


A PARCEL OF STYCAS FROM THE YORK
FIND, 1842.

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TONYHURST COLLEGE, Lancashire, contains within its stately walls many objects of antiquarian interest, including a valuable library rich in black-letter books and ancient manuscripts.

Among the former are over five hundred volumes, many of them being early specimens of printing, including *The Golden Legend* printed by Caxton in 1483, and *The Book of Eneydos* printed also by Caxton in 1490, and others by Wynkeyn de Worde. One of the most interesting volumes is a religious work printed in 1558, which is said to have been the identical book which Queen Mary of Scots held in her hand as she mounted the scaffold, and which she caused to be delivered to her Confessor.

The museum contains many Stuart pictures, articles of vertu, a magnificent collection of Papal medals, and numerous articles of historical interest, including the stycas from the great find at York, which are the subject of this paper.

There are in this small collection 376 coins, namely, of Eardwulf, 7; Hoauth, 1; Ælfwald II., 1; Eanred, 47; Æthelred II., 229; Redwulf, 9; Osbercht, 13; Wigmund, 49; Wulfhere, 6; indecipherable, 13, and one composed of two reverses bearing the names of the two moneyers: FORDRED and BRODER. On the other hand a regal coin reads EDILRED on either side, and an ecclesiastical example VIGMVND AREP on either side.

The following is a list of the moneyer's names :—

EARDWULF	...	BARDVULF, EARDVULF, RUIE, EDILVLD, EXIIVD HERREÐ, VVFRED.
HOAUTH	...	HVAETRD.
ÆLFWALD II.	...	EADVINI.
EANRED	ALDATES, BRODR, DAEGBERCT, EADVINI, EARDVULF, FORDRED, GADVTE, HERREÐ, MONNE, ODILO, PINTRED, VVLFRED.
ÆTHELRED II....	...	ALGHERE, BARDVULF, BROÐER, COENRED, EADVINI, EANVVALD, EANRED, EARDVULF, FORDRED, LEOFDEGN, MONNE, VENDELBERHT, PINTRED, VVLFRED.
REDWULF	...	COENED, CVÐBERHT, EANRED, HERREÐ, HVAETNOÐ, MONNE, VENDELBERHT, VVLFRED.
OSBERCHT	...	BANVLF, EADVINI, EÐELHELM, MONNE.
WIGMUND	...	COENRED, EÐELHELM, EÐILVEARD, HVNLAF.
WULFHRE	...	VVLFRED.

As an addition to the following table of the principal finds of styca in Northumbria, it may be useful to mention in passing that a silver styca of Ecgberht was found at Alton, Lincolnshire, in 1849, and unimportant styca have been discovered at Ribchester, Grange over Sands, and Castlehead.¹

In Hume's *Ancient Meols* 1863 three styca are described by Mr. H. Ecroyd Smith which were found near Dove Point, Cheshire, one being of Redwulf with the moneyer COENED, and two of Æthelred II., one with the moneyer FORDRED, and the other indecipherable.

Dies in lead about half-an-inch square, and stamped in relief with a cross or quatrefoil sometimes occur. They probably date from the eighth century, and being alike in size, and of uniform type, they may have circulated in place of legal coin. The supposition is confirmed

¹ Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society's vol. x.

by the occurrence of similar objects amongst a find of stycas of Æthelred II. in 1814, on the head land at Castleton, Derbyshire, upon which Peveril Castle stands (see Bateman's *Museum Catalogue*, p. 162). A find of stycas struck in lead, of the reign of Eanred and Æthelred II. (with other coins) is said to have occurred about 1860, during some excavations in Fore Street, London. They had every appearance of being genuine pieces, and were purchased by Mr. Pearson, the numismatist. Unfortunately, collectors refused to accept them as such, and I admit that many still hold to their opinion.

The following table of the numbers contained in the various hoards shows the comparative rarity of the coins which supply the bulk of our cabinet specimens. Before the Hexham find the coins of Eanbald sold for upwards of £5 each, and those of Wulfhere are still far from common, although the York find alone produced over sixty specimens of them in various states of preservation. The Hexham hoard was probably deposited during the reign of Redwulf, as coins of Osbercht were absent.

The table referred to is printed on the following page.

<i>Hoards.</i>	<i>Eanred.</i>	<i>Æthelred II.</i>	<i>Redwulf.</i>	<i>Osbercht.</i>	<i>Eanbald.</i>	<i>Wigmund.</i>	<i>Wulfhere.</i>
Kirk Oswald, 1808 ...	99	350	14	1	1	58	5
Hexham, 1833 ...	318	402	37	none	56	80	none
York, 1842 :—							
Smith's parcel ...	66	226	5	12	1	30	3
Haigh's " ...	157	457	19	45	3	94	13
Hargrove's parcel ...	531	919	63	61	1	237	23
Wellbeloved's parcel ...	102	304	15	23	none	59	8
Fennell's parcel ...	66	252	8	23	none	57	8
Stonyhurst parcel ...	47	229	9	13	none	49	6
Ulleskelf, 1846 ...	70	267	5	18	9	47	5



SOME INTERESTING BRITISH MEDALS.