände und Handwerker*, to make a readable paper upon an artisan's ticket, probably intended merely as a sample for British printers. The illustration referred to represents two moneyers at work within a sixteenth century inner hall, evidently open to public observation, as the city gossip leans, chatting, through the window. The moneyer sits on a block of wood before a larger block serving also as a table, in which is set the standard die; a flan is on this, and upon it the trussel-die, held in position by the left hand, is about to be struck with a heavy hammer, held aloft in the right. Before him on the same block, are a set of scales, and to his left, the pieces already coined. The attitude of both moneyers seems identical, and only a low, box-like partition separates them. Sir John Evans misses the point that this early print is further evidence that moneyers did not coin in their private houses, but together, and in a public building. But he has translated the verse below the block in so spirited a manner that one wonders however the shade of Hans Han could have prompted so true a poetical ring:

"Good coins in my mint I strike,  
In weight and metal good alike,  
Batzen dollars, gulden crowns  
I can strike for any towns,  
Half-batzen kreutzers, counters small.  
Old Tournois groats, I make them all,  
So good and right that through the land  
There's no one suffers at my hand."

Hans Han is now safely locked up at the Coin Department of the British Museum, in charge of Mr. Grueber, the new keeper.

W. J. A.
Dudley Tradesmen's Tokens, and History of Dudley Banks, Bankers, and Banknotes, by M. Perkins. 202 pages, printed on one side only, demi quarto. Cloth, gilt, 7s. 6d. E. Blockidge, Dudley.

This work is of special interest by reason of the local historical notes and information which it contains. It is illustrated with reproductions of the tokens, of a print of the "Triple Gateway of Dudley Castle," of coats of arms and autographs. It commences with a list of subscribers and preface, followed by a brief history of the coinage of this country to the year 1816.

The halfpenny tokens of the eighteenth century were undoubtedly issued by Skidmore or Spence, both of London, for sale to collectors; these dealers mutually exchanged dies for muling purposes, and by so doing produced a great variety of specimens. Whether these tokens were actually in circulation in Dudley as currency is open to question (see C. Pye's statement in his 1801 edition), still, they have a certain amount of local interest.

Of the penny tokens issued by Edward Davies, nail factor, it is stated that they were used to pay his workmen, but as they never appear in a worn or circulated condition, as no reference is made to them by C. Pye in his 1801 edition, and as they are all scarce, the issue probably was for some other purpose; especially, as in the same year, 1797, there was the Government issue of the Soho twopenny and penny pieces. The Dudley farthing has no better claim to be regarded as having been used for currency than the halfpence and pence.

The halfpenny tokens generally, which have as an edge-reading, "Payable in London" (the remainder being engrailed), have also "X—" between the termination of the engrailing, and the "P" of "PAYABLE"; in many instances the "X—" has become wholly or partially obliterated by the slipping of the "blank" during the process of "rolling" the lettered edge. These blundered or imperfect edges should not therefore be described as varieties. That given as No. 26 on page 37 is an instance, it having really the same edge as No. 13 on page 26.
Reviews.

The author has spared no labour in getting together the historical, biographical, and other notes, which constitute the bulk of Part II, and the book will be read with much interest by all who appreciate the work of the local numismatist and historian. The edition is limited to 120 copies.

S. H. H.