A NEW PARCEL FROM THE DOUGLAS, I.O.M.,
1894 HOARD (?)

By C. E. BLUNT

In a sale at Sotheby’s, July 27 1964, there appeared as lots 8-11 a small parcel of 10th century Anglo-Saxon coins, most of them more or less fragmented, that showed every sign of being the whole or part of a hoard. They were sold as the property of Mrs. S. F. Chandler and are understood to have come from the Isle of Man. The following reigns were represented:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reign</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eadmund</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eadred</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eadwig</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eadgar</td>
<td>18 + small fragments of four or five others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anlaf Sihtriesson</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24 + small fragments.</td>
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Two hoards from the Isle of Man of this period are recorded, the Andreas find of 1867 and the Douglas find of 1894. The former is not recorded as having contained any coins before Eadwig (except an Anlaf); the latter contained coins of his three predecessors. Grueber records that many of the Douglas coins escaped the inquest and were broken in attempts to clean them. Unless therefore we have here an unrecorded hoard, it seems likely that the parcel under review was from the Douglas find.

I was fortunate enough to secure all except numbers 1, 2, 5, 16, and 23 in the list that follows. Coins discussed below and marked with an asterisk in the text are illustrated on Pl. xiv. I am much indebted to Mr. D. G. Liddell of Spink & Son Ltd. who has been kind enough to supply a photograph of no. 5 (fig. 1).

![Coin Image](enlarged)

1 J. D. A. Thompson, *Inventory of British Coin Hoards A.D. 600-1600*, 8-9 and 127. See also R. H. M. Dolley’s *The Post-Brunanburh Viking

2 NC, 1913, pp. 322-3.
A number of these coins call for comment.

Number 3, by the moneyer Norbert, had hitherto been known only from a fragment in the Chester (1950) hoard, no. 252, on which, although the last letter only of the king's name was legible, the first five letters of the moneyer's name could be read. The style of the bust however enabled the coin confidently to be ascribed to Eadred and the authors pointed out the importance of the piece in confirming the attribution to this reign in *BMC* ii, p. 154, of a coin of floral type by the same moneyer, an attribution that Brooke had rejected in favour of Edward the Elder.¹ The present coin, which provides full readings on both sides and is from different dies from the Chester specimen, provides final confirmation of what was deduced in the Chester paper. It has been suggested that Eadred's floral type was issued at a north-western mint,² but the bust on the present coin renders this unlikely.

Number 4 is by a moneyer unrecorded for this reign before the Chester hoard in which there were three specimens.

Number 5 is one of the rare coins of Bedford by the moneyer Baldwin. Others are in the British Museum (*BMC* 1), the Grosvenor Museum, Chester (3 specimens ex the Chester (1950) hoard) and (appropriately) in Mr. F. Baldwin's private cabinet (ex Grantley 1080).

The Eadgar coins include several of considerable importance. Number 12 is the variety described as *BMC* Ib, that is, with five crosses on the reverse. This variety, which is of southern style, is like so many southern coins of this reign exceptionally rare. In fact there appear to be only three other recorded specimens:— *BMC* 139, moneyer Beorhtric; Salisbury Museum, moneyer Biorhtulf; and Chester (1950) 384, moneyer Burnferth, now in the British Museum. Beorhtric is known as a moneyer in this reign at Wallingford, Lymne and Wareham; Biorhtulf and Burnferth at Bath; Sideman at Chichester and Rochester. The reading Sedeman on the present specimen is not undoubted, but seems likely.³

The reading on the reverse of number 14 can be confidently reconstructed from a coin in Mr. F. Baldwin's cabinet from the same reverse die. The rosettes on the reverse show that it emanates from a north-western mint, but the name is not found on Chester mint-signed coins at this time. It must for the moment remain an open question whether it is Wine or Wine(man).

Number 17, another north-western coin, appears to be an overstrike but I have not been able to identify the under-type. Mr. Lockett had a coin of Eadgar by the same moneyer, but of *BMC* iv, which was described as overstruck on a coin of *BMC* i (lot 627 in his sale).

In *NC* 1962, pp. 195ff., Mr. Dolley published a group of ten coins of Eadwig and Eadgar which had certain features in common and which he attributed to south-western mints on the grounds that the names of Barnstaple, Exeter and Totnes were found on certain of them. Of Exeter he recorded one coin of Eadwig, moneyer Æthelgar, and one of Eadgar, moneyer Mangod, and added Eadælstan as a doubtful Exeter moneyer in the latter reign. Number 18 in the present parcel clearly bears the Exeter mint-name and has certain of the special features to which Mr. Dolley called attention, notably the wide flan, the double initial cross on both sides and the use of large three-pellet stops. There is also a small lozenge-shaped stop between the E and X of EXA on the reverse. Regretably much of the moneyer's name is missing but we may be reasonably confident of the initial X and quite sure of the final letters -OLD. There is no moneyer in Mr. Dolley's list that would fit this and the only appropriate

¹ *BNJ*, XXVII, p. 130.
³ Mr. Dolley believes that the dies of this variety emanate from Winchester. He has kindly pointed out to me that in 1964 Mr. Martin Biddle's excavations at Winchester brought to light a unique coin of Eadwig of this type (moneyer Leofric) in mint condition.
moneyn known for Eadgar is Raegenold who worked at Winchester in the reformed coinage.
On the other hand a Raegenold is recorded as an Exeter moneyn under Æthelstan (BMA 516, reading MORAXANCEIV, and Forum hoard (2 specimens) reading MORAXANTEIV). He is also recorded for Eadmund, Eadred and Eadwig, though on coins without mint-name. However his coin for Eadwig, Lockett 2749b, has, unusually, a three-pellet stop at the end of the obverse legend, a feature that provides some link with the coin under review. While certainty must await the discovery of a more complete specimen, the name Raegenold seems, on the evidence available, the most likely on the new coin.

The rarity of coins of Eadgar from southern mints prior to his reform has already been noted. This is no doubt largely due to the fact that we have no southern hoard of this reign. This rarity is peculiarly the case with coins of BMC iii bearing the London mint-signature. In fact, up to the present, only two specimens have been recorded of what is normally one of the most prolific mints, one in Stockholm (Hild. 28), moneyn Æthelsige; the other Lockett 3710, moneyn Æthelred. Both these have squat, rather broad, lettering so that the obverse legend is curtailed to +EADGAREXAN and EADGAREXANG respectively, the mint-name in each case being LVN. By contrast the lettering on the new coin, number 19, moneyn Athelwold, is crisp and neater with the result that the obverse can read ANGLORV- and the reverse LVNDOC. There is an extra cross in the reverse field. This type of lettering has certain affinities with the lettering on coins of the reformed issue. Athelwold, hitherto unrecorded for Eadgar’s pre-reform coinage, is known as a London moneyn of type vi.

Oxford coins of Eadgar’s pre-reform coinage are known (all of BMC iii) by four moneyners of three of whom, Æthelwine, Leofsige and Wynnelm, a single coin is known. Of the fourth, Wulfs(t)an, there are two. Number 20 supplies a second specimen for Æthelwine, from the same reverse but a different obverse die to the one in the Ashmolean Museum.

Number 22 is a typical product of a north-easterly mint and is only peculiar in reading on the reverse MOTERM and in having an annulet in the field of the reverse, features I have not noticed elsewhere.

In Grueber’s original account of the Douglas hoard he records a coin of Anlaf Sihtriesson, with circumscription on both sides, by the moneyner Ingelgar. Carlyon-Britton, also writing on the Isle of Man hoards, illustrates one but it is not clear whether this is the Douglas or the Andreas specimen. However, as Mr. Dolley has pointed out, both are from the same dies. Among the fragments in the present parcel is one that may reasonably be regarded as another of the same king, this time by the moneyner Radulf (number 25). It is a small piece and on the obverse the only two letters completely visible are RE followed by traces of an x. Parts of the letter before x are however visible and, having regard to the possible alternatives, it can with reasonable confidence be identified as an f. On the reverse the letters RAD can be plainly seen. Radulf is recorded as a moneyner of this type on the strength of a single coin in the British Museum formerly in the Lawrence collection and apparently the specimen illustrated by Lindsay, which Mr. Dolley and Mrs. Martin have suggested probably came from a hoard found in Kilkenny c. 1830. The obverse dies differ, but so little of the same parts of the reverse remain that precision here is not possible.

If we compare the coins in this parcel with the list published by Grueber it will be found that they fit in well. Of Grueber’s total of 95 coins, 3 were of Æthelstan, 2 of Eadmund, 9 of

1 See Anglo-Saxon Coins (1961) p. 144 and map on p. 143.
2 BNJ, V, pl. I, 2.
3 The Post-Brunanburh Viking Coinage of York.
4 Coinage of the Heptarchy, pl. 2, 42.
5 NC, 1969, pp. 175 ff.
Eadred, 7 of Eadwig, 73 of Eadgar and 1 of Anlaf Sihtricsson. These figures may be compared with the totals for this little parcel on p. 7 above.

Grueber's account of the Douglas hoard is in certain respects unsatisfactory. The description of the coins was written in 1895, the year following the discovery, but it was not published until 1913. The first coin, one of Æthelstan, is headed BMC type v but the description is of a coin of type via. The reference to the plate in BMC is to a coin of type via but the reference to the text is to a coin of type v. On several occasions he refers to 'fragments; halfpennies?' which has misled subsequent writers into believing they were the smaller denomination.¹ Since true halfpennies of this time are of the highest rarity,² it is likely that the coins described were either fragments of pennies—and the state of the present parcel renders this probable—or perhaps occasionally cut halfpennies.

As ever I am indebted to Mr. R. H. M. Dolley for help and advice in writing this little note and this I gratefully acknowledge.

LIST OF COINS
(Those marked * are illustrated on Pl. XIV.)

EADMUND
1  BMC I, said to read EZCAALD.

EADRED
2  BMC I, said to read FREDICS.
3*  V, Norbert. +EADREDREX; +N(rev.)ORBERT MON(rev.)ETA (broken but complete in mount).

EADWIG
4*  BMC I, Leofhelm. +EADVVG REX; ./LEOFH/+ + /ELMÓ/';(chipped).
5  II, Bedford, Baldwine. +EADVVG RE'; ; BALD/BE+DA/VIN-E. (fig. 1).

EADGAR
6  BMC I  Cawelin. +EADGA---+; ;-/ÆFE/-+++/LIN(rev.)O'/';(broken).
7  Eanulf. +EADGARRRE--; ./EAN/- + + /LFMÓ'/';(chipped).
8  Hérigar. +EAD------X (pellet in legend); ./HE(lig.)RIG/+ + + /EAD/-(broken).
9  Ingolf. +EADGARRE+i (crescents in legend); ./INGO/+ + + /LFMÓ'/';(chipped).
10  Manan. +EADGARRE (pellets in legend); ./MAN(both rev.)/+++ /ANNO'/';(chipped).
11  same dies (broken).
12*  Ib Sedeman (?). + -- -- GARREX; +/ÆDEH/+ + /ANMÓ/+ (broken).
13  Io Lol(es). +EADGA---EX; rosette/IOLES/+++ /MON/-/rosette (broken).
14*  Winem(an(?). -- -- ADGA---; rosette/PINEM/- + + /ESMÓN/rosette (broken).
15  Id Eolfred. +/EA---AREXAX; rosette/SELF/O+O/RED/rosette (chipped).
16  Another similar (?). Catalogue says 'Brooks 1'.
17*  Thurmod. --EADCE----; rosette/DVR/O+O/MON/- Overstruck? (broken).
18*  III Exeter, R----old. ---ARREXANOVM; ;++ ; +R--------/OLMÓ/'; EXA+ Diamond stop after E of EXA (bad chip).
19*  London, Athelwold. +EADGARREXANG(lig.)LABV'; +ADELFOLD MOLYVND(lig.)OC Extra cross in field of rev. (broken and repaired).³

¹ e.g. Mr. Thompson in his Inventory account where he refers to 'fragments of halfpennies?'
² BNJ, XXXI, p. 46. None is in the Douglas Museum.
³ This coin which was in two pieces when acquired has been most skilfully joined by Mr. Kenneth Howes.
A NEW PARCEL FROM THE DOUGLAS, I.O.M., 1894 HOARD (?)  

20* Oxford, Æthelwina. + BÄDGÄRRE + ANGLORYN; + ÆDELFINS(lig.) MONE(lig.)TAOXNA.

21 No mint, Durand(es). —ADGÄRREXANG (pellets in legend); +DURANDIE—NE(lig)TA Trefoil of pellets in rev. field (chipped).

22* No mint, Herolf(es). +EADGAR+RE+ANGL; +HE(lig.)ROLF'; ESMOTERM Annulet in field on rev. (broken and repaired).

23* IV? No mint, Thurferth. Catalogue says 'Brooke 4'.

24 Small fragments of four or five other coins temp. Eadgar.

ANLAF SIÐRÍÇSON

25* BMC 6 Radulf. ———+RE·X; —RAD—— —— (fragment).