NOTES ON THE LONG-CROSS COINAGE
OF HENRY III
1247–1250
By WM. C. WELLS

THE ABBOT'S DIE AT ST. EDMUNDBURY
About Michaelmas 1247, soon after the Long-Cross coinage was ordered, some doubt appears to have arisen as to the Abbot of St. Edmundsbury’s right to a die, and the abbot found it necessary to produce at the Exchequer evidence in support of his claim, as is shown by the following record which is entered on the King's Remembrancer’s Memoranda Roll, Michaelmas Term, 32–3 Henry III, 1247:—

“Brother Edmund de Walpole and Brother Thomas, monks of Saint Edmund’s came before the barons [of the Exchequer] and showed that the Abbot of Saint Edmund’s had and ought to have by right a die and Exchange at Saint Edmund’s as fully and as freely as the Exchange at London with everything belonging to a die and Exchange, and that the lord King ought in no way to meddle therewith, except only when he receives per the Lord Treasurer a die [from them] in London, and thereof they brought a charter of Saint Eadward [the Confessor] the king, written in English in this wise: (Here follows an attempt on the part of the scribe to transcribe Eadward the Confessor’s charter to Abbot Baldwin, written in old English, a language with which the scribe was obviously unacquainted. For the transcript, as given by the 13th-century scribe, see p. 102, post.)

1 Eadward the Confessor’s charter to Abbot Baldwin, confirming the coining privileges which appear to have been granted to his predecessor, Leofstan, who died on 1 August 1065, is transcribed in the Monasticon, vol. iii, p. 138, and is as follows:

“€órand king 5ieec Aylmef biff cop, 7 5îitch epl 7 Toly 7 alle mme theynge on €orangle fienolike. Antôc kîche ihu &c habbe unnenn Balcepmo abbot one mouenepe ình mnen Seync 6omunor bîhu, alre fïelike on alle chîngs co habben, alro me mme on hanoe fïonden öpem on ani mme buîsg alope fïelikec. 5o re ihu alle fïeno.””

(I king Eadward greet bishop Aylmer, and earl Gythir, and Toli, and all my thanes in East Anglia, amicably: and I make known to you that I have granted to abbot Baldwin one minter within Saint Edmundsbury, to have in all things as freely as mine have stood in my service or in any of my towns, most freely. God be the friend of you all.)
“And King Henry the first conceded that the church of Saint Eadmund may have one moneyer in the ville of Saint Eadmund’s as freely as ever they had one.

“And King William Rufus ordered his minister in Norfolk and Suffolk that Abbot Baldwin of Saint Eadmund’s may have all his customary rights both within and without the Borough and as concerns the moneyer and exchange he may have them as ever best he had them in the time of King Eadward [the Confessor] and in the time of his father [i.e. the Conqueror].

“And King Richard conceded that the said church may have one moneyer in the ville of Saint Eadmund’s as freely as ever they had.

“And King John conceded that the Abbot and Convent of Saint Eadmund’s may have one die for making money within the ville of Saint Eadmund’s and that the same money might be made, he willed and firmly ordered that they may have a die for that purpose in the aforesaid place for ever with all that pertains to a die of that kind.

“And King Henry the third conceded that the before-named Church may have one moneyer in the ville of Saint Eadmund’s as freely, &c. The date of this confirmation is the 30th day of January in the [King’s] 11th year [1227].”

THE ST. EDMUNDSBURY MINT IN 1247

The earliest issue of Henry III “Long-Cross” coins, Lawrence Class I*, which read HENRICVS REX—ÆNGILIC TERCIV, and thus fail to exhibit either moneyer’s name or mint-name, are generally considered to have emanated entirely from the London mint. But the following two warrants which were issued on 6 December 1247, and are entered on the Close Roll for that date, appear to indicate that dies were granted to the Abbot of St. Edmundsbury for the purpose of striking coins in Class I*:

(1) “Of the die to be delivered to the monks of St. [Edmund]. Mandate to W. de Haverhill, King’s treasurer, Edward of Westminster and William Hardel: that they may hand over to the monks of St. Edmund a certain die newly cut for the minting their money at times; as of right they have been accustomed to do and ought; saving to the King in all things the liberties and dignities of his crown as are
discerned to pertain to the die. Marlborough, 6th day of December (1247)."

(2) "Mandate to Edward of Westminster that he may deliver to the monks of St. Edmund who are coming to him with letters of the King for a certain die, twelve oboli of Muz of the King’s gift which he wills should be attached to the tomb of the blessed Martyr Edmund as the King was not there this year. Marlborough, 6th day of December, 1247." 

1 Printed in the Calendar of Close Rolls, 1247-51, p. 12.

2 References to denarii de Muz', Mus' or Muse', and to oboli de Muz, Mus' or Muse' are frequent in the thirteenth-century rolls, but so far as I am aware, no numismatic writer has yet advanced satisfactory evidence as to their place of origin. Gold was not coined by Henry III until his 41st year, 1257, yet gold coins were current in his dominions prior to that time. In his 35th year he commanded Philip Luvel to pay the whole sum which he owed to the king on the feast of St. Eadweard, in gold money, in bezants, or oboli de Mus', and other gold money (Close Roll, 2 Oct. 35 Henry III, 1251), from which it is clear that these pence and halfpence of Mus' were of gold. In the Liberate Rolls we find many entries which show that oboli de Mus', or Muse', constituted the usual medium of offerings by Henry III at the shrines of various saints. They also show that the denarius de Mus' equaled 30 English silver pence and the obolus 15 silver pence. In the Liberate Rolls we find, inter alia, the following records of the purchase of halfpennies of Mus', by the king's order:

26 Dec. 1238. "20s. for 16 oboli de Muse' bought and sent to the king at Winchester."

19 Feb. 1239. "25s. for oboli Muse' bought for the king's use."

14 Apr. 1239. "45s. to buy 36 ob. Muse' for the king's use."

25 June 1239. "105s. 4d. for 86 oboli de Muse' bought from Adan de Shoredich, goldsmith, for the king's use, by the king's order."

9 Feb. 1240. "8 marks 5s. 4d. for 84 oboli de Muse' bought by the king's order and delivered to the king for offerings on the day of the conversion of St. Paul and at the Purification."

26 Apr. 1240. "116s. for 88 obuli Muse' bought and delivered to the king by his order to make his offerings."

7 July 1240. "Given St. Edmund on Ascension Day, 20s. for 15 obuli de Muse' bought by the king's order and delivered to the following Whitsunday."

8 Aug. 1240. "4 marks 6s. for 43 obuli de Muse' and a bezant bought by the king's order for his offerings, whereof he offered 20 obuli de Muse' to St. Eadweard on the morrow of the Translation of St. Thomas the Martyr, and 24 obuli and a bezant there on the day of St. Peter Chains. And 32s. for 24 obuli de Muse' bought by the king's order and delivered to the king on the day of the Lord's Transfiguration."

15 Aug. 1240. "18s. 6d. for 14 obuli de Muse' bought by the king's order and offered to the Church of St. Paul's, London, at the feast of its dedication."

17 Mar. 1242. "15s. for 12 oboli de Muse' worth 15d. each which the king offered at the shrine of St. Eadmund on the Monday after St. Gregory."

25 Mar. 1242. "Comptate to the sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk. ... 17s. 9d. for 9 oboli Muse' worth 15d. each and 3 bezants worth 26d. each placed on the shrine of St. Eadmund against the king's arrival before mid-Lent."

3 Printed in the Calendar of Close Rolls, 1247-51, p. 12.
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We know that Mr. Lawrence’s Class I* of the Long-Cross coinage did not become current until 1 November 1247. The die referred to in the above warrants was ready for delivery six weeks later. It is improbable that the new coinage was ready for issue exactly on the appointed day; and as the St. Edmundsbury die would probably be ordered at least a fortnight before it was ready for delivery the order must have been given within a fortnight of the inception of the new coinage. Consequently there can be little doubt that this die was for coins of Class I*. Moreover, only twenty days after the delivery of the first die, i.e., on 26 December, another die, to enable the abbot to make “new money”, was ready for delivery, as is shown by the warrant transcribed below:—

“Of a die to be handed over. Mandate to W. de Haverhill, his treasurer, W. Hardel and Edward of Westminster to deliver to Edmund the sub-sacristan of St. Edmunds and the messengers of the Abbot and convent of St. Edmund a certain die, newly cut, having first taken from them the old die they have; that they, the Abbot and convent, using the new die may cause new money to be made therewith, as with the old die they caused to be made the old money before the change to our new coinage. Although the King’s Exchequer is not at present in session nonetheless see that this our mandate is fully obeyed.”

At the same time was issued also the following warrant:—

“Concerning a die. The King to the Abbot and convent of St. Edmund. Though we may have been led without difficulty to concede to you a newly cut die, we command and expressly enjoin you in this, that so as you desire to enjoy the liberty of this die and all other your liberties, so may you have used the said die in the manner in which it [sic] is used in our city of London and in other towns of our Kingdom.”

As the abbot had already received a die since the inception of the Long-Cross coinage, and the new die which was ready for delivery on 26 December 1247, was to enable him to make “new money”, which could not have been the coins

2 Ibid.
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of the rex terci class, for we know they were not in issue until after the middle of 1248,1 this new die, ready for delivery on 26 December 1247, must therefore have been for striking coins of the second variety, Mr. Lawrence's Class I, of which class St. Edmundsbury coins are of considerable rarity, only three or possibly four specimens being on record, two of which, from the Brussels hoard, were in the late Mr. A. H. Baldwin's possession.

The dies specified in the warrants of 6 December 1247 could have been in use for only a short period and coins of substantive Class I* struck at St. Edmundsbury are unknown, but in my possession is a curious "mule" coin which combines the obverse of Lawrence Class Vc with a reverse similar to Class I* but reading ΛΝΟΛΙΣ ΤΕΡΟΙ Σ. The obverse is from a perfectly normal Class Vc die made with normal official irons and the reverse is from a die made with the official irons with which the dies for the normal Class I* coins were made.2 The reverse differs from that of normal coins of Class I* in reading ΛΝΟΛΙΣ ΤΕΡΟΙ Σ instead of ΛΝΟΛΙΣ ΤΕΡΟΙ. Long-Cross coins emanating from the St. Edmundsbury mint are variously inscribed S'EDMUND, S'ADM, SAINTED, SANTED, SEN-ED, S'ED, SE, &c., and on the above-described "mule" coin, the reverse of which I have little doubt was struck from one of the dies specified in the warrants of 6 December 1247 we have the ultimate minimum contraction "S" for Saint Edmundsbury.

1 See pp. 84-5, post.
2 I emphasize these details because the coin in question is abnormal and, on account of its abnormality and because it does not exactly accord with accepted theories, the coin has been dismissed as a "continental imitation". The only argument advanced against this coin appears to be that "it should not be", as the old dies should have been returned at the time of the receipt of new dies.

![Fig. 1. Henry III Penny of Lawrence Class I*, November-December 1247. (W. C. Wells.)](image1)

![Fig. 2. Henry III Penny. The reverse of Class I* "muled" with the obverse of Class Vc. (W. C. Wells.)](image2)
It may be objected that a period of six years separates the obverse and reverse dies, and also that, theoretically at least, the die specified in the warrant of 6 December 1247 should have been returned at the time of the delivery of the die specified in the warrant of 26 December, but it may be observed that the former warrant contains no such condition as is laid down in the latter warrant, viz., that W. de Haverhill and others were to deliver to the abbot's messengers a certain die "having first taken from them the old die they have". Similar conditions governed the issue of new dies to other mints, yet we have more than one instance in which the obverse and reverse dies from which a "mule" coin was struck were not of consecutive issues. Probably the best known example is that which combines the obverse of a coin of Eadweard the Confessor with the reverse of a "Bonnet" type penny of William I. In this case also there would be a period of six years separating the date of the obverse die from that of the reverse. It appears probable that in each case the return of a die was omitted and that, again in each case, the old die was accidentally used. In the Carlyon-Britton collection was a "mule" coin of Eadweard the Confessor, which combined an obverse of C.-B. type vii (Hawkins, 227), with a reverse of C.-B. type ix (Hawkins, 222), which would again indicate a period of about six years between the date of the obverse and reverse dies.

The Opening of the Provincial Mints

Mr. Lawrence, in "The Long-Cross Coinage of Henry III and Edward I", refers to "a complete list of the provincial mints and their moneyers as ordered in 1247", and later, on the same page, he says: "It will be shown that the provincial mints started work one year later than those of London, Canterbury, and St. Edmundsbury." The following warrants, however, neither of which have been previously printed in a numismatic publication, show that the provincial mints were not ordered until 1248; that certain of them commenced work about the middle of that year, and that the remainder were in operation by about the end of the year or, in some cases, by the latter end of January 1249:

"The King to the bailiffs and good men of Norwich.

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We command you and firmly enjoin that without delay in the presence of your full court you cause to be elected by the oath of twenty-four good and lawful men, four of your more trusty and prudent fellow-townsmen who may best know and faithfully fulfil the duties of our moneyers in your said city; and four others of like fidelity and prudence to be custodians of our dies, and two fit and prudent goldsmiths of unblemished repute with the knowledge and ability to act as assayers of our moneys to be coined there. And see that the aforesaid men, moneyers, keepers and assayers be such as you have appointed and will be responsible for, to us and our dear brother, R. Earl of Cornwall, not only for the good conduct of our mint in your said city, but also for the moneys that shall be delivered to them and for the profits to arise from the same; and see that they, naming each of them, be with your letters patent at our Exchange in London before our treasurer and barons to do there what according to ancient custom and approved assise ought to be done, so that they be at our exchequer before our said barons on Sunday before the feast of St. Gregory next [i.e. 15 March]. Know also that our said brother will cause you to receive £1,000 sterling to sustain the Exchange and coin new money; so shall you make to him your letters patent in forma presentibus inclusa, which said letters you shall send to the said earl on receiving the said £1,000. Witness the King at Westminster, 26 February [1248]."1

Similar warrants were sent to the mayor, &c., of Northampton, Exeter, Winchester, and Lincoln.

The foregoing warrant is printed in the Calendar of Close Rolls, 1247–51, pp. 107–8, and a very abridged version of the following warrant is printed by Madox:2

"Mandate to the bailiffs and men of Wallingford, that forthwith in the presence of their full court they cause to be elected by the oath of twenty-four good and lawful men four of the more trustworthy and prudent men of their town such as may have a better knowledge and ability to perform the office of King's moneyer in their said town; and another four men of like trustworthiness and pru-

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1 Close Roll, 26 Feb., 32 Henry III, 1248, memb. 134. See also p. 104, post.
dence for the custody of the King’s dies; and two fit and prudent goldsmiths of unblemished fidelity with knowledge and ability to act as assayers of the money to be minted there; and one fit and trustworthy clerk with knowledge how to supervise the custody of the Exchange. And let them see to it that all these men, moneyers, custodians, assayers and clerk, whatsoever they be, that they both know and are able not only how to conduct in a fit manner the office of King’s moneyer there but shall be able to account to the King and his brother the earl of Cornwall both for the money which shall be handed to them and for the profit of the same; and let them send the said men separately named with the King’s letters patent to the Exchange at London to be before the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer to do there what according to custom and ancient approved assise they ought to do there. So that they be at the Exchange before the said Barons in the octaves of All Saints [1 to 8 Nov.]. And let them know that the King’s said brother will cause the King to have one thousand pounds sterling to sustain the Exchange and to mint the money. And by the same men send the Common Seal of your said town with which they shall be able to give to the King and his brother security both for the money to be handed to them to sustain the Exchange and to mint the new money in their town as for the profits to be derived therefrom; and let them have with them there and then this writ.

"Witness Edward of Westminster at Westminster, October 10, 32 Henry III.

"In the same manner it was commanded to the bailiffs and men of Bristol, Ilchester, Hereford, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Nottingham, Carlisle, Shrewsbury and Wilton."

From the foregoing warrants it will be seen that the mints at Northampton, Norwich, Exeter, Winchester, and Lincoln, all of which issued "Rex Terci" coins, were in operation several months earlier than were the mints at Wallingford, Bristol, Hereford, Ilchester, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Carlisle, Shrewsbury, and Wilton, where only "Rex III" coins were issued. It will also be observed that on 10 October 1248 a warrant was sent to the bailiffs, &c., of Nottingham in the

1 Lord Treasurer’s Remembrancer’s Memoranda Roll, 10 Oct., 32 Henry III, 1248. See also pp. 104–5, post.
same terms as those sent to Bristol, Wallingford, &c., but as no Nottingham coins of Henry III are known to exist we can only assume that the warrant was sent to Nottingham in error, or that it was afterwards cancelled.

I have failed to discover any warrant authorizing the reopening of the royal or civic mints at York, Oxford, or Gloucester in 1248, but “Rex Terci” coins issued from those three mints prove that they were in operation from the commencement of the provincial issue of the Long-Cross coinage; thus, we may assume with every confidence that warrants, of which we have no record, were issued on or about 26 February 1248 for the reopening of the royal mints at York, Oxford, and Gloucester.

Preparations for opening the mints from which “Rex Terci” coins emanated appear to have been well advanced in July 1248, when we read of power given to Jordan de Brunswick:

“To conduct from beyond seas to England at the king’s expense ministers cunning in any kind of minting and exchange of silver (monetarie et cambii argenti), to do in the realm what pertains to the business of each and to receive their wages according to the approved customs of the king’s exchange (cambii nostri). And grant to the ministers that they stay safely in the realm and return safely.”

A few days later, on 20 July 1248, was issued the following warrant authorizing the reopening of the Archbishop of York’s mint:

“Of the dies of the Archbishop of York.—Because the king is satisfied by inquisition he directed to be made that archbishop Walter and his predecessor have by custom had and ought to have two dies and not less in the city of York whenever we the king have four dies [there], the said archbishop ought by the same custom to have more dies; so, that is to say, he shall always have the third die whenever the king shall decide to multiply his dies beyond four. Mandate to W. Hardel, keeper of his Change, to cause the same archbishop to have two [newly cut] dies in the said city, according to what has already been said.”

1 Patent Roll, 16 July 1248.
On the same date were also issued the following two warrants:

(1) "Power to John le Franceys to receive the oath of fealty from the men of the city of York to be elected to the office belonging to the dies of Walter archbishop of York, in that city, and to do other things which are convenient for the minting, according to law and the custom of the realm.

"Mandate also to the mayor and citizens of York to select by the oath of twelve good men of the city, three of the more approved men thereof, to wit one to be moneyer, another to keep the assay of the archbishop's exchange, and the third to be keeper of the dies in the city and to cause them to come before the said John at his next coming to York to hear and to do the king's order; and mandate to him to go to York on such day as shall be convenient to receive the oath and to do other things to the said minting (monetaria)."\(^1\)

(2) "Power to John le Fraunceys to receive the oath of fealty of the men of the city of York to be selected for the office belonging to the dies of the archbishop of York, and to do other things convenient for the minting, as above."\(^2\)

In the Register of Walter de Gray, Archbishop of York, 1216–56, we find it recorded that:

"In the memoranda of the 33rd year of King Henry [III] in the Term of Holy Trinity are contained these words: The sheriff of York is commanded that by the oath of twelve upright and lawful men of the city of York he cause to be selected, in place of Hugh Sampson who—as is said—is not master of himself, two of the upright and lawful men of the same city who shall be fit for the custody of the dies of Walter archbishop of York; and that he cause them when elected to come before John Francigena at his next coming to York to hear and to act on the King's precept and this writ. And J. F. is commanded that the King has given him power to receive an oath from the two men of York, who are elected for the custody of the dies, &c."

The warrants cited above were issued about three months earlier than those issued for the opening of the royal mints

\(^1\) Patent Roll, 20 July 1248.  
\(^2\) Ibid., 22 July 1248.
which struck only "Rex III" coins, and about five months before the cessation of the "Rex Terci" issue; and it is difficult to account for the non-appearance of the latter type issued by Thomas, the archbishop's moneyer. The warrants also indicate that—although we have Long-Cross coins struck by only one of the archbishop's moneyers—two sets of dies were issued, as both dies and custodes cuneorum are referred to in the plural.

**The Closing of the Provincial Mints**

Mr. Lawrence, in "The Long-Cross Coinage of Henry III and Edward I", says: "Messrs. Fox have documentary evidence concerning the time of the closure of these mints which points to the year 1250." Unfortunately Messrs. Fox's evidence has not been published. No evidence has yet appeared in a numismatic publication which goes to prove even an approximate date for the cessation of coining at the provincial mints, and, so far as I am aware, the following writ, which is recorded in the Close Roll under date 24 June 1250,\(^1\) is the only piece of documentary evidence bearing upon this question that has previously appeared in print:

"As the King's die has been moved from the town of Bristol and money is no longer to be made there, mandate to the mayor and bailiffs of Bristol that the houses which the King's moneyers occupied for the minting of money they cause without delay to be given back to them to whom they belong, so that no claims as to them be heard again."

The foregoing writ shows that at Bristol, coinage had ceased at some time previously to June 1250. The discovery of this writ was a step in the direction of determining the date of closure of all the provincial mints. I have, however, recently discovered at the Public Record Office certain documents which enable us to now put a definite date to the cessation of the coining activities of the provincial mints. In the Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer's Memoranda Roll, Hilary Term (23 Jan.–12 Feb.), 34 Henry III, 1250,\(^2\) occurs the following entry:

"Concerning the assays to be returned to the King and the

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1 Printed in the Calendar of Close Rolls, 1247–51, p. 297.
2 Membrane 7\(^d\). See also, p. 105, post.
Earl. Every town throughout England in which minting was done should restore to the King and Earl the assay[s] which the Warden[s] of the mint[s] received."

These assays are described in an interesting document in the British Museum,¹ presumably written in 1248, from which I extract the following:

"That fraud may not enter into the lawful coinage of the realm, by counsel of all the aforesaid persons and for the advantage of the public weal, let two assays be made, the weight of each being ten shillings, of which one shall be of pure silver, the other of such metal of which it is intended to strike the new money: of which two assays, each impressed with a stamp [i.e., a die] shall be deposited in the King's treasury at Westminster under the seal of the Mayor of London.

"In like manner were several assays made in form as aforesaid and impressed with a stamp in divers authorised places where a mint had been erected, namely, at London, two weighs of forty pence, one known to be of pure silver, the other of current coin (aliud ad monetam); at Canterbury, two weighs of the same kind; at St. Edmund, Norwich, Oxford, Northampton, Lincoln, Winchester, Gloucester, Exeter, York, and Ilchester in the same manner."

Only one specimen of "assay" of this period has survived to the present day. It is preserved in the Museum at the Royal Mint and it recently formed the subject of a short paper by Mr. L. A. Lawrence.² This "assay" or "standard" cannot be one of those ordered in 1248 as it bears an impression of the die inscribed PHILIP ON LUND, and Philip de Cambio was not appointed moneyer until 1278. The weight of later "assays" must have varied from those ordered in 1248, for that described and illustrated by Mr. Lawrence has obviously had several pieces cut from it, probably for purposes of assay, and even in its present condition it weighs 7·315 oz., which is considerably more than ten shillings.

In 1198, in his account of the farm of the Exchange of all England, Guy de Vou accounts for eighty-six assays or "essays" which were allowed to him for £83 17s. to render into lawful money. This store of "essays" obviously represents an accumulation at the Exchequer extending over many years. The amount of current coin Guy had to produce

1 I am indebted to the Council of the Royal Numismatic Society for the loan of these blocks and for permission to use them in connexion with this article. W. C. W.

2 "Compotus Widonis de Vou de firma Cambii Totius Anglie" (sub "London and Middlesex")—"Et de quater .xx. et .vj. essais que computantur ei pro quater .xx. h. et .lxxvij. s. ad redigendum in legalum monetam." Pipe Roll, 10 Richard I, 1198.
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from the “essays”, as shown by the sum total of his account, allowed him the usual mintage charge of sixpence in the pound. When the minting charge is added—without going into minute fractions—the amount of coin produced from the eighty-six “essays” was £86, or 20s. from each “essay”, which would probably be about the original weight of the specimen illustrated above.

The warrant of January–February 1250, ordering the return of the assays is a sure indication that the coinage had nearly run its course; but that warrant was probably issued subsequently to another which I recently discovered, and from which we can ascertain a definite date after which no coins were issued, at least from the provincial mints, and as the warrant cited above orders the return of the assays from “every town throughout England in which minting was done”, it appears probable that coinage ceased before Easter 1250, at London, Canterbury and St. Edmundsbury, as well as at the provincial mints.

The second warrant, referred to above, is recorded on the King’s Remembrancer’s Memoranda Roll for Hilary Term, 34 Henry III, 1250, membrane 7, and is as follows:—

“Oxford, Berks and other counties, as to the mints in England. Mandate to the sheriff [of Oxford] that as soon as he has seen this writ he shall go in person to the King’s mint at Oxford and without delay shall send the King’s dies at that mint to the Barons of the Exchequer under his seal and that of the mayor of Oxford by one of the keepers of the same dies. And he shall cause to come before the barons a fortnight after Easter [10 April] the warden, changer and moneyer[s] of the said mint to answer the King for the issues of the said mint during the time they were the King’s officials in the said mint. And let him have this writ with him there.

“Mandates issued in the same manner to the sheriff of Berkshire concerning the mint at Wallingford; and to the sheriff of Northampton, and to those of Gloucestershire, Wilts, Herefordshire and Shropshire [concerning the mints at Northampton, Gloucester, Wilton, Hereford and Shrewsbury, to be before the barons] three weeks after Easter [17 April]; and to the sheriffs of Southampton, Lincoln, Norfolk and Somerset [concerning the mints at Winchester, Lincoln, Norwich and Ilchester] for a month

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after Easter [24 April]; and to the sheriffs of Devon, Cumberland, Yorkshire and Northumberland [concerning the mints at Exeter, Carlisle, York and Newcastle-on-Tyne]. As well as to the dies of the Archbishop as to their own.”

There can be no doubt that coining at the provincial mints ceased at the end of January or very early in February 1250, for the following warrants were issued in Hilary Term of that year, i.e., before 12 February:

“Northamptonshire. Mandate to the sheriff that he cause the assayers, exchangers and other ministers of the king’s exchange at Northampton to have their arrears, which are behindhand, from the issues of the said exchange, so that we may not have to complain again, and so that they may answer for the said issues by Monday next after the ascension of our Lord [9 May].

“In the same manner Mandate to the Sheriff of Northumberland for ministers &c., and moneyers and exchangers of the said county, on the morrow of Saint John the Baptist [25 June]. And the Sheriff of Herefordshire for exchangers, moneyers and ministers of the exchange at Hereford.”

(King’s Remembrancer’s Memoranda Roll, Hilary Term, 34 Henry III, 1250.)

The Amount of Coin Issued from the Provincial Mints

We have seen from the foregoing warrants the dates of the opening and of the closing of the various provincial mints, and it would be of considerable interest if we could now ascertain the amount of coin issued from those mints during the period of issue of the Long-Cross coinage. A full account of the working of each mint was prepared, probably about Easter 1250, but with one exception, that of Shrewsbury, they have failed to survive the vicissitudes of time. As direct evidence is not forthcoming, we may be able to deduce from indirect evidence the information we desire.

On the King’s Remembrancer’s Memoranda Roll for Trinity Term, 34 Henry III, 1250, membrane 13, is recorded the following warrant:

“Henry by the grace of God, &c., to the sheriff of
Northamptonshire, greeting. As it was provided by our dear and faithful Richard, earl of Cornwall, our dear brother, and J. le Maunsell, provost of Beverley, and the barons of the Exchequer that each exchanger in every town in which we cause our money to be minted, other than in the cities of London and Canterbury, should have yearly nine marks only and that each clerk should have yearly six marks only as and for their stipends; and that the moneyers should pay the stipends of the custodians of our dies out of their own portion. We enjoin thee to distrain our exchanger in Northampton in his lands and chattels for the return to us of the 7l. 1s. and 6d. which he received from our moneyers there more than he ought for his stipend; and the clerk for the return to us of the 4l. 14s. and 6d. which he received from our same moneyers more than was due for his stipend; and our moneyers, for the return to us of the 14l. which the custodians of our dies had of our money, which amount the said moneyers should have paid to the said custodians out of their own portion: so that thou hast all the said moneys at our Exchange in London on the morrow of Michaelmas for delivery there to the keepers of the said Exchange, and have [with thee] this writ &c.

"Witness: J. Francis, at Westminster the 28th day of July in the 34th year of our reign [1250]."

On the Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer's Memoranda Roll, of the same date as before, is entered a similar warrant but with slightly different wording, addressed to the sheriff of Oxfordshire. On the same day similar warrants were sent to the sheriffs of Northumberland, Yorkshire, Wiltshire, Southampton, Norfolk, Lincolnshire, Gloucestershire, and Devon, concerning the mints at Newcastle-on-Tyne, York, Wilton, Winchester, Norwich, Lincoln, Gloucester, and Exeter; the amounts to be collected differing in each case.

The exchangers and clerks being paid a fixed stipend, the amounts due from them does not assist us in our inquiry; but I will endeavour to show from the sums due from the moneyers in regard to the custodes cuneorum, how much money was struck at each of the mints enumerated above, as those sums obviously represent, in each case, the full

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1 See also p. 106, post.
amount paid to the *custodes cuneorum* for their stipend during the whole period of issue of the Long-Cross coinage.

It is clear from the foregoing warrants, and also from the original order, which they cite, that the stipend of the exchangers and clerks employed at the provincial mints differed in amount from the stipend paid to corresponding officers employed in the mint at London and at Canterbury.¹

The basis on which *custodes cuneorum* were paid at London and Canterbury, we know from the following writ:

"*For Custodians of the dies*. Mandate to William Hardel, Custodian of the King's Change at London and in Canterbury that for the future he is to see that the custodians of the King's dies in London and Canterbury are paid for every hundred pounds worked in London and in Canterbury the twelve pence they were accustomed to receive in former times."²

From the above-cited warrants of 28 July 1250, addressed to the sheriffs controlling ten provincial mints, we learn the amounts which had been paid to the keepers of the dies for their services during the period of issue of the Long-Cross coinage, *viz*., Northampton £14, Oxford £14, Newcastle-on-Tyne £6 12s., York £10 10s., Wilton £4 13s. 9d., Winchester £12 7s. 11d., Norwich £12, Lincoln £18, Gloucester £11, and Exeter £8 15s. 3d.

The last-cited warrant shows that the *custodes cuneorum* at the London and Canterbury mints were paid twelve pence for every £100 struck there. If the *custodes cuneorum* at the provincial mints received a remuneration equal to those at the London and Canterbury mints, the amounts cited above as having been paid to the provincial *custodes*, would indicate that the amount of money coined at the provincial mints during the issue of the Long-Cross coinage would be as follows: At Northampton £28,000, or 6,720,000 pennies; at Oxford £28,000, or 6,720,000 pennies; at Newcastle-on-Tyne, £13,200, or 3,168,000 pennies; at York £21,000, or

¹ "*Provisio de stipendiis Cambitorium*. Provisum est per dominem Comitem, J. Maunsell, in presencia Thesaurarii et Baronum quod quilibet Cambitorum singulorum in villarum singularum extra Londoniam et Cantuarian habeat per annum pro stipendiis suis, ix. m. et clericus Cambii, vj. m." *(King's Remembrancer's Memoranda Roll, Trinity Term, 34 Henry III, 1250, memb. 12.)*

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5,040,000 pennies; at Wilton £9,375, or 2,250,000 pennies; at Winchester £24,791 13s. 4d., or 5,950,000 pennies; at Norwich £24,000, or 5,760,000 pennies; at Lincoln £36,000 or 8,640,000 pennies; at Gloucester £22,000, or 5,280,000 pennies, and at Exeter £17,525, or 4,205,000 pennies; a total of £223,891 13s. 4d., or 53,733,000 pennies. The wording of the above-cited warrants, however, indicates that the officers of the provincial mints were not paid at the same rate as were the corresponding officials in the chief mints at London and Canterbury.

This difference in the stipends of the officers at the principal exchanges and the amounts paid to corresponding officials of the provincial exchanges, is confirmed by entries on various twelfth- and thirteenth-century rolls, especially the Pipe Rolls, where we find it recorded on the rolls of 1180 and 1181, at the commencement of the Short-Cross coinage, that the exchangers in charge of the exchange at London and at Winchester\(^1\) received 16d. a day as their stipend, and the other exchangers at those two exchanges received 8d. a day. At the provincial exchanges the principal exchanger, who was also in charge of the local mint—where a mint existed—was paid 8d. a day and the other exchangers received 4d. a day, as is shown by the following extracts from the Pipe Roll of 27 Henry II, 1180-1:

Sub "Northamptonshire". (Entered under "Higham" in error. Should be under "Northampton".)

"In wages to Hervey Briton and Martin de Paulo from the feast of St. Martin to the close of Easter, that is 153 days, one of them at 8d. a day and the other at 4d. a day, 7l. and 13s. by the King's writ. And in wages to Hervey Briton, King's exchanger, from the close of Easter to the feast of St. Michael, 5l. and 13s. and 4d. [that is] 8d. a day, by the same writ."

Sub "Norfolk and Suffolk".

"In wages to Geoffrey Joimer and Aymer son of Philip from the feast of St. Michael to Epiphany, that is 56 days

\(^1\) The principal treasury was then situated at Winchester, where was also located one of the two chief exchanges. The Canterbury mint and exchange had not at that time assumed the important position which it held in the reign of Henry III, when the treasury had been removed from Winchester to London.
[one of them at 8d. a day and the other at 4d. a day], 56s.
And in wages to Geoffrey Joimer from the before-said feast
of Epiphany to the close of Easter, that is 96 days at 8d.
a day, 64s."

Sub "Worcester".

"In wages to Peter Melkin, King's exchanger, for 152
days, that is from the feast of St. Michael to the octave of
Easter, and to Richard Blund, his fellow, for 43 days, that
is from the feast of St. Michael to the vigil of the Nativity.
And in wages to Martin de Paulo, King's exchanger, from
the close of Easter to the feast of St. Michael, 56s. and 4d.,
that is 4d. a day."

From the records it would appear that the exchangers at
the provincial exchanges received exactly half the wages
paid to officers holding a similar position at London and at
Canterbury, and from which it appears quite fair to assume
that other provincial mint and exchange officials also were
paid at the same ratio. Thus we may assume that pro-
nvincial custodes cuneorum received only one half the amount
paid to similar officials at London and at Canterbury, i.e.,
6d. for every £100 struck; in which case the amount of coin
struck at certain of the provincial mints between about
June 1248, and February 1250, would be as follows: At
Northampton £56,000, or 13,440,000 pennies; at Oxford
£56,000, or 13,440,000 pennies; at Newcastle-on-Tyne
£26,400, or 6,336,000 pennies; at York £42,000, or 10,080,000
pennies; at Wilton £18,750, or 4,500,000 pennies; at Win-
chester £49,583 6s. 8d., or 11,900,000 pennies; at Norwich
£48,000, or 11,520,000 pennies; at Lincoln £72,000, or
17,280,000 pennies; at Gloucester £44,000, or, 10,560,000
pennies; and at Exeter £35,050, or 8,410,000 pennies; a
total of £447,783 6s. 8d., or 107,466,000 pennies.

The Shrewsbury mint account, previously referred to, is
preserved in the borough archives at Shrewsbury. The
account is entered on two rolls, the first being headed "Roll
of assays made by the keepers of the dies [i.e., at the instance
of the keepers of the dies] at Shrewsbury, beginning Thurs-
day, January 29, 1248-9".1 Upon these is entered a record

1 "Rotulus de Assayis factis per custodes cuneorum Salopp incipient: die
Jovis proximo ante festum Purificationis beate Marie anno regni regis Henrici
xxxiiij."
of each day upon which the moneyers were working; the number of assays made by the assayers and the amount of coin struck each day. The first day of minting appears to have been 2 February 1248-9, when six assays were made and coin to the value of £20 was struck; and the last day of minting was 9 February 1249-50, when three assays were made and coin to the value of £6 was struck. The total amount of coin produced during those twelve months was £7,167, or 1,720,080 pennies.

The moneyers appear to have worked irregularly, and their output also was very irregular. The dates upon which the moneyers, or some of them, were working, and the amount of coin struck was as follows: 1248-9, 2 Feb., £20; 10 Feb., £17; 18 Feb., £15; 20 Feb., £26; 11 Mar., £6; 16 Mar., £3; 22 and 23 Mar., £2; 31 Mar. and 1 Apr., £9; 14 and 15 Apr., £1; 28 Apr., £28; 12 May, £18; 18 May, £23; 8 June, £16; 23 June, £13; 23 June, £9; 26 June, £12; 2 July, £17; 15 July, £19; 26 July, £17; (on 31 July and 6, 10, and 11 Aug., assays were made but there is no return of coin struck); 20 Aug., £12; 26 Aug., £3; 30 Aug., £4; 7 Sept., £14; 16 and 17 Sept., £25; 23 Sept., £13; 30 Sept., £15; 4 Oct., £8; 30 Oct., £10; 17 or 24 Nov., £5; 3 Dec., £23; 15 Dec., £4; 22 Dec., £11. 1249-50, 14 Jan., £11; 27 Jan., £11; 28 Jan., £5; 3 Feb., £20; and 9 Feb., £6. Total amount coined, £7,167.

The late R. Ll. Kenyon, describing this roll, says: "It is an account of the assays made by the keepers of the Dies between 29 January, 1248-9, and 9 February, 1249-50; and it gives the names of the two . . . Goldsmiths elected to be Assayers. . . . They were Alan le Prude and William le Bor, but between the 4th and 30th of October 1249, Alan le Prude had been replaced by Thomas Gherard." 2

Mr. Kenyon assumes that the names given on these rolls are the names of the Custodes Cuneorum and that they were also the assayers. Mr. Kenyon, however, appears to have been mistaken in this, for the entries on the rolls repeatedly refer to assays "from the forges of William Bor and Alan Prude" or "from the forges of William Bor and Thomas Gherard", from which it is evident that these three men were fusores and not assayers nor keepers of the dies. More-

1 Two separate entries under this date.
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over, we know from the Hargrave MS. previously cited,¹ that the Shrewsbury custodes cuneorum were Robertus filius Johannis, Lucas filius Walteri, Johannes filius Rogeri le Parmentarius and Hugo le Vilain; and the Assaiatores, Thomas Aurifaber and Willelmus filius Hugonis. Presumably Mr. Kenyon was unacquainted with the contents of the Hargrave MS. or he would not have fallen into the error of assuming that Alan le Prude, William le Bor and Thomas Gherard were keepers of the dies and that they were also the assayers of the mint. Fusores are rarely mentioned by name, but in the Pipe Roll, 26 Henry II, 1179–80, sub “York”, we find the following entry of wages paid to a melter:

“Et Normannus Fusori a festo Crucis usque ad octabus Sancti Michaelis, scilicet de .xxvij. diebus. ix. s. et. iiiij d.”

In the same roll, sub “Higham” (which should be under “Northampton”) we find:

“Et in liberatione Gilleberti Fusoris a Nativitate Beate Marie usque ad octabas Sancti Michaelis .x. s.”

And in the roll for 27 Henry II, 1180–81, also sub “Higham”:

“Et Gilleberto fusori .ij. s. et .viij. d. de remanenti liberationis.”

In the Lord Treasurer’s Remembrancer’s Memoranda Roll for 33 Henry III, 1248–9, it is recorded that in Michaelmas Term of that year:²

“Richard Pride and Hugo Champenes, elected by the men of Shrewsbury to the office of moneyer, having taken the oath were admitted to that office; and Robert son of John, Lucas son of Walter, Hugo le Vilein, and John son of Roger the Tailor (Paumere), elected by the men of Shrewsbury to the office of Custodian of the dies, having taken the oath were admitted to that office.”

During the interval which elapsed between the admission of Hugo Champenes to the office of moneyer and the commencement of coining, i.e., 2 February 1249, he was replaced by Laurence Cox, as is shown in the Hargrave MS. previously cited, where we find “Laurentius Cox, loco Hugonis Champenesis” recorded in the list of Shrewsbury moneyers.

¹ See p. 90, ante. ² 9 October to 28 November 1248.
CONCERNING THE CUSTODY OF WON DIES OF THE NORTHERN MINTS

Considerable interest attaches to the following warrant addressed to the sheriffs of Yorkshire, Cumberland and Northumberland, providing for the safe custody of worn dies from the three northern mints from which Henry III "Long-Cross" coins were issued. This warrant is entered on the Lord Treasurer’s Remembrancer’s Roll for Michaelmas Term, 33 Henry III, 1248–9, membrane 2, and is as follows:

"York. Mandate to the sheriff [of Yorkshire] that the King’s dies which Robert Verdonel, Thomas Yol, William de Acun and Robert le Blund, keepers of the King’s dies in York, shall deliver to him under the King’s seal, he shall receive and cause to be placed in Knaresborough Castle under his seal and those of the Constable of the said Castle and all of the said keepers or of any two of them. And whenever the said keepers bring him four dies that have become worn down he shall receive them and securely keep under his seal and those of the said Constable and keepers; and for the said four worn dies so delivered to him he shall cause to be delivered to the keepers four new dies; and when the larger number of the said dies which the King sends to him shall have become worn down, he shall send that number to the Exchequer at Westminster by one of the said keepers under his seal and those of the moneyers in York, so that the barons may send to the sheriff as many new dies, in the same manner and custody.

"In the same manner mandate was sent to the sheriff of Northumberland concerning the dies of Newcastle-on-Tyne which Thomas de Merchivel (?) and other keepers of the King’s dies shall bring him from Newcastle.

"In the same manner mandate was sent to the sheriff of Cumberland concerning the King’s dies at Carlisle which Thomas Sparuarius (?), William Fitz-Ivonis and others shall bring him thence.

"In the same manner mandate was sent to the sheriff of Yorkshire concerning the [dies in the] Liberty of the Archbishop of York."

From the contents of the foregoing warrant it appears that the sheriffs of the three northern counties, Yorkshire, North-

\footnote{9 October to 28 November 1248. See also p. 107, \textit{post}.}
umberland and Cumberland, probably on account of their long distance from London, and the special dangers of transport, were provided with new dies which they kept in hand ready for immediate exchange for worn or broken dies from the mints in their respective counties, viz. York, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Carlisle; and that the said sheriffs retained in their charge the old dies until such time as it was convenient to send them, in charge of a custos cunei, to the Exchequer at London.

A Die for the Bishop of Durham Ordered in 1250

Richard Poor, Bishop of Durham, died in 1237; then followed a long contest between the king and the monks concerning a successor. On 2 January 1241 the monks elected Nicholas de Farnham to whose election the king was immediately reconciled. Between 1237 and 1253 no coins are known to have been issued from the episcopal mint at Durham. Nicholas de Farnham resigned his see in January 1249 and was succeeded by Walter of Kirkam. I recently discovered in the Lord Treasurer’s Remembrancer’s Memoranda Roll for Michaelmas Term 34–5 Henry III, 1250, membrane 1⁴, the following warrant:

“For N. Bishop of Durham. The King to the barons [of the Exchequer]. We command you to have a die cut for N. Bishop of Durham in the manner usual for such dies to be cut. The writ is in the Marshal’s wallet (forulo).”¹

The “N” in the foregoing warrant is difficult of explanation for it obviously indicates Nicholas, who had resigned the see eight months previously. Presumably it was a clerical error, the “N” being written for “W” and the die intended for Bishop Walter.

These dies, ordered at Michaelmas 1250, were, without doubt, for striking coins of Lawrence Class IV, of which type we have coins struck at London, Canterbury, and St. Edmundsbury. Of Durham mint we should expect to find coins of Class IV, but although the foregoing warrant shows that dies for the Bishop of Durham were ordered at Michaelmas 1250, no coins from those dies have yet been discovered; a fact which, however, is not very surprising when we con-
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Cider that the recorded coins of Class IV of the St. Edmundsbury mint number less than half a dozen specimens.

As I have previously shown on pp. 89–93, the provincial mints ceased operations and Class III terminated in the early part of 1250, and it is probable that Class IV commenced about Michaelmas in the same year, for sufficient time had elapsed by 2 February 1251 for clippers and counterfeiters to have been busy with the new coinage as is shown by a warrant of that date, by which, *inter alia*, Gilbert de Preston and Ralph de Gayton are appointed “to make inquisitions of those who have changed [money] contrary to the custom of the King’s change in the counties of . . . Northampton, &c. and of clippers and counterfeiters of the *new money, &c.*”

The Locality of the Gloucester Mint

The locality in which the Gloucester mint stood is indicated by the following record of:

“Commission to the king’s clerk John Walrand to enquire by jury whether a purpresture between the church of St. Mary de Graslane and the stalls where of ancient time money used to be coined in the town of Gloucester,” &c. (Patent Roll, 23 March 1258.)

In conclusion, I beg to express my best thanks to my friend, Mr. L. Griffith, for having drawn my attention to several documents transcribed in the foregoing pages and for other services rendered; and to the Council of the Royal Numismatic Society for the loan of the blocks used on p. 91.

APPENDIX

1

“Frater Edmundus de Walepole et Frater Thomas, monachi de Sancto Edmundo venerunt coram baronibus et protestatus fuit quod abbas Sæ Edmundi habuit et debuerit habere de jure cuneum et cambium apud Sanctum Edmundum adeo liberum sicut cambium Londonie cum omnibus ad cuneum et cambium pertinentibus; et dominus Rex nichil se debet inde intromittere nisi tam quam cuneum recepit apud London per manum Thesaurarii; et inde protulerunt cartam Sancti Eadwardi Regis Anglorum verbis in hac forma:—

Eadward King gret wel Aylmer Bisscop and Gurth Erl. Ich queth þeu that ich habbe gyuien Baldewin Abbot onne monetere withinne Seint

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Eadmundesbury also urelckie to habben on aller thin ye alsho inc mine on honde stondeth other on onye mine Burghe alsurelickerst.

Et Rex Henricus primus concedit quod Ecclesia Sancti Eadmundi habeat unum monetarium in villa Sancti Eadmundi, ita libere sicut quam liberius habuit.

Et Rex Willelmus Ruffus precepit ministris suis Norfolc' et Suffolc' quod Baldewin Abbass Sancti Eadmundi habeat omnes consuetudines suas infra Burgum et extra, et de monetariis et cambiatoribus habeat sicut ipsa unquam melius habuit tempore Regis Eadwardi et tempore patris sui.

Et Rex Ricardus concedit quod prefata Ecclesia habeat unum monetarium in villa Sancti Eadmundi ita libere sicut unquam liberius habuit.

Et Rex Joannes concedit quod Abbas et Conventus Sancti Eadmundi habeant unum cuneum ad monetam faciendam infra villa Sancti Eadmundi et quod idem monetam fieret vult et firmiter precepit quod habeant cuneum illum in predicto loco imperpetuum cum omnibus ad huiusmodi cuneum pertinentibus.

Et Rex Henricus tertius concedit quod prefata ecclesia habeat unum monetarium in villa Sancti Edmundi ita libere &c. Datum illius confirmationis est xxx die Januarii anno xi° [1227].” (King’s Remembrancer’s Memoranda Roll, Michaelmas Term, 32-3 Henry III, 1247.)

II

“De quodam cuneo liberando monachis Sancti (sic).—Mandatum est W. de Haverhull’, thesaurario suo, Edwardo de Westmonasterio et Willelmo Hardell’, quod liberent monachis Sancti Edmundi quendam cuneum nove incisionis ad fabricandum interim argentum suum, sicut de jure consueverunt et facere debent, salvis regni in omnibus libertatibus et dignitatibus corone regis que ad cuneum pertinentur. Teste rege apud Merleberge vj die Decembris [1247].” (Close Roll.)

III

“Mandatum est Edwardo de Westmonasterio quod monachis de Sancto Edmundo que venturi sunt ad eum cum litteris regis pro quodam cuneo habere faciat xij. obolos de Muz, de dono regis, quia rex vult quod conjungantur feretro beati Edmundi martiris, quia rex ibi non fuit hoc anno. Teste ut supra.” (Ibid.)

IV

“De Cuneo liberando.—Mandatum est W. de Haverhull’, thesaurario suo, W. Hardell’ et Edwardo de Westmonasterio, quod Edmundo, subsacriste Sancti Edmundi, et Simonii elemosinario Sancti Edmundi, nunciis abbatis et conventus Sancti Edmundi, habere faciant quandam cuneum nove incisionis, accepto prius ab eis veteri cuneo utentes novam inde monetam fieri faciant, sicut veteri cuneo veterem monetam ante numismatis nostri mutationem fieri fecerunt. Licet Scaccarium regis modo non sedeat nichilominus hoc mandatum nostrum sine dilacione curetis adimplere. Teste Rege apud Wintoniam xxvj. die Decembris [1247].” (Close Roll.)

V

“De Cuneo.—Rex abbati et conventui de Sancto Edmundo, salutem.
Cum sine difficultate cuneum nove incisionis vobis duxerimus concedendum, vobis mandamus et expresse injungimus quatinus, sicut libertate ipsius cunei et aliis libertatibus vestris gaudere desideratis, utamini predicto cuneo secundum quod illo utitur in civitate nostra Lond' et in aliis villis regni nostri. Teste ut supra." (Close Roll.)

VI

"Rex maiori, ballivis et probis hominibus suis Norwici', salutem. Mandamus vobis firmiter injungentes quod sine dilactione in presencia plene curie vestra eligi faciant per sacramentum xxiiij" prorum et legalium virorum, iiiij" de fidelioribus et prudencioribus ville vestre, qui melius et fidelius sciant et possint intendere officio monetarum nostre in eadem villa vestra, et aliis iiiij" consimilis fidelitatis et prudenciae ad custodiardium cuneorum nostrorum, et duos idoneos et prudentes aurifabros integerrime fidelitatis qui sciant et possint esse assaiatores monete nostre ibidem fabricandi. Et videatis quod omnes predicti, tam monetarii quam custodes et assaiatores, tales sint quod pro eis possitis et velitis, tam de officio monete nostre ibidem bene tractandi quam de pecunia que eis liberabitur et eciam de proficuis ejusdem, nobis et dilecto fratri nostro R. Comiti Cornubie respondere, et ipsos cum litteris vestris patentibus nominatim mittatis ad Scaccarium nostrum Lond' coram thesaurario et baronibus nostris de Scaccario, ad faciendo ibidem quod sepundum consuetudinem et assaisam antiquam et approbatam ibidem facere debent; ita quod si ad Scaccarium nostrum coram eisdem baronibus nostris die Dominica proxima festum Sancti Gregorii proximo futurum. Et sciatis quod dictus frater noster vobis habere faciet m. libras sterlingorum ad cambium sustentandum et monetam fabricandum; ita quod faciat ei litteras vestras patentes in forma presentibus interclusa, quas quidem litteras vestras in recepccion predictarum mille librarum predicto comiti mittatis. Teste rege apud Westmonasterium xxvj. die Februarii [1248].


VII

"Mandatum est ballivis et hominibus Walingeford quod, sine dilatione, in presencia plene curie sue, elegi faciant per sacramentum xxiiij" prorum et legalium virorum quatuor de fidelioribus et prudencioribus ville sue qui melius et fidelius sciant et possint intendere officio monetarie Regis in eadem villa sua et aliis quatuor consimilis fidelitatis et prudenciae ad custodiardium cuneorum Regis et duos idoneos et prudentes aurifabros integerrime fidelitatis qui sciant et possint esse assaiatores monete ibidem fabricandi et unum idoneum clericum et fidelem qui custodiam cambii possit intendere. Et videant quod omnes predicti, tam monetarii quam custodes assaiatores et clericus tales sint, quod possint et velit, tam de officio monete Regis ibidem bene tractando, quam de pecunia que eis liberabitur et etiam de proficuo eiusdem Regi et fratri suo R. comiti Cornubie respondere; et ipsos, cum litteris Regis patentibus, nominatim mittant ad Scaccarium Londonie coram thesaurario et baronibus de Scaccario ad faciendo ibidem quod secundum consuetudinem et antiquam assaisam et approbatam ibidem facere debent. Ita quod sint ad Scaccarium
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coram eisdem Baronibus in octabis omnium Sanctorum. Et sciant quod dictus frater Regis habere faciat Regi mille libras sterlingorum ad cambium sustentandum et monetam fabricandam. Et mittant per eodem sigillum commune ville sue per quod possint facere securitatem tam Regi quam fratris suo predicto tam de pecunia quam eis liberabitur ad sustentandum cambium et ad novam monetam fabricandam in villa sua quam de proficuo inde proveniente. Et habeant ibi tunc hoc breve. Teste Eduardo de Westmonasterio apud Westmonasterium x die Octobris anno regno nostro xxxii°.


VIII

"De cuneis W. Eboracensis archiepiscopi. Quia rex accepit per inquisitionem quam inde fieri precepit quod W. Eboracensis archiepiscopus et predecessores sui consueverunt et debent habere duos cuneos admissus in civitate Eboraci, nobis regi ibidem quattuor cuneos habentibus, et, si rex multiplicaverit cuneos suos, predictus archiepiscopus plures habere debet de consuetudine predicta; ita scilicet quod semper tercium habebit cuneum secundum quod rex ultra quattuor cuneos suos multiplicare voluerit; mandatum est W. Hardel, custodi cambii sui, quod eidem archiepiscopo duos cuneos in predicta civitate habere faciat, secundum quod predictum est. Teste ut supra (i.e. Westmonasterium xx die Julii [1248].") (Close Roll.)

IX

"De omnibus apud Bristolium liberandis. Quia cuneus regis amovetur a villa Bristolli, nec amplius ibidem moneta fabricatur, mandatum est maiori et ballivis Bristolli, quod domos in quibus monetarii regis manserunt ad monetam fabricandam, illis quorum domus ille sunt sine dilacione faciant deliberari, ne iteratus inde clamor audiatur. Teste rege apud Merleberge xxijj. die Junii [1248]." (Close Roll.)

X

"De assaisis restituendis domino Regi et Comiti. Quelibet villa ubi faciat Cambium per totam Angliam debet restituere assaisam suam Regi et Comiti quod Custodes Cambiorum receperunt." (Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer's Memoranda Roll, Hilary Term, 34 Henry III, 1250.)

XI

". . . Et ne futuris temporibus posset fraud fieri de legali moneta regni, de consilio praedictorum omnium pro utilitate reipublicae facta sunt duo assaisa, pondus utriusque x. solidorum, quorum unum est de puro argento, et alius de argento ad cujus exemplar debet fieri moneta, quae duo assaisa quodam quonio impressa, posita sunt in thesauro domini regis apud Westmonasterium sub sigillo majoris Londoniae.

Consimiliter facta sunt plura assaisa in forma praedicta, dicto cunio signata per diversa loca ubi erigitur cambium liberata; scilicet apud
Notes on the Long-Cross Coinage of Henry III

Londonium duo pondera xl. denariorum, unum videlicet purum ad argentum cognoscendum, et aliud ad monetam; apud Cantuariam duo ejusdem formae; apud Sanctum Ædmundum, Norwicum, Oxoniam, Northamptoniam, Lincolniam, Wintoniam, Gloucestriam, Exoniam, et Eboracum, Irencester, et eodem modo.” (Brit. Mus. Hargrave MS. 313.)

XII

“Oxon. Berk. & alii Com. de Cambiis Angl. Mandatum est vicecomiti quod statim visis literis istis accedit in propria persona sua ad Cambium regis Oxenfordiam et cuneos regis eiusdem cambii mittat sine dilacione Baronibus de Scaccario sub sigillo suo et sigillo maioris Oxenford’ per unum de custodibus eorum; Et venire faciet coram baronibus a die Pascha in xv dies custodem cambitorem & monetarum eiusdem cambii ad respondendum Regi de exitibus predicti Cambii de tempore ejus fuerunt ministri Regis in eodem Cambii. Et habeat ibi hoc brevem. Eodem modo mandatum est vicecomitibus Berkescre de Cambio Walingfordie.

Eodem modo mandatum est vicecomiti Norhamptone, Et vicecomitibus Gloucestrie, Wiltescre, Herefordie, Et vicecomiti Salopescre a die Pasche in tres septimanas; Et vicecomiti Suhampton’, Et vicecomiti Lincolei, Et vicecomiti Norfolci, Et vicecomiti Sumersetie a die Pasche in unum mensem. Et vicecomiti Devon’, Cumberland’, Norhumberland’ tam de cuneis Achiepiscopi quam de cuneis propriis.” (King’s Remembrancer’s Memoranda Roll, Hilary Term, 34 Henry III, 1250, membrane 7.)

XIII

“Henr dei gratia &c. Vicecomiti Norhamptone, salutem. Quia provisum est per dilectum et fidelem nostrum R. Comitem Cornubie fratrem nostrum et Johannem Maunsell’, propositum Beverlaci et Barones de Scaccario quod singuli Cambitores de singulis villis in quibus fecimus fabriqueret monetam nostram, preterquam in civitatibus Londonie et Cantuariie, habeant per annum .ix. marcas tantum et singuli clerici .vj. marcas tantum, pro stipendiis suis; et quod monetarii aequitant stipendia custodium cuneorum nostrorum de porcione sua, tibi precipemus quod distingeas Cambitorem nostrum Norhamptone per terras et catalla sua ad reddendum nobis .vij. libras et .xvij. d. quas recepit de monetariis nostris Norhamptone plusquam debuit pro stipendio suo; et clericum ad reddendum nobis .iij. libras .xiiij. solidos et .vj. denarios quos recepit de eisdem monetariis nostris plusquam debuit pro stipendio suo; et monetarios nostros ad reddendum nobis .xiiiij. libras quas custodes cuneorum nostro- rum ceperunt de denariis nostris et quas predicti monetarii debuerunt solvere eisdem custodibus de porcione sua habebant; ita quod tu habeas omnes denarios predictos ad cambium nostrum Londonie in crastino sancti Michaelis liberandos ibidem custodi eisdem cambii et hoc brevem &c. Teste J. Francis apud Westmonasterium xxviiij. die Julii anno regni nostri xxxiiij.” (King’s Remembrancer’s Memoranda Roll.)

XIV

“Custodibus cuneorum. Mandatum est Wilhelmo Hardel custodi cambii regis Lond’ et Cantuarie, quod decetore faciat habere custodibus cuneorum regis London’ et Cantuarie de quibuslibet centum libris tam apud London’ quam apud Cantuariam fabricandis, duodecim denarios sicut retroactis
"Ebor. Mandatum est vicecomiti quod cuneos Regis quos Robertus Verdonel, Thomas Yol, Willelmus de Acun et Robertus le Blund custodes cuneorum Regis Eboraci sibi differant sub sigillo Regis et ab eis recipiat et eos reponi faciant in Castro de Knareburg sub sigillo tuo & sub sigillo constabularii predicti castri et omnium predictorum custodorum vel duorum de ipsis. Et cum destulerunt ei iiiij cuneos usitatos illos ab eis recipiat et salvos custodies sub sigillo suo et sigillis predicti Constabularii et predictorum custodorum et pro predicti iiiij. cuneis eis liberari faciat iiiij novos cuneos et cum maior pars predictorum cuneorum quos ei mittit ad Scaccariam apud Westmonasterium per unum de predictis custodibus et sub sigillo suo et predicti constabularii et monetariorum Regis Eboraco ut pro predictis cuneis usitatis mittant [barones] Vicecomiti tot cuneos novos eodem modo et custodia. Eodem modo mandatum est vicecomite Norumb-berland' de cuneis Novi Castri super Tinam quos Thomas de Merchivel (?) Tinand et alii de Novo Castro ei detulerunt.

