



ALLEN AND DAWSON: SHORT CROSS MONEYERS OF SHREWSBURY



SHARP: NOTES ON CHARLES I

Catalogue⁸

(The coins are illustrated on **plate 23**.)

France

1. Écu au soleil of Louis XI (1461–83), mint of Toulouse (Duplessy 539).

Obv. Crown LVDOVICVS:DEI:GR[]REX (double annulet punctuation)

Rev. Crown XPC:VINCIT:XPC:REGNAT:XPC:IMPERAT (double annulet punctuation, reversed N and pellet under I in VINCIT).

Wt: 3.26g. Die axis: 50°.

Spain

2. Double excelente of Ferdinand and Isabella, Seville mint, issued 1497–1504 (Cayon and Castan, 629).

Obv. FERNANDVS:ET:ELISABET:DEIGRATIA:REX[]S and eight-pointed star between busts (annulet punctuation).

Rev. .SVB.VNBRA.ALARVM[].. (annulet punctuation).

Wt.: 6.91g. Die axis: 50°.

3. Escudo of Joanna and Charles, mint of Seville, issued 1537–55 (Cayon and Castan, 831).

Obv. IOANA. ET. CAROLVS, P to left of shield, S to right (annulet punctuation).

Rev. HISPANIARVM. REGES. SICILI (annulet punctuation).

Wt. 3.35g. Die axis: 300°.

Burgundian Netherlands

4. Crown of Charles V as duke of Gelderland, dated 1545 (Van Gelder and Hoc, 186–4).

Obv. sun CAROLVS. D. G. ROM. IMP. Z. HISP. REX. D. GEL.

Rev. cross DA. MIHI. VIRTUTE. CONTRA. HOS. TV 1542 (N in CONTRA reversed)

Wt.: 3.40g. Die axis: 90°.

5. Crown of Charles V as duke of Brabant, Antwerp mint, dated 1543 (Van Gelder and Hoc, 186–1)

Obv. sun CARO: D: G: RO: IMP: HISP: REX: DVX: BVVG'Z: BR

Rev. hand DA: MIHI: VIRTUTE: COTRA: HOSTES: TVOS: 1543

Wt: 3.43g. Die axis: 90°.

6. As no. 5 but dated 1545.

Obv. and *rev.* as no. 5, but 1545.

Wt: 3.35g. Die axis: 280°.

7. As above but dated 1554.

Obv. sun CAROD: GRO'. IMP HISP REX DVX BVVG. Z

Rev. hand DA. MIHI VIRTUTE. CONTRA. HOSTES. TVOS 54

Wt: 3.43g. Die axis: 340°.

8. As no. 7.

Obv. sun CARO: D. G[]MP. HISP. REX. DVX. BVVG. Z. B

Rev. hand DA. MIHI. VIRTUTE. CONTRA. HOSTES. TVOS. 54

Wt: 3.41g. Die axis: 200°.

Italy

9. Ducat of Lucca, Charles V, dated 1552 (CNI 319).

Obv. CAROLVS (rosette) IMPERATOR. 1552

Rev. DELUCA. +. S. VVLTVS . . .

Wt: 3.32g. Die axis: 180°.

⁸ References in the catalogue are to the following works: Duplessy = J. Duplessy, *Les Monnaies Françaises Royales de Hughes Capet à Louis XVI* (Paris, 1988); Cayon and Castan = J.C. Cayon and C. Castan, *Las Monedas Espanolas. Reyes Catolicos, Estado Espanol* (Madrid, 1974); Van Gelder and

Hoc = H. Enno van Gelder and M. Hoc, *Les Monnaies des pays-Bas Bourguignons et Espagnols 1434–1713* (Amsterdam, 1960); CNI = *Corpus Nummarum Italicorum*, vol XI Toscana (Zecchi Minori) (Rome, 1929).

NOTES ON TWO COINS OF CHARLES I

MICHAEL SHARP

Halfcrown of Tower type 4 m.m. (P)

IN the second of 'Three Seventeenth Century Notes'¹ I remarked that I had not seen a halfcrown of this type and mintmark: I now have (pl. 22, 1). Since type 4 is described

as having a foreshortened horse, a description perhaps better suited to the common type 3a, its illustration should serve to prevent any future confusion.

¹ *BNJ* 60 (1990), 138.

A New Fine Work Tower Shilling

Mr Alan Morris has kindly drawn my attention to a B5/2 shilling m.m. anchor and of fine work (pl. 22, 2). In addition to its being a very early example in the

series of carefully struck pieces, it is of significance because B5/2 coins have hitherto only been recorded with m.m.s. heart and plumes.

I take this opportunity also to record a C2/5 coin of fine work with m.m. plumes.

HARRIS, ALCHORNE AND AN ESSAY

MARVIN LESSEN

AN interesting copy of the book *An Essay upon Money and Coins* was sold from the B.A. Seaby library by Classical Numismatic Auctions in London, 5 October 1991, lot 2288. In 1757 Joseph Harris anonymously published *An Essay upon Money and Coins*, Part I, 'The Theories of Commerce, Money, and Exchanges', and in 1758 he published Part II, 'That the Established Standard of Money should not be violated or altered, under any pretence whatsoever'. Joseph Harris (1702–64) was king's assay master from 1749 until his death, having advanced from master's assay master when he was deputy to Hopton Haynes.¹

The copy of the book now under discussion contains a third part, this in manuscript authored by Stanesby Alchorne (died 1800). There is a front cover page in manuscript, adding reference to Part III; the additional Part III itself has a manuscript cover page entitled, 'An Essay upon Money and Coins Part III Humbly Proposing some regulations for remedying the present bad state of our Coin, and for obviating all cause of complaint about our Money for the future. London MDCCLXIV'; a preface of four pages in manuscript; a contents listing of four pages in manuscript; and 134 pages of text in manuscript. All are fully paginated and in a size and format compatible with the printed Parts I and II, with which it was obviously designed to fit.

In 1757 Alchorne became a formally paid deputy to Harris, then master's assay master in 1764, the date of this Part III, and king's assay master in 1789.²

No pedigree for this book has been found. It was not where expected, in the 12 November 1851 Puttick & Simpson sale catalogue of the Alchorne library and manuscripts on Mint affairs, nor apparently in the 11 May 1848 Sotheby sale of Alchorne's numismatic holdings.³ The book retains its original sewing, boards and spine label, but it has now been rebaced to replace a disintegrated spine.

Acknowledgements The writer wishes to thank Graham P. Dyer for ideas, comments, photocopies, and review, Michael Halls for his examination and assessment of the manuscripts, and Francis Campbell for his search through the sale catalogues.

¹ John Craig, *The Mint* (1953), p. 231. Craig also says that Harris became master's assay master in 1737, but G.P. Dyer says this is not certain (personal correspondence to the writer).

² Craig, p. 231, where he says that Harris hired Alchorne as a personal assistant sometime around 1749, but G.P. Dyer

The question arose as to whose hand wrote the manuscript. Mr G.P. Dyer of the Royal Mint was of the opinion that it was the same hand that wrote the Stanesby Alchorne manuscript in the Royal Mint Library, entitled 'Observations on the Coin and Coinage of France and Flanders collected from the Mints of Paris, Rouen, Lille & Bruxelles 1777', a report prepared by Alchorne after his assigned tour for that purpose.⁴ Dr Michael Halls, a manuscript expert, archivist and Reference Librarian at the William Andrews Clark Memorial Library is positive that the same hand wrote both manuscripts thirteen years apart. Further, he did not feel that the hand was that of a professional clerk or secretary, such as might have been employed to do the writing, but rather that of an 'educated professional' of the time. Alchorne's signature is at the end of his preface to Part III, and this matches perfectly with many Alchorne signatures in a volume relating to the Birmingham and Sheffield assay offices.⁵ This does not prove that the text and the signature are by the same person, but in this writer's opinion the manuscript of *An Essay* as well as the manuscript of the *Observations* were both hand-written by Alchorne. The authorship by Alchorne is not of course in question.

The full preface to Part III follows:

In the years 1757, and 1758, two anonymous Tracts appeared, which were sold by Mr Hawkins at the middle Temple-gate in Fleetstreet; entitled, *An Essay upon Money and Coins*, Part I. & II.

The Author of these Pieces, was JOSEPH HARRIS ESQr, at that time His Majesty's Assay-master of the Mint, in the Tower of London; whose Judgment upon those subjects was pretty generally known and esteemed. Why therefore Mr Harris chose to send this work into the world without a Name, is to me a secret, and appears the more extraordinary, as he

thinks that their association began in 1757, and the following preface tends to support that. He also points out that Craig's date of 1799 for Alchorne's promotion to king's assay master was wrong (personal correspondence to the writer).

³ Information from Francis Campbell, Librarian of the American Numismatic Society.

⁴ Craig, p. 248.

⁵ Royal Mint Library, 'Birmingham & Sheffield Diet 1773–1817'.