MISCELLANEA

AN ANCIENT BRITISH QUARTER-STATER FOUND AT IRSTEAD, SUFFOLK
(See Pl. VIII, 1)

Obv. Horse to r., head open with pellet for the eye, mane indicated by dotted line, ornaments and pellets in field.

Rev. Design of "new" form but based on the usual Apollo-head pattern, taking the form of a squared pattern on a large crescent enclosing a formalized plant design.

Wt. 16 gr.

This quarter-stater clearly corresponds with the staters attributed to the Iceni which were in the Freckenham, Suffolk, hoard (see Num. Chron. 1886, 3rd Series, vol. vi, and Evans, Supplement, Pl. xxiii). Mr. Derek Allen suggests that the reverse design may have been doubled with crescents back to back, a usual feature of the Icenian issues.

A. BALDWIN

A GOLD STATER FROM GLOUCESTERSHIRE

About July 1952 Miss Curtis, of 2 Braemar Crescent, Bristol 7, found a gold stater of the Dobuni lying on the surface of a ploughed field at Southfield Farm, north of Hardwicke Court, in the parish of Hardwicke, Gloucestershire (Nat. Grid Ref. so/787122; field no. 106 of 25 in. to the mile sheet Glos. xxxiii. 13). She brought it into the City Museum, Bristol, for identification a week or so later. It is now in the collection of the landowner, Miss Olive Lloyd-Baker, to whom I am greatly indebted for permission to publish it. Shortly after the discovery, a brief account appeared in the Western Daily Press, 1 October 1952.

The coin, an enlarged illustration of which appears on Pl. VIII, 2, is in excellent condition and has a diameter of between 18 and 19 mm. Its weight is 5.235 grammes (79.25 grains), and it has a specific gravity of 10.47. It has a pronounced coppery colour, and the gold content may not exceed one-third. The obverse (convex) is of the type of Brooke, Pl. 1, fig. 18, in Antiquity for 1933 (plate opp. p. 280), having the fern-like motif believed to represent a stylized ear of corn. The reverse (concave) is decorated with a very fine example of the disjointed horse, with a six-spoked wheel beneath the body, and the name EISV inscribed above the body. The die-relationship is as shown in the illustration. The coin does, in fact, correspond to Evans, Coins of the Ancient Britons, Supp. xviii. 3 and 4.

Other gold and silver coins of the Dobuni were described by Mr. Derek Allen in 'The Belgic Dynasties of Britain and their Coins', in Archaeologia, xc, 1944, 36–38, and Plate iv, 5–18, where he drew attention to gold coins of EISV west of the Severn, and silver coins of EISV to the east and south-east of that river.
I am grateful to Mr. O. F. Parsons of Gloucester for determining the weight and specific gravity of the coin and for preparing plaster casts; also to Mr. P. A. Rahtz for photographing the casts, and to Mr. H. de S. Shortt for advice on preparing this account.

L. V. Grinsell

A SMALL FIND OF ANGLO-SAXON PENNIES FROM RONCESVALLES

In a recent number of the Spanish periodical *Príncipe de Viana*, Dr. Felipe Mateu y Llopis published for the first time a small hoard of Anglo-Saxon pennies found as long ago as 1934 in a ruined pilgrims’ hospice at Ibañeta on the Pass of Roncesvalles.¹ The find was briefly reported at the time, but the Civil War prevented publication, and Dr. Mateu y Llopis has had to reconstruct the hoard, which in the interval had been dispersed. There is every reason to believe that the six coins, distributed between three collections in Pamplona and Roncesvalles, represent the whole of the silver content of the find, but a small copper coin, supposed to have been discovered on the same occasion, has disappeared without trace.² The historian of Spain will still wish to refer to Dr. Mateu y Llopis’s original paper with its full bibliographical notes, but it has since occurred to us that the find has a special interest for English and Scandinavian numismatists, and we take this opportunity of presenting the more purely numismatic portion of the Spanish paper in a modified and considerably expanded English version.

The coins are believed to have come from a grave within the precincts of the old hospice, and we may presume that they had been concealed on his person by one of the many pilgrims to the great shrine of Santiago da Compostella. While at Ibañeta he departed this life, most probably by sickness, and the coins were buried with him. All six are pennies of Aethelraed II (979–1016), and all belong to Brooke’s second type, the so-called “Hand of Providence” issue. They are here arranged according to W. C. Wells’s classification, but one should not infer our acceptance of all the implications of his type sequence.³ While we believe that his Types III and IV were issued when his Type II was already firmly established, we think that the evidence points to all three types having been struck concurrently. It is significant that Wells’s Type V is found muled with his Types II and III as well as his Type IV, and that many moneyers known for his Types II and V are not known for the comparatively scarce intermediate issues. Brooke, then, is probably right in running seven *B.M.C.* varieties into a single type, while to Wells must go the credit


² The identity of this coin is mysterious in the extreme. All that is known is that part of the legend reads LVS. It is difficult to equate this with the already long obsolete copper issue, the Northumbrian styca, and we are now inclined to regard the coin as a “stray”—possibly a coin from a higher level that worked its way down or perhaps an older piece (Roman?) shovelled into the grave at the time of the pilgrim’s burial.

of having established that the two major varieties were struck only towards the end of the issue.

The six coins can be described as follows. Unfortunately details of weight and die axis are not available, and we have had to rely on photographs for our knowledge of the readings.

(All coins appear to read ANGLORX in obverse legend).

Wells Type II

Bust right (= B.M.C. IIa)
(a) Exeter, moneyer Tuna +TVNAM-OEAXCAST
(b) London, moneyer Godric (?) + • OD • IEM•OLVND
(c) Totnes, moneyer Manna +MANNAM•OTOTAN
(d) Winchester, moneyer Eadsige +EADSIGEM•OPINTO

Bust left (= B.M.C. II)
(e) London, moneyer Leofwine (?) +ELOFPINE • OLVN

Wells Type III (= B.M.C. IIId)

(f) Exeter, moneyer Aelfnoth +ELEFNOBM•OEAXEC

Only in the case of coins (b) and (e) do the readings present any difficulty. Coin (e) is surely blundered LEOPFINE, a well-known London moneyer, and the blundering can be paralleled by coins in other collections.1 Coin (b) was originally read as DODAICIVTOLVND, but Doda is not known for London for this type, and the blundering of the legend is unprecedented. A re-examination of the photographs confirms that the reading is badly cut GODRIC, and Godric is known for the mint and type.2

It is very noticeable that, with the exception of two coins of London, all the coins were struck at Wessex mints. The latest coin is from Exeter. The fact may be suggestive. Brooke’s Type 2 is Aethelraed’s first substantive type, and we also know that the first great Danegeld of 991 was levied on Wessex.3 It is dangerous to argue from so small a number of coins, but we would suggest the possibility that the coins found at Roncesvalles formed part of that first Danegeld.4 In that case the date of deposit would be c. 991, and we would also have a terminus post quem for Aethelraed’s second substantive issue. In this connexion we should consider the faint possibility that the unknown pilgrim of Ibañeta was a Scandinavian. The pilgrimage to Compostella was later to become a devotion dear to the Viking “penitent”, and it is an attractive supposition that the dead man received either directly or indirectly a part of the 988 loot or the 991 Danegeld and then passed over the sea to do battle against the infidel beneath the banner of one or other of the contemporaries of Fernan Gonzalez and Garcia Sanchez II Abarca. However, this is speculation, at least until the dates and sequence of Aethelraed’s coin

1 e.g. Hildebrand, nos. 2744–6 and 2780. 2 e.g. Hildebrand, nos. 2578–9.
3 F. M. Stenton, Anglo-Saxon England, p. 372. Alternatively the presence of three Devon coins may well suggest the harrying of 988.
4 F. Mateu y Llopis, op. cit., p. 209 (p. II in separate).
types have been established by a comprehensive analysis of the Scandinavian coin-hoards.

**THE ROUND HALFPENNY OF HENRY I**

PROFESSOR THOS. MABBOTT writes from New York:

"The articles in the new *Brit. Num. Journ.* on the round halfpenny of Henry I seem to me among the most important numismatic contributions of recent years. But it rather surprised me that nobody cited the strongest bit of proof that the coin is English.

"The name of the moneyer is Godwin spelled with a letter that looks in inscriptions like p. That is a runic letter added to the Roman alphabet by the Anglo-Saxons. It was not used on the Continent except in things involving runes, *per se.* (It may have been used in Denmark, but if so, under English influence.)

"I may add that I have studied the photographic reproduction of the little, worn coin and am convinced that it is an attempt to abbreviate Type VI of Henry I, and nothing else. I have not, of course, seen the original. But the reverse type is like nothing cited except the reverse of Type VI. And I think the drawing of the obverse is a bit off from the intention of the artist. Compare the illustration in *B.M.C.*, Pl. xl. 9.

"I have already written Mr. P. Seaby about this, but before I checked with a specialist on old German manuscripts, who made me feel sure my ideas are right about the character *wen.*"

**A FIND OF EDWARD PENCE AT CHESTER**

POSSIBLY as recently as 1946 a small hoard of Edward pence came to light during the construction of a foundation for a garage in Pepper Street, Chester. It is believed that 100 coins now in the Grosvenor Museum, Chester, represent only part of the find, which we now publish by permission of the Curator, Mr. Graham Webster. All the coins were in very poor condition, but in the majority of cases confident identification was still possible. In view, however, of the fragmentary and friable condition of the coins, weighing seemed superfluous. The hoard may be summarized as follows:

(All coins pennies unless otherwise stated)

### ENGLAND

**Edward I**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fox (B.N.J.) Type Ic</td>
<td>2 (London)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Id</td>
<td>2 (London)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>3 (London: Canterbury: Durham)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IX</td>
<td>7 (London (4): Canterbury: Exeter (2))</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IX/X (Mules)</td>
<td>2 (Canterbury: Durham)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>29 (London (19): Canterbury (7): Durham (3))</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total:** 72 coins.
Edward II

XI 2 (London: Durham)
XV 3 (London: Bury: Durham)
Total: 5 coins.

Edward III

Second Issue (halfpence) 9 (London (4): Reading: uncertain (4))
"Florin" Type 10 (London (7): York: uncertain (2))
Total: 19 coins.

Edward I

Mint of Dublin (Allen, Type C) 2

Scotland

Alexander III

Long-cross sterling (Burns, Class II, Group II, no. 34) 1

continental Sterling

Neufchâteau (as Chautard, Pl. xix, 4) 1

Grand Total: 100 coins

Broadly speaking, the hoard follows the same general pattern as other finds of the same period, though it is a few years later in date than the Boyton hoard. The comparatively high number of Florin type (1344–51) coins is, however, remarkable, as is also the absence of intermediate types of Edward II and of the comparatively rare types 5–8 (incl.) of Edward I. The proportion (about 3 per cent.) of non-English coins is unusually low. It is perhaps surprising that the northern mints are so scantily represented.

The date of deposit would seem to be before c. 1350, and so the find appears unconnected with yet another unpublished Chester hoard of 25 groats, all believed to be of Edward III, found in 1901 outside the Norman walls beneath a tiled floor on the site of the present New Northgate Street Congregational Church. A single groat of Type E was acquired by the Grosvenor Museum, and three others of Types C, D, and E have been traced in a private collection. Thus the date of the Upper Northgate Street hoard cannot well be earlier than 1354/5.

The base only was found of a small vessel in cream ware with a patch of dull orange glaze on the highest part of the surviving portion. The vessel may belong to a small baluster jug or pottery bottle (cf. Berks. Arch. J., 1, fig. 8, no. 8), both of which types were in use by the late thirteenth century.

R. H. Dolley, F. Elmore Jones, Graham Webster

1 Note in Cheshire and North Wales Archaeological Journal, n.s. viii (1901), pp. 102–3.
TWO UNPUBLISHED COINS OF EDWARD IV-V

The two coins described below, which are in my collection, seem worth recording as varieties unknown to Blunt and Whitton when they wrote on Edward IV in B.N.J. in 1947.


EDWARD V (or IV). Groat, London Mint. Mint-mark, Sun and Rose dimidiated both sides, EDW[RD:][sic], no fleur on breast cusp, no pellet below bust, unbarred Π's both sides except Π in TAS.

R. CARLYON-BRITTON

AN 1895 FIND OF ELIZABETHAN SILVER COINS

In 1895 there was found under a tree at Mickle Trafford in Cheshire a small earthenware pot of the type known as a tyg. It is believed that its entire contents are represented by 38 silver coins of Elizabeth, now in the Grosvenor Museum, Chester. It was not noted at the time, except for a brief mention.¹

Shilling
1587-9, m.m. crescent.

Sixpences
1561, m.m. pheon (3); 1566, m.m. portcullis; 1566, m.m. lion; 1568, m.m. coronet (date altered from 1567); 1568, m.m. coronet (4); 1569, m.m. coronet (2); 1570, m.m. coronet; 1570, m.m. castle (2); 1572, m.m. ermine; 1573, m.m. acorn (2); 1574, m.m. eglantine; 1578, m.m. cross; 1579, m.m. cross (2); 1580, m.m. cross (2); 1581, m.m. cross; 1582, m.m. sword (3); 1582, m.m. bell (3); 1585, m.m. scallop; 1586, m.m. scallop; 1587, m.m. crescent (2); 1590, m.m. hand; 1594, m.m. woolpack.

The condition of the coins varies from poor to good. Wear due to circulation is very uneven and does not appear to bear any relation to age. It is not believed that there is any particular historical significance to be attached to the hoard, but it is worth noting that Cheshire often had reason to complain of the depredations of soldiers en route for Ireland. It is possible that some cottager concealed his savings while troops were passing through at the time of Hugh O'Neill's revolt.

This vessel, which is reconstructed from a similar three-handled example in the Grosvenor Museum (C.C. 319), is known as a tyg (presumably from the Anglo-Saxon tig, cup, or tigel, anything made of clay). It has a purplish paste and

a dark brown-purple glaze. There are attachments for three handles, two of which are broken, but the root of the third is glazed over and so presumably the handle was broken when the clay was drying and no repair effected.

Very little is known about the development of this vessel, which is usually attributed to the Elizabethan period. Finds in Chester (e.g. St. John’s Street, Group A, Cheshire and North Wales Archaeological Journab xxxiii, Pl. iii) have shown that several different forms were in use during the first half of the seventeenth century, and the base of one of these vessels is almost identical with the Mickle Trafford tyg but has a rather better glaze.

R. H. Dolley, Graham Webster

A COUNTERMARKED SPANISH DOLLAR

A COUNTERMARKED Peruvian piece of 8 reales of Charles III 1780 is noted on page 357 of Volume XXVI of the Journal (3rd Series, Vol. VI; Pt. III).

The countermark should be read J & J W—HURLET.

From inquiries made of helpful officials in Renfrewshire it has been ascertained that Hurlet is a small town near Barrhead, now part of the city of Glasgow, and that at the time when it may be presumed that the countermark was applied the only industries were coal-mining and alum manufacture. There was a Wilson Coal Company in Hurlet at this time according to one record. The county archives relating to rates show that there was a landowner named John Wilson who was also the proprietor of the Copperas (Coal) Company. It seems safe to conclude that the coin was countermarked by this gentleman for use in connexion with his coal business. S. A. H. Whetmore
REVIEWS


Mr. Derek Allen’s Catalogue is a worthy successor to the late G. C. Brooke’s two volumes on the coins of the Norman kings. Begun in 1939, it has suffered from the interruptions due to its author’s war service, and to his employment in distant parts of Asia after his retirement from the Museum, five years ago. It is fortunate that the difficulties attending its completion have been surmounted, and that the author has been able to write the introduction and correct the proofs himself.

The volume covers the coinage from 1154 to 1180, the date of the first of the great systematic general recoinages carried out by a central authority, and not by local moneyers acting under its instructions. From that date onward the profits of the Mint accrued directly to the king, who had previously only received the fees for licences to coin issued to communities or to individuals and the fines or amercements for coining “contrary to the assize”. This important reform was marked by a general change of type, known as the “Short-Cross” sterling.

Mr. Allen’s Introduction is more articulated than Brooke’s, being subdivided into chapters which begin with a general summary and discuss the sources of the collection, the nomenclature of the group included (formerly named, not very happily, the “Tealby” type), the various types and their order, weight, and epigraphy, the chronological evidence as apart from the coins, administration and finance, and finally the several mints. He has an advantage over his predecessor in the copious historical evidence at his command from chronicles and from the Pipe Rolls, and he has used both to good purpose. He is thus able to corroborate, to a certain extent, the evidence of “mules” and of the portrait-busts of the several types by the names of moneyers recorded in the rolls. The evidence of the rolls for the earliest years of Henry II is more concerned with debts and penalties incurred by Stephen’s moneyers than with those of the new reign. It seems clear that no new dies were issued to the moneyers till 1158, and that the needs of commerce were met in the meantime by the continued use of Stephen’s last type. The rolls also give definite evidence of the issue of the new coinage in 1158–9. There are also payments pro redemptione monetariorum, which were probably fines paid by the retiring moneyers on closing their forges, to cover any claims against them for penalties for improper coining. Mr. Allen’s inference from the passage quoted by Brooke (vol. i, p. cxliii, n. 4) that redemptio “could include mutilation” is hardly borne out by the text, which says that no false coiner might escape mutilation by any ransom. The change of system in 1180 is very clearly described in the
introduction. It is marked by the substitution of *cambitores* for *monetarii*; the emphasis being laid on the exchange of the obsolete pence for the new ones. It may even be held that *cambium* became the recognized Latin for "mint"; though Mr. Allen is clearly not prepared to go so far. The question is not of any great importance, since the provision of bullion by the Crown on a large scale made it possible for the public to exchange obsolete coin (or silver plate) for new pence without waiting the moneyer's convenience. We have no information as to seignorage or mintage, but it may be presumed that both of these were met by the public.

The history of the several mints is most carefully worked out, the most interesting being those of Carlisle and Newcastle, which seem to have been an early experiment in direct coinage let to farm by the Crown, and must have been a valuable test of the possibility of the recoinage of 1180. Mr. Allen tells us how Henry II sent lead from the Cumberland mines to La Rochelle for the church of "Grossmunt"; but he does not seem to have used Dr. Rose Graham's paper (*Archaeologia*, lxxv. 159–210) which represents this gift to the recently founded order of Grandmont, which was building its new home at Grandmont near Muret in the Limousin, as part of Henry's penance for the murder of Becket.

A few minor points call for criticism, due, no doubt, mainly to difficulties in communication during printing. The wage of a penny a day to an Approver (p. ciii) is only the allowance for his maintenance in custody as King's Evidence before trial of the case or cases in which he is to prove the case against a criminal by combat or otherwise. It might have been pointed out, for the help of beginners, that the farm of the Cumberland mines is always a round figure of marks or pounds. Nor does it seem even possible that the Richard who was a moneyer at Ilchester could have been the same as the future bishop of Winchester. There are also a few misprints. Notwithstanding, both numismatists and historians are deeply indebted to Mr. Allen.

CHARLES JOHNSON

*The Story of the English Coinage*. By PETER SEABY. B. A. Seaby Ltd., 1952. 10s. 6d.

Mr. Seaby, in his outline history of the English coinage for beginners, has produced a series of well-balanced chapters covering every period from the Ancient Britons to present-day coins—all within the compass of 110 pages—and has shown good judgement in selecting points for emphasis. Quite rightly, he did not go very deeply into the subject. However, even the most exacting critic will acknowledge that his summaries are adequate for their purpose. He is never dull and, above all, he writes clearly and simply.

The Introduction is as satisfying as anything else in the book. It includes a most interesting account of developments in the technique

1 e.g. *sollitus* for *solicitus* (p. xlii); "Harringford" for "Hemingburgh" or "Hemimgford".
of coining, followed by sensible observations on how to collect and preserve coins. Every budding numismatist should take heed of Mr. Seaby's advice, especially his remark that "more coins are spoilt by injudicious cleaning than anything else." Thomas Snelling, writing in 1767, took a customer to task for having his silver coins "boiled" by the local silversmith, thereby ruining them. His own receipt was mainly soap and water, but it included another less harmful boiling process.

On page 22, Mr. Seaby mentions Aelfred's Oxford pennies: historically the "Ohsnaforda" series is extremely interesting. Where were these coins struck? Stainer wanted to transfer them all to a Viking mint "somewhere in the North" because the style of many is Northumbrian and because they have only been found in Lancashire. Both arguments have been condemned, for they take no account of the prevalence of Viking copies of Anglo-Saxon types as a result of trade with the more southern counties of England. The whole series has got to be worked over again and then considered in the light of contemporary art, the evidence of chroniclers, and modern archaeological knowledge before we can say that "Ohsnaforda" stands for the Oxford mint—either as a Mercian town under the protection of Wessex, or under Danish occupation, or perhaps both in turn.

Students of English coins are just beginning to appreciate the part played by Oriental coins in the currency of ninth- and tenth-century England. Silver dirhems of the Califs have been found in considerable numbers—mainly in Viking hoards. Their types are traditionally "non-portrait", and it looks very much as though the pennies of Aelfred, Edward the Elder, and Aethelstan, with inscriptions arranged geometrically on both sides (e.g. Aelfred's type XV) were designed as a commercial currency likely to find favour amongst the Danes. The so-called "Offering penny" of Aelfred has a large flan and a wide margin extremely reminiscent of the average dirhem.

A later problem (p. 49) concerns the gold ryal of Henry VII. Why does it bear only the French arms on the reverse? It seems doubtful at the moment whether we shall ever know this. Perhaps one of Mr. Seaby's "beginners" may win fame ten years hence by giving us the answer.

The book is well supplied with illustrations—sometimes rather coarse, but usually accurate—and some very useful maps. A table of mint-marks might perhaps have been included with advantage; and more attention should have been paid to the spelling of proper names, &c., in the earlier pages.

J. D. A. T.


The title of this album is somewhat misleading, as most if not all the medals represented have been already described and illustrated in
former treatises on Renaissance medals. The innovation consists in the photographic enlargements of the originals, seen through the magnifying glass, which give a better idea of details and thus greatly help the study of the portraits.

Many years ago now Sir George Hill produced an album of enlargements of Greek coins of the archaic and finest periods, and although at the time the work was criticized as destroying much of the artistic delicacy of the original, which was planned for the size the artist had in view, yet Hill's example has been followed ever since, notably by Rizzo in his two magnificent volumes on Sicilian masterpieces, and more recently by present-day writers, as Prof. C. T. Seltman, Dr. H. A. Cahn, and others.

The process adopted for Greek coins has now also been successfully tried with the remarkable medallic productions of the Renaissance artists, not only Italian but also French, German, and English.

We sincerely welcome this beautiful publication of the Phaidon Press, London, and congratulate Mr. Goldscheider on his judicious choice of portraits of artists, writers, popes, princely rulers, and individual members of famous families. The plates are preceded by a list of the portraits represented, with a biographical note on the person depicted as well as of the artist, when known.

Amongst this highly interesting gallery of representative men and women of a great period we notice portraits of such illustrious artists as Michelangelo, the Bellinis, Bramante, Albrecht Dürer, Titian, Vasari, &c.; great philosophers and writers, Giovanni Pico della Mirandola, Erasmus, Melanchthon, Savonarola, and the judge, Gioacchino della Torre, who condemned him to be burned, Popes Alexander VI (Borgia), Julius II, Clement VII; monarchs of various countries, John VIII Palaeologus, Mohammed II, René d'Anjou, Louis XI of France, a typical portrait of that Macchiavellian king, Charles VIII, Francis I, young and older, Henry II, Maximilian of Austria, Edward VI of England, Mary Tudor, Philip II of Spain, his son, Don Carlos: members of the Medici family, Cosimo I, Giuliano, Lorenzo II il Magnifico, the Strozzi, also of Florence, the Malatestas, and other petty rulers of Italy. To these we must add a number of famous women: Vittoria Colonna, Lucrezia Borgia, Caterina Sforza-Riario, Isotta de' Rimini, Giovanna Albizzi, Nonina Strozzi, Lionora Altoviti, &c.

Mr. Goldscheider justly remarks that although Pisanello is the first and foremost of Italian medallists, yet over a century before him the medallic art had been revived in imitation of the Roman coins and medallions, but under his creative genius, his earliest work dating from 1439, we notice a great development of the art.

The study of Renaissance medallic art is truly fascinating, but notwithstanding the publication of Hill's corpus on this series, and since the dispersal by auction of the famous Greene, Rosenheim, and Oppenheimer collections the interest in this country has sadly disappeared. Would-be collectors seem to have been scared by the rarity of genuine originals and the abundance of spurious specimens on the market.
Let us hope that the present work, published at the modest price of 25s., will draw the attention of lovers of Renaissance art to this somewhat neglected but most important study. L. FORRER


SIR JOHN CRAIG has written a fine and worthy book. In broad sweep he tells the story of the Royal Mint and its predecessors from pre-Roman origins until the last war and after. The compass of his study, which has involved the widest reading, is rare in these days of specialization, and the dry humour of his style gives attraction to a subject which could easily be only dry. The book will be a standard work for many years to come. Indeed nothing quite like it on this subject has been written before.

This is a numismatic journal and it is right here to review such a book in its quality as a contribution to numismatics. As I read with enjoyment and admiration, I still found myself wondering for what section of the public it was chiefly written. It is full of detail for the metallurgist and the economist or the student of bullion and exchanges. It contains such entertaining side-lights as the last date on which boys swept the chimneys of the Mint on Tower Hill and a description of the pilfering postman who in disgust and to the embarrassment of the authorities dropped Queen Victoria's choice of a proof penny down a drain. If it were a book for the general reader, then my impression is that it might have marshalled less detail; if for the economist, it might have reduced much more to tables, graphs or statistics; if for the numismatist it might have been more precise and more fully documented.

The numismatist is essentially a man of detail, even if it does him good now and then to lift his gaze from intrusive pellets and diminished suns to things in the large. Sir John gives us plenty of that, but he will forgive me if I say that I found the book tantalizing when it came to answering my own numismatic problems. I suppose few living men can be truly expert over the whole numismatic field with which the book deals. I myself can only claim more than general familiarity with two or three periods. On each of these the author has provided me with new and intriguing facts, some of them radical and important; but in none of these instances has he supplied a reference to the source to which I might easily turn. In some few cases where I know a matter to be controversial Sir John has taken a clear and definite point of view without arguing or always referring to the alternatives. His judgement may well be right, but I think most numismatists would have preferred to hear the arguments.

These criticisms apply mainly to the earlier part of the book up to the Tudors or, say, the early Stuarts. I found this the less satisfactory part. From the Renaissance onwards, when facts are ready to hand
and the understanding of sources does not require so much collateral research, I found the book flowed more smoothly and better answered the kind of questions a numismatist might ask. Sir John has the art of selection from profusion. For that period I recommend his book as being by far the best general account of Mint affairs which has appeared since Ruding, and an eminently readable book into the bargain. For the Middle Ages I do not rate it as so high a contribution.

One of the facts which the book brings out is the succession of distinguished men in the City, in Science, in Politics and in Government Service who have held the senior posts of the Mint from the Middle Ages until today. Another fact is the extraordinary growth of this circumscribed craft into a major manufacturing industry, an early and unpublicized case of a successful nationalized corporation. Sir John has performed a service to the reading public, as well as providing a fitting end to his notable career at the Mint, by this monument to more than a thousand years of his predecessors.

D.F.A.
OBITUARIES

MISS HELEN FARQUHAR, F.R.Hist.S.

By the death of Miss Helen Farquhar, F.R.Hist.S., on 3 January 1953, in her 94th year, the Council have lost one of their own body and the Society one of its most popular and valuable members. As possibly I may now be one of Miss Farquhar's oldest numismatic friends, yet I fear that no pen of mine can adequately do justice to her character, her vast knowledge, and her kindly disposition that endeared her to the Society. For my sins and later to my great pleasure, it was my task, from Volume I to Volume XXI of the Journal, to compile the Index and, in addition, from Volume II to Volume XXI to revise the then "final proofs" before "striking off" the pages for each volume. Any suggestions for revisions were sent through the usual channels—the Editors—who forwarded them to the various contributors. It will be appreciated, therefore, that I had every opportunity to become more closely associated with some members than would otherwise have been the case. The period covered the whole output from Miss Farquhar's pen. She was a prolific correspondent and any revisions to her papers were always most thankfully received and if I remember rightly were invariably adopted in every case. As a perpetual reminder of that happy association, among my many books I have two handsomely bound volumes of her work, which she presented to me, with what she considered suitable inscriptions but which, I venture to think, were inclined to value my help too highly. Anyone not knowing her sincerity might have construed that acknowledgment as flattery, but not so with Miss Farquhar. Error of judgment, perhaps, but not attempted flattery! I prize those books!

Miss Farquhar was one of the Founder Members of the British Numismatic Society in 1903 and became one of the Life Fellows of the Royal Numismatic Society (or the Numismatic Society as it then was) in 1904. In being awarded the John Sanford Saltus Medal of the British Numismatic Society in 1911, and the Royal Numismatic Society Medal in 1931, Miss Farquhar became one of the three noted numismatists to receive the much-coveted awards of the two societies—the other two being Dr. L. A. Lawrence and Mr. J. S. Shirley Fox. Miss Farquhar had the proud distinction of being the first lady to receive the Royal Numismatic Society Medal. In 1950 she was elected to Honorary Membership of the British Numismatic Society.

From the beginning Miss Farquhar was an enthusiastic supporter of the movement which inaugurated the Society and she retained that enthusiasm until the last. She was ever a generous supporter of the funds, but what can we say of her contributions in the matter of papers? Truly her works were a remarkable achievement! It was currently thought that Mr. W. J. Andrew, one of the founders of the
Society, had contributed more papers than any other member, but I am of opinion that Miss Farquhar surpassed him in volume, though not in the number of her papers, for I find that her total output during the heyday of her production was well over 1,100 pages. All this was the result of valuable and original research over ground that to the best of my knowledge and belief had never been broken before. Yet, if my memory be not at fault, all this was probably the result of a casual conversation between herself and the late W. J. Andrew—who was her sponsor into the Society. She was dilating on her interest in Stuart relics, &c., and the outcome of this conversation was that Mr. Andrew persuaded her to write a paper for the Journal. What an example of the proverb “From small beginnings come great things”!

A list of her contributions may well be inserted here:

Patterns and medals bearing the legend Jacobus III, or Jacobus VIII, vol. iii, pp. 229-70.
Portraiture of our Tudor monarchs on their coins and medals, vol. iv, pp. 79-144.
A series of portrait plaques in thin silver, struck in Stuart times, technically called shells or clichés, vol. xvi, pp. 229-46.

Miss Farquhar also published in the *Numismatic Chronicle* several articles, including two on the “Silver Counters of the Seventeenth Century”.

From the above titles it will be readily seen how ardent a Stuart Royalist was Miss Farquhar. She had sound judgment and a knowledge of the Carolian and late Stuart coins, medals, and relics which was both deep and scholarly, and perhaps second to none.

That intimate knowledge of Stuart art, &c., was notably welcome at a special exhibition, held in January 1926 at the Society’s rooms, of Stuart relics from the collections of Sir William Plender, Bt., and Mr. Percival D. Griffiths, F.S.A. That exhibition was a memorable occasion in the work of the Society, and the interest in it was considerably enhanced by the fact that Miss Farquhar—speaking extemporarily—dilated on each item in turn, although most of the objects shown (some sixty-nine items) had never previously been exhibited, and were therefore new to her.

Miss Farquhar’s own exhibits from time to time were many and
varied, and were particularly interesting and informative. One exhibit specially of note was the locket and brooch given by Prince Charles Edward to Flora Macdonald. This relic had been handed down by one member of Flora's family to another until given by the childless inheritor thereof to the present owner—Miss Farquhar's sister, Mrs. John Ponsonby. A full description of this relic appears in vol. iii of the Brit. Num. Journ., pp. 404-6.

It is understood that Miss Farquhar has left the bulk of her coins and medals (including all the important Stuart items) to the British Museum.

For many years she was a very regular attendant at the meetings, and as most of the years she was either on the Council or a Vice-President her counsel at the meetings was frequently sought and generously given, especially in regard to her knowledge of Stuart art and relics, &c. In later years her frail constitution, coupled with her very advanced years, claimed their limitations. Her genial disposition and popular personality will long be remembered by members of the Society, especially the older members who knew her for so many years. The Society, therefore, will mourn the loss of an accomplished and gracious lady and one that it was a privilege to have known.

H. W. T.

H. ALEXANDER PARSONS

The death occurred on 25 November 1952 of Mr. H. Alexander Parsons, a Founder Member of this Society from 1903 until his resignation in 1950. In the course of that long period of membership Mr. Parsons served a number of times on the Council, held the office of Librarian for sixteen years from 1920 to 1936, and was awarded the Sanford Saltus Gold Medal in 1923 for his work on Saxon coins. He contributed a good many papers to the early volumes of the Journal on a wide variety of subjects. The views he held—and he held them very firmly—were on occasions disputed with no less firmness, and it must now be allowed that a good deal of what he propounded is today discredited. He is more likely to be remembered as a man with a remarkable eye for a good coin. He sold his collection in 1929, but at his death he has left another, equally large and varied, which will shortly be dispersed in the sale room and the proceeds devoted to charity.

E. J. W.
PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BRITISH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY 1952

PRESIDENTS OF THE SOCIETY

1909  W. J. ANDREW, F.S.A.
1920–1  FREDERICK A. WALTERS, F.S.A.
1922  J. SANFORD SALTUS—till 22 June
1922  GRANT R. FRANCIS—from 28 June
1923–5  GRANT R. FRANCIS
1928  LIEUT.-COL. H. W. MORRIESON, F.S.A.—from 22 February
1933–7  V. B. CROWTHER-BEYNON, M.B.E., M.A., F.S.A.
1938–45  H. W. TAFFS, M.B.E.
1946–50  CHRISTOPHER E. BLUNT, O.B.E., F.S.A.
1951–52  EDGAR J. WINSTANLEY

THE JOHN SANFORD SALTUS GOLD MEDAL

This Medal is awarded by ballot of all the members triennially “to the Member of the Society whose paper or papers appearing in the Society’s publications shall receive the highest number of votes from the Members, as being in their opinion the best in the interest of numismatic science”.

The Medal was founded by the late John Sanford Saltus, Officier de la Légion d’Honneur, of New York, a Vice-President of the Society, by the gift of £200 in the year 1910; and so that the triennial periods should be computed from the inauguration of the Society, the Rules provided that the Medal should be awarded in the years 1910 and 1911, and thenceforward triennially.

Medallists

1911  MISS HELEN FARQUHAR
1914  W. J. ANDREW, F.S.A.
1917  L. A. LAWRENCE, F.S.A.
1920  LIEUT.-COL. H. W. MORRIESON, F.S.A.
1923  H. ALEXANDER PARSONS
1926  GRANT R. FRANCIS, F.S.A.
1929  J. SHIRLEY-FOX, R.B.A.
Proceedings of the Society

1932  CHARLES WINTER
1935  RAYMOND CARLYON-BRITTON
1938  WILLIAM C. WELLS
1941  CUTHBERT A. WHITTON, B.A.
1944  Not awarded.
1947  R. CYRIL LOCKETT, J.P., F.S.A.
1950  CHRISTOPHER E. BLUNT, O.B.E., F.S.A.

OFFICERS AND COUNCIL 1952

President: EDGAR J. WINSTANLEY

Vice-Presidents: A. E. BAGNALL; MISS HELEN FARQUHAR, F.R.HIST.S.;
SIR JOHN HANHAM, BT.; H. H. KING, M.A.; H. W. TAFFS, M.B.E.

Director: C. E. BLUNT, O.B.E., F.S.A.

Treasurer: F. ELMORE JONES

Librarian: W. FORSTER

Secretary: G. V. DOUBLEDAY

Council: A. BALDWIN; E. BURSTAL, M.A., M.D.; W. HURLEY; COL. E. C.
LINTON; COMM. R. P. MACK, R.N.; C. WILSON PECK; S. E. RIGOLD,
M.A.; H. SCHNEIDER; W. SLAYTER; D. F. SPINK; J. D. A. THOMPSON;
AND L. V. W. WRIGHT.

ORDINARY MEETING

30 January 1952

MR. E. J. WINSTANLEY, President, in the Chair

Obituary

The President announced the death of Mr. A. K. Maples of Spalding,
a member since 1920.

Elections

Mr. K. Miles was elected a member of the Society, and Mr. A. C.
Renfrew a junior member.

Exhibitions

The evening was devoted to exhibits, primarily of medals.

By MR. H. SCHNEIDER:

A Henry VIII crown of the Double Rose. Mule; Obv. HI, Rev. HR.
Initial mark: Arrow on both sides. Unpublished and believed to
be unique. (Pl. VIII, 5.)

By MR. C. B. SMITH:

1. A Military General Service Medal, 1793–1814, with Chrystler’s
Farm Bar.
Proceedings of the Society

By MR. H. W. TAFFS:
Twenty commemorative medals and badges from the period of Charles II to the later years of Victoria.

By MR. E. J. WINSTANLEY:
The medal struck by the Yorkshire Numismatic Society to commemorate the National Numismatic Congress held at Bradford in May 1951.

By MR. D. F. SPINK:
2. The Royal Geographical Society’s Medal for the same expedition. Both given to Petty-Officer Edgar Evans, R.N., who died with Capt. Scott in the 1912 Expedition which reached the South Pole. Also a series of thirteen interesting “Defence” Awards.

By MR. C. E. BLUNT:
A large medal of Federigo di Montefeltro, Duke of Urbino, by Pietro Torregiani. The bust surrounded by the Garter, to which order the Duke was admitted in 1474.

By MR. ALBERT BALDWIN:
An H.M.S. Windsor Castle badge of 1824.

By MR. G. V. DOUBLEDAY:
Two medals commemorating the Peace of Breda in 1667, of the Favente Deo type, M.I. 535/185 in silver, and M.I. 535/186 in copper. The latter unpublished in that metal.

ORDINARY MEETING
27 FEBRUARY 1952
MR. E. J. WINSTANLEY, President, in the Chair

Elections
Mr. Ian Stewart, Mr. Christopher N. Welsh, and Mr. P. Spufford were elected Junior Members of the Society.

Exhibitions
By MR. R. H. DOLLEY:
1. Casts of two Edward the Confessor pennies of Brooke type 5, of Lewes, with identical obverse dies. One by the moneyer Oswald, the other by Godwine.
3. Casts of a half-crown of 1707 Edinburgh with curious marks below truncation.
By MR. D. G. LIDDELL:

A Commonwealth crown 1652, believed to be the finest known specimen; and a Victoria Pattern halfpenny and farthing of 1887 possibly intended for colonial use.

By COMMANDER R. P. MACK:

An Ancient British quarter-stater of Evans type E2 found in November 1951 near Eastbourne.

By MR. P. J. SEABY:

Two unrecorded pennies of Edwig and Aethelstan (a) Obv. Rosette +EADPIG REX I; Rev. MANNE/+++/ESMON Rosette above and below. (b) Obv. Rosette •ÆDE/ELSTAN RE+ To BR; Rev. Rosette +ENAPA MO LEIGELF. Four brass coin weights for Charles I and some for James II. An Anglo-Saxon coin repaired with cellotape.

By DR. E. BURSTAL:

A half-crown of Charles I dated 1645 with B under the horse and under the date, possibly a forgery.

By MR. F. ELMORE JONES:

Five sceattas of Fauna types.

By MR. C. W. PECK:

Six representative coins of the same period.

Paper

MR. P. V. HILL read a paper entitled "The Animal, 'Anglo-Merovingian' and Miscellaneous Series of Anglo-Saxon sceattas". This paper is printed in the present number.

ORDINARY MEETING

26 MARCH 1952

MR. E. J. WINSTANLEY, President, in the Chair

Elections

Mr. V. F. L. Millard was elected a member of the Society.

Exhibitions

By MR. E. J. WINSTANLEY:

A half-groat of Richard III, i.m. Boar's Head, with casts of another in the Hunter collection from the same dies showing i.m.s more clearly.

By MR. H. W. TAFFS:

Four Ancient British uninscribed gold coins, one possibly Gaulish; and one of Addedomaros.
By MR. A. BALDWIN:

An unpublished Ancient British quarter-stater found at Irstead (Suffolk). (Pl. VIII, 1).

By COMMANDER R. P. MACK:

Twelve Ancient British coins of the period covered by his paper.

By MR. C. E. BLUNT:

1. Two coins of Aethelstan of B.M.C. type V, the one struck from two obverse and the other from two reverse (York) dies. (Pl. VIII, 3.)
2. Three coins of Edmund, B.M.C. type I with moneyers not in Brooke: (a) Afra, perhaps of Derby. Ill. B.N.J. ii, p. 32, fig. 3; (b) ∴ ∴ AME+++/LIN/?, ∴ Ameline?; (c) ∴ ∴ ∴ EDSEL+/+++/IGEMO/+.

By DR. E. C. LINTON:

1. Two Elizabeth mill sixpences, 1570, lis.
2. One Elizabeth mill sixpence, 1571/70, castle/lis.

By MR. G. V. DOUBLEDAY:

An uninscribed Ancient British stater and a quarter-stater of Evans types A4 and A5 respectively.

MR. R. H. DOLLEY read details of the Orston Treasure-Trove and the Maidstone Treasure-Trove. He did this, he said, on the invitation of the President to put an accurate picture of these finds before members before their publication so as to counteract certain misleading statements which had been made in the press and elsewhere. The report on the Maidstone hoard is printed in this number.

Paper

COMMANDER R. P. MACK read a paper entitled “The Earliest Coins of the Ancient Britons”. He paid tribute to the pioneer work of Evans, Brooke, and Allen, and in his opening remarks laid stress upon the importance of intensive study of find-spots combined with detailed observation of artistic merit and archaeological evidence. He admitted that the title of the paper might be somewhat misleading, and dealt with the coinage of the Ancient Britons principally in connexion with the two Belgic invasions, and followed this with an account of the family of Commius up to the time of the Roman occupation. This field covered the early uninscribed coins and also touched upon the inscribed coins of some of the southern areas. The paper was well illustrated by lantern slides, and the keen interest of members was demonstrated by the interesting discussion which followed it.
PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY

ORDINARY MEETING
23 APRIL 1952

MR. E. J. WINSTANLEY, President, in the Chair

Election

Mr. P. Woodhead was elected a member of the Society.

Exhibitions

By Mr. R. H. Dolley:

1. Cast of a Henry I penny found at Smyrna (Brooke VIII, moneyer Osmund of Wallingford). The original has been presented to the British Museum.
3. A penny of Harold I (Brooke 2, B.M.C. v; moneyer Wulfward of Gloucester). The original had recently been shown at the British Museum.

By Mr. Albert Baldwin:

1. A Henry IV heavy half-noble found at Amiens in May 1950. (Pl. VIII, 4.)
2. A Richard II London half-noble found at the same time.

By Mr. E. J. Winstanley:

Casts to show the three different kinds of lettering found on the gold coins of Richard II.

Paper

Mr. Philip Grierson read a paper entitled, "The Round Half-pennies of Henry I". This paper was printed in the last number.

In the long and interesting discussion which followed the paper, Mr. Elmore Jones observed that many coins of Henry I were controversial and said that no sound reason had yet been given against the genuineness of this particular coin. It had, he said, a certain affinity with types X and XI which made it a question of doubt whether the coin was struck in 1108. The reverse cross was reminiscent of type XI and the lettering appeared to be pre-1108—a date which could certainly be regarded as an epigraphic landmark. Mr. King pointed out that the ordering of a round half-penny by Henry I was not necessarily a proof that it had in fact been issued. Mr. Grierson, in answer to a question, expressed the view that the coin was not of continental origin on account of its weight and lettering. Mr. Albert Baldwin made three interesting points: (a) that there was no disputing the documentary evidence; (b) that a certain Scandinavian authority had stated that it was not a Scandinavian coin; and (c) that a certain English expert, suddenly being shown the coin, had at once been of the opinion that it was Anglo-Norman, and had questioned whether it might be a new type of penny. Mr. Dolley said that he was convinced by the literary
a perfect type 14, and a true mule of types 13/15. It is hoped to print this paper in the next number.

Mr. Cook spoke at the conclusion of the paper and referred to the evening's proceedings as a realization of one of the main purposes of museums. He elaborated upon Mr. Elmore Jones's references to the early days of the City hoard and the character of John Walker Bailey, who had been at such pains to handle it.

ORDINARY MEETING
24 SEPTEMBER 1952

MR. E. J. WINSTANLEY, President, in the Chair

Election
The Rev. Anselm Broburg was elected a member of the Society.

Exhibitions

By MR. C. E. BLUNT:
A series of contemporary imitations of the Edward I–III penny, and an imitation of an Edward III groat.

By COMMANDER R. P. MACK:
Six Ancient British staters, four of the Whaddon Chase type, and two of Tasciovanus.

By MR. D. F. SPINK:
A selection of testoons of Mary Queen of Scots.

By DR. E. C. LINTON:
A Proof 1804 Bank dollar, on a thick flan, weighing 488.5 gr.

By SIR JOHN HANHAM:
A 17th-century Wimborne Town token.

By MR. ALBERT BALDWIN:
A 1699 William III half-crown with the arms on the reverse wrongly arranged.

By MR. H. W. TAFFS:
A series of medals, orders, and engraved medallions.

By MR. IAN STEWART:
Thistle-head and Mullet groats attributed to James III, to illustrate the paper.

Paper

MR. IAN STEWART read a paper on the attribution of the Thistle-head and Mullet groats. This paper is printed in the present number.
ORDINARY MEETING
22 OCTOBER 1952

MR. E. J. WINSTANLEY, President, in the Chair

Elections
Mr. H. K. Wright, Mr. W. Hicks, and Mr. W. M. J. Milligan were elected to membership of the Society.

Exhibitions

By MR. PHILIP GRIERSON:
One Visigothic and four Merovingian coins, to illustrate some general features of late sixth-century coinage to which he alluded in his paper.

By MR. D. G. LIDDELL:
Four rare Anglo-Gallic coins.
1. An Edward III florin of 1337.
2. An Edward the Black Prince hardi d’or.
3. A Richard II demi-hardi d’or.
4. A Henry V mouton d’or.

Paper
MR. PHILIP GRIERSON read a paper on “The St. Martin’s Hoard of Canterbury”. This paper is printed in the present number.

ANNIVERSARY MEETING
26 NOVEMBER 1952

MR. E. J. WINSTANLEY, President, in the Chair

The President welcomed the attendance of the Deputy Master of the Royal Mint, who had kindly brought with him an exhibit of Her Majesty’s new coinage.

Exhibitions

By MR. ALBERT BALDWIN:
The following coins of Elizabeth I:
Pattern shillings, i.m. Key.
1. Obverse legend ends REGI. Reverse plain shield.
2. Obverse legend ends REGI. Reverse garnished shield.
3. Obverse legend ends REGINA. Reverse garnished shield.
Gold half-crown of the “wire-line” issue, i.m. lis. Believed to be unique.
The President read his Address for 1952, which is printed elsewhere in the present number. Sir John Hanham proposed a vote of thanks to the President for his Address, which was seconded by Mr. Blunt and carried with acclamation.

Ballot for Officers and Council

The ballot was held for the election of Officers and Council for 1953. The following were declared to be elected:

President: E. J. WINSTANLEY


Director: C. E. BLUNT, O.B.E., F.S.A.

Secretary: G. V. DOUBLEDAY

Treasurer: F. ELMORE JONES

Librarian: W. FORSTER

Tonight it is my privilege again to set before you an account of our Society's activities during the past twelve months. Our losses this year by death, happily light, have been overshadowed by the great loss we sustained as a nation when our late Sovereign his Majesty King George VI died in February. My occasion to speak of this comes rather late. The period of mourning is over and our thoughts are turning now to next year's great festival of Coronation.

Within the Society we have lost by death one member—Mr. A. E. Maples of Spalding. He joined the Society in 1920, but he had not attended any of our meetings for a long time and consequently was not known to us personally. By resignation we have lost 6 members and by amoval 1. We have elected 10 new members and 3 new junior members. This, a net gain of 6, is a welcome improvement on our over-all loss of 11 last year.

Not counting the anniversary meeting we have had papers read at all but one of our meetings. The attendance has been as high as 27 and never lower than 18. We have two new readers this year, one of them a junior member.

I had hoped when composing this address to be able to say that the Journal had appeared earlier this year than last. This unfortunately is not so, but we have seen an advance copy. We know from that that it is a good number and that the plates are better and clearer than in recent volumes. The work entailed in editing the Journal is more exacting than perhaps some of us realize. I have wondered for some time whether we had the right to expect our Editor to carry his burden single-handed. That he has done so for long periods without complaint is characteristic of one whose devotion to the Society commands our deep admiration. Nevertheless, I was glad when Mr. Anthony Thompson was brought in to help. I hoped that under Mr. Blunt's hand he might be trained to assume an equal share of the burden. Now that ill health has made Mr. Thompson give up, we have in his place Mr. H. H. King, whose long years of service to the Society are known to us all. While we welcome Mr. King, let us at the same time wish Mr. Thompson a quick return to good health, and to his place at our Council Meetings.

I have long believed that the exchange of our Journal for the publications of Numismatic Societies abroad is helpful not only for spreading the light of our own particular candle but for the benefit that comes to us and to our foreign neighbours from an interchange of news and of views. At present we are working an exchange system with The Hague, Brussels, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Hamburg, and Munich.
The Bibliothèque Nationale of Paris by virtue of its membership receives our *Journal* but I do not think it publishes or sends anything to us. I would like very much to see us exchanging *Journals* with the Numismatic Society of France. I believe that a country such as France whose history has been linked with ours for so many years must publish numismatic material of interest and importance to us. The *Jahrboek* of the Royal Netherlands Society, the current number of which is our latest acquisition by way of exchange, contains an important paper by Mr. Grierson in English, and also a summary in English of the other contents of the volume.

Our Treasurer keeps our finances in a healthy state and continues to collect subscriptions with perhaps fewer defaultings than ever before. Your Council has on more than one occasion expressed their warmest thanks to him. Tonight I speak for all of us and say how much we are indebted to him for his good work. I learn from Mr. Elmore Jones that the bequest of £50 made to the Society by the late Mr. Crowther-Beynon, and payable on the death of his widow, has now been paid to us. It is perhaps relevant at this moment to remind you that we have not made any use as yet of the money held by this Society under the name of the Publications Fund. It amounts to £162. Is it not time we began seriously to consider putting that money to some useful purpose? Various suggestions have been made from time to time. One is that we should draw up a catalogue of those coins in the Lockett collection that would not be fully described and illustrated in the sale catalogue. Obviously we cannot do this until the sale catalogue is published and we do not know when that will be. I made the suggestion a year ago that we should do well to compile a detailed list of the English coins that came to the British Museum on the death of Mr. L. A. Lawrence by the terms of his will. I did in fact go some way in making such a list but I have not completed it. I was somewhat slowed down by discovering what a very large number of coins came to the Museum from Mr. Lawrence during his lifetime. I hope that our Council may see fit during the coming year to give some thought to this matter.

Our Librarian has been prevented from coming to our meetings for some time by a large-scale and troublesome move of business premises. As a consequence he has still to complete the cataloguing of our books. I hope it may be possible for him to do so soon. Then, apart from making a list of superfluous duplicates, he will be able to rest from his labours with only the in-trickle of additions to enter in the catalogue, until the time comes to begin with our sister society the work of printing the catalogue. It may not be generally known to members what facilities there are at the Warburg Institute for using our library. Our books are arranged in a good order on one side of a convenient gallery. The room is well heated and a handy desk-ledge is there for setting out books and papers. The books of the Royal Numismatic Society are on adjoining shelves, while below on the ground floor the general reference section of the Warburg Institute’s library is near
and freely at our disposal. Mr. Forster’s card index catalogue will make it easy to find quickly what one is looking for—apart from the latest additions. Our library is open from 10 to 6 from Monday to Friday. Members who wish to use it on Saturdays can usually do so by notifying Dr. Barb, the Warburg Institute librarian, in advance, of their intention. It seems that our library is not being made much use of at present. Mr. Forster has suggested to me that more use would be made of it if our country members were made more aware of the facilities and had the catalogue to refer to. This, I think, is a strong reason for pressing on with the printing of the catalogue. I do not think the librarian of the “Royal” is far behind us in the matter of cataloguing. This then is another matter which I hope your Council will include in its deliberations next session.

During the summer we lost a good friend at the British Museum by the retirement of Mr. Robinson from the post of Keeper of Coins. By the appointment of Dr. Walker to succeed Mr. Robinson a friend of our Society is promoted to whom we offer our congratulations. We look to him for a continuance of his friendly interest and support.

The publication of the catalogue of the “Tealby” pennies in the British Museum is a great accomplishment and another milestone on the way towards completing the catalogue of our national collection of English coins. It is a matter of pride to us that the author of the “Tealby” catalogue—Mr. Derek Allen—whom we are very glad to have with us tonight—has been a prominent member of this Society for seventeen years.

The accession of a new Sovereign brings with it the problems of a new coinage. That these problems were not being ignored by the numismatist has been shown by Dr. Sutherland’s broadcast and by his remarks last June to the Royal Numismatic Society. This Society, as a body, has been slow to bring forward the suggestions that might have been expected of it. Mr. Anthony Thompson submitted designs to the Royal Mint Advisory Committee. It is gratifying to know that his designs, though not in the end accepted, won through to the final ring of selection. We are most grateful to the Deputy Master of the Royal Mint for the kind and happy thought of bringing along to this meeting specimens of the new coinage for us to see. It has been a privilege we have very much appreciated.

The success of the Numismatic Congress held at Cambridge this year was on its own merits outstanding. I submit it was also a justification of the existence and of the work of the Co-ordinating Committee. The success of the Congress was due primarily to good organization and to unhurried preparation undertaken in good time. Much praise for this is due to Mr. Jacob, then secretary and now president of the Cambridge Numismatic Society. It is not given to every society to be able to present papers by readers of the calibre of Mr. Mattingly, Mr. Grierson, and Dr. Seltman; yet, from what I know of the work going forward at Bournemouth for next year’s
Congress, I think they will not fall short of the standard set this year at Cambridge. There remains one imponderable feature. Cambridge got on the right side of the Clerk of the Weather. I hope Bournemouth will be no less wise.

The work of the Co-ordinating Committee of the National Numismatic Congress, in the founding of which I had some share, is primarily to keep alive the spirit of what used to be called "Coin Day" during the time that elapses between one year's congress and the next, and to supervise the sponsoring and work of organization of each year's congress. The Committee is now seeking to enlarge the scope of its activities by founding a British Association of Numismatic Societies. This body will, it is hoped, have in its membership representatives of all numismatic societies in the kingdom. So far sixteen out of the twenty-one societies approached have signified their support by becoming affiliated. The aims of the Association have been published with a good deal of detail in the numismatic press. I will not trouble you with a repetition of them, but I would like to read you a paragraph from a circular that is being prepared.

"This response has encouraged the committee to put its plans into operation and it is now prepared to take the lead in the formation of a British Association of Numismatic Societies. Such an association cannot spring into being overnight. Much thought and careful planning will be necessary to ensure an initial foundation on which the subsequent structure will be safe and sound. The Committee intends during the ensuing months to attempt such a foundation. All numismatic societies are invited to appoint a delegate to attend a meeting in London provisionally fixed for April 11th 1953, to hear the results of the Committee's planning, to discuss and amend it, and to approve an initial scheme to be made public at the National Numismatic Congress to be held at Bournemouth on May 16th 1953."

The Co-ordinating Committee held its fourth meeting this month and considered the question of where the 1954 Congress should be held. There was a general feeling that it should be held in London. If I remind you that by then we shall have completed, and I hope celebrated, the completion of fifty years of life, and if I suggest it would be no ungracious thing to extend the period of celebration by a few months, you will perhaps agree that it would be fitting that this Society should undertake to sponsor "Coin Day" for 1954. Let me at any rate commend the idea to you and leave you to consider it.

Among the excellent papers read to us this year, special mention should be made of Mr. Elmore Jones's paper on the coins of Edward the Confessor in the Guildhall Museum. The occasion was a notable one because the coins were brought here to enhance the interest of the paper. That is something that I do not think has happened in our Society before. I applaud it as a gesture of friendly co-operation that
comes particularly generously from an order of institutions that does not always get the kindest treatment at our hands. The paper was welcome too because it was the first full-length paper that Mr. Elmore Jones has given us. I would not be surprised if our Treasurer had another shot or two in his locker—say on Stephen Type 7. If that is so, I hope he will bring it out and fire it off at us.

That so many of the papers read to us this year and down to be read next session deal with Saxon or earlier coinages is a reflection of the great increase in interest taken in these periods. One result is that there is a scarcity of material of later periods for printing in the *Journal*. It has been said that there is virtually no more work worth doing on the English coinages of the later middle ages. I suggest that that is not true. The “Florin” type pennies of Durham of Edward III await a more exact and scientific classification than that worked out by Shirley Fox and L. A. Lawrence. It still remains to be proved whether Bishop de Bury did or did not strike coins in that series.

Richard II is a mine that has not been worked since Walter’s paper in 1905. Perhaps I may mention that I am doing some work on Richard II at present and that I have hopes of putting something before you next session. The coinage of Henry IV still presents problems. The statement that Henry IV did not reduce the weight of his coins until the thirteenth year of his reign implies—if we remember that we have no heavy groats bearing his name—that no groats were struck for that long period of thirteen years. That is a proposition that I find difficult to swallow. Brooke’s classification of the coins of Henry V, even in its simplified version in *English Coins*, is too complicated to be applied with success to the groats. It should be possible to simplify it without destroying its essential features. There is still a number of unsolved difficulties in the coinage of Henry VII. I think it may be that we shall need to look for more documentary data and help before they can be solved. We do not seem to have in the Society any enthusiasts for Charles I other than our member for Antwerp. Are we content to leave him to gather all the honour? Not long ago the coinage of Charles I was a very controversial issue and an honourable battleground. Have we become apathetic? Mr. Forster is known to be an enthusiast for the coinage of Elizabeth I. Has he nothing new to tell us of that large coinage? Mr. Blunt in a Presidential address a year or two ago asked members to come forward and read a paper on some new aspect of milled coins. We are still waiting for that paper. Hewlett’s book on Anglo-Gallic coins is a good book, but it is out of date and much of it needs rewriting. What an opportunity for someone! I admit that many Anglo-Gallic coins are scarce and that the gold is ruinously expensive. Is this not where the museums come to our aid? I suggest that the Anglo-Gallic coins at the British Museum, at the Ashmolean, and at the Fitzwilliam Museum are sufficiently numerous and varied to provide the student with material for a very fair beginning.
You will see from this that I am venturing to give you the gentlest prod and hint that as a body of numismatists we have a duty to try to see if we are not able to throw a little light on some of the dark corners of coin study. Let me at any rate beg members not to let the idea of publication deter them from giving us the fruits of their study in short or full-length papers and in exhibitions. The ventilation of one's ideas and theories even when they are still fluid is no bad thing. It enables other minds to bear on them and it spreads the light of inquiry a little further into the dark corners.

A little more than a year ago Dr. Rasmusson, Director of the Royal Swedish Coin Cabinet in Stockholm, addressed a letter to the British Museum inviting the co-operation of numismatists in this country in the work of sorting and listing the large number of Saxon coins contained in hoards in Scandinavia. He invited suggestions, too, as to how best this work might be done. His letter was passed to the Royal Numismatic Society and to us. After deliberation our respective Councils decided to set up a joint sub-committee to study ways and means. This Society is represented on the sub-committee by Mr. Blunt and Mr. Elmore Jones. The first result has been that Mr. Dolley has spent four and a half weeks in Stockholm, in which time he has examined 2,500 coins from seven unpublished hoards. We are to have a detailed report from Mr. Dolley at our March meeting.

As the result of a widespread appeal for funds the Chester and North Wales Archaeological Society has been able to purchase for the Grosvenor Museum at Chester the Willoughby Gardner collection of 652 pennies of the Chester mint. It has been authoritatively stated that the coins will be available at the museum for inspection by students for all time. Through the energy and public spirit of the Curator, Mr. Graham Webster, the museum acquired, too, a high proportion of the find of over 500 Saxon coins made at Chester in December 1950. It would seem that Chester, by these two acquisitions, is now possessed of the largest and most important collection of Saxon and local coins in the country, outside the British Museum. I think it should be stressed that the acquisitions have been made to enrich Chester with the material of her own coinage and that the needs of research are being generously met. I understand that Mr. Dolley has been asked to prepare a catalogue of the Willoughby Gardner coins based on Dr. Gardner's manuscript notes.

We have been invited to participate by means of an exhibition in the International Numismatic Congress due to be held in Paris next July. We have been glad to accept this invitation in principle. We are actively at work with the "Royal", considering how best we can make an exhibition of English coins worthy of the occasion.

I have again a double personal obligation which it is a happiness to acknowledge and a pleasure to discharge. I am indebted to Mr. Doubleday, our Secretary, for the greatest consideration and courtesy. To our Director, Mr. Blunt, I am deeply in debt for his constant support and encouragement.
The close of another year finds the Society healthy, growing, and full of active life. It is well that it should be so, for there is stirring up and down the country a new interest in British numismatics. We have given a lead and set an example for nearly fifty years. Let us see that that lead is maintained and that our example does not weaken.
THE BRITISH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

EXPENDITURE AND INCOME ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 1951

**EXPENDITURE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1950</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s.</th>
<th>d.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Printing and Stationery</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postages</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses of Meetings, Rent, and Library Facilities, &amp;c.</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry Expenses</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Charges</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Cost for 1950 <em>Journal</em> under-provided</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance Surplus, carried to General Purposes Fund</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
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**INCOME**

<table>
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<th>1950</th>
<th>£</th>
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<th>d.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions received for 1951</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subscriptions in arrear received during the year</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions unallocated</td>
<td>422</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entrance Fees</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditure on account of <em>Journal</em> over-reserved in year to 31 October 1949</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Donations:
- Miss H. L. Farquhar | 2 | 2 | 0 |
- L. Cabot Briggs | 2 | 2 | 0 |
- A. G. Wrightson | 1 | 1 | 0 |
- Weber De Vere | 5 | 0 | 0 |
- J. L. Dresser | 2 | 2 | 0 |

Interest Received | 6 | 6 | 0 |
Sale of Back Volumes | 44 | 5 | 1 |
Excess of Expenditure over Income | 51 | 19 | 8 |

**Total** | £548 | 0 | 5 | £554 | 13 | 9 | £548 | 0 | 5 | £554 | 13 | 9
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 OCTOBER 1951

1950

£ s. d.
3 5 4 Subscriptions received in advance
44 17 0 Subscriptions compounded
355 8 9 Sundry Creditors and Outstanding Charges

J. Sanford Saltus Medal Fund:
Capital Account
Less Debit Balance on Income Account
183 14 0

Publications and Research Fund
Provision for Estimated Cost of Journal
350 0 0

General Purposes Fund:
Balance as at 31 October 1950
Less Excess of Expenditure over Income for year
1,240 8 1

£2,339 14 8

1950

£ s. d.
Investments at cost:
£250 1½% National War Bonds
1,083 5 1
1,183 5 1
£1,183.5s. id. 3% Defence Bonds
1,183 5 1
1,433 5 1

J. Sanford Saltus Medal Fund:
166 14 11
£166.14s.11d. 3% Defence Bonds
166 14 11

151 12 5 Library at cost
10 7 6 Furniture at cost
151 12 5
10 7 6

Cash at Bank:
193 13 1 Bank Current Account
729 17 9 Post Office Savings Bank
4 3 11 Petty Cash in Hand
254 7 11
358 4 5
5 4
612 17 8

£2,374 17 7

We beg to report to the Members that we have obtained all the information and explanations we have required. No credit has been taken for subscriptions in arrear. We have examined the above Balance Sheet with the books and vouchers of the Society and are of opinion that subject to the above remark the same is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Society’s affairs, according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us, and as shown by the books of the Society.

GILBERTS, HALLETT, & EGLINGTON, Chartered Accountants.

27 March 1952
