A SMALL FIND OF TWELFTH- AND THIRTEENTH-CENTURY PENNIES FROM TULLINTOWELL

By R. H. M. Dolley

Preserved in the coin-cabinet of the National Museum of Ireland is a group of 36 English and Anglo-Irish pennies of Henry II, John and Henry III which were discovered by a Mr. John Heenigan on 7 June 1932 in the townland of Tullintowell, parish of Killargue (Killarga), barony of Dromahair, Co. Leitrim. A townland, it should perhaps be explained, is a peculiarly Irish sub-division of a civil parish, and a barony a sub-division of a county. Both reflect, of course, the English conquest, but there is reason to think that the units in question often have their roots in the more distant past. The place indicated lies a few miles to the northwest of Drumkeerin and in the immediate vicinity of Lough Belhavel about halfway along the valley linking Loughs Allen and Gill. There was no trace of any container, and the coins were found nestling together some 16–18 inches below the modern surface of the ground. A very full and, in the light of then knowledge, extremely competent account of the discovery appears to have been drawn up for eventual publication by a local schoolmaster, and a copy of the typescript is in the National Museum from another source. The Tullintowell find, however, does not figure in Mr. J. D. A. Thompson’s 1956 Inventory of British Coin Hoards, and there is some reason to think that the above-mentioned paper may never have been printed. For the sake of completeness, therefore, and in anticipation of a future corpus of mediaeval coin-hoards relating to Ireland, there is now offered the following summary listing of the find.

**England**

**Henry II (1154–1189)**

Second (‘Short-Cross’) Coinage (1180–1189)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lawrence class</th>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Mintmark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Ib</td>
<td>Lincoln, Lefwine</td>
<td>+LEFWINE-ON-NICO</td>
<td>22½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) Ib</td>
<td>Winchester, Adam</td>
<td>+ADAM-ON-WINCE</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Ic</td>
<td>London, Raul</td>
<td>+RAUL-ON-LYNDE</td>
<td>21½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) Ic</td>
<td>Winchester, Gocelm</td>
<td>+GOCELM-ON-////</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Richard I (1189–1199)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lawrence class</th>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Mintmark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(5) IVa &amp; (6) IVb</td>
<td>Canterbury, Coldwine</td>
<td>+COLDWINE-ON-CA</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(7) IVb</td>
<td>Canterbury, Reinaud</td>
<td>+REINAVD ON CA</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**John (1199–1216)**

Second Coinage (1204/5–1216)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lawrence class</th>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Mintmark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(8) Vb*</td>
<td>London, Rener</td>
<td>+RENER-ON-LYNE(lig.)E</td>
<td>21½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(9) Vb*</td>
<td>Winchester, Rauf</td>
<td>+RAUF-ON-WINCE</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(10) Vb*</td>
<td>York, Davi</td>
<td>+DAVI-ON-EVER</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A SMALL FIND OF TWELFTH- AND THIRTEENTH-CENTURY

HENRY III (1216-1272)

First ('Short-Cross') Coinage (1216-1247)

(18) VIIa Canterbury, Iohann +iohan-ON-CANTE 21
(19) VIIa Canterbury, Samuel +samuel-ON-CANT 22
(20) VIIa London, Iger +Iger-ON-LVND 22
(21) VIIa London, Abel +abel-ON-LVND 22
(22) VIIa Canterbury, Iohann +iohan-ON-CANTE 21
(23) VIIa Canterbury, Samuel +samuel-ON-CANT 22
(24) VII Canterbury, Iohann +iohan-ON-CANTE 21
(25) VII Canterbury, Ioan Chic +ionanoCON tinca 34
(26) VII Canterbury, Ioan Chic +ionanoCON tinca 34
(27) VII Canterbury, Roger of R //ogerofronc 21
(28) VII Canterbury, Simon +Simo-ON-LVND 22

* Coin of Mr. J. D. Brand's class VIIb fades away
† Last 'n' quasi-ornamental
†† Last 'n' quasi-ornamental

IRELAND

LORDSHIP OF JOHN (1177-1216)

Third ('REX') Coinage (1204/5 - c. 1211 ?)

(35) Penny, sole type, Dublin, Roberd ROBE RD-ON DIVE 21
(36) Penny, sole type, Dublin, Roberd ROBE RD-ON DIVE 21

For the dating of the Anglo-Irish coins reference should be made to North Munster Studies (ed. E. Rynne, Limerick, 1967) pp. 437-478 where quite a body of evidence is marshalled against the traditional view that this coinage of John as King of England did not begin until c. 1210. However, this particular crux is one not strictly relevant to the question of the date when the Tullintowell find was concealed, since on any telling the Irish pieces are a whole decade and probably a quarter of a century earlier than the latest English coins.

It will be seen that exactly half of the English pennies are of the variety known to numismatists as Lawrence Class VII. The chronology which Lawrence originally proposed for
this series would place these pieces after c. 1223 and before c. 1242, and a date well on within this bracket would appear to be suggested by the fact that Ledulf at London, for example, was recorded by him only in the third of three sub-classes which he distinguished. Recently, however, the inception of Lawrence Class VII has tended to be placed earlier and earlier, and in the 1964 British Numismatic Journal (p. 67) Mr. J. D. Brand has argued pretty convincingly that the emission began in 1217/1218. A modification of this terminus post quem for the Tullintowell hoard, however, is provided by its inclusion of two coins of the London moneyer Terri who figures in a 1222 list of moneyers but not in one of 1218. Unfortunately we do not know when Ledulf received his appointment, and it would be unwise in view of the small number of coins to press the apparent absence of pieces of the London moneyers Adam and Richard of Necton, both appointed c. 1229/1230, or of the Canterbury moneyer Robert, a native of that city, who was appointed towards the end of 1235. For all this, one is reluctant to place the concealment of the Tullintowell find much if at all before c. 1230, and one suspects that the coins could very well have been hidden a whole decade later.

As it happens, mediæval coin-hoards from Connacht are not all that common, and students of the Short-Cross series scarcely need to be reminded of the analogue from the mearing of Co. Mayo and Co. Galway a few miles to the north-east of Cong, the considerably larger 1946 hoard from Kilmaine (Inventory 216) which is probably to be dated c. 1240 (cf. BNJ, XXIX, ii (1959), p. 319). A glance, though, at the pages of such obvious primary sources as the Annals of Loch Cé and the Annals of Connacht should be sufficient to dispel any impression that the historian ought to have no difficulty whatever in suggesting a convincing occasion for either deposit. In point of fact the state of Connacht throughout the second quarter of the thirteenth century was such that it would be easier to suggest years when such hoards are unlikely to have been concealed. De Burgo and FitzGerald, it will be remembered, both were extending their influence in North Connacht, and the dissensions of the Ó Connor cousins meant that there was scarcely a summer without internal hosting or foreign incursion.

In conclusion, readers of this note may find it useful to have the Tullintowell find summarized in slightly modified Inventory format:

TULLINTOWELL, nr, Drumkeerin, Co. Leitrim, 7 June 1932.
36 ¼ English and Anglo-Irish pennies. Deposit: after 1230?

ENGLAND (34 pennies): HENRY II. 'Short Cross' coinage—Lincoln: Lawrence gp. i: Leofwine, 1. London: Lawrence gp. 1: Raul, 1. Winchester: Lawrence gp. i: Adam, 1; Goeelm, 1. RICHARD I. 'Short Cross' coinage—Canterbury: Lawrence gp. iv: Coldwine, 2; Reinaud, 1. JOHN. 'Short Cross' coinage—Canterbury: Lawrence gp. vi: Johan, 1; Samuel, 1. London: Lawrence gp. v: Ilger, 1; Rener, 1; Walter, 1. Lawrence gp. vi: Abel, 1; Ilger, 2. Winchester: Lawrence gp. v: Rauf, 1. York: Lawrence gp. v: Davi, 1. HENRY III. 'Short Cross' coinage—Canterbury: Lawrence gp. vii: Henri, 1; Ioan, 1; Ioan Chic, 3; Iun, 1; Roger of R, 1; Samuel, 1; Simon, 1. London: Lawrence gp. vii: Elis, 1; Ilger, 1; Ledulf, 2; Rau(l)f, 2; Terri, 2. IRELAND (2 pennies): John. 'Rex' coinage—Dublin: Roberd, 2.

No container.

Disposion: the coins, found in open country at a depth of 16-18'', are all in the coin-cabinet of the National Museum of Ireland.

It only remains for the writer to express his obligations to Dr. William O'Sullivan, M.R.I.A., for permission to study the coins and to publish this account, and to Mr. John D. Brand for checking both the coins and the original listing, and for offering a number of most valuable observations. In neither cases, though, is there to be inferred responsibility for any deficiencies in this note, as for these the author alone is to be blamed.