

the leopard's head was the initial-mark of the under-treasurer at whose mint the coin was struck, but no such official had a name beginning in w. The only person it could have applied to was Warwick who headed a commission with Sir William Herbert and Sir Walter Mildmay in 1550,³ the year when the shillings were minted, to examine the accounts of the principal mint officials who were responsible for producing the debased coin. But Warwick's crest, a bear with a ragged staff, was nothing like the mint-mark under consideration here and, in any case, as far as we know coins were marked by the heads of the mints and no one else.

At this point it would be beneficial to discuss the martlet issues to see whether they can throw light on this intriguing mark. The martlet has on occasion been attributed to Thomas Fleetwood because of his position as under-treasurer during Elizabeth I's reign. However, although he had undoubtedly attained high office under Edward VI, as assaymaster and comptroller, he had not by then become head of a mint and, for the reason just given in connection with Warwick, was thus unlikely to have had any say as to the choice of martlet at this time.

Because coins with martlet mark have long been known, the mark must be connected with one of the four London mints issuing debased coin during Edward's reign; Tower I, Tower II, Southwark, and Durham House. The heads of these mints and the marks usually attributed to them in so far as the debased issues are concerned are as follows:⁴

	<i>Under-treasurer</i>	<i>Mark</i>
Tower I	Sir Martin Bowes 25 March 1544–29 September 1550	Arrow, Pheon, Swan
	Sir John Yorke 29 September 1551–25 March 1552	Y
Tower II	Stephen Vaughan February 1548–25 December 1549	Grapple
	Nicholas Throckmorton 25 December 1549–25 March 1552	?
Southwark	Sir John York 25 March 1545–29 September 1551	Y
Durham House	John Bowes 2 December 1548–October 1549	Bow

As may be seen, hitherto numismatists have been able to assign specific marks to each of the under-treasurers with the exception of Sir Nicholas Throckmorton, and it would be my contention that we should now go one step further and assign the martlet mark to him. As the fourth son of Sir George Throckmorton of Coughton, Warwickshire, he would have been entitled to use the mark as a mark of cadency. The use of the martlet to denote the position of the fourth son was standardized in the early part of the sixteenth century.

If this attribution be correct, then the mark with which it is muled must also be attributed to the same mint. In my view, therefore, the mint-mark which Potter termed 'pelt', but which I prefer to call 'crowned leopard's head with collar' came from Tower II in 1550 when it was headed by Sir Nicholas Throckmorton. J. BISHAM

MORE ON THE TOWER SHILLINGS OF CHARLES I

SINCE my paper on this series,¹ three further pieces have come to light which warrant recording. The first, an exciting discovery which appeared in auction,² is a mule of a Group B5 obverse with a Group C5 reverse (Pl. XI, 1). It is the first mule between groups to be recorded and is a further reflection of the somewhat complicated transition between Groups B and C.

The other two coins are both of Group F and provide previously unrecorded instances of mint-mark for type. One is a coin of type F2/1 and the other of type F5/1. The former (Pl. XI, 2) has mint-mark anchor, flukes to right, over tun on the obverse and anchor, flukes to left, on the reverse. Assuming the overmark indicates this to have been

a late tun obverse, the presence of the large mark of value would seem to provide final confirmation that this followed the use of the smaller mark of value with this obverse type, hitherto known only with the tun mark. The F5/1 coin (Pl. XI, 3) has the anchor mark with flukes to right on the obverse and vertical anchor on the reverse. The vertical anchor is commonly encountered on F3 coins but is so far unrecorded on an F5 obverse. It seems reasonable, therefore, to conclude that a reverse die used with the earlier F3 obverse was subsequently reused with this F5 obverse. This coin was said to have come from the Messing hoard (1975).

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³ H. Symonds, 'The English Coinages of Edward VI', *BNJ* xi (1915), 143.

⁴ C. E. Challis, 'Mint Officials and Moneyers of the Tudor Period', *BNJ* xlv (1975), 51–76.

¹ 'The Tower Shillings of Charles I and their Influence on the Aberystwyth Issue', *BNJ* xlvii (1977), 102–13.

² Spink Coin Auctions no. 11, 8–9 October 1980, lot 200.



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