THE COINAGE OF ABERYSTWITH, 1637–42.

By Lieut.-Colonel H. W. Morrieson, late R.A., F.S.A.

In 1631, Thomas Bushell became the lessee of the Royal Mines in Wales. From 1631–37, he used to send a quantity of silver to the Tower Mint at London to be coined. The coins struck from this metal bear a large plume of the Prince of Wales’s feathers over the shield on the reverse.

Finding the financial burden of sending this bullion to London heavy, he applied to the King, in 1636–7, for permission to erect a mint in Wales so that he might save himself the expense. After some correspondence and argument this petition was granted, and an indenture was entered into between the King and Bushell, dated the 30th of July in the thirteenth year of Charles I., 1637, authorizing the latter to establish a mint in the castle at Aberystwith. Authority was given to him to coin half-crowns, shillings, half-shillings, half-groats and pence.

A few months later some patterns for groats, threepences and halfpence were shown to the King, who was so pleased with them that a commission dated February 22nd, 1637–8, was issued, ordering Bushell to coin pieces of these denominations of rateable weight and fineness, and he was required to give orders to Edward Green, the chief engraver, to prepare the necessary irons for the coins as well as those mentioned in the original indenture.¹

These moneys were ordered to be stamped with the “feathers” on each side to distinguish them from the rest of His Majesty’s coins. For some reason or other, probably from the small size of the pieces, this direction was not carried out on the three smaller denominations,

¹ This information has been given me by Mr. H. Symonds from the Harleian Additional MSS., 18761, p. 9.
which bear only a large plume on the reverse; and the dies were to be supplied from the mint at London. The Aberystwith Mint continued in active working until the end of September, 1642, when in obedience to the King's commands, Bushell moved it to Shrewsbury and eventually to Oxford. Mr. Symonds, in his paper entitled "A Glance inside the Mint at Aberystwith," states that the mint subsequently was worked for two short periods in 1645–6 and 1648–9, when all the tools were surrendered to the Parliamentary authorities.

Although the mint was authorized on July 30th, 1637, probably some little time elapsed before it got into working order. Mr. Symonds in the aforementioned paper tells us that in the period between January 15th, 1638, and September 20th, 1642, silver weighing 4,052 lbs. had been handed to the moneyers, producing £13,069 in currency at the rate of "64s. 6d. per lb., coyne and coynage." The average weekly output is stated to have been £68 15. 5s. by tale. The mint-mark throughout the whole of the period appears to have been the open book.

The obverses of the coins are of the types issued at the Tower of London during the corresponding period, with the exception of the mint-mark and the plume in the field of the five largest pieces. The reverses are different as the shield is oval in shape and surmounted by a plume, while the half-groat, penny and halfpenny bear only a large plume.

In arranging a series it is necessary to find the extremes and then to fit in the remainder. In this case we have some coins without inner circles at one extreme connected by mules with others bearing an inner circle on the obverse, and having Shrewsbury and Oxford reverses, dated 1642 to 1644. The main guide, however, is the series minted at the Tower. The London mint-marks during this period were—

1. The Tun from February, 1636, to May, 1638.
2. Anchor, May, 1638, to July, 1639.
3. Triangle, July, 1639, to June, 1640.
5. Triangle-in-circle, July, 1641, to May, 1643.

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PLATE I.
During the period of some of these mint-marks changes took place in the design or bust which I will now describe, the approximate date being given from the comparative rarity of the different coins.

Commencing with the half-crown, we find the type changes during the period of the tun mark (Plate I, Fig. 1). The type of the horse, *Hawkins* 3A, changes about August, 1637, to that which is found on the half-crowns with the anchor mark, which is of smaller and coarser work (Plate I, Fig. 2). About Christmas, 1639, ground appears under the horse on the coins with the triangle mark (Plate I, Fig. 3). This continued until the commencement of the star issue, for there are coins of this type with the star struck over the triangle. With the star mark the horse becomes much larger, *Hawkins* type 4 (Plate I, Fig. 5). I have a half-crown with the star mark struck over the triangle, which shows a horse similar to that upon the later coins of Aberystwith, as if the iron had been used by mistake (Plate I, Fig. 4).

As regards the Tower shilling, the differences between the busts of the King depicted on these coins, with the exception of the last, are so slight that I shall not attempt to describe them; for the variations can be so much better understood by glancing at the illustrations. The early examples bearing the tun mark are of the type *Hawkins* 3A without inner circles (Plate I, Fig. 11). About August, 1637, *Hawkins* type 4 appeared, having inner circles, and on the obverse a bust with a very pointed lace collar, while on the reverse there is a square shield (Plate I, Fig. 12). This bust continued until about Christmas, 1638, when a new form was introduced (Plate I, Fig. 13). The marks for this bust are the anchor and triangle. Finally about Christmas, 1639, another bust, the well-known design by Briot, appears (Plate I, Fig. 14), which continued until the middle of the period of the sun mint-mark, 1646.

The Tower sixpences (Plate II, Figs. 9, 10, 11 and 12) correspond to a certain extent with the shillings, with the exception that the bust on the late anchor and early triangle issues was not introduced on the sixpence. The bust on those with the late tun mint-mark, *Hawkins* type 4 (Plate II, Fig. 10), is similar to the first Aberystwith busts and continued until about the end of 1638, when a new form was
introduced (Plate II, Fig. 11). This bust is similar to that on the shilling with the mint-mark tun, Hawkins type 4; but it did not last long, as about the middle of the time of the triangle, say Christmas, 1639, a bust similar to that on the last of the shillings appeared (Plate II, Fig. 12).

The half-groats and pennies are of the type Hawkins 3a, until the issue of the triangle mint-mark, when they have inner circles on the obverse only upon the penny. The halfpenny has a rose on each side.

THE ABERYSTWITH COINAGE.

I will now proceed to arrange the Aberystwith coins. As there will be considerable reference to the different obverses and reverses I will number the former by letters and the latter by numbers. The mint-mark on all, with the exception of the halfpenny which has none, is the open book, and it is found with few exceptions on both sides. The dies vary with regard to the number of pellets by the mint-mark, and on the reverse as to its position—whether it is on the right or left of the plume, there is also sometimes a pellet before the word CHRISTO. The reverse legend on all but the three lowest denominations is CHRISTO AVSPICE REGNO.

There are two different harps in the arms of Ireland. The first has the upper end of the front raised and turned backward, and the rear end is raised in a spiral curving to the front over the top (Plate I, Fig. 6). The second has the upper end of the front pointed slightly forward, the upper rear end being slightly curved, and the front is bent outwards (Plate I, Fig. 7).

HALF-CROWNS.

In the absence of any half-crown corresponding with Hawkins Type 3a, I have to put first (Plate I, Fig. 6), that which is similar to the Tower types of the later tun and of the anchor mint-marks. For this, I can only assume that when the order for the preparation of the
The obverse, A, has an inner circle and a small plume without bands behind the King. The legend reads CAROLVS. D. G. MAG. BRIT. FRA. ET. HI. REX. The reverse, No. 1, has an oval garnished shield bearing the first harp and surmounted by a plume which cuts the inner circle and extends nearly to the outer edge of the coin. One reverse die has five pellets arranged thus, ⦿⦿; before the mint-mark (Plate I, Fig. 9).

The next half-crown (Plate I, Fig. 7) is like the first but has ground under the horse, thus being similar to the Tower type with mint-mark triangle, which I have already stated must have been introduced about Christmas, 1639. On the obverse, B, particular attention must be paid to the plume behind the King. It consists of three perpendicular plumes with bands below the coronet, the sides of which are also perpendicular. On the reverse, No. 2, the shield is placed low in the field, and the plume merely cuts the inner circle, there is, besides, a different harp, the second described on the shield. I have not come across any mules between these two half-crowns.

The third half-crown (Plate I, Fig. 8) differs from the second. On the obverse, C, there appears the horseman as on the Tower type with the mint-mark star-over-triangle, which has what I termed “the Aberystwith horse.” This dates the coin to about May or June, 1640. The horseman is larger and somewhat approaches that on the coins with the star mint-mark, Hawkins type 5, and the sword cuts the inner circle. The plume behind is like that on the first half-crown. The legend reads FRAN. HIB. instead of FRA. HI. On the reverse, No. 3, the shield is in the centre of the field and the plume is larger, reaching to the edge of the coin. The harp is the same only much larger.

The obverse, C, is found muled with reverse No. 2, and also with the Declaration type of Shrewsbury, dated 1642, No. 4, which shows that it was the last of the series (Plate I, Fig. 10).
SHILLINGS.

The first shilling (Plate II, Fig. 1) is that which on both sides is without the inner circle and agrees with the Tower mint-mark tun, *Hawkins 3A*.

The obverse, A, has a bust similar to that of the later Tower sixpence with mint-mark tun, *Hawkins 4* (Plate II, Fig. 10). A plume without bands, similar to that on the first half-crown, is placed in front of the face, and the value is in small figures behind the head. The legend is *CAROLVS. D'.G'. MAG'. BR'. FR'. ET. HI'. REX*.

The reverse, No. 1, has an oval garnished shield surmounted by a plume with bands reaching to the outer edge. On some specimens there are traces of a wire-like inner circle which apparently had been used merely as a guide to the engraver. The garniture of the shield which has the first harp is similar to the Tower shilling, 3A, only the surmounting ornament has been removed to make room for the plume.

The second shilling is a mule, for it has the obverse, A, of the first, with a new reverse, No. 2 (Plate II, Fig. 2) which has a beaded inner circle. Otherwise it is like the reverse, No. 1, with the further exception that the shield has the secondly described harp. As regards the plume there is one specimen (Plate II, Fig. 3) on which the feathered stalks come down much further below the coronet.

This is by far the most common shilling, and the fact that it is a mule shows that it was issued late in the year 1637, and was probably continued well into 1638, and perhaps later.

The third shilling (Plate II, Fig. 4) has a beaded inner circle on both sides and is connected with the second by having the same reverse. The obverse, B, bears a bust similar to that on the later Tower shilling with mint-mark tun (Plate I, Fig. 12) and the early shillings with the anchor, which places its time of issue in the year 1637–38. The plume before the face is large with bands, and the figures of the numerals are also large. The legend reads *MA* instead of *MAG*. I have a contemporary forgery of this coin. I place this shilling third as it is comparatively rare, and as No. 2 is common I
PLATE II.

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PLATE II.
think it may be assumed that the reverse die, No. 2, was issued before the obverse B.

The fourth shilling (Plate II, Fig. 5) is similar to the third with the exception that on the obverse, C, the bust is that on the first and second and the plume in front of the face is different, having the feathers quite upright. The reverse is still No. 2.

This peculiar plume is similar to that on the obverse of the second half-crown with ground under the horse, and shows that it was issued about the same time, Christmas, 1639.

The fifth shilling (Plate II, Fig. 6) has the same obverse as the fourth, but the reverse, No. 3, differs. On it the shield practically fills the whole field within the inner circle, and the top of the plume is driven off the coin. Like upon the last half-crown, the harp is large. The coins with this reverse are rare, and I think they were issued in 1639–40.

The sixth and last shilling (Plate II, Fig. 7) has the same reverse, No. 3, as the fifth, thus making the connection. The obverse, D, has a bust which might be called Briot's, and is like that on the later Tower shillings with mint-mark triangle (Plate I, Fig. 14). The plume in front of the face is the same as that on the obverse of the last half-crown. The legend reads MAG.' BRIT.' FRA.' instead of MA.' BR.' FR.' I place this coin early in 1640. The obverse is found muled with the reverse of the declaration type of Shrewsbury dated 1642 (Plate II, Fig. 8).

**Sixpences.**

The first sixpence (Plate II, Fig. 13) has the obverse of A and reverse of No. 1, and is exactly like the first shilling, except that it is smaller and has a small VI behind the head, for it was issued at the same time.

The second sixpence (Plate II, Fig. 14) has on the obverse, B, an inner circle, and the same bust as on the third shilling, the plume in front of the face is the same as on the first sixpence, but the VI behind the head is large. The legend is the same as on the first shilling, and the reverse, No. 1, is the same as that of the previous specimen; thus showing the sequence.
This bust does not appear on the Tower sixpences until the end of 1638, but I think it must have been introduced earlier than that on those for Aberystwith. I put the time to late in 1637, or early in 1638. It will be noticed that the second shilling, to which this corresponds, has the obverse, A, and reverse, No. 2, whereas this has the opposite, viz., obverse, B, with reverse No. 1.

The third sixpence (Plate II, Fig. 15) has the obverse, B, and a new reverse, No. 2. It has an inner circle and is similar to the reverse of the shilling, No. 2, with the exception of the harp, which is more ornamental. This sixpence was probably issued at the same time as the second, but was continued longer.

The fourth sixpence (Plate II, Fig. 16) has the obverse, B. The reverse, No. 3, is like No. 2 but has that peculiar plume of the second half-crown and the fourth shilling, only in this case it is placed above the shield instead of in the field on the obverse. From its having this plume I consider that it was issued at the same time as the half-crown and shilling referred to, viz., about Christmas, 1639. Of this type there is one without a mint-mark on the reverse.

The fifth sixpence (Plate II, Fig. 17). The obverse, C, is that so well known from its being muled with the Oxford reverse dated 1642-3 and 4 (5). The reverse, No. 4, is similar to the reverse, No. 3, of the fifth shilling, but the harp is the same as on reverse No. 1.

I do not think that this was issued until quite late, as it is very rare and the obverse muled with the Oxford reverse is common (Plate II, Fig. 18). This bust was used on the Tower sixpences with the mint-marks R, eye, sun, and sceptre.

GROATS.

The groats and threepences were issued on the authority of the addition to the indenture by the commission dated February 22nd, 1637-8. Both these denominations have an inner circle on each side, thus tending to prove that the inner circle had been introduced at that date, as there are coins of the denominations ordered in the original indenture dated some seven months previously, which have no inner circles.
The first groats (Plate III, Figs. 1, 2) have two distinct busts on the obverse, A, one smaller and somewhat different from the other. The larger is similar to that on the second sixpence. They all correspond with the third sixpence. The legends vary as M. or MAG. (on those with the large bust only) B.F. ET. H. or M. BR. F. ET. HI. The reverse, No. 1, differs from that of the third sixpence by having the first harp like that on the sixpence with reverse, No. 1, and the plume has no bands.

It is curious that two different obverse dies were issued at the same time, for the same reverse dies are found with both.

The second groat (Plate III, Fig. 3) has the obverse, A, with a reverse, No. 2, corresponding to the fourth sixpence with the reverse, No. 3, with the exception of the harp, which is of the first variety. It has the same peculiar plume with bands. This reverse is found with the obverses of both busts. The date of issue would correspond with that of the fourth sixpence, viz., about Christmas, 1639.

The third groat (Plate III, Fig. 4) has the obverse, A, with a reverse, No. 3, corresponding with the sixpence with reverse, No. 4. The shield is of the same size as before, the plume has bands and the harp is of the second variety, like that on the reverse, No. 2, of the shilling.

This reverse is found with obverses, of both busts. My specimen with the large bust is the only example I have met with reading MAG. in the legend.

I think that this third groat was issued at the same time as the corresponding shilling, viz., 1639–40.

The fourth groat (Plate III, Fig. 5) has a new obverse, B. This has a new bust corresponding to that on the fifth sixpence, C. The legend reads M. B. F. ET. H. The reverse, No. 3, is the same as to the previous groat. This obverse, B, is found muled with the Oxford reverse dated 1644, No. 4. It must have been issued between 1640 and September, 1642 (Plate III, Fig. 6).

THREEPENCES.

The first threepence (Plate III, Fig. 7) has its obverse, A, the same as the first groat with the small bust, except for its size and
figures of value. The legend reads M. B. FR. ET. H. The mark of abbreviation is an inverted semicolon. Its reverse, No. 1, is also similar to the reverse of the first groat, except that the plume has bands, and there are no pellets in the legend. I attribute this threepence to be the first, because the obverse has what may be called semicolon stops, which will be found on the first half-groat and always on the groats. As regards the reverse, it has the same harp as on all the higher denominations, viz., the first variety.

The second threepence (Plate III, Fig. 8), has the same obverse, A, as the first, but the legend reads also HI. The reverse, No. 2, differs as the plume has no bands, the harp is of the second variety, and there are pellets in the legend. Some of the coins with this reverse have no mint-mark. It must have been issued directly after the first, as reverse, No. 1, is very rare.

The third threepence (Plate III, Fig. 9) has an obverse, B, like the first, but the plume in front of the face is smaller. The legend reads M : B : FR : ET. H : and the marks of abbreviation are colons. One die with a flaw through the plume has no colon after H (Plate III, Fig. 9). The reverse is No. 2. I put the issue of this to 1638.

The fourth threepence (Plate III, Fig. 10) has an obverse, C, similar to obverse, B, but the plume is of the peculiar form with bands referred to in the other denominations as being issued about Christmas, 1639. The legend reads MAG : B : F : ET. H : The reverse, No. 2, is the same as on the previous examples. This obverse is found muled with the Oxford and Bristol reverses of 1644, No. 3 (Plate III, Fig. 11).

**HALF-GROATS.**

The first half-groat (Plate III, Fig. 12) was issued under the authority of the indenture of July, 1637, and has no inner circles. The obverse, A, has the bust as on the first shilling, no plume in front of the face and II, the mark of value, behind the head. The legend reads M. B. F. ET. H. the mark of abbreviation being the inverted semicolon. The reverse, No. 1, has a large plume with
Coins illustrative of
the Aberystwith mint.

Plate III.
bands, the stalks extending well below the coronet. Legend JUSTITIA. THRONVM. FIRMAT, or FIRMA.

There is a half-groat without inner circles which has for the obverse mint-mark a pellet, and the bust as on the Tower half-groat. This is probably an irregular or erratic coin, as a Tower iron was used (Plate III, Fig. 13).

The second half-groat (Plate III, Fig. 14) has inner circles on both sides and an obverse, B, with a bust like that on the later shilling with mint-mark anchor. The legend is the same as on the obverse, A, but the marks of abbreviation are colons.

The reverse, No. 2, differs from No. 1 only by having a beaded inner circle, and the legend always ends FIRMAT. There is a Tower half-groat with this bust and mint-mark anchor, thus showing that its issue was in 1638 (Plate III, Fig. 15).

The third half-groat (Plate III, Fig. 16) has on the obverse, C, a bust as on the last shilling, otherwise it is like obverse, B, with the exception that the mark of abbreviation is the inverted semicolon. The reverse is No. 2.

From the bust being like that of the last shilling I place its issue to the same time, viz., 1640–2.

There is no mule with a declaration reverse to help us, either of this or the penny.

PENNIES.

The first penny (Plate III, Fig. 17) is similar to the first half-groat except as to size and mark of value.

The obverse, A, reads CARO. D. G: M. B. F. ET. H. The reverse, No. 1, reads JUSTITIA THRONVM FIRMAT or FIR. This, like the first half-groat, was issued under the original indenture.

The second penny (Plate III, Fig. 18) is like the second half-groat. The obverse, B, has an inner circle and still reads CARO:, the marks of abbreviation being colons. The reverse, No. 2, has an inner circle and always reads FIRMAT.
There is a Tower half-groat with a similar bust struck from an iron for a penny with the mint-mark anchor, which points to this penny being issued in 1638 (Plate III, Fig. 19).

The third penny (Plate III, Fig. 20) has on the obverse, C, a bust like that on the fourth shilling, and the legend reads CAROLVS, &c.

The reverse, No. 2, is the same as before. As the obverse reads CAROLVS, I think this penny followed the second, which only reads CARO as did the first, and as the bust is like that of the fourth shilling I place its issue at the same time, viz., about Christmas, 1639. There are Tower pennies with this bust.

The fourth penny (Plate III, Fig. 21) has on the obverse, D, the bust as on the last sixpence, thus showing that it was issued about the same time, viz., 1640–2. The reverse, No. 2, is the same as before. There is also another reverse found with this obverse which is of coarser work, has the plume smaller, and for a mint-mark has four pellets, thus •••.

From its appearance I think that this penny was struck after the mint had been moved to Shrewsbury or Oxford.

**HALFPENNY.**

There is only one issue of the halfpenny, namely, of the type bearing a rose on the obverse, and a plume on the reverse (Plate III, Fig. 22).

Doubtless many of these smaller coins of true Aberystwith form were struck at Shrewsbury, Oxford and Bristol during the migrations of the mint after it left Aberystwith in September, 1642. Bushell would have been certain to have taken his dies with him and used them until they became worn out.

According to Mr. Symonds in his paper to which I have already referred, there were two periods after September, 1642, when money was coined at Aberystwith, viz., from January to March, 1645–6, when 73 lbs. by weight or some £250 by tale were coined, and again for a
few days in February, 1648–9, when £8 by tale (not 8 lbs. by weight as mentioned in the paper) were coined.

In January, 1645–6, Bushell was shut up in Lundy Island, for it was during this month, viz., on the 12th, that a Committee of Parliament authorized a proposition to be made to him to surrender the island on the condition that he should be restored to his interest in the silver mines. The mines, therefore, had been sequestrated by that time. The offer was conveyed to him in a letter from P. Jones, the Governor of Swansea, which was received on March 12th, 1645–6, and answered on the 19th.

This shows that whatever coins were struck during this period, which coincides with the time the mint was at work, they were not issued under the personal supervision of Bushell. It appears as if the mint was allowed to work as an inducement to him to surrender. The last period of a few days in February, 1648–9, occurred shortly after the King’s execution, and the amount struck is negligible, being only £8 in all.

Are any of these coins struck during the two last-mentioned periods extant? At once the thought arises why should not they be those with the mint-mark crown?

I am not prepared to answer definitely this question. The half-crown with this mint-mark to a great extent corresponds with the last Tower half-crowns with the mint-marks sun and sceptre. The bust on the shilling in like manner corresponds with the last bust on the Tower shilling with the mint-mark sceptre, which gives the appearance to the King as if he wore a chignon. The change of the mint-marks from sun to sceptre took place in February, 1645–6. I have not seen the sixpence, and no information can be gained from the smaller denominations. Some day, perhaps, the order for the issue of these dies will come to light, and then all doubt will be set at rest. There remains the half-groat, dated 1646, Ruding, Sup. Plate V, Fig. 6, which, however, I consider from its obverse and general appearance to have been struck at Lundy Island. On the other hand some old dies, left behind, may have been used, and if this was the case the issue would be indistinguishable from the rest of the coins of this mint. There are some specimens, principally groats, which have been struck from cracked dies.
As regards the coins with the mint-mark crown, I am inclined to believe that they were struck at Coombe Martin, to which place Bushell retired after the surrender of Lundy. He appears to have lived in that neighbourhood, for he took a great interest in the harbour of Bideford, and also in the mines of that part of the country.

There is another class of coins which must be mentioned, viz., those composed of an Oxford obverse and an Aberystwith reverse. They consist of one threepence, some half-groats and pennies.

The threepence is *Hawkins*, No. 2, Fig. 542, with R. under the bust and a reverse from an Aberystwith die. The half-groats, *Ruding*, Plate E, Fig. 10, have an obverse similar to that of the declaration half-groat of Oxford, *cf. Hawkins*, Fig. 532, with a reverse similar to that of Aberystwith, but with mint-mark a lys. The obverse mint-marks are lys and pellet. The pennies are like the half-groats.

These coins, I think, must be attributed to Oxford. The threepence is a mule. The authorities of the mint at Oxford must have found that to crowd the declaration into the reverses of the half-groats and pennies was so difficult and intricate a task that they gave up the idea, and returned to the old type with the plume, but substituted a lys as the mint-mark in place of the book. They evidently worked the mint under the original patent given to Bushell, so they used the reverse as sanctioned in that document.

These remarks on the coins struck after September, 1642, are simply given as a guide to what I think occurred after that date. No coins appear to have been struck after February 23rd, 1648–9, when the coining stamps were delivered over to Thomas Harrington, the representative of the Parliament.

The mint, though originally established at the Castle of Aberystwith, appears to have been moved nearer to the mines. The following information from Meyrick's *History of Cardiganshire* will be interesting:—The mint was situated about three miles from Tallabont, and the inventory, taken in 1667, discloses that there were in the old mint house the following utensils, viz.:

One pair of small bellows; one wind furnace to melt silver in, with brick and iron bars; one large beam of iron, and brass scales with several piles of
brass weights to weigh silver with; one great iron-bound chest with three
locks, formerly used by the coiners there, with old defaced stamps
therein; one table counter with cupboards, shelves, etc. In attendance
one man. Of late years there was a mint erected at the silver mills in
Cardiganshire, called Yr Velyri Vwyn, just below Dvey Furnace on
the River Einion. There were some extensive remains of it in A.D. 1755,
though now (1810) a cottage only serves to point it out.

I have an idea that Bushell's lease of the Royal Mines in
Cardiganshire expired about the year 1660, as the lease granted
originally to Sir Hugh Myddleton was, I think, for forty years from
1620.

The series of coins issued from the mint of Aberystwith is, in my
view, one of the finest of the period, and the coins themselves show
that a great amount of attention and care was paid by all concerned.
Wales has every reason to be proud of the only mint it has had for
centuries, and ought to be grateful to Thomas Bushell, that great
personage, from a numismatic point of view, of the Civil War, for
establishing it at Aberystwith.

**Table Showing the Sequence of the Obverses and Reverses.**

*Note.*—The obverses are shown by letters, the reverses by numerals.

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<td>3</td>
<td>3, B</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Groat</td>
<td>A, 1</td>
<td>2, B</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Threepence</td>
<td>A, 1</td>
<td>B, 2</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half-Groat</td>
<td>A, 1</td>
<td>B, 2</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>D</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
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<td>A, 1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Halfpenny</td>
<td>A, 1</td>
<td>A, 1</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
EXPLANATION OF THE PLATES.

PLATE I.

1. Tower half-crown, mint-mark tun, *Hawkins*, type 3a, obverse and reverse.
2. " " " " later type, obverse.
3. " " " " triangle, ground under the horse, obverse.
4. " " " " star over triangle, with the Aberystwith horse, obverse.
6. Aberystwith half-crown, first type, obverse and reverse.
7. " " " " ground under the horse, obverse and reverse.
8. " " " " last type, obverse and reverse.
9. " " " " first type, reverse with five pellets by the mint-marks.
10. " " " " last type, the Shrewsbury reverse, 1642.
12. " " " " tun, late obverse and reverse.
13. " " " " anchor, second obverse for that mint-mark.
14. " " " " star, late obverse.

PLATE II.

1. Aberystwith shilling, first type, without the inner circle, obverse and reverse.
2. " " " " second type, reverse.
3. " " " " second type, another reverse.
4. " " " " third type, Tower bust, obverse.
5. " " " " fourth type, obverse.
6. " " " " fifth type, reverse.
7. " " " " sixth type, obverse.
8. " " " " sixth type, the Shrewsbury reverse, 1642.
10. " " " " late obverse and reverse.
11. " " " " triangle, early obverse.
12. " " " " triangle, late obverse and reverse.
13. Aberystwith sixpence, first type, no inner circles, obverse and reverse.
14. " " second type, obverse.
15. " " third type, reverse.
16. " " fourth type, reverse.
17. " " fifth type, obverse and reverse.
18. " " fifth type, the Oxford reverse, 1642.

PLATE III.
1. Aberystwith groat, first type, large head, obverse and reverse.
2. " " first type, small head, obverse.
3. " " second type, reverse.
4. " " third type, reverse.
5. " " fourth type, obverse.
6. " " fourth type, the Oxford reverse, 1644.
7. " threepence, first type, obverse and reverse.
8. " " second type reverse.
9. " " third type, obverse.
10. " " fourth type, obverse.
11. " " fourth type, the Oxford reverse, 1644.
12. " half-groat, first type, without the inner circles, obverse and reverse.
13. " " first type, with the Tower head, obverse.
14. " " second type, obverse and reverse.
15. Tower half-groat, mint-mark anchor, obverse.
16. Aberystwith half-groat, third type, obverse.
17. " penny, first type, no inner circles, obverse and reverse.
18. " " second type, obverse and reverse.
19. Tower half-groat, mint-mark anchor.
20. Aberystwith penny, third type, obverse.
21. " " fourth type, obverse.
22. " halfpenny, obverse and reverse.
OIL PAINTING OF QUEEN ANNE BY KNELLER IN THE COLLECTION OF THE DUKE OF PORTLAND.