MISCELLANEA

THE COINS OF THE SUSSEX MINTS: ADDENDA AND CORRIGENDA

HASTINGS

EDWARD THE CONFESSOR, type B.M.C. vii, Brooke 6

109. For ‘As no. 108’ read ‘Same die as no. 108’.
Delete ‘Sceptre ends in fleur-de-lis’.

110. Delete reference to footnote.

110a. Delete ‘but no pellet’.

110b. As no. 103 but different die from it and no. 110.
Same die as no. 110.

LEWES

ÆTHELRED II, type B.M.C. iva: Hild. D
43. For M'O read M'O.

Cnut, type B.M.C. viii: Hild. E

133. For LÆE read LÆE.

134. For ‘As no. 133’ read +GODMAN LÆE:.

139a. For ANGLOV1 read ANGLOV1.

149b. For PVLFEH MM read PVLFEH :MM.

EDWARD THE CONFESSOR, type B.M.C. xi: Brooke 8

261. Delete pellet at end of obv. legend.

My attention has been called to some of these errors by Mr. P. A. Hodgkinson.

HORACE H. KING

A NEW MINT FOR STEPHEN TYPE 7

The coin described below, now in my collection and illustrated here (PI. XI. 5), was exhibited by me at the Anniversary Meeting of the Society on 30 November 1960.

It seems to be quite ‘new’ and unpublished and certainly I had no knowledge of its existence at the time of writing my Paper on this type.¹

It is of perfectly regular style with the large, well-formed lettering which is characteristic of the type, including a very peculiar form of the letter ‘P’, virtually indistinguishable from ‘D’, which is found on many of the coins.²

The readings are:

Obv. +STIEFNE

Rev. +RÅP[V]L:ON: RIEE:

Although the first letter of the mint-signature is not very distinct I have no hesitation in reading it as R and, consequently, assigning the coin to the mint of Rye

² This letter form which is peculiar to this type, although much the same feature is to be observed on a few late coins of Edward the Confessor, is not reproduced in Brooke’s Epigraphical Table in B.M.C. (Norman Kings). Classic examples of it occur on the two coins nos. 12 and 13 figured on Pl. LVI of vol. 1 of Norman Kings.
where the moneyer RAWYLF (an early form of the name) is already known. Hitherto Rye, one of the rarest of the Norman mints, has only been known in Stephen Type 2 and that from as few as five specimens. These are all from different dies and are all by the moneyer Ralf using the two alternative spellings of RAPVL and RAPYLF and the mint-signature RIE.1

Incidentally it may be of interest to mention the fact that the late W. J. Andrew recorded a coin of this mint and reign (but of Type 1) by a moneyer WILLEM with this exact spelling of the mint-signature (RIE) but it is virtually certain that this attribution is based on a misreading and that the coin in question is a myth. At any rate if the coin does exist its present whereabouts are unknown and it has not appeared in any sale catalogue that I have seen.2

F. ELMORE JONES

TWO MEDIEVAL FINDS FROM SOUTH WILTSHIRE

In 1959 Mr. Wilfred Thorne of Castle Hill, Alvediston, found a silver coin (D. 18·5 mm., Wt. 15·75 gr.) in his cottage garden, almost on the border of the neighbouring parish of Ebbebourne Wake. The coin proved to be a sterling of Arnold D'Orey, Lord of Rummen, 1331–64, and the finder kindly presented it to the Salisbury Museum (acc. 34/59) (PI. XI, 7). It is mentioned on page 18 of the museum's Annual Report, 1959.

The coin appears to be sufficiently rare to merit publication, there being no example in the British Museum collection. The type is mentioned by Chautard on page 94 of Imitations des Monnaies au Type Esterlin, Nancy 1872, nos. 159 and 160, and these are engraved on Pl. XIII, nos. 2 and 3, but both coins show minor differences from the present specimen and the standard of engraving hardly permits detailed comparison. Arnold's long reign would, however, presuppose a number of issues and the rarity of his coins is correspondingly remarkable.

The type is copied directly from the coins of Edward II or the early years of Edward III. On the obverse the head is somewhat long and thin and there is a collar round the neck. The hair is drawn in three overlapping locks on each side and the treatment is simpler than in most of the English prototypes. The crown, beneath which a fringe appears, is seen in perspective but the ornaments between the fleurs-de-lis are diamond shaped and while almost separated from the crown are in conjunction with the central lis. The initial-mark is a cross pattée and the legend, in Lombardic characters, reads ERWULDV DOMVS, the V being almost obliterated. The reverse has no initial-mark, but three pellets in each quarter and the legend: MONETARVM INOR, indicating Rummen as the mint-town. Throughout the legend the M's are of noticeably Roman form while the I's conform to the Lombardic character of the inscription as a whole.

Another medieval find was made about 1948 in the north-east corner of the Council House grounds in Salisbury, which probably belonged to the collegiate church of St. Edmund until the sixteenth century. It is an English bronze coin-weight (D. 18 mm. and 2 mm. thick. Wt. 101·5 gr., Pl. XI, 8). It was kindly given to Salisbury Museum (acc. 96/58) by Doctor Peter Greenstreet of Wilton. It is mentioned on page 18 of the Annual Report, 1959, and illustrated in a line-drawing at twice natural size on the front cover. The weight is circular, and plain as usual on the reverse. The obverse type is within a border which is plain on the inner and scalloped on the outer side. The design consists of the usual warship, an echo of the

design on the gold coins it was intended to weigh. The ship's hull is formed of four crescentic lines. The forecastle is pointed and the poop square, each being decorated along the side by three diminutive trefoils. The single mast is supported by four mainstays which are attached below the fighting top. Above this a pennon flies to the right from the upper part of the mast. In the right field is a leopard and above it what appears to be an abortive attempt at a second leopard, partly off flan and partly confused with the pennon. On the left is a fleur-de-lis.

Medieval English coin-weights are far from common and this one is not recorded by Dieudonné in his *Manuel des Poids Monétaires* (1925) though he illustrates six examples of the warship type. The pointing of the bows in this example is a refinement hardly found in the coinage till the reign of Henry VII, yet the present weight of this rather worn piece suggests that it was for testing the nobles of 108 grains struck by Henry IV and his successors from 1412 until 1464 in the fourth year of Edward IV. It is not improbable that gold coins of varying weights remained current long after the introduction of coins with new names and different standards and so it is possible that a coin-weight such as this was struck by Henry VII to weigh nobles which had not been struck for twenty-five years.

H. de S. Shortt

**A UNIQUE PENNY OF HENRY IV AND A NEW HALFPENNY OF HENRY VII**

These two previously unrecorded coins have recently come to light and, although I have no doubt that they will be discussed and commented on elsewhere, I feel that a description of the pieces should be recorded.

I. **HENRY IV, LIGHT COINAGE, PENNY OF LONDON.** Weight 15 grains.

*Obv.* + HENRICI REX ANGLIAE, pellet to left, annulet to right of crown, slipped trefoil on breast.

*Rev.* GIVI[TA]S[MON]D[ON], no stops. (Fig. 1.)

The obverse lettering is of the usual style for this period, being neat, small and having the distinctive split or 'fish-tail' serifs; the crown too is of the normal flattish form found on Henry's coins, but the style and general neatness of the bust is reminiscent of the heavy pennies and even of the late coins of Richard II. Two features which distinguish this coin and which set it apart from all the other known London pennies are: on the obverse, the pellet to left and the annulet to the right
of the crown, an arrangement which is exactly opposite to that usually found. On the reverse, the use of Lombardic N's instead of Roman N's.

Of the three pennies with Lombardic N's described by F. A. Walters in 'The Coinage of Henry IV' (Num. Chron. 1905) his numbers 2 and 4 both appear to have a regular Henry V reverse and his number 5 is so different in style of lettering, stopping, bust, and crown that it may well be an early coin of Henry V also.

The use of Lombardic N's is quite usual on the heavy coins, and it is therefore not impossible that the reverse die was originally intended (and possibly used) for the heavy pennies. On p. 135 of this journal this coin will be found listed in the paper by W. J. W. Potter, who discusses its probable place and date amongst Henry's light coins.

II. HENRY VII, CANTERBURY HALFPENNY OF ARCHBISHOP MORTON.

Obv. \(\text{HEN}[\text{RIC-D}]\text{ED} \text{REGA REX}\). Legend preceded by four horizontal lines. Saltires by bust, single arched crown.

Rev. \(\text{CIVIT}[\text{S}\text{OR}]\text{OR} \text{M}\) in centre. (Fig. 3.)

Although this coin is not published, Dr. Brooke in his English Coins describes the known halfpenny of Archbishop Morton with an \(\text{M}\) on the reverse, as follows:

Group I—Open crown; early lettering \(\text{M}\) in the centre of the reverse, no initial-mark (?). (Fig. 2.)

He then goes on to describe the coins of Group III which are attributed to the king and Archbishop Morton for the period 1495–1500 (?) and whose characteristics are: arched crown, ornate lettering, lis initial-mark (rosette stops); no initial-mark (saltire stops), but no \(\text{M}\) in the centre.

The present coin, differing only from Group I by having an arched crown, is therefore the missing Group II coin. Interesting though this coin is for the completion and justification of Dr. Brooke's classification of this series, the most interesting feature of the new piece is the mark before the king's name. To the best of my knowledge this is the first time that this mark has been positively identified in the place of a normal initial-mark on the obverse of any of Archbishop Morton's coins. I have only so far been able to trace one other specimen, in the Raymond Carlyon-Britton collection (Fig. 4), which was not recognized by him for what it was, due
to extensive surface corrosion, and it was not until we had this coin drastically cleaned that I was able to identify it as belonging to this series. The mark on this coin is now just discernible, but it is not possible to recognize it on the specimen in the British Museum which has an unarched crown.

The mark (and I use the term ‘mark’ as opposed to initial-mark) is known on some of the half-groats which are classified by Brooke as follows:

Archbishop Morton, 1486–1500, Type I, open crown without arches, tun initial mark, Ω (Lombardic) in centre of reverse. Crosses by bust. Some have a radiate eye after Posui (Brooke, pl. 27, 9).

Type II, double arched crown. Otherwise similar to last but with no initial-mark. The eye is placed before and after Posui and occasionally after Gra.

The half-groat illustrated here for comparison is of the latter class (Fig. 5).

The mark radiate eye (or eye in profile) has never been considered exclusively as an initial-mark due to its previously being unknown on the obverse before the king’s name, although it is known in the place of an initial-mark on the reverse, but it is also found at other places in the legends.

It is also a matter of speculation whether the mark is a degraded form of eye in profile, the horizontal strokes representing the eye-lashes. Having now this half-penny on which the mark appears, a more intensive study of the Canterbury coins as a whole would not come amiss.

P. FRANK PURVEY

A NEW VARIETY OF THE QUARTER-NOBLE OF HENRY V

A more careful examination of a Henry V quarter-noble in the Fitzwilliam Museum at Cambridge reveals a hitherto unknown variety which deserves to be recorded, and this is the object of this note.

The coin in question reads:

_Obv._ HENRIC·DIE·GR·REX·ANG:R

Lis above, quatrefoil and annulet on each side of the shield. Initial cross worn and sunken annulet not visible.

_Rev._ EXALTABITVR:IN:GLORIA

Initial cross with sunken annulet.

Nothing unusual here, as these are the legends of the few existing specimens of that period; but reference to Brooke—and his brilliant though somewhat abstruse study, published in the Numismatic Chronicle as long ago as 1930, still remains the authority on this period—indicates some unusual features, see Pl. XI, 6. They can be summarized as follows:

_Obv._ 1. The large trefoils on the points of the tressures indicate that the coin must be placed between Group I and IVa, since die IVb has annulets on the points of the tressures, and this feature continues during the remaining quarter-nobles of the reign.
2. The lettering is later than no. 1 or 1a—the absence of the squat N (Group I) and of the peculiar I of 1a (Group II) prove this—and yet the small C, E, and I of the regular no. 2 lettering show that the coin must be earlier than Group IV. It follows, therefore, that it belongs to Group III.

Rev. 1. The trefoils in the angles of the central panel and the regular no. 2 lettering with small E and I indicate a coin of Group III, known to Brooke only as a mule IV2 × IIIa, then in the Lockett collection, and sold as lot 3082 in Part VII of the Lockett sale on 5 November 1958.

From the above it appears that the coin in question is in fact a specimen of a true Group III, which had previously not been known for the quarter-nobles, and I am indebted to the Director of the Fitzwilliam Museum for permission to reproduce the above details and to Mr. Graham Pollard for supplying a cast of the coin in question.

A second example of the above coin has subsequently turned up in the collection of H. Schneider Esq. ex Dangar sale, 15 April 1953, part of lot 95, and is indeed a die duplicate. On this specimen the initial cross with sunken annulet on the obverse is clearly visible.

D. MANGAKIS

EDWARD COINS WITH OBVERSE MINT-MARK SUN AND ROSE DIMIDIATED

As a novice in the field of numismatics I submit, with diffidence, these notes on a subject which on paper represents an unresolved question.

Mr. Blunt and the late Mr. Whitton, in articles published in this Journal, reached the conclusion that these coins should be attributed to the reign of Edward IV. Among dissentients from this view was the late Dr. Arnold whose paper was the last on the subject to appear in this Journal. In the 1950 Presidential Address Mr. Blunt summed up (magnanimously, may I suggest?) in terms that the matter was far from settled.

Subsequently Mr. Stewart, writing in Seaby's Bulletin in December 1954, assembled the pros and cons from the articles and in conclusion gave his own verdict to Edward IV; Mr. Potter, in Seaby's Bulletin of April 1956, doubted this attribution; and Messrs. Spink & Son in the Numismatic Circular of December 1958 noted that modern opinion gives these coins to Edward IV.

There the matter appears to rest.

Now it would be impertinent for me to claim discovery of any new evidence on the subject. What I have attempted, however, is a collation of certain items of statistical evidence scattered among the articles and forming one of their themes. The result seemingly disposes of points made by Dr. Arnold and Mr. Potter.

With the following well established attributions safely behind us, namely:

(i) mint-mark heraldic cinquefoil—to a late phase of Edward IV's reign

(ii) mint-mark boar's head, struck over sun and rose dimidiated—to Edward V's short reign

we are left with the intermediate mark, that is, the unaltered sun and rose dimidiated.

The quantities of bullion recorded as having been struck during the crucial period are:
If we now consider these figures in relation to the number of known obverse dies for angels and groats (small coins of both metals being assumed as negligible in amount), namely:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Angels</th>
<th>Groats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun and rose—\not \ known overstruck boar's head</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boar's head—struck over sun and rose</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total = \ known 'original' sun and rose dies</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

we find an arithmetical consistency between the two sets of figures which strikingly suggests the attribution of the sun and rose coins to the period February to April 1483.

Moreover these figures are in line with an estimate which has been made that, on average, one obverse die in the silver accounted for around 100 lb. of coin during this period of our history. (As greater care would have had to be taken with the gold one die could well have accounted for something like 25 lb.)

Reverting now to Dr. Arnold's paper, he argued—on page 169 of vol. xxvi of this Journal—that, in the face of average annual bullion outputs of 1,750 lb. of gold and 6,800 lb. of silver during the second reign of Edward IV, the rare sun and rose coins if ascribed to that king could have been issued only in 'the very last few days' of his reign. The detailed figures, of which Dr. Arnold was evidently unaware, indicate the critical time to have been the last eight weeks of the reign.

Mr. Potter in his paper commented that as the 434 lb. of silver struck in May and June 1483 were little less than the total of 587 lb. from Michaelmas 1482 to Edward IV's death 'it is no more difficult to account for the number of sun and rose dies in the two months May/June than in the two months from Feb. 12th to April 9th...'. This line of reasoning would have had some validity if the 587 lb. had been spread fairly evenly over the six months to April, but in fact all except a mere 14 lb. of it was concentrated in the two months from February to 9 April. However, I believe that Mr. Potter is now of a different mind.

The modest revival of mint activity in February 1483 coincided with the appointment of a new mintmaster—Bartholomew Reed—under the Indenture of the 12th of that month, and it does not seem difficult to accept that in this particular instance a new indenture heralded a new mint-mark. Other changes associated with the sun and rose coins, e.g. a revision of the privy marking system and the virtual cessation of muling, may likewise be reasonably ascribed to the advent of the new mintmaster.

Information on reverse dies has not been gathered but, however interesting, would not be expected to affect the inference drawn.

May I add that the figures quoted are not intended to demonstrate necessarily that all the 'unaltered' sun and rose coins occurred in the reign of Edward IV. On the contrary, some may well have continued to be struck during that of Edward V. To establish that at least some of these coins were minted before the death of Edward IV is all that is needed to justify the attribution of the mark to him.

At the heart of this whole matter, I would submit, lies a remarkable coincidence—that the very small issue of coins in the brief reign of Edward V was preceded by a
new issue which happened also to be small by reason of occurring in the closing
weeks of the previous reign.

Perhaps a note may be added on an apparent error in the late Mr. Whitton's
paper 'Die Links between Edward IV, Edward V, and Richard III'.

On page 177 of vol. xxiv of the Journal, Mr. Whitton says of the angels (line 3):
'One reverse die with R over € and rose is found with three different obverse dies,
one of Edward IV with I. M. Sun-and-Rose, one of Edward V with I. M. Boar's
Head over Sun-and-Rose, and one reading RICARD with Boar's Head. . . .'

From the evidence supplied in Mr. Blunt's article (vol. xxii, p. 213), and from
Mr. Whitton's table of die links in the angels appearing on the next page (178) after
his above-mentioned quotation [and the table on p. 187—Mr. Winstanley] it seems
clear that the 'three different obverse dies' should read: 'one of Edward V with
I. M. Boar's Head over Sun-and-Rose, one reading RICARD with I. M. Sun-and-
Rose and one reading RICARD with Boar's Head. . . .'

F. M. STUBBS

ENGLISH COPPER, TIN AND BRONZE COINS IN THE
BRITISH MUSEUM

ADDENDA AND CORRIGENDA

Despite the utmost care it happens only very occasionally that a book of a technical
nature reaches its readers entirely free from errors, due either to oversights in the
proof-reading or to printing errors made after the final proofs have been passed.

My catalogue—English Copper, Tin and Bronze Coins in the British Museum—
proves to be no exception, and I am glad to have this opportunity of recording a
number of omissions and corrections that have come to my notice.

That several unrecorded pieces should turn up was not unexpected—especially
from the U.S.A.—but there was always a lurking fear that some discovery might
upset the original classifications. It was encouraging therefore to find that none of
the new pieces caused any complications. Of the errors, fortunately only one is at
all serious, viz.: the transposition that occurred on p. 187, lines 3 and 4, and which
necessitates changing Bust A into Bust B, and vice versa, wherever they occur on
that page.

ADDENDA

I am indebted to the following collectors for drawing my attention to the omis-
sions listed below and for lending me the pieces for examination:

Mr. J. M. Ashby—no. 1; Mr. W. T. Butler—no. 7; Mr. R. N. P. Hawkins—
nos. 4, 8, and 9; Mrs. E. M. Norweb, of Cleveland, Ohio—nos. 2, 3, 5, and 6;
Mr. D. L. F. Sealy—nos. 10 and 11; Mr. J. Gavin Scott—no. 12.

1. p. 162. Add No. 603A, 1694—MVRIA. [ER].
2. p. 164. Add No. 628A, Silver—normal legends and stops. [ER].
3. p. 290. Add No. 1076A, Copper—thin, 3 to 3·5 mm. flan. [ER].
4. p. 298. Add No. 1094A, Copper—thin flan. [ER].
5. p. 327. Add No. 1205A, Silver—[ER].
6. p. 344. Add No. 1258A, Aluminium—[ER].
7. p. 430. Add No. 1741A, 1889—Bronze proof. As Obv. 8, but only 14 leaves
(3+3+3+3+2) [EXR].
8. p. 443. Add No. 1890A, 3+C—small date figures [R].
9. p. 482. Add No. 2092A, as No. 2092, but obv. reads PENNY [EXR].

Of the above the 1889 penny is the most interesting and unexpected.

**CORRIGENDA**

p. 15. Footnote 3: for ‘half-groat’ read ‘groat’

p. 103. Line 22: for ‘(nos. 375–96)’ read ‘(nos. 375–86)’

p. 116. Line 12: Add a stop after CAROLO

p. 117. Line 11: for ‘All the recorded specimens’ read ‘Most specimens’

p. 136. Footnote 1, line 4: read ‘to be delivered’

p. 165. Line 3 from bottom: for ‘duely’ read ‘duly’

p. 187. Line 3: for ‘Obvs. 1, 3, and 4’ read ‘Obvs. 2 and 5’

p. 187. Line 4: for ‘Obvs. 2 and 5’ read ‘Obvs. 1, 3, and 4’


p. 228. Line 13 from bottom: for ‘475’ read ‘479’


p. 304. Footnote 1: read ‘R. N. P. Hawkins’

p. 306. No. 1131: for ‘Na’ read ‘N’

p. 407. No. 1493: for ‘:—’ read ‘—:


p. 441. Footnote 2: for ‘no specimen yet traced’ read ‘M. Posner Collection’

p. 456. Line 4: for ‘As Obv. 1’ read ‘As Rev. 1’

p. 487. Line 16: for ‘back of the neck’ read ‘side of the neck’

p. 504. No. 2265: for [ER] read [VS]

p. 525. Footnote 1: omit ‘(and farthings)’

p. 525. Line 4 from bottom: for ‘Five revs.’ read ‘Six revs.’

p. 527. No. 2521: for ‘[S]’ read ‘[VC]’

p. 532. No. 47: for ‘Vaughan’ read ‘Vaughan’

p. 545. No. 677: for ‘H. D. Collection’ read ‘H. D. Davis Collection’


Of the above the 1889 penny is the most interesting and unexpected.

C. WILSON PECK
Commentationes de Nummis Saeculorum IX–XI in Suecia Repertis, Pars Prima

ANYONE who has the opportunity of spending a period of time in the Royal Coin Cabinet in Stockholm cannot fail to be impressed by the wealth of material which exists there from Viking-Age coin-hoards found in Sweden, and particularly in Gotland. The publication of this material is a task of immense magnitude, and the preliminary work is now being undertaken under the auspices of the Royal Swedish Academy by scholars from Germany and Britain as well as from Sweden itself. Naturally the intensive study of so much material is throwing new light on the coinages which are represented in profusion in the Swedish hoards, and this volume is the first of a series in which the results of specific studies are being published as an essential preliminary to the publication of the hoards themselves.

This first volume extends to 376 pages and, in addition to 13 plates, includes numerous illustrations and diagrams. The quality of its production is excellent. With the exception of a paper in German by Vera Hatz on the Otto-Adelheid coinage, the text is in English.

Students of the Anglo-Saxon series will find much of interest in this volume. Dr. N. L. Rasmusson, in an introduction, discusses the sources of the coins deposited in Sweden in the period under review, and the reasons which have been advanced for their deposit. He also explains the basis on which the Academy is proceeding with its plans for the publication of the hoards. A very important contribution on the Norwegian coinage of the eleventh century, by another Swedish scholar, Brita Malmer, is also of wider application as an example of modern methods of classification of barbarous anonymous coinages. In this study she examines letter forms and other decorative elements, size of flan, weight, diameter, thickness, silver content, and die-axis. These are analysed statistically, those that are capable of measurement being subjected to well-known statistical methods: the decorative elements, however, are analysed by correlation diagrams, a technique which enables numerical results to be assembled and examined visually and, in favourable conditions, a probable chronology to be determined. This technique may well repay further study and development: without knowledge of the series and access to Mrs. Malmer's material it is difficult to judge its efficacy in this case.

The three papers on the Anglo-Saxon series are contributed by R. H. M. Dolley. These papers do not include the results of Mr. Dolley's most recent research in Stockholm, and such is the pace of modern progress in this field that his first paper, 'The Relevancy of Obverse Die-Links to some Problems of the later Anglo-Saxon Coinage', has had to be brought up to date by an appendix. This does not detract in any way from the usefulness of the paper as an exposition of the importance of obverse die-links between mints in solving problems of location of doubtful mints.

The Benediction Hand issue of Æthelred II is discussed in a paper of which F. Elmore Jones is co-author. The authors argue that this issue was a variety of the Second Hand type and was transitional between that and the prolific Crux type. Die-links prove that the Benediction Hand issue immediately preceded the Crux type, and certain obverse dies used with Benediction Hand reverses are very closely related stylistically to obverses of the Second Hand type, so that the chronology seems proved beyond reasonable doubt: the rarity of coins of this issue leaves little
doubt, too, that it was an issue of short duration. The authors treat their subject exhaustively, though they appear to overlook the reverse die-link between the Rochester coins illustrated in Fig. 2 and Fig. 3.

In the third paper, 'Some Thoughts on the Engraving of the Dies for the English Coinage c. 1025', in which Mr. Dolley is joined by Miss J. Ingold, a detailed study of the Pointed Helmet type of Cnut is made. The design of this type is such that a basis on which the dies used can be classified stylistically is less apparent than in the case of the Last Small Cross and Quatrefoil types. The basis of classification which the authors have devised is, for this reason, not particularly convincing at first sight. The division between coins reading REX and those reading RECX is obvious and is the simplest criterion for distinguishing the authors' two main styles—the former being found on most coins allotted to their Style III and the latter on most assigned to Style II. The difference in spelling might be expected to be chronological, since the form REX is found exclusively in the Quatrefoil type and the form RECX in the Short Cross type, but the authors argue a case for the two spellings having been in use simultaneously. The two main styles are subdivided on the basis of minor differences in the treatment of the 'lap' of the helmet, and the authors suggest that these differences may have chronological significance. Their conclusion that the die-cutting is sufficiently homogeneous within each style for the two styles to have been substantially the work of only two die-cutters does not appear to be fully supported by the coins illustrated, vide Pl. II, 2 and Pl. V, 3; and were it not for the difference in the spelling of 'Rex' the allocation of certain coins (e.g. Pl. I, 4 and Pl. IV, 1) to one style or the other would seem to depend only on whether the head of the sceptre is made of three or of four pellets. Again, one of the characteristics said to be found on 95 per cent. of the coins of Style II is the straight-backed helmet illustrated in Fig. 1 A; yet of fourteen coins of this style illustrated in the plates, on no fewer than seven the helmet appears to take the form illustrated in Fig. 1 B, which is characteristic of Style III. Close examination of the coins illustrated, particularly of Style III, suggests that differences in epigraphy have also been overlooked. In the reviewer's opinion, the authors' case must be regarded for the present as not proven, and it is to be hoped that they will re-examine the problem of the classification of this difficult and critical type at a later date. In particular, a reconciliation between the decentralization of die-cutting which is a feature of the Quatrefoil type, and the centralization which is found in the Short Cross and subsequent types, should be an essential feature of any future study of the Pointed Helmet type. It should not be an impossible task to determine, with an error of only two or three years, at what stage in the centralizing process each of the provincial die-cutting centres was closed down, and this should be the primary objective of such a study.

In addition to the papers mentioned, the volume also contains an extensive study by Ulla S. Linder Welin on the reign of Sayf ad-dawlah in Syria and Diyarbekr in the tenth century.

C. S. S. L.


Until now the only comprehensive list of English hammered coins has been that in Brooke's English Coins, published thirty years ago. Since then, new and fundamental studies of almost every period have greatly advanced our knowledge: and although a gallant attempt was made by the late C. A. Whitton to incorporate as much as possible of the new information into his 1950 edition of Brooke, the time
was already approaching when wider scope and a thorough replanning were needed. Mr. North has undertaken this formidable task, and we now have in our hands the second volume, covering the period from Edward I to Charles II, the first, to deal with the earlier coinage, being promised soon.

After ten pages of concise and instructive historical notes, the book consists entirely of lists and tables designed to enable coins to be identified quickly and accurately according to the most recent classification. Ten fine collotype plates at the end illustrate the main types of the coinage (though why no ryal of Edward IV?), and obviate the need for long verbal descriptions in the text. Where classification depends on the comparison of small points of difference in coins of similar appearance, such as the pennies of Edward I and II, and the varieties of portrait on the coins of the Tudors and Stuarts, convenient illustrations are given in the text. Details of lettering, punctuation, ornaments and mint-marks are made clear by enlarged drawings, which should prove very helpful.

Most of the lists are directly based on the standard monographs in the Journal or in the Numismatic Chronicle, many of them long-standing classics—the Fox brothers on Edwardian pennies, Lawrence on Edward III, Morrieson on the Tudors and Stuarts—but including most of the results, still not widely known, of more recent research.

Mr. North is happy to acknowledge the assistance given to him by those actively engaged in the study of particular periods. By this means, he has been able to incorporate up-to-date revisions of earlier published work and also to take into account the most important findings which have not always yet appeared in print. The sections on Elizabeth—basically written by Mr. Brown—and on Charles I are examples of how the author has been able to include the most recent published and unpublished work of experts currently engaged on research. Equally, he does not disguise the fact that neglected periods of coinage, e.g. Henry V and Mary, are given proportionately thinner treatment.

There are, however, one or two oddities of emphasis which cannot escape notice. The ‘General’ section of the Bibliography includes The De Moneta of Nicholas Oresme, a valuable document by any standards, but hardly to be bracketed (as one of only four books mentioned) with Brooke, Oman and Mr. Thompson’s Inventory of hoards, to the exclusion of the only major work on English coinage of recent times, Sir John Craig’s The Mint. It is sad to see that Carlyon-Britton’s valuable work on the base coinages of Henry VIII and Edward VI has been ignored. One point of arrangement, which is not a quibble: Mr. North writes (page 8) that ‘the reign of Edward I has been chosen for the break of the hammered coinage into two sections, on account of the great change which took place in the system of control of minting at this time’—why, then, divide the two volumes at 1272, instead of 1279, the date of the major coinage reform? At a time when it is becoming more widely recognized that medieval coinage has its own natural divisions quite unrelated to the political landmarks of history, such as a change of king or even of dynasty, it is a pity to make a division, arbitrary anyway, which involves the long-cross coinage being split between two volumes.

It would be useful, where the lists do not exactly follow the standard classification cited, for footnotes to indicate published sources of such revisions. For instance, the distinction between Classes II a and b of Edward I’s pence is new: all that is needed is a footnote, ‘B.N.J. xxviii. 288’ to indicate that the sub-class is a refinement of the Fox classification. Again, not everyone will know where to look for further information about Lambert Simnel’s and Perkin Warbeck’s pieces. This seems to be a point which should be borne in mind for Volume 1. In the earlier period, the coinage of which is much more complex, the number of monographs
and notes which affect the classification is much greater, and although there are some standard reference works such as the British Museum Catalogues, there will be points of departure from them, in arrangement and in detail, on every page. It would therefore be of the utmost value to users of the work to be able to refer to the sources of new information.

The book will principally be used as a means of identifying and referring to coins. How useful it may prove in this respect will only be revealed in practice. A spot check does, however, suggest that Mr. North has not always understood his material; for instance, it is quite impossible to tell from the table on p. 66 whether a type V groat of Edward IV is of Vc or Vd. Lettering (particularly the P in Posui) is the principal criterion, but it is not even mentioned: the accidental features are faithfully recorded, but the essential has been overlooked.

Nevertheless, it would be wrong to give any suggestion that this was not a book to be used frequently by all students and collectors of the earlier English coinage. The fact that it will be so used, however, imposes on the author a great responsibility of selection, for what he includes will become established and what he omits may be forgotten. From the high standard achieved by Volume 2 we are encouraged to look forward eagerly to the appearance of Volume 1, which will be quite indispensable as an up-to-date list of early English, particularly of Anglo-Saxon, coins. The results of Mr. North's great and patient labour of collation are presented in a book of handsome format, with an admirably clear and expansive layout which makes reference easy: we must be grateful to author and publisher for a useful and much needed contribution to English numismatics.

IAN STEWART
PRESIDENTS OF THE SOCIETY

1903-8 P. W. P. CARLYON-BRITTON, D.L., F.S.A.

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

1926-7 MAJOR W. J. FREER, V.D., D.L., F.S.A.


1928 LIEUT.-COL. H. W. MORRIESON, F.S.A.—from 22 February

1929-32 LIEUT.-COL. H. W. MORRIESON, F.S.A.

1933-7 V. B. CROWOTHER-BEYNON, M.B.E., M.A., F.S.A.

1938-45 H. W. TAFS, M.B.E.

1946-50 CHRISTOPHER E. BLUNT, O.B.E., F.S.A.

1951-4 EDGAR J. WINSTANLEY

1955-8 HORACE H. KING, M.A.

1959—DEREK F. ALLEN, B.A., F.S.A.

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.

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. S. SHIRLEY-FOX, R.B.A.

1932 CHARLES WINTER

1935 RAYMOND CARLYON-BRITTON

1938 WILLIAM C. WELLS

1941 CUTHERBERT A. WHITTON, B.A.
At an Ordinary Meeting held at the Warburg Institute on Tuesday, 26 January 1960, Mr. R. H. M. Dolley, Director, in the chair, Miss Veronica Butler read a paper entitled 'The Weight of the Later Saxon Penny'.

At an Ordinary Meeting held at the Warburg Institute on Tuesday, 23 February, Mr. D. F. Allen, President, in the chair, the following were elected to Membership of the Society: Cdr. R. G. Gerhardt, S.C., U.S.N., Messrs. A. L. N. Jay, C. D. Thomson and W. J. Zimmerman. The evening was devoted to medals, tokens, and jettons.

At an Ordinary Meeting held at the Warburg Institute on Tuesday, 22 March, Mr. D. F. Allen, President, in the chair, the Borough Librarian and Curator, Kettering, was elected to Membership of the Society. Mr. S. E. Rigold read a paper entitled 'The Two Primary Series of Sceattas'.

At an Ordinary Meeting held at the Warburg Institute on Tuesday, 26 April, Mr. D. F. Allen, President, in the chair, Miss Elizabeth Pirie was elected to Membership of the Society. The President then presented the John Sanford Saltus medal for 1959 to Mr. R. H. M. Dolley who made a short address of thanks to the President. The rest of the meeting was devoted to two short papers: by Mr. R. H. M. Dolley a review of some of the work done in recent years in identifying new mints of the Anglo-Saxon period and by Mr. F. M. Stubbs a discussion of the attribution of the mint-mark sun and rose dimidiated to the reign of Edward IV rather than Edward V.

At an Ordinary Meeting held at the Warburg Institute on Tuesday, 24 May, Mr. D. F. Allen, President, in the chair, Mr. J. D. Brand was elected to Membership of the Society. The Society then debated the motion 'This house recommends the adoption of a Decimal Coinage in Great Britain'. The background to the motion was put by Mr. H. W. A. Linecar who briefly outlined the development of decimal systems of coinage in various Commonwealth countries. The case against the motion was outlined by the Secretary. The motion was then thrown open for debate, which was wound up by Major C. W. Lister for the motion and by Dr. J. P. C. Kent against it. The motion was carried by 29 votes to 15 on a show of hands.

At an Ordinary Meeting held at the Warburg Institute on Tuesday, 28 June, Mr. D. F. Allen, President, in the chair, the President announced the death of Lt.-Col. C. L. Evans, an Honorary Member and the last surviving Founder Member of the Society. There were elected, to Ordinary Membership, Mr. H. S. Swann and to Junior Membership Mr. D. E. Quail. Dr. J. P. C. Kent then read a paper entitled 'Essays in Coinage by Machinery in the Reign of Charles I'.
At an Ordinary Meeting held at the Warburg Institute on Tuesday, 27 September, Mr. D. F. Allen, President, in the chair, the Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana was elected to Membership of the Society. Notice of the Anniversary Meeting was given by the President, who drew attention to the new rules regarding nominations for Officers and Council. Mr. R. H. M. Dolley then read a paper by himself and Mr. F. Elmore Jones entitled ‘The Short-Cross Coinage in the Light of some recent Hoards’.

At an Ordinary Meeting held at the Warburg Institute on Tuesday, 25 October, Mr. D. F. Allen, President, in the chair, Mr. M. B. Jones was elected to Membership of the Society. The President read out the Council’s nominations for Officers and Council for 1961. Mr. B. H. I. H. Stewart then read a paper on ‘The Scottish Coinage c. 1280–1357: a Review’.

At the Anniversary Meeting held at the Warburg Institute on Wednesday, 30 November, Mr. D. F. Allen, President, in the chair, Mr. H. H. King was elected to Honorary Membership and the following to Ordinary Membership: Miss M. P. Bellamy, Messrs. B. W. Forster, A. W. Jan and R. J. M. Selfe. The result of the ballot, announced by the President after his Address, was as follows:

President: D. F. Allen, B.A., F.S.A.
Director: R. H. M. Dolley, B.A., F.S.A.
Secretary: P. Spufford, B.A.
Treasurer: P. H. Vernon, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Librarian: J. P. C. Kent, B.A., Ph.D.

Dr. Vernon presented his accounts for the year ended 31 October and they were formally adopted.

EXHIBITIONS

January
By Mr. D. G. Liddell:

A Henry IV heavy noble of the Calais mint. This important coin was recently brought to light after having been in the drawer of a desk for a considerable length of time. It was in the possession of a Mr. Thomas Pattinson of Carlisle who was the great grandfather of the late owner of the coin, and it seems safe to assume that it has been in the same family for at least the last hundred years.

The coin is of Blunt type 2(a) with the coronet on the rudder horizontally placed and the French arms of type 1. It is, however, from different obverse
and reverse dies to the coin listed by Mr. Blunt, and is therefore an unpublished variety. The discovery of this coin brings the number of known specimens of Calais heavy coinage nobles of Henry IV to five, all of which are from different dies. Three of the other four specimens are in the British Museum, the fourth being in the American Numismatic Society collection.

The weight of the coin is 119 1/2 grains, and it is perhaps especially interesting in view of the discovery last summer of another unpublished heavy noble of Henry IV, the London mint specimen from the Winchester Cathedral sale which was exhibited to the Society at the time.

By Mr. D. G. Liddell on behalf of Mr. K. V. Graham:

William I, type B.M.C. iii. Penny of Thetford by the moneyer CINRIC. Unrecorded type for this moneyer.

By Mr. D. G. Liddell on behalf of Mr. J. J. North:

3. Henry I. Penny, type IX. Reads —CEI ON—. Uncertain mint, perhaps Nigel of Thetford.
4. Henry VIII. Penny of Durham, 2nd coinage. Apparently struck in gold. This coin was examined by Dr. Kent who sees no reason to doubt its authenticity. A specific gravity test gave a very high figure and he has suggested that the coin was made from ‘Angel’ gold, i.e. 23 1/2 carat.

June

By Mr. J. M. Ashby:

Charles I sixpence, m.m. portcullis, type 3. Unpublished error, reverse legend reads CHRISTO.

November

By Mr. F. Elmore Jones:

Henry II. ‘Cross-crosslets’ penny of Thetford (Bust A1) with initials of surname of unpublished moneyer WILLIEM DE: = Willem Fitz Derewald of numerous Pipe Roll entries.

Obv. [+HENRY RE]X ANGL REV. +PILLL[M]:[E(?):ON:TER

Die duplicate of B.M.C. 747 and 747a presumed to be of Willem Ma:.
ADDRESS BY DEREK F. ALLEN
PRESIDENT OF THE BRITISH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

Delivered at the Anniversary Meeting, 30 November 1960

Our Society has pursued its even course for another year. I would have preferred to say that it has had another successful year, but I think the word ‘success’ implies expansion and I am afraid that we cannot make that claim in 1960. Indeed our numbers have slightly fallen to 322 as against 341 at the beginning of the year, a loss of 19. There were 17 elections during the year, including 3 junior members, but this was counterbalanced by 6 deaths, 22 resignations and 8 amovals. In a Society on the scale of ours such a decline in numbers is a serious matter and I must appeal to members, especially those in professional contact with persons interested in coins and medals, to make an effort to restore the losses during 1961.

The reduction in our numbers can certainly be connected with the increase in our annual subscription from two to three guineas for ordinary members at the beginning of the year. This has resulted in an appreciable increase in revenue; subscriptions have brought in £135 a year more than in the preceding year. We have also received £180 in tax recovered, following the successful outcome of last year’s negotiations with the Treasury. Our income today is still insufficient to support unaied the publication of the British Numismatic Journal on the same scale and to the standards which we so rightly value. We have had the benefit of a grant of £150 from the British Academy and I am very glad to say that another grant, this time of £100, has been promised us for 1961. We have also received two very generous anonymous donations towards the cost of the Journal. The Society owes a great debt to these supporters and well wishers, without whom it would not have been possible to maintain the quality of its publication. But I do not think the Society should overlook that its normal revenue from subscriptions and other regular sources of income is not sufficient to support its current activities. That we are breaking even is due to outside assistance on which, however welcome, we ought not as a Society to have to rely.

This is a Society with a tradition behind it and with vitality in its bones. I have no doubt it will weather any storms, financial or other. But I feel that I should put it before the Society quite bluntly that, although under the watchful eye of your Treasurer, Dr. Vernon, we have no immediate anxieties, the Society is nevertheless not paying its way.

There is only one significant economy we can make, namely to shorten the Journal, since there can be no question of lowering its standards. That we are most loth to do, but it may become necessary. The only real solution lies in increasing our membership and hence our support and revenue. I would like the Society to set itself a goal of 400 members and, as a start, to aim at securing 5 new members at every meeting—not less. I should then have no hesitation in claiming success.

Six of our members died during the year. Lt.-Col. C. L. Evans was an
Honorary Member and our last surviving founder member. Another Honorary Member, Mr. V. H. Rendall, had been a member since 1905. We are indeed sad to lose these links with our early years. Much better known to the present generation of members was Mr. Raymond Carlyon-Britton, a member since 1911, who, through his father, brings back memories of the Society's origins. He was a distinguished contributor from time to time to our Journal, mainly on medieval and Tudor subjects, particularly in connexion with Ireland. In 1935 he was awarded the John Sanford Saltus medal. Ill health kept him in recent years from attending the Society's meetings, but his death is a loss to the Society. Mr. W. D. Ferguson was prominent in the numismatic world of New Zealand and at a distance took a keen interest in the Society's work. We have also lost Mr. H. K. Hepburn-Wright and Miss I. Shrigley.

The deaths which I first recorded leave as our senior member your past President, Mr. H. H. King. He has been a member of the Society for 50 years; it is with particular satisfaction that we have been able, tonight, to do him the honour of electing him an Honorary Member, where he joins the distinguished company of Sir Frank Stenton, who was so elected last year. We wish him health and success to his numismatic work for many years to come. And we should not overlook the heavy burden he bears in connexion with the editing of the Journal.

To him and his co-editors, Mr. Blunt and Mr. Dolley, we owe the 1958 Journal, which actually appeared in the course of the year under review. Printing delays are horrific and growing worse. We cannot expect the 1959 Journal until some date early in 1961. We must earnestly hope that this interval between titular year and actual year of issue will not become an enduring feature of the Society. I must not be led into making a political speech, but I will allow myself the remark that I hope the printing trade will not be entirely impervious to the effects of the reputation it is acquiring.

Delay or no delays, the 1958 Journal has proved a particularly valuable number, with something for everyone from the pre-Roman era to the reign of Queen Victoria, and with items relating to Ireland, Belgium, France, and America as well as to Great Britain.

The Library of your Society has been completely rearranged in the course of the year by our active Librarian, Dr. Kent. This arrangement has taken the form of an amalgamation with the library of the Royal Numismatic Society. The two have always been largely complementary; in recent years, when the two libraries have been housed side by side in a single room, the unsatisfactory condition of the arrangement of our library has been underlined. We can be extremely grateful to Dr. Kent for having removed entirely this stigma, which had survived from the chaos of the war years. I am sure the Society has everything to gain from the amalgamation, which gives added reality to the enduring relations of goodwill which now exist between ourselves and the senior Numismatic Society. At the same time it gives members ready access to a wider range of literature. I wish more members made use of it and could enjoy the wise and friendly help which Dr. A. Barb of the Warburg Institute is always so ready to supply. He has our gratitude.

Mr. Dolley has again, as your Director, indefatigably arranged, and often
led, our meetings. As usual we have held 8 meetings in addition to the present one. We have had three evenings devoted to Saxon subjects, one to medieval, one to Stuart, and one to Scottish subjects. In addition we have had one debate and the traditional medal-and-token evening. The debate, on decimal coinage, which was lively and well attended (perhaps because it was followed by our annual party) was by way of an experiment. Opinions on its success are probably mixed according to whether members were on the winning or the losing side. My own impression is that a debate can from time to time add some welcome diversity to our usual proceedings, but that we do not want to have one too often. The medal-and-token evening does not today attract the interest which it used to do and I think it will be as well to give it a rest. Mr. Dolley has in hand a programme at least as varied for next year. It is one of the signs of vigour of the Society that, unlike some years ago, there is always a plentiful supply of worthwhile, and often important, papers to present to the Society.

As you will have learned from the Ballot Paper, Mr. Stewart Lyon is unable to continue as our Secretary owing to his business commitments. I am sure you will all join me in regretting Mr. Lyon’s departure and equally in welcoming Mr. Spufford in his place. I would not like Mr. Lyon to retire from the Secretaryship without his hearing an expression of gratitude from the Society and from myself in particular for the exemplary way in which during the last two years he has carried out what can be a very heavy burden.

The major numismatic event of the year has probably been the publication of Mr. Peck’s *Catalogue of the English Copper, Tin and Bronze Coins in the British Museum*. He has achieved a magnificent and monumental task, which will be of value to numismatists for all time. We are very glad that in recognition of this work he has been awarded the medal of the Royal Numismatic Society.

Our own triennial medal has, this year, been voted to Mr. R. H. M. Dolley for his great contribution to Anglo-Saxon numismatics, in the pages of our *Journal* and elsewhere. We hope that what we have had so far from Mr. Dolley is only the opening phase and that there is a great deal more still to come. The important volume of papers presented to Sir Frank Stenton, now in the press, of which he is the general editor, and to some extent the inspiration, promises to take Anglo-Saxon numismatics a major step forward. It is in a form which should greatly help the historian and the archaeologist to appreciate and make use of the new light cast on a once neglected period by the progress made in numismatic studies.

Owing to printing delays, to which I have already referred, we cannot point to another volume in the Sylloge series. I can, however, say that the catalogue of the Anglo-Saxon coins in the Hunter Collection is now almost out. This will be the second volume in the series and a very important one. I hope that as many members as possible will support this publication and, indeed, the series as a whole.

The year has also witnessed a remarkable revival of interest in Colonial and Commonwealth coins. We have had general studies from Mr. H. Linecar and Mr. L. V. Wright, while Mr. F. Pridmore has set foot on a major undertaking. I hope we shall hear more on these subjects at meetings of the Society.
Another book published in the course of the year, to which I would like to draw attention, is Dr. Sutherland's luxurious study of Gold, an interesting, unusual and colourful book by one of the most thought-provoking of contemporary numismatists.

Those who were privileged to attend this year's annual Numismatic Congress at Nottingham in the delightful surroundings of the University will long recall Dr. Sutherland's interpretations of the place of the medal in the twentieth century, as well as Mr. Dolley's exercise in historical detection and Mr. Mattingly's Roman reminiscences. The institution of the annual Numismatic Congress is now one of the main events of the numismatic year. I think it is right that numismatists should not confine their meetings to London, and, as I mentioned last year, I am inclined to think that our own Society ought from time to time to be ready to meet elsewhere.

In September 1961 there is to be an International Numismatic Congress in Rome. I hope your Society will be well represented there. The theme is one which will appeal to many members, the interaction of Mediterranean thought and history with the cultures of other areas, as reflected in numismatics.

It is an encouraging sign that the study of British numismatics is losing much of its insularity. I understand that this summer there were at one time no less than four serious British students at work on the collections in Stockholm. Contacts have been established with Poland, to name only one country across the Iron Curtain. I myself maintain a regular correspondence with Czechoslovakia. As world travel becomes easier and cheaper—as it undoubtedly will in the next decade—I hope we shall find that the work of this Society is more and more closely integrated with that of our continental colleagues. In method I am sure that there are some countries in Europe which still have much to learn from us, while other countries have not suffered in the same degree as ourselves from the inhibiting effects of insularity. I would welcome more contributions to the work of this Society from continental members and I have wondered whether as a Society we would not do well to organize the exploration of museums on the Continent. This is at present somewhat haphazard; I am sure that there would be found to be hoard evidence of the greatest importance, which is simply not yet known and which can only be discovered if those who have the requisite knowledge go and see for themselves.

I have confined myself, so far, to business, which, by and large, is, I think, the proper subject matter for a Presidential Address. It may, however, be legitimate for me to spread my wings a little. What I am going to say now is prompted by a broadcast which I heard not very long ago on the radio, in which the poet Robert Graves was discussing his writings and his life. He made one remark which I think will be of interest to this Society. When he wrote of any particular period, so he said, he always kept on his desk a set of the coins of the period. He knew of no better way in which to evoke in himself the mood of the times in which his characters were set than to handle their money. At one time it would be Roman sestertii, at another seventeenth- or eighteenth-century crown pieces, or perhaps the ducats of medieval Venice.

This Society rightly dedicates itself to the detailed study of coins and medals.
We are not, anyhow most of us, poets and novelists and to us coins are not merely evocative background material. Nevertheless I wonder whether, in the pursuit of knowledge and truth, we may not sometimes go too far in eschewing the human side of the objects we handle.

After all coins have been the stuff of day-to-day business; the acquisition of them (or a purist might say of the value they represent) has been the end to which vast resources of human effort have gone. The labour, guile, or parsimony spent in the accumulation of even the meanest coin hoard is something we can easily overlook when at meetings of this Society we dissect the contents. Moreover the coins themselves represent, for many of the periods or places with which we deal, probably the only readily obtainable physical remains to bring reality to the dry bones of history (and sometimes drier pages of historians). Few Anglo-Saxon scholars can hope actually to have in their hands a charter or even a clearly dated and identified potsherd.

I can carry this philosophy into my own chosen sphere, the Celtic coinages of the Ancient World. An Ordnance Survey map is in preparation to illustrate the remains in Britain of the Celtic phase. It is a remarkable fact that well over half the spots on this map consist of finds of coins. After pottery, they are the commonest surviving relic of what I think we can once again call a great age, and the only one any ordinary person today can readily own. When handling such coins, with their fantastic designs and perverse imagery, I try sometimes consciously to make the effort of visualizing the coin as it must have been and seemed to its original owners. I find the effort intriguing but exacting. How many coin users read the half-romanized inscriptions, often half off the coin? Could Cunobelin himself decypher his own name or were all those bold legends simply for show? for *decus et tutamen*? Such questions can sometimes be answered, but more often they cannot. It seems to me, however, that if, because there is no real evidence on which to answer them, we refrain from asking them, we deprive ourselves of much of the intrinsic interest of our material.

While I would never for a moment suggest that the Society should be deflected from its proper purpose of studying coins in an orderly and numismatic way, I do suggest that from time to time it will do no harm to see ourselves and our subject as others see us and it, and to let our imaginations wander—provided always that we recognize such wanderings for what they are. When we have pursued our studies to the limit of our powers of research and deduction, let us not think that our subject is exhausted. I believe that in Robert Graves's philosophy we will still find a clue to help us in the perceptive treatment and observation of our material.
## THE BRITISH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 OCTOBER 1959

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£2,657 15 7

### REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

We have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit. In our opinion proper books of account have been kept by the Society so far as appears from our examination of those books. We have examined the above Balance Sheet and annexed Expenditure and Income Account which are in agreement with the books of account and no credit has been taken for subscriptions in arrear. In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the Balance Sheet gives a true and fair view of the state of the Society's affairs as at 31st October 1959 and the Expenditure and Income Account gives a true and fair view of the excess of expenditure for the year ended on that date.

51 Coleman Street,
London, E.C. 2
7 October 1960

GILBERTS, HALLETT, & EGLINGTON,
Chartered Accountants
### EXPENDITURE AND INCOME ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 1959

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1958</th>
<th>EXPENDITURE</th>
<th>1958</th>
<th>INCOME</th>
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<tr>
<td>£</td>
<td>£ s. d.</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£ s. d.</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Printing and Stationery</td>
<td>14 0 4</td>
<td>492 Subscriptions received for 1959</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Expenses of Meetings, Rent, and Library Facilities</td>
<td>21 0 0</td>
<td>99 Subscriptions in arrear received during year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>Sundry Expenses</td>
<td>86 7 4</td>
<td>18 Entrance Fees</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Additional provision for 1958 Journal</td>
<td>268 2 9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Less Grant from British Academy</td>
<td>150 0 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>177</td>
<td></td>
<td>118 2 9</td>
<td>18 Entrance Fees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>860</td>
<td>Provision for 1959 Journal</td>
<td>1,000 0 0</td>
<td>1,118 2 9</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

£1,074

£1,239 16 5

£1,074
Plate IV

Hd. VIII Hd. VIII

BIII, B9/i BIII, C2/i BM, B, 259 BMC, T.37 —T.37 —T.37 Hill, T.72
Hd. VIII Hd. VIII Caister (RPM)

R1x BMC 39 R1y Hag. R1y Hag. R1y Hag. R3 Caister R3 Kingston R3 Hag. R1z
or marginal

R2 (early) AM R2 Caister R2 Caister R2 Ipswich R2 Thetford R2 Hag. R2
(RPM) R2z
Hd. VIII

BMC, T.3a —, T.3a —, T.3a BMC, T.32a —, T.32a
Wakering Hd. VIII Hd. VIII Hd. VIII Stourmouth

PRIMARY SCEATTAS
Bill and Derivatives: Secondary Runic, etc.
LIGHT GROATS OF HENRY IV
HALF GROATS AND SMALL SILVER OF HENRY IV AND V
TRURO AND EXETER HALF-CROWNS, etc.

MISCELLANEA