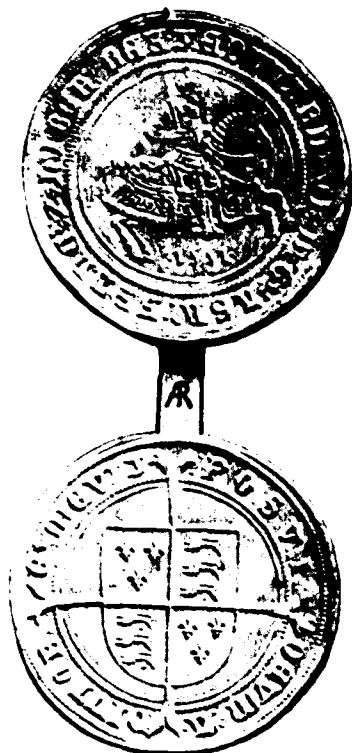


THE STORY OF
THE BRITISH COINAGE

BY

GERTRUDE BURFORD RAWLINGS

WITH ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHT ILLUSTRATIONS



GREAT SEAL OF EDWARD VI.

LONDON
GEORGE NEWNES, LIMITED
SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND.

1898

V56:73

M98



PREFACE

FOR those who wish to know something of the origin and history of our coined money it is hoped that the following story will serve as a brief introduction to a most interesting subject. As it may appear strange that Ireland has not been allotted a more prominent position in these pages, I would point out, in the first place, that preference has been given to the main coinages, while the branches have necessarily been treated very cursorily. As Ireland practically never coined any money for herself, the Anglo-Irish series, though by no means a small matter, comes under the latter head and has been dealt with accordingly. In the second place, and this is the more potent reason, the history of the Anglo-Irish coinage is at present in a state of confusion from which it is almost impossible to construct a narrative suitable to a book of the present nature. I hope this explanation will be accepted by my Irish readers.

In common with other students of English and Scottish numismatics I have to acknowledge great indebtedness to the works of Hawkins, Kenyon, Evans, Burns, Cochran-Patrick, and other authorities.

The following remarks may be of use to those unacquainted with the terms used in describing specimens.

Obverse and Reverse. (*Obv.* and *Rev.*) The face and back, respectively, of a coin.

Field. The surface or area of a coin—often enclosed by a raised rim.

Type. The type of a coin is determined by the design or any remarkable feature of the design on one side or the other.

Legend. The inscription which runs round the type or design.

Exergue. A small space below the design which is divided from the upper part of the field by a straight line.

A.—A sign standing for *aurum* (gold).

R.—A sign standing for *argentum* (silver).

Æ.—A sign standing for *aes* (copper or bronze).

BIL. A contraction of *billon*, the name of a mixed metal of copper and silver.

Where, in the following pages, the words right and left are used in describing coins, the spectator's right and left are intended to be understood, not the heraldic dexter and sinister. In most cases the coins have been described categorically, for the sake of clearness.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
ENGLISH COINAGE :	
INTRODUCTORY	9
LIST OF DENOMINATIONS	11
MINTS AND COINING	14
FINENESS OF ENGLISH COINS	19
ENGLISH COINAGE FROM c. 150 B.C. TO 1066 A.D.	22
ENGLISH COINAGE FROM 1066 A.D. TO THE PRESENT DAY	30
ECCLESIASTICAL MINTS	129
ANGLO-IRISH COINAGE	132
ANGLO-GALLIC COINAGE	136
MAUNDY MONEY	139
SCOTTISH COINAGE :	
INTRODUCTORY	141
LIST OF DENOMINATIONS	143
RELATIVE NOMINAL VALUE OF SCOTTISH AND ENGLISH MONEY	146
SCOTTISH COINAGE FROM c. 1124 A.D. TO 1603 A.D.	146
SCOTTISH COINAGE FROM 1603 A.D. TO 1709 A.D.	182
COLONIAL COINAGE	190
NOTE ON TOKENS	214

THE STORY OF THE BRITISH COINAGE

ENGLISH COINAGE

INTRODUCTORY

THE earliest date at which coined money first began to supersede the use of metal in lumps or ingots as a circulating medium has been fixed, approximately, at the year 700 B.C. The birth-place of the art of Coining was either in Greece or in Lydia, in Asia Minor, but the best authorities are unable to say positively in which place that art was first practised. The Lydians, under Gyges, and the people of Ægina, under Pheidon, king of Argos, both lay claim to the invention, and much has been said for both sides, though the balance is apparently in favour of the Lydians. However, a compromise has been effected, by which the honours are divided, and the Lydians are given the credit of coining gold, or, more accurately, electrum, a natural mixture of gold and silver,* and the King of Argos that of coining silver in the island of Ægina, both at or about the same time. No earlier coins than

* In the case of the Lydian coins the proportion of silver is 27 per cent.

these are known. We must not be misled by the use of such words as "talent" or "shekel" by Biblical writers. Shekel, for instance, originally meant "weight" merely, and did not become the name of a coined piece until the time of Simon Maccabæus, B.C. 141.

Fig. 1 illustrates the most ancient coin in existence, an electrum stater of Lydia. It is best described in the words of the British Museum *Guide to the Coins of the Ancients*. *Obverse*: Striated surface. *Reverse*: Oblong sinking between two square sinkings. As remarked above, this coin is assigned to about the year 700 B.C.

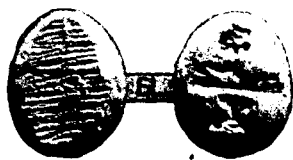


FIG. 1.—Lydian Stater.

For some time after its invention the practice of coining was principally confined to Euro-

pean and Asiatic Greece. The Romans did not begin to coin money until about 400 B.C.

Although we cannot claim for the British series the many-sided value attaching, for example, to Greek coins—the "grammar of Greek art" and true children of a time "when Art was still Religion"—or to the Roman series—the portrait gallery and pictorial history of the great Latin empire—yet there is much to be learned and a great deal to interest us in the coinage of our own country. And if after a survey of that coinage from its beginning up to the present year of grace we have to admit that

in one respect, at any rate, we have receded and not advanced, we may perhaps find some consolation for present shortcomings in a closer acquaintance with past glories.

DENOMINATIONS ISSUED IN EVERY REIGN FROM 1066 TO THE PRESENT DAY.

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| WILLIAM I. | } <i>Silver</i> : Pennies only. |
| WILLIAM II. | |
| HENRY I. | |
| STEPHEN | |
| HENRY II. | |
| RICHARD I. | |
| JOHN | |
| HENRY III.— <i>Gold</i> : Penny. <i>Silver</i> : Penny. | |
| EDWARD I.— <i>Silver</i> : Penny, Halfpenny, Farthing. | |
| EDWARD II.— <i>Silver</i> : Penny, Halfpenny, Farthing. | |
| EDWARD III.— <i>Gold</i> : Florin (6s.), Half-Florin, Quarter-Florin, Noble (6s. 8d.), Half-Noble, Quarter-Noble. <i>Silver</i> : Groat (4d.), Half-Groat, Penny, Halfpenny, Farthing. | |
| RICHARD II.— <i>Gold</i> : Noble (6s. 8d.), Half-Noble, Quarter-Noble. <i>Silver</i> : Groat (4d.), Half-Groat, Penny, Halfpenny, Farthing. | |
| HENRY IV.— <i>Gold</i> : Noble (6s. 8d.), Half-Noble, Quarter-Noble. <i>Silver</i> : Groat (4d.), Half-Groat, Penny, Halfpenny, Farthing. | |
| HENRY V.— <i>Gold</i> : Noble (6s. 8d.), Half-Noble, Quarter-Noble. <i>Silver</i> : Groat, (4d.), Half-Groat, Penny, Halfpenny, Farthing (?). | |
| HENRY VI.— <i>Gold</i> : (Noble 6s. 8d.), Half-Noble, Quarter-Noble, Angel (6s. 8d.), Angelet or Half-Angel. <i>Silver</i> : Groat (4d.), Half-Groat, Penny, Halfpenny, Farthing. | |
| EDWARD IV.— <i>Gold</i> : Noble (6s. 8d.), Rose Noble, Royal, or Ryal (10s.), Half-Ryal, Quarter-Ryal, Angel (6s. 8d.), Angelet or Half-Angel. <i>Silver</i> : Groat (4d.), Half-Groat, Penny, Halfpenny, Farthing. | |
| EDWARD V.— <i>Gold</i> : Angel (6s. 8d.), Angelet or Half-Angel (?). <i>Silver</i> : Groat. | |
| RICHARD III.— <i>Gold</i> : Angel (6s. 8d.), Angelet. <i>Silver</i> : Groat (4d.), Half-Groat, Penny, Halfpenny, Farthing. | |
| HENRY VII.— <i>Gold</i> : Rose Noble, or Ryal (10s.), Sovereign or Double Ryal (20s.), Angel (6s. 8d.), Angelet or Half- | |

12 THE STORY OF THE BRITISH COINAGE

- Angelet. *Silver*: Testoon (12d.), Groat, (4d.) Half-Groat, Penny, Halfpenny, Farthing.
- HENRY VIII.—*Gold*: Double Sovereign (44s. or 45s.), Sovereign (20s.), Pound Sovereign (20s.), Half-Sovereign, Ryal (10s.), Angel (6s. 8d.), Angelet or Half-Angel, Quarter-Angel, George Noble (6s. 8d.), Half-George Noble, Crown (5s.), Half-Crown. *Silver*: Testoon (12d.), Groat (4d.), Half-Groat, Penny, Halfpenny, Farthing.
- EDWARD VI.—*Gold*: Treble Sovereign (Pattern (?), 60s.), Double Sovereign (48s.), Sovereign (24s.), Pound Sovereign (20s.), Six Angel piece (Pattern (?), 48s.), Half-Sovereign (10s.), Quarter-Sovereign or Crown (5s.), Half-Crown. *Silver*: Crown, Half-Crown, Shilling, Sixpence, Groat (4d.), Half-Groat, Threepence, Penny, Halfpenny, Farthing.
- MARY.—*Gold*: Sovereign (30s.), Rial (15s.), Angel (10s.). *Silver*: Groat (4d.), Half-Groat, Penny.
- MARY AND PHILIP.—*Gold*: Angel (10s.), Angelet or Half-Angel. *Silver*: Half-Crown, Shilling, Sixpence, Groat (4d.), Half-Groat, Penny.
- ELIZABETH.—*Gold*: Sovereign (30s. or 20s.), Half-Sovereign, Ryal (15s. or 10s.), Angel (10s. or 6s. 8d.), Angelet or Half-Angel, Quarter-Angel, Crown, Half-Crown. *Silver*: Crown, Half-Crown, Shilling, Sixpence, Groat (4d.), Half-Groat, Threepence, Three-half-pence, Penny, Three-farthings, Halfpenny.
- JAMES I.—*Gold*: First issue. Pound Sovereign (30s.), Half-Sovereign (15s.), Crown (7s. 6d.), Half-Crown. Second issue. Unite (20s. or 22s.), Double Crown (10s. or 11s.), Britain Crown (5s. or 5s. 6d.), Half-Britain Crown, Thistle Crown (4s. or 4s. 4½d.). Third issue. Rose Ryal (30s. or 33s.), Spur Ryal (15s. or 16s. 6d.), Angel (11s.), Angelet or Half-Angel. Fourth issue. Angelets. Fifth issue. Rose Ryal, Spur Ryal, Angel, Laurel or Unite (20s.), Double Crown or Half-Laurel, Crown or Quarter-Laurel. *Silver*: Crown, Half-Crown, Shilling, Sixpence, Half-Groat, Penny, Halfpenny. *Copper* or *Tin*: Farthing Tokens.
- CHARLES I.—*Gold*: Tower Mint—Unite or Broad, or Twenty-Shilling Piece (20s.), Double Crown or Half-Broad, or Ten-Shilling Piece (10s.), Crown or Britain Crown, Angel (10s.). Oxford Mint—Treble Unite or Three Pound Piece (60s.), Unite, Half Unite. *Silver*: Twenty-Shilling Piece or Pound (20s.), Half-Pound, Crown, Half-Crown, Shilling, Sixpence, Groat (4d.), Threepence, Half-Groat, Penny, Halfpenny. *Copper* or *Tin*: Farthing Tokens.
- COMMONWEALTH.—*Gold*: Twenty-Shilling Piece (20s.), Ten-Shilling Piece, Five-Shilling Piece. *Silver*: Crown, Half-Crown, Shilling, Sixpence, Half-Groat (2d.), Penny, Halfpenny.
- PROTECTORATE.—*Gold*: Fifty-Shilling Piece (50s.), Broad or Twenty-Shilling Piece (20s.), Half-Broad. *Silver*: Crown, Half-Crown, Shilling, Sixpence. All Patterns (?).
- CHARLES II.—*Gold*: Five-Guinea Piece (£5), Two-Guinea Piece (£2), Guinea (£1), Half-Guinea (10s.), Broad or Twenty-Shilling Piece, Half-Broad, Quarter-Broad or Five-Shilling Piece. *Silver*: Crown, Half-Crown, Shilling, Sixpence, Groat, Threepence, Half-Groat, Penny, and Maundy 4d., 3d., 2d., 1d. *Copper*: Halfpenny and Farthing. *Tin*: Farthing.
- JAMES II.—*Gold*: Five-Guinea Piece (£5), Two-Guinea (£2), Guinea (£1), Half-Guinea (10s.). *Silver*: Crown, Half-Crown, Shilling, Sixpence, and Maundy 4d., 3d., 2d., 1d. *Tin*: Halfpenny and Farthing.
- WILLIAM AND MARY.—*Gold*: Five Guinea (£5 7s. 6d.), Two Guinea (£2 3s. 6d.), Guinea (£1 1s. 6d.), Half-Guinea (10s. 6d.). *Silver*: Crown, Half-Crown, Shilling, Sixpence, and Maundy 4d., 3d., 2d., and 1d. *Copper*: Halfpenny, Farthing. *Tin*: Halfpenny, Farthing.
- WILLIAM III. alone.—*Gold*: As before, with some difference in current value. *Silver*: As before. *Copper*: As before. *Tin*: None.
- ANNE.—*Gold*: Five Guinea (£5 7s. 6d.), Two Guinea (£2 3s. 6d.), Guinea (£1 1s. 6d.), Half-Guinea (10s. 6d.). *Silver*: Crown, Half-Crown, Shilling, Sixpence, and Maundy 4d., 3d., 2d., and 1d. *Copper*: Farthing.
- GEORGE I.—*Gold*: Five Guinea (£5 5s. 6d.), Two Guinea, One Guinea, Half-Guinea, Quarter-Guinea. *Silver*: Crown, Half-Crown, Shilling, Sixpence, and Maundy 4d., 3d., 2d., and 1d. *Copper*: Halfpenny, Farthing.
- GEORGE II.—*Gold*: Five Guinea, Two Guinea, Guinea, Half-Guinea. *Silver*: Crown, Half-Crown, Shilling, Sixpence, and Maundy 4d., 3d., 2d., and 1d. *Copper*: Halfpenny and Farthing.
- GEORGE III.—*Gold*: Guinea, Half-Guinea, Third-of-Guinea or Seven-Shilling Piece, Quarter-Guinea, Sovereign (20s.), Half-Sovereign. *Silver*: Crown, Half-Crown, Shilling, Sixpence, and Maundy 4d., 3d., 2d., and 1d. *Copper*: Twopence, Penny, Halfpenny, and Farthing.
- GEORGE IV.—*Gold*: Double-Sovereign, Sovereign, Half-Sovereign. *Silver*: Crown, Half-Crown, Shilling,

Sixpence, and Maundy 4d., 3d., 2d., and 1d. *Copper*: Penny, Halfpenny, Farthing.

WILLIAM IV.—*Gold*: Sovereign, Half-Sovereign. *Silver*: Half-Crown, Shilling, Sixpence, Groat (4d.), and Maundy 4d., 3d., 2d., and 1d. *Copper*: Penny, Halfpenny, Farthing.

VICTORIA.—*Gold*: Five Pound Piece, Double Sovereign, Sovereign, Half-Sovereign. *Silver*: Crown, Half-Crown, Double Florin, Florin, Shilling, Sixpence, Groat (4d.), Threepence, and Maundy 4d., 3d., 2d., and 1d. *Copper and Bronze*: Penny, Halfpenny, Farthing, Half-Farthing.

Mints and Coining. The primitive method of coining money seems to have been by placing the soft, hot metal in contact with an upper die and striking with a hammer, and many early coins show the mark of the small blunt spike or anvil on which the metal was supported. The next advance was to place the lump of metal on the lower die and to hammer down the upper one until an impression was produced on each side of the flan. No British coining implements seem to have been discovered, but doubtless there was little difference between the mode of coining employed by the Briton and that used by his neighbours across the Channel, and as coin-dies have been found in France and in Switzerland we are able to see fairly accurately in what way our earliest money was made. One such die, found at Avenches, in Switzerland, is thus described by Sir John Evans: "This die, which is intended for striking the obverse of one of the Helvetian degenerate imitations of the Philippine, consists of a disc of bronze inlaid in a cylindrical block of iron. The surface of the die is concave, so as to produce

the convexity of surface so common among the coins of this class, and one reason for this concavity of the die appears to have been that the coins were struck from nearly spherical pieces of metal which were heated, and prevented from rolling in their place by the concavity of the lower die."

Before the time of Athelstan the archbishops and some of the bishops and abbots had the right of coining money and receiving the profits of their mints, though none but the archbishops were permitted to place their own effigies on the money they struck. But Athelstan enacted that there should be "one money" throughout the kingdom, and that no one should coin but the king and those to whom he granted the privilege. Athelstan appointed seven mints at Canterbury, three at Rochester, eight at London, six at Winchester, two at Lewes, two at Exeter, two at Werham, two at Shaftesbury, and at every other town one. The chief or head mint was situated at London.

The mints here spoken of were of course very different from mints of the nineteenth century. The apparatus employed was simple and easily portable, consisting of hammer, block, shears, &c. On the capital of one of the pillars in the Church of St. Georges-de-Bocher-ville, near Rouen, built about the time of the Norman Conquest of England, there is a carving representing a moneyer of the period at work. He is standing by a large wooden block or "pile," on the surface of which is fixed the die for the obverse of the coin. In his left hand

he holds the wooden cylinder or "trussel," which has the reverse die affixed to one end, and in his right hand a wooden mallet. The *modus operandi* needs no explanation. To the fact that the reverse die almost invariably bore a cross the origin of the expression "cross and pile" has been traced. This method of coining, with some minor differences, it is true, but substantially the same, continued in the field without a rival until the time of Elizabeth. In 1561 a new machine was introduced, invented by a Frenchman. It was already in use at the French mint, and was called the screw press, or mill, or mill-and-screw. But it did not meet with approval, and after being used for about fifteen years, side by side with the hammer, it was given up until 1662, when it finally superseded the ancient method.

Thus, as all the work was done by hand, it was not only convenient, but necessary, that there should be more than one mint working at the same time. The name of the moneyer, and later, of the place of mintage, were usually inscribed on the coins. The former appears for the last time on the coins of Edward I. In this reign all the mints were placed in charge of one mint-master, a Frenchman, William de Turnemire, who was given the title of *Magister Moneta Regis in Anglia*. In 1810 the mint was moved from the Tower to its present quarters on Tower Hill, and at the same time steam took the place of horse-power in working the machinery.

Lowndes, who wrote in 1695, thus describes the making of the milled coins: "*Milled Money*

was first Fabricated to be Currant in *England* in this manner: First, the Gold or Silver is cast out of the Melting-pot into long flat Bars, which Bars are drawn through a Mill (wrought by a Horse) to produce the just thickness of Guineas, Half-Guineas. Crowns, Half-Crowns, Shillings, &c. Then with forcible Engines, called *Cutters*, which answer exactly to the respective Sizes or Dimensions of the Money to be made, the Round Pieces are cut out from the Flat Bar, shaped as afore said (the Residue whereof, called *Sizel*, is Melted again), and then every Piece is Weighed, and made to agree exactly with the intended Weight, and afterwards carried to other Engines (wrought secretly) which put the letters upon the Edges of the larger Silver Pieces and Mark the Edges of the Rest with a graining. The next thing is the Blanching . . . and at last, Every Piece is brought to the Press, which is called the *Mill* (wrought by the Strength of Men), and there Receives the Impression, which makes it perfect *Milled Money*."

Stated briefly, the method of coining at the Royal Mint at the present time is as follows:—

The metal—let us suppose it silver in this case—is rolled into long strips and annealed, *i.e.*, toughened by exposure to great heat, followed by a slow cooling. When the strips are reduced to the desired thickness, a disc the size of the coin to be struck is cut out and weighed. If the weight is satisfactory the strips are sent to the cutting machines, which cut out the round "blanks." These are then treated by an apparatus which raises the little rim on the edge, and

as the pressure they undergo during the operation renders them rather brittle they are again annealed, after which they are blanched in diluted sulphuric acid to remove the oxide of copper which forms on the surface during the annealing, then rinsed in water, and finally dried in revolving cylinders filled with beechwood sawdust, from whence they emerge with that peculiar lustre which is seen only on freshly minted coins. They are now ready for the coining press, where each blank being placed in a "collar" which at once holds it in place and marks it with its "milling," the upper and lower dies close on it with such force that when the shining disc is released it is a finished coin of the realm. Every separate coin is then weighed by a balance provided with three slots, into one or another of which it automatically drops every piece according as it is over, under, or equivalent to the prescribed weight. Every coin is rung, so that flaws may be detected, and examined on both sides before leaving the mint in order that no faulty or mis-struck money shall pass into circulation. Any coin which fails under the appointed tests is sent back to the melting-pot.

The dies are prepared from steel matrices in which the engraver has cut the required design. At one time the artist who created the design was also the engraver who cut the die, but this is no longer the case, and one reason for the inability of the present day to produce a really satisfactory coin is owing to the disadvantage which the artist suffers in having to commit his design into the hands of the die-sinker. A

design naturally loses some of its individuality when it comes to be treated by a second person.

The matrix, or die, having been cut, it has next to be hardened, an operation of some difficulty, in the process of which it may very possibly be injured or completely spoiled. In the case of the half-crown of the early part of the present reign, about eight dies had to be cut before one was made which could survive the process of hardening. The hardening being successfully accomplished, the die is cleaned and polished. It is not itself used for stamping coin, but by its means a *punch* is made—i.e., a steel impression in relief—from which again other dies are made, all being exact copies of the original, which is thus kept uninjured. The minute figures which may be seen on some coins of this reign refer to the numbers of the dies which impressed them.

The working-life of a die varies according to the quality of the steel, some varieties of steel being more lasting than others, but the average duration is about a day. The usual number of pieces struck by—say—a florin die, is not more than 50,000, but in some cases the die cracks before doing any work to speak of. The rate at which coins are struck depends on the size of the piece. Large coins, as they require more pressure, are struck less quickly than small ones. Bronze pennies, for example, are turned out at the rate of one hundred a minute.

Of the Fineness of English Coins, from 1066.²—As regards the fineness of the money of England, one standard only of silver was em-

ployed for coining purposes from the reign of William I. to that of Henry VII. inclusive, and one standard only of gold from the reign of Edward III. to that of Henry VII., inclusive. This was the Old Standard, by which the gold contained 23 carats $3\frac{1}{2}$ grains of fine or pure gold to half a grain of alloy; and the silver 11 oz. 2 dwts. fine or pure silver to 18 dwt. of alloy. The gold penny of Henry III. was of the pure metal.

Standard gold at the present day contains 22 carats fine to 2 carats alloy, but the standard silver remains as it was in the days of the Conqueror.

Under Henry VIII. the first step was taken towards the debasement of the coinage. The gold of the crown and half-crown contained 2 carats alloy, instead of only half a grain, and gave the name to the quality known as "crown" gold, from the fact of the crown being the first coin for which it was utilised. Then the silver coins were reduced, and the standard lowered to 10 oz. fine and 2 oz. alloy to the pound. The last reduction brought the gold down to twenty carats fine and four carats alloy, and the silver was as low as 4 oz. fine and 8 oz. alloy. A contemporary writer, John Heywood, alludes several times to the debased coinage, as in the following:—

"These Testoons looke redde, how like you the same?
'Tis a token of grace; they blush for shame."

The first issue of Edward VI. was of the same quality, and he also issued some shillings of

3 oz. fine to 9 oz. alloy, and this was the lowest ebb of the tide. The following issue was very slightly below the Old Standard.

Mary's gold coins were according to the Old Standard, and her silver ones of 11 oz. fine to 1 oz. alloy, excepting the pieces known as the base pennies, which are 3 oz. fine to 9 oz. alloy. Elizabeth's first issue of silver was in the proportion of 11 oz. fine to 1 oz. alloy, but in the third year of her reign she restored the Old Standard of 11 oz. 2 dwt. fine to 18 dwt. alloy. Her gold coins are either of the Old Standard or of crown gold. She called in the debased money of Henry VIII. and Edward VI., and ordained a mint in the Tower where it was to be melted down and such good metal as it contained applied to the making of the new coins. Bishop Jewel says in a letter to Peter Martyr of Zurich, dated February 7th, 1562, "Queen Elizabeth has restored all our gold and silver coinage to its former value, and rendered it pure and unalloyed: a truly royal act, and which you will wonder could have been effected in so short a time."

There has never since been any debasement of the coinage. Crown gold and silver of the Old Standard have continued in use down to the present day, although gold of the Old Standard was occasionally coined by James I. and Charles I.

CHAPTER I

Circa 150 B.C. TO 1066 A.D.

It is to Greece that we indirectly owe the first coinage of this island. Philip II., King of Macedon, master of the famous gold mines of Crenides, coined a large number of gold staters, which in time obtained a very extensive circulation both in Greece herself and in her colonies. Through the colony of Massilia (Marseilles) they were introduced into Gaul, and there copied



FIG. 2.—Stater of Philip II.

by the natives. Gaulish traders took these copies with them when they sailed across to Britain, and the Britons,

admiring the novel works of art, set to and in their turn produced imitations of the Gaulish copies of Philip of Macedon's staters.

Fig. 2 illustrates one of the gold staters of Philip II., a coin dating from some time between 359 and 336 B.C. *Obv.*, Head of Apollo, with laurel wreath, to right. *Rev.*, a two-horse chariot to right, a trident below the horse's forelegs, and in the exergue ΦΙΛΙΠΠΥ (Philippus).

Compare it with Fig. 3, which is the Gaul's copy, called the "Philippine." *Obv.*, Head of Apollo, coarsely worked. *Rev.*, Two-horse

chariot and trident as before. In the exergue + ΦΙΛΙΠΠΥ.

The next illustration (Fig. 4) shows a British copy of the Philippine. The later British coins are scarcely to be recognised as being derived from the Macedonian staters, for as time went

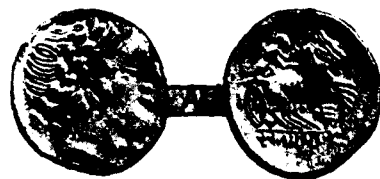


FIG. 3.—Philippine.

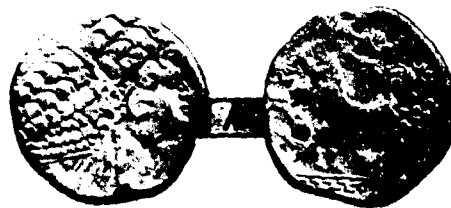


FIG. 4.—British Stater.

on the native coiner perpetuated and extended his own alterations until the original type can no longer be traced. Sir John Evans, a well-known authority on this subject, thinks it "highly probable that there was a native coinage in Britain as early as B.C. 150, if not earlier," and considers that Kent is the locality in which this coinage began.

Ancient British coins are found in gold, silver and copper, and either with or without inscriptions. The earliest inscribed specimens are probably some of uncertain date bearing the word *RODVOC*, the meaning of which is not clear, though some have interpreted it as "Boadicea." But for this reading there is not any foundation.

There are about twenty different persons known to have struck British coins, many of whom would never have been heard of if it had not been for their inscribed money. One of these is Tasciovanus, a prince of the Catyechlani and other tribes who inhabited Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire, and perhaps also of the Trinobantes, inhabiting Middlesex and Essex. His capital was at Verulam, a city whose remains are close by the present town of St. Albans. The name of Tasciovanus occurs on the coins in such forms as *TASC*, *TASCIAV*, and *TASCIQAN*, and that of Verulam as *V*, *VER*, *VERIAMIO*, &c. It is reasonable to suppose that the reign of Tasciovanus lasted from about 30 B.C. to 5 A.D. He was the father of Cunobeline, with whom Shakespeare acquaints us under the name of Cymbeline. At the death of Tasciovanus Cunobeline probably inherited that part of his father's dominions of which Camulodunum was the capital, and at this town, on whose site, Colchester now stands, a very large number of coins inscribed with the name of Cunobeline have been found. With this prince the British coinage seems to have ended. His name appears in various forms,

such as *CVN*, *CVNO*, *CVNOBELI*, *CVNOBELINVS*, &c., and *Camulodunum* as *CAM*, *CAMVI*, &c.

Fig. 5 illustrates a gold coin of Cunobeline, having on the obverse a horse and the name *CVNO*, and on the reverse a wheat-ear and [c]*AMV*.

On the complete conquest of Britain by the Romans an edict was published which forbade the circulation in the island of any money but that bearing the Imperial stamp. Roman mints were set up in London and Colchester, but not before the time of Carausius, a Roman officer who seized the seat of authority in Britain and bestowed upon himself the title of emperor in 287 A.D. Roman coins were last struck in this island by Magnus Maximus, who died in 388 A.D. They probably continued to circulate after the Romans had withdrawn from Britain, and for some time after the arrival of the Saxons. But just here comes a break in our numismatic history, and not until more than three hundred years have passed can we again pick up the thread.

The Saxons, when they landed in Britain, had already, according to Ruding, a knowledge of coining, and when the Heptarchy was once formed and the country had in some measure settled down under its new conquerors, Saxon

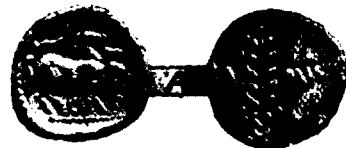


FIG. 5.—Gold coin of Cunobeline.

mints were established and money struck. Five of the seven kingdoms issued money, *i.e.*, Kent, Mercia, East Anglia, Wessex, and Northumbria.

The earliest Anglo-Saxon coin was the *sceat*, which as a rule was of silver, although a few gold specimens exist. The value of the silver *sceat* is not exactly known, but it is sometimes reckoned at one twenty-fifth less than the silver penny. The *sceattae* bore many various types, some being original, others copied from Roman or other foreign coins. These types include, for example, a rudely executed head, a horse, a bird, or an ornamental device. Mr. Charles Keary, F.S.A., says of the *sceattae*: "Of these apparently original and native works of art we may count between thirty and forty distinct varieties, and as they are probably earlier than most of the extant remains of Saxon or Irish architecture, and earlier than most of the Saxon or Irish MSS., the interest which belongs to these pieces is very great."

The inscriptions, or rather the attempts at inscriptions, upon them are nearly all quite meaningless, and it is impossible to attach names or dates to any of the *sceattae* but those which have Runic legends, such as the one shown by Fig. 6, which bears the name of Æthilread in Anglian runes. Æthilread was king of Mercia, 675-704.

The Saxon penny, a silver piece, made its first appearance about the year 760, under Offa, King of Mercia, who struck it in imitation of the *denier* (Latin, *denarius*), which, later, formed an important part of the Continental currency,

and which had been introduced probably by Pepin the Short, king of France from 752 to 768 A.D. A few Saxon halfpennies have come down to us, and it is possible that farthings were coined, silver being in all cases the material in which they were struck. But a common practice was to cut pennies into halves and quarters whenever small change was wanted.



FIG. 6.—*Sceat* of Æthilread of Mercia.

For six hundred years, in round figures, the silver penny remained the chief and almost the only denomination, and it has been coined by nearly every sovereign down to the present day, although in modern times it appears only as Maundy money. Its original weight of twenty-four grains has given its name to the penny-weight.

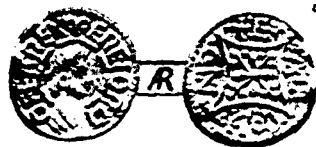


FIG. 7.—Penny of Offa.

Offa's coins are noted for their elegance of design and good workmanship. One of them is shown by Fig. 7, as follows:—*Obv.*, Bust to right, partly enclosed by a circle. *Leg.*, OFFA REX MERCIORM. *Rev.*, Cruciform ornament enclosed by a lozenge. *Leg.*, EALMUND (name of moneyer).

The first recorded coin struck by a woman in this country is a penny of Cenethrith, or Cynefrith, the wife of Offa, probably after the king's

28 THE STORY OF THE BRITISH COINAGE

death. It is illustrated by Fig. 8, as follows: *Obv.*, Draped bust to right, flowing hair. *Leg.*, EOBA (the moneyer's name). *Rev.*, The Mercian



FIG. 8.—Penny of Cenethrith.

"M" in a beaded circle. *Leg.*, CENE-DRID REGINA.

Besides the pennies there were also some small pieces called stycas, which

contained from 60 to 70 per cent. of copper, added to a mixture of other metals, chiefly silver and zinc. No stycas are known, however, but those which were issued from the mints of the kings of Northumberland and the archbishops of York. They ceased to be coined after the year 875, at which time Halfdan the Dane became King of Northumberland. One of the stycas (Fig. 9) is as follows:—*Obv.*, Cross in centre, EGGFRID REX. *Rev.*, A cross with rays proceeding, LVX. The appearance of the word LVX on the reverse has not been satisfactorily accounted for, though it is possible, as some have thought, that it may have "a religious meaning in connection with the radiate cross." Egfrid was king of Northumberland from 670-685.



FIG. 9.—Styca of Egfrid.

It is not possible to describe here coins fully representative of the Anglo-Saxon series, but the following are of interest as having been issued by some notable monarchs of the period.

Fig. 10 shows a penny of Alfred the Great. *Obv.*, Bust to right. *Leg.*, ÆLFRED RE[X]. *Rev.*, Monogram of Londuni (London). *Leg.*, ÆLESTAN (name of moneyer).

Fig. 11 shows a penny of Edward the Confessor. *Obv.*, Bust, crowned and draped, to



FIG. 10.—Penny of Alfred the Great.

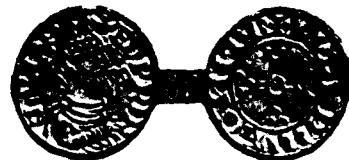


FIG. 11.—Penny of Edward the Confessor.

right. *Leg.*, EDPRED REX (Edward Rex). *Rev.*, An ornate cross within an inner circle. *Leg.*, WULFPINE ON HER (Wulfpine of Hereford).

It is a matter of discussion as to whether the word "ON" on this and other coins of the period is an abbreviation of *monetarius*, or moneyer, the chief officer of the mint, or whether it merely means *of*. Canon Pownall, in a paper read before the Numismatic Society in 1862, suggested that, according to a common Saxon use of the word, it should be considered

equivalent to *in*. Thus *WULFPINE ON HER* would mean *WULFPINE IN HER*, *i.e.*, Wulfpine performing the office of *mosletarius* or moneyer in Hereford.

Fig. 12 shows a penny of the last king of the

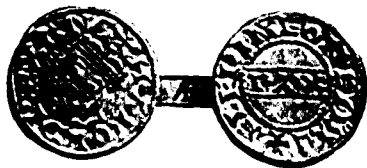


FIG. 12.—Penny of Harold II.

Saxon line. Harold II. *Obv.*, Crowned head to left, sceptre in front. *Leg.*, HAROLD REX ANGL. *Rev.*, PAX between two lines across the centre of the field, enclosed by a beaded circle. *Leg.*, WULFPINE ON CICEI (Alfwine of Chichester).

CHAPTER II

FROM 1066 TO THE PRESENT DAY

William I. 1066 1087, William II. 1087 1100. The coins of William the Conqueror consist of but the one denomination, the silver penny. It is difficult to distinguish between the pennies of William I. and William II., and as there is some difference of opinion as to their attribution we shall therefore consider them under one head.

There are three types known, the *Pax*, the *Bonnet*, and the *Canopy* type. The first takes

its name from a word which forms a prominent part of the reverse device, the second from the style of crown worn by the king, and the third from a canopy arranged over the head. The king is represented either full face, or profile to right or left. The obverse legend reads *WILLELMVS REX ANGL [ORVM]*, or a variation, *i.e.*, William, King of the English. On the reverse of all three types is a cross, an inner circle, and a legend giving the name of the moneyer and place of mintage.

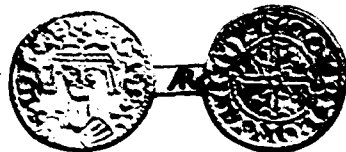


FIG. 13.—Penny of William I.

We may here notice that from now until the time of Edward III. all English coins, with one exception, to be described presently, are of silver. Gold was not regularly coined until the reign of Edward III., and copper was not added to the currency until the time of Charles II.

A penny of the *bonnet* type is illustrated by Fig. 13, and is as follows:—*Obv.*, Full face bust, with "bonnet" crown. *Leg.*, *WILLELMVS REX* (William Rex). *Rev.*, A cross within an inner circle of beads. *Leg.*, *GODRIC ON LINDEI* (Godric of London).

The Saxon form of the *w*, *viz.*, *p*, is still retained.

Henry I., 1100-1135.—Of Henry I.'s pennies there are many different varieties. On the obverse is shown the bust of the king, either

full-face, three-quarters, or profile to right or left, with his name and title, HENRICVS REX ANGLIÆ, Henry, King of England, while the cross, more or less ornate, and accompanied by such accessories as roses, pellets, &c., forms the principal reverse type.

Stephen, 1135-1154.—The pennies of Stephen are ill-executed pieces, and are nearly all very scarce. They are of similar devices to those of the preceding reign, and bear the king's

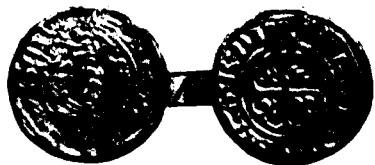


FIG. 14.—Penny of Stephen.

head either full-face or profile to right, and his name in such forms as STEF, STEEN, STIEN, STIEFNEI, STEFANVS, &c. During this disorderly reign many of the barons set up mints in their castles and coined money on their own account, but most of the coins struck by them are of such bad workmanship as to be illegible.

The penny of Stephen here illustrated (Fig. 14) is as follows:—*Obv.*, Crowned bust to right, partly enclosed by a beaded line, a sceptre before the face. *Legs*, ST REX. *Rev.*, A cross fleury in beaded circle. *Legs*, PILLEM CARDI. (William of Cardiff.)

The purchasing power of a silver penny at

this period was equal to that of about fourteen shillings of our present money.

Henry II., 1154-1189.—There were two issues of pennies in this reign. The pennies of the first issue have a full-face bust, crowned, and a sceptre to the right, and the legend HENRI. R., or REX ANGL., and variations. On the reverse they bear a cross within an inner circle having a small cross in each angle. The legend gives the name of the moneyer and place of mintage, *e.g.*, ALWIN ON LVND (Alwin of London). Many of these coins are ill-struck and totally illegible.

The pennies of the second issue are known as short-cross pennies, in distinction from those coined in the latter part of Henry III.'s reign which go by the name of long-cross pennies, and on which the limbs of the cross on the reverse extend to the edge of the coin. These short-cross pieces have a full-face head within an inner circle, and a hand, holding a sceptre, outside the circle. The legend reads simply HENRICVS REX. The reverse has a double cross pomel—that is, a cross with a ball or globule at the extremity of each line—within an inner circle, and a small cross pomel in each angle. The legend is as on the first-issue coins, *e.g.*, WALTER ON LV (Walter of London).

Richard I., 1189-1199.—No English coins bearing the name of Richard I. are known to exist, but the issue of the short-cross pennies of the last reign continued without any variation of type or alteration of the name HENRICVS. Some having Lichfield as the place of mintage are assigned to Richard I. on the ground that it

was in his reign that the Bishop of Coventry was first permitted to coin at that town.

John, 1199 1216. The only coins bearing the name of John are those which he struck in Ireland, the first of the Anglo-Irish series. See p. 133. The short-cross pennies continued to be coined during this reign and part of the next, and remain exactly as before. Those which numismatists assign to John, on account of the style of workmanship, &c., are somewhat smaller than the others.

Henry III., 1216 1272. Pennies of the short-cross type continued to be struck up to the year 1248, and it is very difficult to distinguish between those minted by Henry III. and those minted by Henry II. In

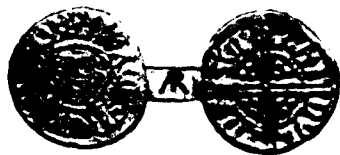


FIG. 15.—Long-cross penny of Henry III.

1248 the long-cross type was introduced, having on the reverse a long double cross extending to the outer edge of the coin. This type is also usually distinguished by the word *TERCI*, or the equivalent Roman numerals after the king's name, the first instance of the kind which occurs on English coins. Fig. 15 shows an example of one of these pennies, as follows: *Obv.*, Crowned full-face head in beaded circle, sceptre to left. *Leg.*, HENRICVS REX III. *Rev.*, A long double cross with pellets in the angles. Inner circle of beads. *Leg.*, RANDOLF ON SLD (Randulf of St. Edmundsbury).

At this point we have to remark a notable event in the history of the English coinage—the appearance of the first gold coin. The few pieces struck in gold by some of the Saxon kings did not form any part of the regular currency. In the year 1257 a gold penny was struck by Henry III. which weighed about forty-five grains, and was equivalent in value to twenty of the contemporary silver pennies. This coin is said to have for its prototype the bezant, a

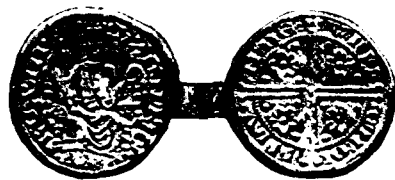


FIG. 16.—Gold penny of Henry III.

gold piece belonging to Byzantium, and taking its name from that city. For more than five centuries, with but an occasional break, the bezant had borne the image of Christ, and in the reign of Henry III. of England represented the Saviour seated on a richly ornamented throne. This type has evidently been copied for the English piece, which, however, is a far better executed coin than its original.

The gold penny appears but this once in our coinage, and only three or four examples are now known to exist, one of which is illustrated by Fig. 16. *Obv.*, The king seated on throne, holding sceptre in right hand and orb in left.

Leg., HENRIC REX III. *Rev.*, A long double cross, whose limbs pierce the inner circle, a rose and three pellets in each angle within the beaded circle. A beaded circle between the legend and the rim. *Leg.*, WILLELM ON LONDE (William of London).

Edward I., 1272 1307.—Under Edward I. we have, in addition to the penny, the half-penny and the farthing, both in silver. Some groats, or fourpenny pieces, are also assigned to this reign, but they were doubtless only patterns for coins and not intended for circulation. One is as follows:

Obv., Full face bust, crowned, enclosed by a quatrefoil within an inner circle, a trefoil in each angle. *Leg.*, EDWARDVS . DEI GRA REX : ANGL (Edwardus, Dei gratia, Rex anglie). *Rev.*, A long cross with ornate extremities, three pellets in each angle. *Leg.* (in two circles), *Outer circle*, DNS HYBN' E DUX AQT (Dominus Hybernæ et Dux Aquitane); *Inner circle*, CIVITAS LONDON (City of London).

The titles, it will be observed, are here much fuller than on the coins previously issued.

The pennies are of similar type, having a full-face head, but without the quatrefoil, and the legend EDW . R . ANGL . DNS . HYB . and variations, and on the reverse a long cross with pellets in the angles. The legend, in one circle only, gives the place of mintage—e.g., CIVITAS LONDON, VILLA BRISTOLIE (Bristol). A few examples of this denomination have a triangle enclosing the king's head, as on the

Irish coins of John. The halfpenny and farthing resemble the ordinary penny; some farthings, however, like that illustrated by Fig. 17, reading LONDONIENSIS. See also below under Edward II.

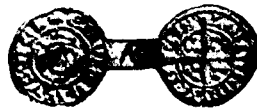


FIG. 17.—Farthing of Edward I.

Edward II., 1307 1327.—Pennies and halfpennies were issued by this king. If farthings were coined as well, they cannot now be distinguished either from those of the preceding or of the following reign. It is somewhat difficult to discriminate between the coins of the first three Edwards, for as yet no numerals follow the king's name, except on the long-cross silver penny and the gold penny of Henry III. Their pennies are usually assigned thus: Those bearing the name as EDW to Edward I., other abbreviations to Edward II., and EDWARDVS in full to Edward III., but this rule is not quite infallible.

Edward III., 1327–1377.—Edward III. coined not only pennies, halfpennies, and farthings in silver, but groats and half-groats as well, and besides these, no less than six different denominations in gold—namely, the florin, half-florin, quarter-florin, noble, half-noble, quarter-noble. The pennies, half-pennies, and farthings closely resemble those of the two preceding reigns (see above). The groats and half-groats resemble each other, and have on the obverse a full-face bust, within a tressure, or circle, composed of nine arches,

38 THE STORY OF THE BRITISH COINAGE

and the legend EDWARD D. G. REX ANGL. Z. FRANC. D. HY. and variations, or EDWARD. DEI. G. REX. ANGL. DNS. HY. Z. AQT., and variations.

In full, these read EDWARD DEI GRATIA REX ANGLIE ET FRANCIE DOMINVS HYBERNIE, or . . . REX ANGLIE DOMINVS HYBERNIE ET AQUITANIE, the latter being the style employed so long as the Treaty of Breteigny continued in force. The *z* is frequently used as a contraction of *et*, and. The reverse of the groat and half-groat bears a long cross, with the legend POSVI DEVM ADIVTOREM MEVM ("I have made God my helper") and the mint name, in two circles, as on the pattern groat of Edward I.

The gold florin (Fig. 18) was current for six shillings. It is as follows:

Obv., The king crowned and enthroned under a canopy, holding orb and sceptre. A leopard is on either side of the throne, and the field is strewn with lys. *Leg.*, EDWR. D. GRA. REX ANGL. Z. FRANC. DNS. HIB. *Rev.*, A short



FIG. 18.
Gold florin of Edward III.

ornate beaded cross, the extremities crowned, enclosed by a tressure of four arches, with a lion in each angle, all within a beaded circle.

Leg., IHC TRANSIENS PER MEDIVM ILIORVM IBAT ("Jesus passing through the midst of them, went his way").

The reverse legend is intended as a talisman to protect the coin from theft. Only two specimens of this piece are known. The half-florin is as follows: *Obv.*, A leopard, crowned and mantled, the mantle bearing the arms of England and France.

Leg., EDWARD. D. GRA. REX ANGL. Z. FRANC. DNS. HIB. *Rev.*, A cross fleury contained in a tressure of four arches, a lion in each angle of the tressure *Leg.*, DOMINE NE IN FVRORE TVO ARGVAS ME ("O Lord, rebuke me not in thine anger").

The quarter-florin shows the following type: *Obv.*, A crowned lion over a helmet and cap of maintenance; field strewn with fleurs-de-lys.



FIG. 19.—Noble of Edward III.

Leg., EDWR. R. ANGL. Z. FRANC. D. HIB. *Rev.*, A cross fleury, with ornate extremities. *Leg.*, EXALTABITVR IN GLORIA ("He shall be exalted in glory"). It is suggested by Ruding in *The Annals of the Coinage* that the noble commemorates the victory of the English at Sluys in 1340. This coin (Fig. 19) is as follows:

Obv., Three-quarter figure of the king, full face, standing in a ship, holding drawn sword and shield, the latter bearing the arms of England and France quarterly. *Leg.*, EDWAR. D. GRA. REX ANGL. Z. FRANC. DNS. HYB. *Rev.*, Beaded cross fleury, in a tressure of eight arches. A lion surmounted by a crown in each angle of the cross, and a fleur-de-lys at each extremity. *Leg.*, IHC. TRANSIENS. PER. MEDIVM. ILLORVM. IBAT. The half-noble is similar but reads DOMINE NE, etc. The quarter-noble has on the obverse a shield with the arms of England and France, within a double tressure of six arches, and the usual legend; on the reverse, a cross fleury in tressure of eight arches, with a lion in each angle, and the legend EXALTABITVR IN GLORIA.

The nobles and their fractions of the subsequent coinages of this reign vary in small particulars which it is not necessary to examine further here.

Richard II., 1377-1399.—The same gold and silver pieces, excepting the florin and its half and quarter, none of which appear again in the coinage, were issued by Richard II. as by his grandfather. They call for no special

comment here, being very similar to those of those of the preceding reign.

Henry IV., 1399-1413; Henry V., 1413-1422; Henry VI., 1422-1461.—These three sovereigns coined the same denominations as Richard II. Their coins, both gold and silver, bear a very close resemblance one to another, and as no numerals distinguish Henry

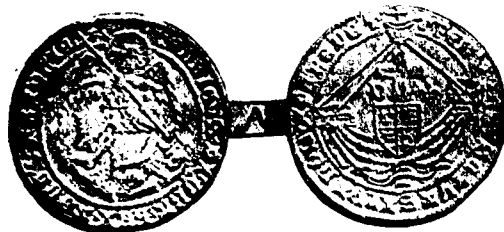


FIG. 20.—Angel of Henry VI.

from Henry the attribution of their coins to the proper reigns is based upon minute variations of weight and differences of detail in type and legend and in the style of the lettering, with which it is not within the scope of these pages to deal. They are all of the same types as the corresponding coins of former reigns.

Henry VI., however, introduced a new gold piece, the angel, with its half, the angelet. The angel (Fig. 20) is of the following type: *Obv.*, The Archangel Michael, with wings and a nimbus, transfixing a dragon with a spear, within a beaded circle. *Leg.*, HENRICVS. DI. GRA. REX. ANGL. Z. FRANCIE or a variation.

Rev., A ship, having as mast a large plain cross before which is a shield with the arms of England and France. The letter H and a fleur-de-lys respectively stand on either side of the cross. *Leg.*, PER CRVSE TVA SALVA' NOS XPE . REDET ("By thy cross save us, O Christ, our Redeemer").

According to the ancient custom of "touching for the king's evil," by which persons afflicted with that malady came to the sovereign to be healed by his "touch," a gold piece was always given to the patient as a charm against further attacks of the disease. The angel was the coin principally used for this purpose. The angelet is similar, but the reverse legend reads O CRVX AVE SPES VNICA ("Hail, O cross, our only hope!").

Edward IV., 1461-1483.—Edward IV.'s coinage was on the same lines as Henry VI.'s, with the addition of the rose noble, royal, or ryal, and its half and quarter.

The first noble of this king is of the same type as that of Edward III. *Obv.*, Three-quarter figure of the king, crowned, standing in a ship, holding drawn sword and shield. *Leg.*, EDWARD' DI' GRA REX ANGL Z FRANC DNS HYB. *Rev.*, Cross with ornamental ends, each enclosing a fleur-de-lys, &c. &c. *Leg.*, IHC AVT' TRANSIENS, &c.

The rose noble is as follows, and it will be noted that this coin at once resembles and differs from the preceding. *Obv.*, Three-quarter figure of king, crowned, standing in a ship, holding drawn sword and shield. Flag

to the right of the king bearing the letter E. A rose on the side of the ship, whence this coin derives its name. *Leg.*, As before; some reading IB for HIB. *Rev.*, Sun with sixteen rays, every fourth ray ending in an ornament enclosing a lys. All within the ornaments a lion and crown, all within a tressure of eight arches. *Leg.*, As on the first noble.

Edward IV.'s silver coins include all the yet issued denominations, and in type resemble the pieces which preceded them. "The coins struck in country mints have the initial of the town name on the king's breast."

Edward V., 1483.—Angels and groats supposed to belong to this reign, and according to some numismatists, angelets also, are to be distinguished from the coins of Edward IV. only by the mint marks they bear, these marks being (1) a boar's head, (2) a rose-and-sun. The best authorities, however, consider that only those coins with the boar's head, or the boar's head on one side and the rose-and-sun on the other, should be attributed to this reign. Of such pieces only angels and groats are known.

Mint marks, which began to come into general use about this period, are small devices, such as a cross, or crown, placed at the beginning of the legend on either the obverse or reverse of a coin and sometimes on both. They distinguish the various issues from each other, or the coins of one moneyer from those of other moneyers, but as very little information concerning these marks has been handed down to us no reliable classification of coins can be made by their means.

Richard III., 1483-1485.—The coins of this reign were angels and angelets in gold, and groats, half-groats, pennies, and half-pennies, but no farthings, in silver. Excepting the change in the king's name all these pieces are similar to those of former reigns, and they are all very rare. Fig. 21 illustrates the groat.

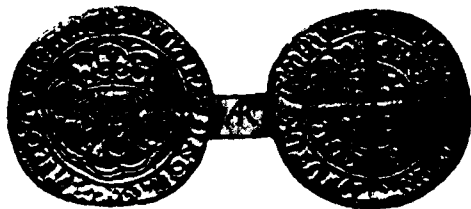


FIG. 21.—Groat of Richard III.

Obv., Crowned bust, full face, in tressure of nine arches and beaded circle. *Leg.*, RICARD. DI. GRA. REX ANGL' Z FRANC. *Rev.*, Long cross with pellets in the angles. *Leg.* (in two circles), *Outer circle*—POSVI DEVM ADIVTORE. MEVM ("I have made God my helper"); *Inner circle*—CIVITAS LONDON.

Henry VII., 1485-1509.—Henry VII. introduced one or two new features with regard to the coinage. His later pieces have the head in profile instead of the usual full face, and the addition of VII. or SEPTIM[VS] to the legend to distinguish this sovereign from others of the same name. He also coined two new denominations, the gold sovereign, or double ryal, and the silver testoon, or shilling. This latter is remarkable as being the first English coin which

bears a portrait of the sovereign. The name testoon was taken from that of the first French coin to bear the head, old French *teste* (tête), of the king. The testoon was equal to twelve pence. These two coins were struck in addition to the rose noble or ryal, angel, angelet, groat, half-groat, penny, half-penny, and farthing.

The new sovereign was a magnificent piece of money, and like its namesake of to-day was worth twenty shillings. Of this coin there are several types, one of which (Fig. 22) is as follows: *Obv.*, Full-length figure of the king seated on an elaborately fashioned throne, holding orb and sceptre, the field strewn with fleurs-de-lys, the



FIG. 22.—Sovereign of Henry VII.

whole within a beaded circle. *Leg.*, HENRICVS DEI GRACIA REX ANGLIE ET FRANCIE DNS IBAR.

Rev., a large double rose, having in the centre a shield with the arms of England and France, in a tressure of ten arches with a lion and a lys in each angle alternately.

Leg., IHESVS . AVTEM . TRANSIENS : PER : MEDIVM : ILLORVM : IBAT :

The double rose signifies the union of the houses of York and Lancaster by the marriage of Lancastrian Henry with the Yorkish princess Elizabeth.

The rose-noble or ryal (Fig. 23) is of exceeding rarity. *Obv.*, The king standing in a ship, crowned and in armour, a drawn sword in his right hand and a shield of arms in his left. A flag to his right bears a dragon and one to his left the initial H. *Leg.*, HENRIC . DI . GRA . REX ANGL . FRANC . DNS . IBAR. *Reg.*, A double rose, within tressure of arches and beaded circle, having in the centre

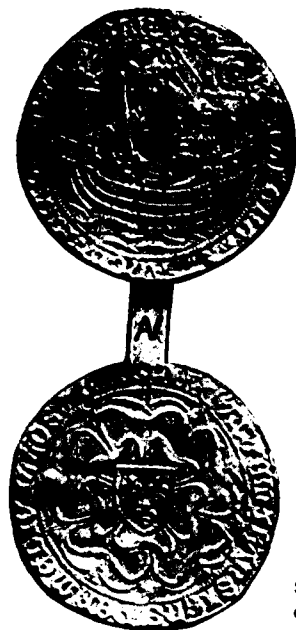


FIG. 23.—Rose-noble of Henry VII.

a shield charged with three fleur-de-lys, the arms of France. *Leg.*, IHC . AVTEM . TRANSIENS . PER MEDIVM . ILLORVM . IBAT.

The arms of France are no doubt intended to symbolise Henry's pretensions to the French crown. This piece is supposed to have been struck in France when the English besieged Boulogne in 1492.

The early silver coins of Henry VII. are of the same type as those of former reigns, but those of the second coinage have an alteration

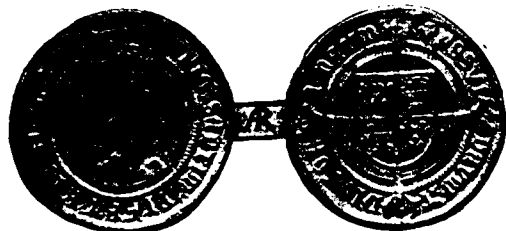


FIG. 24.—Testoon of Henry VII.

in the shape of the king's crown. With the third and last coinage a new type is introduced, of which we may take the testoon (Fig. 24) as an example. *Obv.*, Profile bust to right, wearing large arched crown, within a double circle. *Leg.*, HENRIC' . SEPTIM' . DI' GRA' . REX . ANGL' . Z . FR' . . *Rev.*, A square shield, with the arms of England and France quarterly, crossed by a cross fleury, whose limbs extend through the two inner circles to the edge of the coin. *Leg.*, POSVI DEVM . ADIVTORE' . MEVM.

The groat and half-groat are similar. The

penny has on the obverse the king, throned, with orb and sceptre, and on the reverse the shield of arms, with a cross over it, and the name of the place of mintage. There are no halfpence and farthings of this coinage.

Henry VIII., 1509-1547.—To the coins issued by his father, Henry VIII. added the double sovereign, half-sovereign, George-noble, half-George-noble, quarter-angel, crown, and half-crown, all in gold.

The double sovereigns are extremely rare and

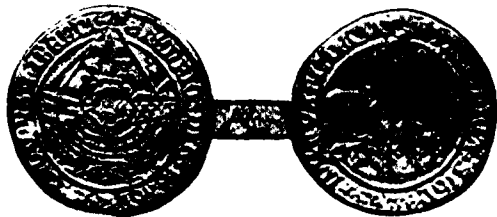


FIG. 25.—George-noble of Henry VIII.

are possibly only patterns. They show the following type: *Obv.*, The king enthroned, holding a sceptre in the right hand and an orb in the left. At his feet is a portcullis. *Leg.*, HENRICVS . DEI . GRACIA . REX ANGLIE . ET . FRANC . DNS . HIB . *Rev.*, A double rose, upon which is a shield with the arms of England and France. *Leg.*, IHESVS AVTEM TRANSIENS PER MEDIVM ILLORVM IBAT. The sovereign is of similar type. The pound-sovereign and half-sovereign have on the reverse the shield and supporters. The George-noble (Fig. 25) has: *Obv.*, A ship bearing the Tudor rose on

the mast, surmounted by a plain cross, with the letters H. and K. (for Henry and Katherine) one on either side, all in inner circle. *Leg.*, HENRIC . DI . G . R . ANGL . Z . FRANC . DNS . HIBERNI. *Rev.*, St. George in helmet and full armour, mounted on horseback, engaged in spearing the dragon, enclosed by an inner circle. *Leg.*, TALI . DICA . SIGNO . MES . FLVCTVARI . NEQVIT ("Consecrated by such a sign the mind cannot waver").

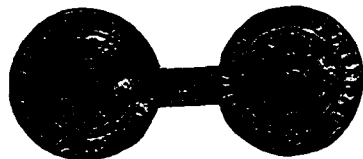


FIG. 26.—Gold half-crown of Henry VIII.

The reverse legend is taken from a Latin poem entitled, "Hymnus Ante Somnum," by Clemens Aurelius Prudentius.

The half-George noble is of similar type. The rial, angel, and angelet resemble those of preceding reigns. The quarter-angel is like the angel, but the royal titles occupy the legend on both sides.

One variety of the crown is as follows: *Obv.*, The Tudor rose, crowned, with the crowned letters H and R, one on each side. *Leg.*, HENRIC . VIII. RVTILANS . ROSA SIE . SPIA. *Rev.*, Crowned shield of arms, with the crowned letters H and R, one on each side. *Leg.*, DEI . G . R . AGLIE . Z . FRANC . DNS . HIBERNIE. Others present small differences of detail.

The half-crown (Fig. 26) has on the obverse

the crowned shield, as on the reverse of the crown, and HENRIC . 8 . DI . G . R . AGL . Z . FRA . REX, or a variation, and on the reverse, the rose, as on the obverse of the crown, and the legend RVTHILANS ROSA SINE SPINA, or a variation. The crown and half-crown equalled five shillings and two shillings and sixpence respectively.

Of silver coins there were five issues. The first consisted of groats (Fig. 27), half-groats,

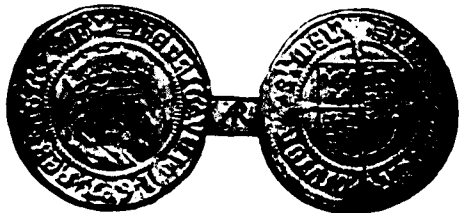


FIG. 27.—Groat of Henry VIII. (first type).

and pennies, all similar to those of the last coinage of Henry VII. and bearing his likeness, and halfpennies and farthings. The half-groats coined at York and Canterbury and some of those coined at London have the mint name instead of POSVI DEVM, &c. The halfpenny has a full-face bust, and on the reverse the cross and pellets, with the usual legends. The farthing has a portcullis on the obverse, and HENRIC . DI . GRA . REX . and on the reverse a rose over a cross, and CIVITAS LONDON.

The second coinage bore a different profile, a portrait of the reigning monarch taking the place of that of his predecessor, and some alterations being made in the legends. The groats and

half-groats coined at York read CIVITAS EBORACI, and some half-groats coined at Canterbury read CIVITAS CANTOR, instead of POSVI DEVM, &c. The penny reads on the obverse H . D . G . ROSA SINE SPINA or a contraction ("Henry, by the Grace of God, a rose without a thorn"). The half-pennies also have this legend, though one specimen is known which bears the titles only. The

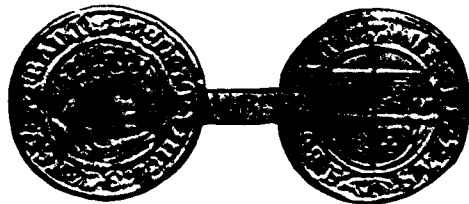


FIG. 28.—Groat of Henry VIII. (second type).

portrait of Henry VIII. is shown by Fig. 28. *Obv.*, Crowned bust to right in inner circles. *Leg.*, HENRIC VIII. D . G . R . AGL . Z . FRANC. *Rev.*, Long cross, and shield in inner circle. The initials T. W., one on each side of the shield; cardinal's hat and two keys below. *Leg.*, CIVITAS EBORACI.

This groat was coined at York by Wolsey, as Archbishop, whose initials are seen on either side of the shield. See also p. 131.

The third coinage consisted of testoons, groats, half-groats, pennies, and halfpennies having a new type of obverse. The halfpenny was coined only in base silver. The testoon is as follows: *Obv.*, Crowned full-face bust, with

52 THE STORY OF THE BRITISH COINAGE

beard, wearing mantle and fur collar. *Leg.*, HENRIC . VIII . DI . GRA . AGL . FRA . Z . HIB . REX. *Rev.*, Double rose surmounted by a crown. The letters H and R, one on each side, crowned. *Leg.*, POSVI DEVM ADIVTORIVM MEVM, or a variation.

The groat (illustrated by Fig. 29) the half-groat, and penny also have this obverse, but

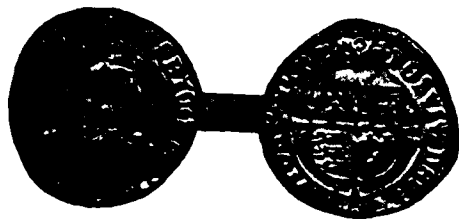


FIG. 29.—Groat of Henry VIII. (third type).

their reverses are similar to those of the earlier pieces. The coinage of base silver also resembles this last type, although certain base groats and pennies show a three-quarter, instead of a full face.

Some rare groats and half-groats of the last issue have as the reverse legend *REDDE CVIVQE QVOD SVVM EST* ("Render to every man that which is his own"). The coins of the later issues on the whole resemble those of the third issue.

It was in this reign that the title of King of Ireland was substituted for that of Lord of Ireland.

Edward VI., 1547–1553.—In addition to the denominations issued by his father, Edward VI. coined a gold treble-sovereign and a six-angel

piece, which are probably only patterns, and a silver crown, half-crown, sixpence, and threepence. There were four coinages of gold in this reign and three of silver.

The first gold issue consisted only of half-sovereigns, crowns, and half-crowns. The half-sovereign is similar to some pieces of the second issue described below. Of the crown, only two specimens are known, and there is a possibility that one of these may belong to the preceding reign. The other, which bears the name of Edward, and the half-crowns, resemble the corresponding coins of Henry VIII., except that their obverse is formed by the *shield* side, while the crown of Henry VIII. has the *rose* side for the obverse.

The second issue included, besides the denominations just given, the treble-sovereign and sovereign. The treble-sovereign is of the following type: *Obv.*, The king crowned and enthroned, drawn sword in right hand and orb in left, in an inner circle. *Leg.*, EDWARD VI. DEI . GRA . AGL . FRAN . ET HIBER . REX. *Rev.*, The arms of England and France on a square shield, crowned, supported by a crowned lion and a dragon. *E R* on the mantling below the shield, all in an inner circle. *Leg.*, IHS AVTEM TRANSIENS PER MEDI . ILLOR . IHAT.

The sovereign, illustrated by Fig. 30, is similar, and the half-sovereign of the first coinage also has this type. But the second-issue half-sovereign presents a new type: *Obv.*, Young bust in armour, to right, uncrowned. *Leg.*, SCVTVM FIDEI PROTEGET EVM ("The shield of faith shall

protect him"). *Rev.*, An oval shield of arms, crowned and garnished, E and R on either side. *Leg.*, EDWARD VI D. G. AGL. FRA. Z. HIB. REX.



FIG. 30.
Sovereign of Edward VI.

The corresponding crown and half-crown are the same, and these with the half-sovereign are the first coins which represent the monarch uncrowned, but there are also specimens of all three pieces which have the head crowned, and on these the obverse and reverse legends change places. Some of the legends are variously abbreviated.

Of the third coinage the six-angel and the double sovereign are probably patterns. The former is as follows: *Obv.*, An angel,

piercing the fiend with a spear, and holding the shield of arms in his left hand. *Leg.*, EDWARD. VI. D. G. REX ANGL. FRAN. HIBER. Z. C. *Rev.*, A full-rigged, three-masted ship, with the shield of arms on the side. *Leg.*, PER CRUCEM TVAM SALVA NOS

XPE RED ("By thy cross save us, O Christ our Redeemer").

The double sovereign, like that of Henry VIII., shows the king robed, crowned and enthroned, holding sceptre and orb. A portcullis is at his feet, and the legend is as usual. The reverse shows a large double rose with a shield of arms in the centre. The legend reads IHESV AVTEM TRANSIENS, &c. The sovereign of this coinage is of the same type, and the angel and angelet resemble those of Henry VII. and Henry VIII.

In the fourth coinage a new type is introduced, the sovereign being as follows: *Obv.*, Three-quarter figure of the king to right, crowned and in armour, a drawn sword in the right hand and the orb in the left, within a beaded circle. *Leg.*, EDWARD. VI. D. G. AGL. FRA. Z. HIBER. REX. *Rev.*, A crowned shield supported by a lion and dragon; the letters E R in a tablet below. *Leg.*, IHS. AVTE. TRANCI. PER MEDIV. ILLO. IBAT, or a variation.

The half-sovereign is similar, but the supporters and the tablet are omitted from the reverse, and the letters E R stand one on each side of the shield.

The crown and half-crown resemble the half-sovereign, but their obverse legend reads SCVTVM FIDEI PROTEGET EVM.

The groats and half-groats of the first silver coinage have on the obverse a crowned bust to right, in a beaded circle, and the usual legend, and on the reverse a shield of arms crossed by a long cross fleury, with POSVI DEV., &c., or CIVITAS LONDON, or, in the case of the half-

56 THE STORY OF THE BRITISH COINAGE

groats, CIVITAS CANTOR (Canterbury). The penny is of the same type, but the legends read E. D. G. ROSA SINE SPINA, or a variation, and CIVITAS LONDON, or CIVITAS BRISTOLIE. The halfpennies resemble the pennies, but have on the reverse the cross and pellets.

The second coinage consisted of shillings only, of which we may instance the following, which is noteworthy as being the first dated English silver coin. *Obv.*, Crowned bust to right, in an inner circle. *Leg.*, EDWARD VI D. G. ANGL. FRA. Z. HIB. REX. *Rev.*, Arms of France and England quarterly in an oval garnished shield, E and R at either side. *Leg.*, TIMOR DOMINI FONS VITE ("The fear of the Lord is the fountain of life") MDXLVII. (&c.)

Others have INIMICOS EIVS IN DVAM CONFVSIONE ("His enemies will I clothe with shame") and no date, and on others, again, of both these types, the obverse and reverse legends change places.

The third coinage introduces the crown, a coin of good design and most pleasing appearance. The reverse is particularly noticeable both for its handsome effect and its simplicity (See frontispiece). *Obv.*, The king on a richly caparisoned horse, to right, holding a drawn sword, within inner circles. The date 1551, beneath the horse. *Leg.*, EDWARD VI D. G. AGL. FRANC. Z. HIBER. REX. V. *Rev.*, Square shield of arms within inner circles, crossed by a cross fleury extending almost to the edge of the coin. *Leg.*, POSVI DEVM ADIVTORE MEV. V.

The Y on both sides is the initial of Sir John Yorke, master of the Southwark mint, and

serves as mint-mark. The half-crown is of the same type. The shilling of this coinage has a full-face bust, crowned, and robed in ermine, and xii at the right side to denote the value in pence. The reverse is identical with that of the crown. The sixpence is like the shilling, with vi in place of the xii behind the head. Some minted at York have CIVITAS EBORACI as the reverse legend. The threepence is also as the shilling, but has iii behind the head, and those minted at York have the mint-name on the reverse. The pennies show the king enthroned, with sceptre and orb. The reverse is as that of the crown, but with CIVITAS LONDON as legend. Pennies of base metal issued about the same time have a full-blown rose instead of the king on the obverse, while the base metal halfpennies have a single rose. The base farthings have on the obverse a portcullis and on the reverse a cross and pellets, and legends as the pennies.

Mary, 1553-1558.—The gold coins issued by Mary before her marriage were the sovereign or double ryal, the ryal, the angel, and the angellet. She restored the old standard of fineness.

The sovereign resembles in type the second sovereign of Edward VI. On the obverse is the figure of the queen, enthroned, holding orb and sceptre. A portcullis is at her feet, and the whole enclosed by a circle of arches with the legend, MARIA: D. G. ANG. FRA. Z. HIB. REGINA: M. D. LIII. On the reverse is shown a large double rose upon which is a shield of

arms, all within an inner circle of arches. The legend reads A : DNO FACTV . EST : ISTVD . Z : EST : MIRA . IN OCVL : NRIS ("A Domino factum est istud, et est mirabile in oculis nostris"—"This is the Lord's doing and it is marvellous in our eyes"). The date in Roman figures in the obverse legend makes this the first dated English gold coin.

The ryal also resembles those of former reigns. On the obverse is the queen, crowned, sword in hand, standing in a ship, having the Tudor rose on the side. On the reverse is a sun of sixteen rays, with a rose in the centre. The legend reads A : DNO . FACTV . EST : ISTVD : Z . EST . MIRABI . IN : OCUL : NRI.

The angel has on the obverse St. Michael and the Dragon, as on all the angels previously issued, and the legend MARIA . D . G . ANG . FRA . Z . HIB . REGIN. and variations. On the reverse is a ship, bearing a cross, on either side of which is M and a rose, and the legend, A . DNO . FACTV . EST : ISTVD Z . EST : MIRABI . Z . The last Z of this legend stands for "etcetera." The half-angel is similar, with variations in the readings. All these coins are most rare.

Mary's silver money included a groat, half-groat, and penny. The groat has a crowned profile of the queen to left, wearing a necklace with a cross or a pearl in the centre. On the reverse is a shield of arms crossed by a cross fleury, and the legend VERITAS TEMPORIS FILIA ("Truth is the daughter of time"). This motto is in allusion to Mary's attempts to undo the work of the Reformation and to bring the country

under subjection to Rome. The half-groat is of similar type with slight variations in the legend.

The penny has the same crowned bust, and the legend M . D . G . ROSA SINE SPINA. Neither side has an inner circle. The reverse shows a cross and shield, as before, and the legend, CIVITAS LONDON. One example is known, however, having VERITAS TEMP. FILIA as the reverse legend. As in the preceding reign, there was also a base penny issued, containing 3 oz. fine to 9 oz. alloy. It is exactly like the fine penny, but has a double rose in place of the queen's effigy.

In 1554 Mary married Philip of Spain, who, we are told, brought with him an immense quantity of treasure, including coin. Hawkins conjectures that this fact accounts for the scarcity of English-struck money of this reign, as the imported coin rendered large issues unnecessary. The gold coins of Philip and Mary consist only of angels and half-angels, and the silver of half-crowns, shillings, sixpences, groats, half-groats, and pennies.

The angels and half-angels are as those coined before the marriage, but in place of the M and rose on either side of the cross on the reverse these have P and M, and the obverse legend reads PHILIP . Z . MARIA . D . G . REX . Z . REGIN. AN. The reverse legend is as before. Some specimens vary in the legend.

Only two examples of the silver half-crown are known, and it is very possible that they are only patterns. *Obv.*, Bust of Philip, in armour, to right, large crown over the head, and a line

dividing the bust from the date below, 1554.
Leg., PHILIPVS . D . G . R . ANG . FR . NEAP . PR .
 HISP. (Philip, by the grace of God, King of
 England, France, Naples, Prince of Spain).
Rev., Draped bust of queen to left, large crown
 over the head, date in two figures on each side
 of the crown 15 54. *Leg.*, MARIA . D . G . R . ANG .

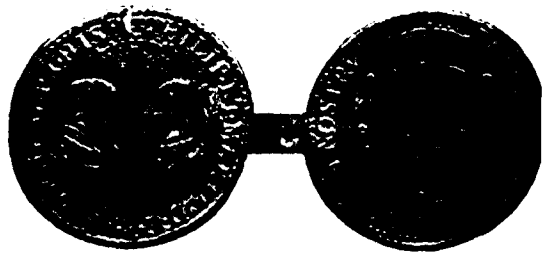


FIG. 31.—Shilling of Philip and Mary.

FR . NEAP . PR . HISP. (Mary, by the grace of
 God, Queen of England, France, Naples, Prince
 of Spain).

The shilling (Fig. 31) is as follows:—*Obv.*,
 Busts of the king and queen face to face, a
 large crown above, all in an inner circle. *Leg.*,
 PHILIP ET . MARIA . D . G . R . ANG . FR . NEAP . PR .
 HISP. *Rev.*, An oval shield, crowned and gar-
 nished, bearing the arms of Philip and Mary
 impaled; x and ii at either side of the crown
 to denote the value. *Leg.*, POSIMVS . DEVM .
 ADIVTOREM . NOSTRVM ("We have made God
 our helper").

Others are known which have the date in two

figures over each head, and others, again, vary
 with regard to the titles.

The groats, half-groats, and pennies, which
 were coined before the larger pieces described
 above, are of the same types as those which
 were issued before the marriage. They differ,
 however, in having Philip's name or initial added
 to that of Mary, and the reverse legend of the
 first two reads POSIMVS DEVM ADIVTO . NOS,
 instead of VERITAS TEMPORIS FILIA. The pennies,
 both fine and base, read as before, CIVITAS
 LONDON. The shield on the reverses does not
 as yet bear the arms of Philip impaled with
 those of his wife.

By Mary several foreign gold coins were made
 legally current in England, such as the French
 crown of the sun, the Spanish double ducat,
 and others.

Elizabeth, 1558-1602.—The foreign pieces
 whose use was legalised in the last reign con-
 tinued to be current under Elizabeth, who
 added others to the list.

In this reign crown gold again comes into
 use, and one or two new denominations are
 added to the silver coinage. The first attempt,
 too, is now made to supersede the old hammer-
 ing method by the mill and screw (see p. 16).
 The use of dates on the coinage now becomes
 common, and also the substitution of plain
 Roman letters instead of the Gothic type.

The denominations in gold are the sovereign,
 half-sovereign, ryal, angel, angelet, quarter-angel,
 crown, and half-crown.

The first sovereign, coined in Old Standard

62 THE STORY OF THE BRITISH COINAGE

gold, resembles in type the sovereign of Mary. It shows on the obverse the queen enthroned, with a portcullis beneath the feet, and the legend ELIZABETH . D . G . ANG . FRA . ET HIB . REGINA, or a variation. The reverse has the double rose, with the shield in the centre, all enclosed by a circle of arches, and the legend as before, A DNO FACTV., &c. The sovereigns of 1584-1601 are the same in fineness, type, &c., but have minor differences of legend, mint-mark, &c.

The ryal is of the usual type, and of standard fineness. It shows a ship, in which the queen stands holding the orb and sceptre, and the legend reads ELIZAB . D . G ., &c., as usual. The reverse has the sun of sixteen rays, and accessories, as on the ryals of Mary and the legend IHS AVT TRANSIENS, &c. Some of the later ryals are of the same type, but have the legend ELIZAB . D . G . FR . Z . M . PR . C . A . L . REGINA. Of this legend no satisfactory explanation has been given. The reverse of the pieces with this reading resembles that of the ryals of Mary, but bears the legend IHS . AVT . TRANSIENS, &c.

The angel and angelet, like the same coins in former reigns, show St. Michael and the Dragon, and the usual legends, and on the reverse a ship, sailing to left or right, and bearing a cross, over which is a shield of arms. E and a rose are on either side of the cross. The legend reads A DNO FACTVM, &c. The quarter-angel is similar, but the queen's name and titles occupy both the obverse and the reverse legend.

The sovereign of crown gold, 22 carats fine,

is as follows: *Obv.*, Crowned bust of queen to left, in ruff and ermine mantle, within inner circle. *Leg.*, ELIZABETH : D . G . ANG : FRAN . ET HIB . REGINA. *Rev.*, Shield of arms, crowned and garnished, the letters E and R on either side, within inner circle. *Leg.*, IHS AVTEM TRANS . PER MEDIV . ILLO . IBAT. The sovereigns of this type were issued between 1561 and 1572. The later ones, issued between 1592 and 1602 have a larger bust, with a robe in place of the ermine mantle. The reverse is somewhat similar to that of the first, but the legend reads SCVTVM FIDEI PROTEGET EAM ("The shield of faith shall protect her").

The half-sovereigns of crown gold have on the obverse the bust of the queen, draped, within a beaded circle. The legend is as usual. The reverse bears a plain shield of arms, crowned, within a beaded circle, and the legend SCVTVM FIDEI PROTEGET EAM. The crown over the shield has sometimes five arches, and sometimes two.

The crown and half-crown of crown gold are of the same type and legend.

The milled gold coins consist of half-sovereigns, crowns, and half-crowns of crown gold. These are all very rare. The milled crown has sold for as much as fifteen guineas.

The half-sovereign in type and legend resembles the hammered half-sovereign, but has a somewhat larger bust, and no inner circle on either side. The absence of the inner circle is a characteristic of these milled pieces.

The milled crown and half-crown also resemble the hammered half-sovereign, but have a

64 THE STORY OF THE BRITISH COINAGE

rather larger bust and no inner circles. The half-crown is illustrated by Fig. 32.

Owing to the very widely felt need of small change two new denominations in silver are introduced in this reign, namely, the threehalfpenny and threefarthing pieces. These coins have never before been

issued, except when some were struck in Ireland by Henry VIII. The threepence and

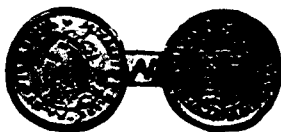


FIG. 32.—Gold half-crown of Elizabeth (milled).

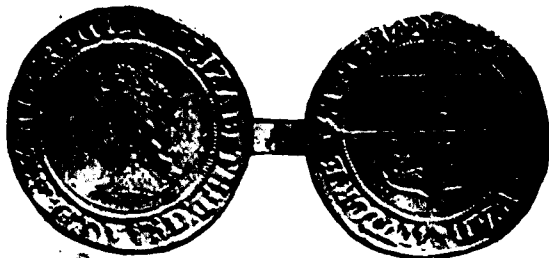


FIG. 33.—Shilling of Elizabeth (hammered).

halfpenny, last met with in the time of Edward VI., are again coined, while the larger silver pieces, the crown and half-crown, do not appear until two years before the close of the reign.

The hammered shilling (Fig. 33) is as follows:—*Obv.*, Draped bust of the queen to left, with long hair, crowned, and wearing ruff, all enclosed by a beaded circle. *Leg.*, ELIZABETH. D. G. ANG. FRA. Z. HIB. REGIA. *Rev.*, Square

shield of arms within an inner circle, crossed by a cross fleury. *Leg.*, POSVI DEV : ADIVTOREM. MEV: ("I have made God my helper").

All the other hammered coins are of the same type, with variations in the legends. The sixpences are dated, as are also the threepence, threehalfpence, and threefarthings, but not the shillings, groats, half-groats, pennies, or half-pennies. One penny, however, is known, which bears the date in the obverse legend, 1558. All the other dated pieces have the date on the reverse, above the shield of arms. The sixpence, threepence, threehalfpence, and threefarthings, are distinguished by having a rose behind the head. Shakespeare, in *King John*, i. 1, alludes to this feature of the coins when he makes Philip Faulconbridge in disparagingly describing his brother's personal appearance, say that he would sooner forfeit his heritage than have

"My arms such eel-skins stuff'd, my face so thin
That in mine ear I durst not stick a rose.

Lest men should say, 'Look where three-farthings goes.'!"

But what was probably a jest of the period, at the time when the play was written, becomes a meaningless anachronism when transferred to the reign of John. The threefarthings, as we have seen, was the least of all the coins having

a rose behind the ear. It is illustrated by Fig. 34. The obverse legend reads E. D. G. ROSA SINE SPINA, and the reverse CIVITAS LONDON.

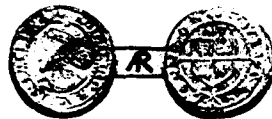


FIG. 34.—Three-farthing piece of Elizabeth.

Some of the half-groats have two dots below the head to denote the value in pence.

The shillings, sixpences, groats, and three-pences, and, before the year 1582, the half-groats also, have the queen's name and titles as the obverse legend and *POSUI DEVM* on the reverse, in various forms. The three-half-pennies, pennies and threefarthings have as their obverse legend *ED G ROSA SINE SPINA* ("Elizabeth, by the grace of God, a rose without a thorn"), and on the reverse, *CIVITAS LONDON*, and are the last of the regular coinage on which the place of mintage is named.

The halfpennies differ from all the other pieces in having the type as follows: *Obv.*, A portcullis and a mint mark. *Rev.*, A cross with three pellets in each angle. No legend on either side.

The milled silver coins of 1561 and subsequent dates are, like the milled gold coins, of the same type as their hammered predecessors and contemporaries, except for the absence of the inner circle on both sides. But in general appearance they are neater and exhibit better workmanship.

The silver crown and half-crown were hammered and issued only in 1601 and 1602. The crown is as follows: *Obv.*, Draped bust of the queen, to the left, crowned, wearing a ruff and holding a sceptre in the right hand. The orb visible against the robe. All within an inner circle. *Leg.*, *ELIZABETH D G ANG FRA ET HIB REGINA*. *Rev.*, Garnished shield of arms, crossed by a cross fleury. *Leg.*, *POSUI*

DEVM ADIVTOREM MEVM. No date. The half-crown is identical.

A curious scrap of gold belonging to this reign is preserved in the British Museum cabinet. This, shown by Fig. 35, is roughly oval in shape. On one side is a crowned profile, to left, of Queen Elizabeth, and on the other a portion of a legend and the corner of a shield with her initial at the side,

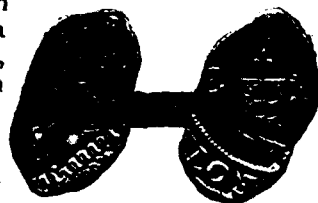


FIG. 35.—Fragment of a pattern sovereign of Elizabeth.

such as is seen on her later sovereigns. The portrait represents the queen as decidedly elderly and is far from flattering. It is said that when this pattern was presented to Elizabeth for her approval she was so enraged at the fidelity of the likeness that she seized a pair of scissors and proceeded to cut the obnoxious coin to pieces. But evidently the work was rather hard, for she has not finished it, and the fragment survived her Majesty's wrath and is now cherished in the national collection. This story, however, must be taken with the proverbial grain of salt. The fragment was formerly in the collection of Horace Walpole, who says of it that "it was universally supposed that the die was broken by her [Elizabeth's] command, and that some workman of the mint cut out this morsel, which contains barely the face."

James I., 1603-1625.—By this king, the son of Mary Queen of Scots and great-great-grandson of Henry VII., the crowns of England and Scotland were united. This fact is marked numismatically by the placing of the Scottish title upon the coins and the quartering upon the English shield of the arms of Scotland which, with those of Ireland, now appear for the first time upon our money. The ancient titles King of England and King of Scotland, however, were very soon merged in the new one of "King of Great Britain."

Up to the year when James VI. ascended the throne of England Scotland had enjoyed an independent coinage. But now her money was to be like that of England in quality, type, and denomination, and the figure 6 which on the Scottish coins had followed the king's name was to be omitted.

The first gold coinage of this reign, issued in 1603, was for England only, and consisted of sovereigns, half-sovereigns, crowns, and half-crowns, all of crown gold. The sovereign is as follows: *Obv.*, Half-length figure of the king, with long pointed beard, crowned and in armour, to right, holding orb and sceptre, all within beaded circle broken by the crown and the top of the sceptre. *Leg.*, IACOBVS D. G. ANG. SCO. FRAN. ET. HIB. REX. *Rev.*, A square shield, garnished and crowned, having in the first and fourth grand quarters the arms of England and France, quarterly; in the second grand quarter the arms of Scotland, and in the third the arms of Ireland. *Leg.*,

EXVRGAT DEVS DISSIPENTVR INIMICI ("Let God arise and let His enemies be scattered"). This motto first appeared on the gold unicorn of James III. of Scotland. The half-sovereign has a bust of the king, profile, to right, within inner beaded circle, but no orb or sceptre, and the legend IACOBVS : D : G : ANGL : SCO : FRAN : ET HIBER : REX. The reverse type and legend are as on the sovereign, but the shield is not garnished. The obverse of the crown (Fig. 36) resembles

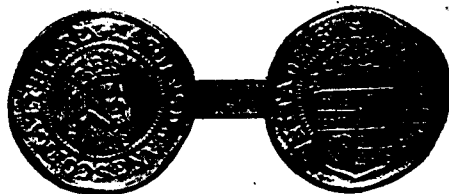


FIG. 36.—Gold crown of James I.

the half-sovereign, but with a variation in the legend. The reverse has a plain shield, partly enclosed by a circle, crowned, and the letters I R (for Jacobus Rex) on either side of the crown. The legend reads TVEATVR VNITA DEVS ("May God guard these united kingdoms"). This is one of several allusions upon the coins to the union of England and Scotland. The half-crown resembles the crown, but has the obverse legend in a more contracted form.

In 1604, the second year of his reign, James issued the unite, or unit, the double crown, Britain crown, half-Britain-crown, and thistle crown, all in gold, which pieces were for both

countries alike. Of this coinage every sovereign had an average weight of 154·83 grains Troy, whereas the former sovereigns weighed on an average 171·94 grains Troy. This change was to remedy the inconvenience caused by the Scottish gold coins being declared equal in value to the English. "Not that it was not worth in true value," says Ruding, "so much of the silver money of England, but because the English coins of gold were not, in regard of the silver coins, of the true proportion between gold and silver accustomed in all nations. [Hence much English gold had been exported to other countries] because the gold coins of England were of more value in those parts than they were allowed to be current at within the realm." Accordingly there were issued the new pieces named above, together with silver crowns, half-crowns, shillings, sixpences, half-groats, pennies and halfpennies, all bearing the title "King of Great Britain," except the half-groat and penny, which have merely I. D. G. and a motto, and the halfpenny, which has no legend at all.

The unite, unit, or sovereign, commonly known as a sceptre, resembles the sovereign before described, with some minor variations. The obverse legend reads: I. ACOBVS. D. G. MAG. BRIT. FRAN. ET. HIB. REX, and the reverse, FACIAM. EOS. IN. GENTEM. VNAM. ("I will make them one people"). This motto and the name of the coin allude to the union of the sister countries. The double crown resembles the unite, with alterations in the armour and lace

collar worn by the king, but the reverse legend reads: HENRICVS ROSAS. REGNA IACOBVS, *i.e.*, Henry [united] the roses (of York and Lancaster), James the Kingdoms (of England and Scotland). The Britain crown is similar to the double crown, but the letters I R on the obverse are on either side of the crown instead

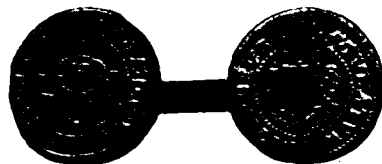


FIG. 37.—Gold thistle crown of James I.

of the shield, as on the latter. The half-crown presents the same general type of the king in armour, to right, but the legend reads: I. D. G. ROSA SINE SPINA on the obverse, TVEATVR VNITA DEVS on the reverse.

The thistle crown (Fig. 37) was current for one shilling less than the Britain crown, *i.e.*, 4s., but after 1610, when the value of the gold coins was raised ten per cent, it circulated at 4s. 4½d. It is as follows: *Obv.*, Crowned rose with a stalk and two leaves, I and R on either side, all within a bead circle broken by the crown. *Leg.*, I A : D : G : MAG : BR : F : ET : H : REX. *Rev.*, Crowned thistle with a stalk and two leaves, the crown breaking the inner circle, I and R on either side. *Leg.*, TVEATVR . VNITA . DEVS.

A third coinage of gold was issued in 1605

and consisted of rose ryals, spur ryals, angels, and angelets, all of which were of the old standard of fineness, *i.e.*, 23 carats $3\frac{1}{2}$ grains fine to $\frac{1}{2}$ grain alloy. The rose ryals have a general resemblance to the first sovereign of Elizabeth. *Obv.*, The king enthroned, crowned and robed, holding orb and sceptre. A portcullis at his feet. *Leg.*, IACOBVS . D . G . MAG : BRIT . FRAN : ET . HIBER : REX. *Obv.*, Double rose bearing a shield of arms in its centre, within beaded circle. *Leg.*, ADNO . FACTVM EST ISTVD ET EST MIRAB . IN OCVLIS NRIS . (or OCV for OCVLIS).

The rose ryal was current for thirty shillings before the raising of the values of the gold pieces, but the spur ryal was current for only half that sum. It is of the following type: *Obv.*, A ship, sailing to left, in which the king stands crowned, holding a sword and shield which partially conceals his figure. On a flag to his right is the letter I. The ship has port-holes, and a rose on its side near to the water. All within a beaded circle broken by the flag and prow. The arms on the shield are of the united kingdoms. *Leg.*, IACOBVS . D : G : MAG : BRIT : FRAN : ET : HIB : REX. *Rev.*, Sun of 16 rays, having a rose in the centre, every fourth ray ending in an ornament enclosing a fleur-de-lys. Between every such ornament a lion, surmounted by a crown. All within a tressure of eight arches having a lys in each point. *Leg.*, A . DNO : FACTVM : EST . ISTVD . ET . EST MIRABILE. The angel was current for ten or eleven shillings, and is of the same general type as the

angels of preceding reigns. The angelets are similar.

The fourth coinage consisted only of angelets. The fifth and last coinage of gold included besides the rose and spur ryals and the angel, a piece which was really a unite, with its halves and quarters, but which, from the novel type it presented and which had never hitherto appeared on English coins, was called a laurel. All the pieces of this coinage were of the Old Standard of fineness, except the laurel and its parts, which were of crown gold.

The rose ryals show the king enthroned, as before, but in a mantle of ermine and wearing a ruff and the collar of the Garter. The field is chequered with roses and fleurs-de-lys. On the reverse is the shield of arms crossed by a cross fleury, and xxx above the shield to denote the value in shillings. The inner circle is enclosed by lions and fleurs-de-lys placed alternately. The legends are as before, with various contractions.

The spur ryal presents quite a new type, as follows: *Obv.*, A lion, crowned, standing on his hind legs and supporting before him a shield of arms, and holding a sceptre in the right paw, while the left rests on the shield. On either side of the shield are x and v, indicating the value. The crown of the lion breaks an inner circle of beads. *Leg.*, IACOBVS D : G : MAG : BRI : ET HI : REX. *Rev.*, As the first spur ryal, but each fourth ray of the sun terminates in a fleur-de-lys surmounted by a crown, and a pellet

instead of a lys is in each point of the tressure. *Leg.*, A DNO: FACTVM EST ISTVD ET EST MIRABI (or MIRABILE). The obverse of the angel, as before, but under the wing is the figure x to mark the value. On the reverse is a ship, differing from that of the first angel. It sails to the left, and has a row of portholes and a line of fleurs-de-lys and lions placed alternately. The sail bears the royal arms, and from the main mast flies a pennon on which is a lion. A small lion rampant is at the stern and the bows, and the legend reads A . DOMINO . FACTVM . EST . ISTVD. The unite, or laurel is as follows: *Obv.*, Draped bust of the king to left, with short beard, laurel wreath on head, and xx behind to mark the value. All enclosed by beaded circle. *Leg.*, IACOBVS D: G: MAG: BRIT: FRAN: ET HIBERN: REX. *Rev.*, Square shield, plain, crossed by a cross fleury extending beyond the inner circle, and surmounted by a crown which conceals the top limb of the cross. *Leg.*, FACIAM EOS IN GENTEM VNAM.

The harp on the shield of arms is sometimes adorned with the head of a bird or a griffin. The obverse legend varies in the contractions.

The half-laurel (Fig. 38) and quarter-laurel are like the laurel, but have x and v, respectively, behind the head, and on both the reverse legend reads HENRICVS ROSAS REGNA IACOBVS, or a variation.

There were only two coinages of silver in this reign, each consisting of crowns, half-crowns, shillings, sixpences, half-groats, pennies, and half-pennies. The first was issued in 1603.

The crown is as follows: *Obv.*, The king on horseback, to right, crowned, and holding a drawn sword. The horse's trappings bear a rose, crowned. *Leg.*, IACOBVS D. G. ANG. SCO. FRAN. ET HIB. REX. *Rev.*, Shield of arms, garnished. *Leg.*, EXVRGAT DEVS DISSIPENTVR INIMICI. The half-crown is identical. The shilling shows the

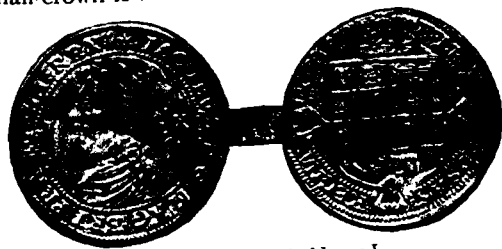


FIG. 38.—Half-laurel of James I.

bust of the king, crowned and in armour, with XII behind the head to denote the value in pence, and on the reverse a plain shield of arms. The legends on both sides are as on the crown. The sixpence is similar, but has the date of issue over the reverse shield. The half-groat and penny are of the same type, but their obverse legends read I . D . G . ROSA SINE SPINA, while their reverses have no legend at all. The halfpenny is exactly like that of Elizabeth, with no legend on either side, so that the halfpennies of the two reigns can be distinguished from each other only by the mint marks, which, in the present case, are either a thistle or a fleur-de-lys.

All the pieces of the second coinage which have the king's titles read MAG . BRIT. The

crown and half-crown are very similar to the first, but the reverse legend reads *QVÆ DEVS CONIVNXT NEMO SEPARET* ("What God has joined let no man separate"). The shilling and sixpence are also of the same type as those of the first issue, but with the motto *QVÆ DEVS, &c.* The half-groat has on the obverse a crowned rose, and the legend *I. D. G. ROSA SINE SPINA*, and on the reverse a crowned thistle and the legend *TVEATVR VNITA DEVS*. The penny is like the half-groat, but the rose and thistle are not crowned. The half-penny is like the penny, but has no legends.

Some of the silver coins of this reign bear small plumes. This mark distinguishes the pieces coined from silver from mines near Aberystwyth, which were "farmed" by Sir Hugh Myddelton. The silver was sent by him to the Tower of London and there coined at the Mint. Sir Hugh Myddelton was noted for his engineering works, and in particular for making the first New River (1609), to bring water from Amwell and Chadwell, Herts, to London.

We now meet with an attempt to supply small change by the issue of Royal Tokens. James granted a patent to Lord Harrington to coin copper pieces of the nominal value of one farthing each, and these pieces were given the nickname of Harringtons. Fig. 39 shows a Harrington as follows: *Obv.*, A crown, through which are two sceptres in saltire (crossed). *Leg.*, *IACO : D : G : MAG : BRIT :* *Rev.*, A harp, crowned. *Leg.*, *FRA : ET HIB : REX.*

These also have mint-marks on one or both

sides, of which at least forty varieties have been noted.

Charles I., 1625-1649.—Charles I.'s gold coins were the unite, or broad, the doublecrown, Britain crown, and angel. A triple unite was also coined, but at the Oxford mint only. All these were of crown gold, except the angel, which is the last piece coined in gold of the old standard of fineness. The unite is as follows: *Obv.*, Profile bust to left, in ruff and ermine mantle, crowned, long hair, xx behind head, all in beaded circle. *Leg.*, *CAROLVS D. G. MAG. BR. FR. ET HI. REX.* *Rev.*, Square shield, garnished and crowned, within inner circle, which is broken by the crown. The arms are the same as on James I.'s coins. *Leg.*, *FLORENT CONCORDIA REGNA* ("Kingdoms in harmony flourish").

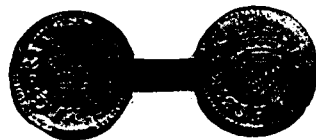


FIG. 39.—Farthing token of James I.

Other unites have the bust in armour draped with a scarf, and the reverse as before (Fig. 40). Those of the second coinage have the bust in armour, with scarf and falling ruff, and on the reverse an oval shield with c and r on either side. The legends are similar to the above. The third issue unites have a bust in armour, with a lace collar, and on the reverse an oval shield of arms and c r as on those of the second coinage.

The double crown and Britain crown are as the unites, and have x and v respectively behind the head. Their reverse legend reads *CVLTORES*

SVI DEVS PROTEGIT ("God protects his worshippers"). The angel has the figures of St. Michael and the Dragon, as usual, and on the reverse a ship sailing to the left and bearing the arms on the mainsail, as on the last angels of James I. The reverse legend runs AMOR

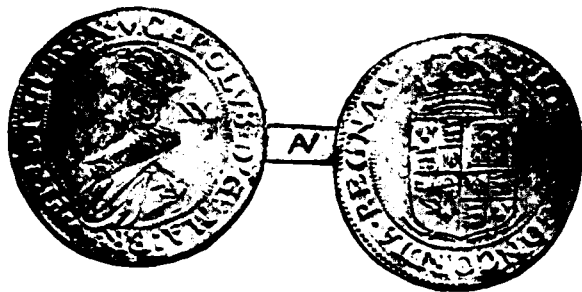


FIG. 40.—Unite of Charles I.

POPVLI PRÆSIDIUM REGIS ("The love of the people is the King's protection"). The love of his people, however, failed to protect Charles from the headsman's axe.

In 1628 Nicholas Briot, a native of Lorraine, and formerly engraver-general at the French mint, began to work at the Tower, and in 1633 was made chief engraver to the English mint. His coins are of the same denominations as the foregoing, but smaller, of much neater appearance, and better execution. His unite has the bust as upon the third-coinage pieces, and on the reverse a square shield, garnished, between the letters c and r. The double crown and crown are similar, and all the legends are as on the

foregoing. The angel (Fig. 41) resembles the first angel, and has x above the dragon's head. Briot's coins are distinguished by the mint marks B or an anemone, the initial and badge of the engraver.

Various provincial mints were worked in this reign, particularly after the outbreak of civil war

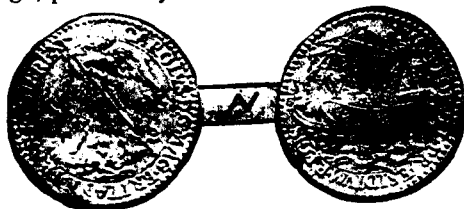


FIG. 41.—Angel of Charles I. (Briot's).

in 1642. In this year the mint at Shrewsbury was removed to Oxford, and set up in New Inn Hall. The gold pieces struck at Oxford were the triple unite, unite, and double crown. The triple unite varies in regard to details, but on the whole resembles the unite, one variety of which is as follows: *Obv.*, Half-length figure of the king, to left, crowned and in armour, sword in right hand and olive branch in left, xx behind the head, all within a beaded circle. *Leg.*, CAROLVS: D: G: MAG: BRIT: FRAN: ET HI: REX. *Rev.*, In two wavy lines across the field, RELIG: PROT: LEG: ANG: LIBER: PAR; above, three coronets with plumes, and below, 1642, all in beaded circle. *Leg.*, EXVRGAT: DEVS: DISSIPENTVR: INIMICI ("Let God arise and let His enemies be scattered").

The motto on the reverse is a summary of Charles's declaration that he would "preserve the Protestant religion, the known laws of the land, and the just privilege and freedom of Parliament." This gives the name to the "Declaration" type of coin.

The silver coins of the Tower mint were the crown, half-crown, shilling, sixpence, half-groat, penny, and halfpenny. Of the different types employed there are very many varieties, far too numerous to be adequately treated of here. The provincial mints also issued a large number of silver pieces, including in some cases groats and threepences.

One Tower crown is as follows: *Obv.*, The king, crowned, in ruff and armour, mounted on horseback, to left, holding a drawn sword which points backwards over his shoulder. The horse is richly caparisoned. All enclosed by beaded circle, broken by the horse's hoof and the sword's point. *Leg.*, CAROLVS D: G: MAG: BRI' FR: ET HIB: REX. *Rev.*, Garnished shield over a cross fleury, within a beaded circle broken by the limbs of the cross. *Leg.*, CHRISTO AVSPICE REGNO ("I reign under the auspices of Christ").

Other crowns of the Tower mint have plumes over the shield on the reverse, indicating that they were coined from silver from the Welsh mines, and no cross; others have much smaller figures of the king and his horse, and on the reverse an oval shield, garnished, with c and r on either side near the top. On others, again, the horse is not caparisoned and the king wears a flowing scarf and carries his sword upright.

The legends in each case are similar to the first described. The half-crowns are equally varied; and as a general rule, though not always, correspond in type to the crowns.

Briot's silver coins, like his gold pieces, are distinguished by their superior workmanship and other details.

Crowns were struck besides at Exeter, Oxford, and Shrewsbury, and half-crowns at these mints and also at Aberystwyth, Bristol, Chester, Weymouth, Worcester, and York.

The famous Oxford crown (Fig. 42) is as follows: *Obv.*, King on horseback to left, crowned, and holding a drawn sword, within an inner circle. In the distance is the city of

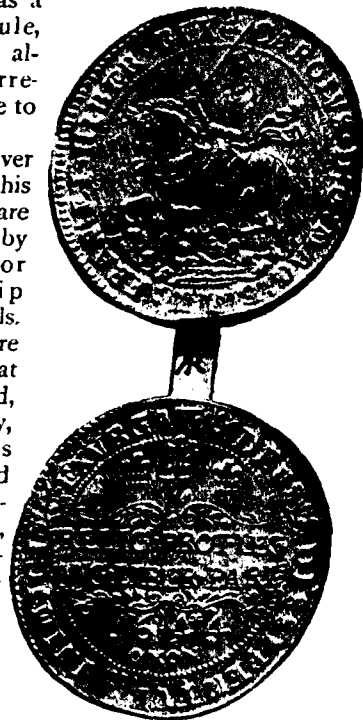


FIG. 42.—Oxford crown of Charles I.

Oxford, with OXON above, and to the extreme left is the letter R, the initial of the engraver, Thomas Rawlins. *Leg.*, CAROLVS . D : G : MAG : BRIT : FRAN : ET . HIBER . REX. *Rev.*, The "Declaration" in two lines across the field, between the two rows of scroll-work, three sets of plumes and V (for the value) above, and 1644 below, all in an inner circle. *Leg.*, OXON

EXVRGAT DEVS DISSIPENTVR INIMICI, the words divided by sprays of flowers.

The Tower shilling is as follows: *Obv.*, Crowned bust to left, in ruff and mantle, XII behind the head to mark the value in pence, all in beaded circle broken by the top of the crown. *Leg.*, CAROLVS D : G : MAG : BRI : FR : ET H : REX. A beaded circle runs outside the legend. *Rev.*, A square shield, bearing arms as on James I.'s coins, crossed by a cross fleury, and enclosed by a beaded circle broken by the limbs of the cross. *Leg.*, CHRISTO AVSPICE REGNO.

Other shillings of the Tower mint have the bust in armour and a scarf or lace collar, others have no cross on the reverse, but a plume over the shield; on others, again, the shield is oval and garnished with C R above it, and on another type the figures behind the head are absent, and various contractions of the obverse legend occur.

Briot's shilling has a bust in armour, with a lace collar and a scarf fastened on the shoulder by a rose.

Shillings were also coined at Aberystwyth, Exeter, Bristol, Oxford, Shrewsbury, and York

The York pieces are distinguished by the word EBOR below the reverse shields, standing for Eboracum, the ancient name for York.

The sixpences of the Tower mint, as well as those of the local mints just named, all resemble their corresponding shillings.

Groats were coined at some of the country mints, but not at the Tower. One Oxford groat is as follows: *Obv.*, Crowned bust to left, in armour, lace collar and scarf. Plumes in front, and IIII behind the head to mark the value, all within circle of beads. *Leg.*, CAROLVS . D : G : M : B : F : ET . H : REX. *Rev.*, The "Declaration" in three lines across the field—

RELIG . PRO

LEG . ANG .

LIBER . PA .

A plume between two fleurs-de-lys above, and Ox (= Oxford) and the date 1644, below. *Leg.*, EXVRGAT . DEVS . DISSIPENTVR . INIMICI.

Threepences also were coined only at the country mints. The Oxford threepence resembles the groat just described, but the bust is smaller, and does not touch the inner circle, and III is behind the head. The reverse is like that of the groat, but "ox" is omitted.

Of the half-groats, the earliest examples are not to be distinguished from those of James I. Later specimens are as follows: *Obv.*, A large rose, filling up the whole of the space within the inner circle, surmounted by a crown. *Leg.*, C . D . G . ROSA SINE SPINA. *Rev.*, Exactly as the obverse. *Leg.*, IVS THRONVM FIRMAT, or FERMAT (IVS = IVSTITIA. "Justice strengthens

a throne"). Others have on the obverse a crowned bust, and the king's name and usual titles, and on the reverse an oval garnished shield and the legend as before, but reading IVSTITIA.

Briot's half-groat has a crowned bust to the left, with the king's name and titles, and on the reverse a square shield with a cross fleury and the legend IVSTITIA, &c.

The Aberystwyth twopence has on the obverse the king's bust and on the reverse the "Prince of Wales's feathers" and the motto ICH DIEN, with legend IVSTITIA, &c.

The early Tower penny is like the half-groat, but there is no crown on either side. The later penny is as follows: *Obv.*, Crowned bust to left in large ruff, 1 behind the head. *Leg.*, CAROLVS. D. G. MA. B. F. ET H. REX. *Rev.*, Oval shield, garnished. *Leg.*, IVSTITIA THRONVM FIRMAT.

Briot's penny has a crowned bust to the left in armour and lace collar, and on the reverse a square shield with a cross fleury, and the usual legends.

The Tower halfpenny has nothing whatever but a rose on either side. The Aberystwyth halfpenny has a plume on the reverse, and the obverse as the Tower piece. No coins of this denomination are recorded of the other mints.

In this reign we have for the first and last time in our coinage a pound and half-pound of silver. These were struck at Oxford and Shrewsbury, and there also exists a piece of equal weight with the half-pound, but struck from a die intended for a crown, which belongs to Exeter.

The Oxford silver pound is as follows: *Obv.*, The king on horseback to left, holding a drawn sword, the ground strewn with armour, &c., and in some cases a cannon is represented. *Leg.*, CAROLVS D. G. MAG. BRIT. FRAN. ET HIBER REX. *Rev.*, The "Declaration," in two lines across the field—

RELIG PROT LEG
ANG LIBER PAR.

above, plumes and the numerals XX, and date below, 1642. Some dated 1644 have OX (= OXFORD). *Leg.*, EXVRGAT DEVS DISSIPENTVR INIMICI.

The Shrewsbury pound and the half-pounds of both cities, are of very similar type.

The numismatic history of this reign is difficult to condense in an interesting form, and we have been obliged to treat the subject very briefly. But there is another branch of it which we have not yet considered, which consists of the obsidional, or siege pieces, otherwise known as money of necessity. These are pieces struck or stamped with any available tools and of any available material during a siege, to provide money for the payment of troops, &c.

After the breaking out of the war the king had to resort to all sorts of means to obtain bullion. The Parliament had ordered a loan of money and plate from such as would give it, to be repaid with interest at the rate of 8 per cent. Those who would not subscribe voluntarily had to do so involuntarily. The king followed up this order with one for a similar loan to be

granted to himself, and also declared "that he would proceed against all who should assist the levies to be made against him [by the Parliament] with plate, &c., as disturbers of the public peace."

Both appeals were generously responded to, and it is said that the subscribers to the Parliamentary funds were so numerous that many had to wait two days before being able to hand in their contributions at the Guildhall, at which place they were to be paid. The University of Oxford placed its gold and silver at the king's service, as did some of the Cambridge colleges, John's, Magdalene, &c., and an interesting story is told of an attempt by Cromwell to intercept the Magdalene plate on its way to the king, and how the escort, travelling through by-ways instead of highways, successfully eluded the minions of the Parliament.

The siege pieces exist in great variety, and bear the names of various cities and castles, *e.g.*, Pontefract, Carlisle, Scarborough, Newark, &c. Sometimes dishes, salvers, &c., were hacked into unshapely fragments and stamped with the outline of a castle, and figures to indicate for what value each was to pass, and on some of these the original pattern can still be traced.

Of Newark there is a complete set of four pieces, of the value of half a crown, shilling, ninepence, and sixpence, respectively, all diamond or lozenge-shaped, and all of the same type (see Fig. 43), as follows:—*Obv.*, A crown, with C and R on either side, and XXX, XII, IX or

VI to denote the value in pence. *Rev.*, In three lines, OBS: NEWARK: 1646. (Latin *obsidium*, a siege.)

Farthings of the "Harrington" type were also coined under Charles I.

At a recent sale of some of the coins from the

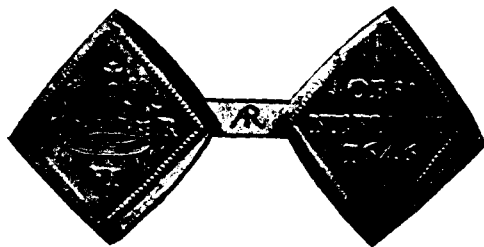


FIG. 43.—Newark sixpence of Charles I.

Montagu cabinet a piece was disposed of which is particularly worthy of attention. This is a pattern five-broad piece, having on the obverse the king's bust to left, in armour, lace collar, and scarf, and without the customary crown which appears on the current coin. The legend reads CAROLVS . D . G . MAG . BRIT . FRAN . ET HIBERNIÆ REX. On the reverse is an oval shield of arms, crowned and garnished, having C and R on either side, and the legend FLORENT CONCORDIA REGNA.

This was for some time considered to be a medal, but has now been identified as a pattern five-broad piece. Its special interest lies in the fact that it was given by Charles to the Bishop of London shortly before his execution and

possibly upon the scaffold itself. It has since passed through five cabinets of note, and its history is well authenticated. The Juxon medal, as it is sometimes called, was sold, in November 1896, to a firm of numismatists for £770, the highest price ever given for an English coin.

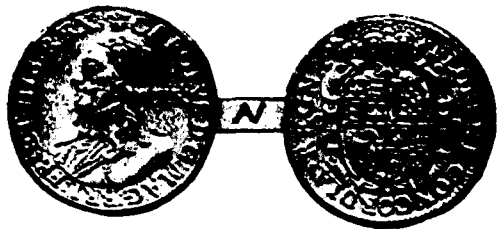


FIG. 44.—Broad of Charles I.

It has now been acquired by the British Museum, and takes its place in the national collection. The broad shown by Fig. 44 is all but a facsimile of the larger piece and gives a good idea of its appearance.

The Commonwealth, 1649-1660.—The coins of the Commonwealth in gold were the broad, or twenty-shilling piece, half-broad, and Britain crown, and in silver, the crown, half-crown, shilling, sixpence, half-groat, penny, and halfpenny. They received the name of "breeches money," from the arrangement of the two shields which form the reverse type. The gold pieces have on the obverse a shield bearing the cross of St. George, between a branch of laurel and a branch of palm, and the legend *THE COMMONWEALTH OF ENGLAND*. On the reverse are two

plain-pointed shields, side by side, one bearing the cross of St. George, and the other the Irish harp, within an inner circle, and bearing the legend *GOD WITH VS*, and date. Over the shields on the reverse are the figures of value. On one Britain crown *COMMONWEALTH* is spelt with one *M*, a peculiarity which also appears on a shilling.

The larger silver coins are exactly the same as the gold in type and legend, with the necessary numerals on the reverse to mark the value. The half-groat and penny have no date or legend, and the halfpenny (Fig. 45) has on the reverse one shield only, bearing the Irish harp, and no legend or numeral on either side.



FIG. 45.—Halfpenny of the Commonwealth.

Protectorate, 1653-1658.—Gold and silver coins were struck during the Protectorate bearing the portrait and name of Oliver Cromwell, and dated either 1656 or 1658. Numismatists are not agreed as to whether these pieces were only patterns, or whether they were current money. The gold denominations were the fifty-shilling piece, broad, and half-broad. They are all of the same type, and bear on the obverse a bust of the Protector, to left, laurelled, and the legend *OLIVAR' D. G. R. P. ANG. SCO. ET HIB. &c. PRO* ("Oliver, by the grace of God, Protector of the Republic of England, Scotland, Ireland, &c."). On the reverse is a plain shield crowned, with Cromwell's family arms in an escutcheon, and the legend *PAX QVÆRITVR BELLO* ("Peace is sought by war"). The fifty-shilling piece has on the

edge PROTECTOR LITERIS LITERÆ NVMMIS CORONA ET SALVS ("These letters are a Protector to the others, a crown and safeguard to the coin").

The silver coins (crown, half-crown, shilling, and sixpence) also have one type in common. On the obverse is a draped bust of the Protector to left, laurelled, and a variation of the obverse legend of the gold pieces. On the reverse is a shield of arms as before, but crowned and garnished, and the legend PAX QVÆRITVR BELLO ("Peace is to be sought by war"). The crown has an edge inscription reading, HAS NISI PERITVRVS MIHI ADIMAT NEMO ("Let no one remove these [letters] under pain of death").

Charles II., 1660-1685.—Soon after the Restoration the circulation of the Commonwealth money was forbidden by proclamation, and new pieces were coined, consisting of broads, unites, or twenty-shilling pieces, half-broads or double crowns, and crowns, in gold, and half-crowns, shillings, sixpences, half-groats, and pennies in silver. The groat and threepence were added subsequently.

Of the gold pieces there were three coinages, two of the old hammered money and one of the new milled money. The first-issue broad is as follows:—*Obv.*, Bust to left, laurelled, in scarf and armour. *Leg.*, CAROLVS II. D. G. MAG. BRIT. FRAN. ET HIB. REX. *Rev.*, An oval shield, with arms as on the coins of James I., c and r at either side. *Leg.*, FLORENT CONCORDIA REGNA.

The half-broads and crowns are the same, but the crowns read FR. instead of FRAN. in the ob-

verse legend. These coins have neither numerals of value nor inner circles.

The second coinage resembles the first, but each piece has xx, x, and v respectively behind the head to mark its value in shillings.

In 1662 the mill-and-screw method of coining, introduced into the English mint in the time of Elizabeth and discarded after a few years' use, was again revived, and the hammered coinage ceased for ever. The new apparatus was in charge of Blondeau, a Frenchman, and the honour of cutting the new dies was competed for by Thomas Simon, a famous English die-sinker, and John Roettier, a Dutchman of much skill, but inferior to Simon. The latter was unjustly given the preference. The new coins were the five-guinea, two-guinea, guinea, and half-guinea pieces, so called because many of them were minted from gold brought from Guinea by the "Company of Royal Adventurers of England trading into Africa." According to the royal order to the officers of the mint, these pieces were to be marked "with a little elephant in such convenient place upon our gold and silver coynes respectively as you shall judge fitting, which Wee intend as a marke of distinction from the rest of our gold and silver moneys, and an Incouragement unto the said Company in the importing of gold and silver to be coined." Sometimes the elephant is accompanied by a castle.

"9th [March, 1662-3.] . . . There dined with us to-day Mr. Slingsby of the Mint, who showed us all the new pieces both gold and

92 THE STORY OF THE BRITISH COINAGE

silver (examples of them all) that were made for the king, by Blondeau's way; and compared them with those made for Oliver. The pictures of the latter made by Symons, and of the King by one Rotyr, a German, I think, that dined with us also. He extolls those of Rotyr above the others; and indeed, I think they are the better, because the sweeter of the two; but, upon my word, those of the Protector are more like in my mind, than the King's, but both very well worth seeing. The crownes of Cromwell are now sold, it seems for 25s. and 30s. apiece."

Thus Master Pepys on the subject. Slingsby was the Master of the Mint; Symons stands for Thomas Simon, and by Rotyr he means Roettier.

The five-guinea is as follows:—*Obv.*, Bust of the king to right, laurelled. *Leg.*, CAROLVS II. DEI GRATIA. *Rev.*, Four crowned shields placed crosswise, in the centre four c's interlinked, and a sceptre in each angle terminating respectively in an orb, thistle, fleur-de-lys, and harp. *Leg.*, MAG. BR. FRA. ET. HIB. REX., and date. *Edge*, DECVS ET TVTAMEN, ANNO REGNO VICESIMO, &c. The king's reign is reckoned as beginning when his father's ended, in 1649.

The other gold pieces are similar, but their edges are milled. (For the current value of the guinea see the list of Denominations, given on page 12.)

The fact of the foreign die-sinker being preferred to himself led Simon to make an appeal to the king by means of a fine piece of work, which is well known as the Petition crown. It

is a trial or pattern piece, and derives its name from its edge inscription. This famous coin (Fig. 46) is as follows:—*Obv.*, Bust draped and laureate to right.

Leg., CAROLVS II. DEI. GRA. *Rev.*,

Four crowned shields arranged crosswise, in the centre St. George and the Dragon enclosed by the Garter; in each angle are two c's interlinked. *Leg.*,

MAG. BRI. FR. ET. HIB. REX. 1663.

Edge, In two lines,

"THOMAS SIMON.

MOST HUMBLY.

PRAYS. YOUR.

MAJESTY. TO.

COMPARE THIS.

HIS. TRYALL.

PIECE. WITH.

THE. DVITCH. AND.

IF. MORE. TRVLY.

DRAWN. AND.

EMBOSS'D. MORE.

GRACE. FVLLY.

ORDERED. AND.

MORE. ACCVRATELY. ENGRAVEN. TO. RELIEVE.

HIM." But the petition had no result.

Of silver there were four coinages, three of



FIG. 46.—"Petition crown" of Charles II.

hammered and the last of milled money. The first two consisted of half-crowns, shillings, sixpences, half-groats and pennies, the third of the same denominations with the groat and threepence in addition. The first half-crown is as follows:—*Obv.*, Crowned bust to left. No numerals of value or inner circle. *Leg.*, CAROLVS II. D. G. MAG. BRIT. FRAN. ET HIB. REX. *Rev.*, Shield of arms, crossed by a cross fleury, no inner circle. *Leg.*, CHRISTO AVSPICE REGNO.

All the other denominations are the same, with variations of the legend.

The second coinage is also very similar, but every piece is marked by the figures of value behind the head. The third also resembles the first, but is distinguished not only by the figures of value, but by inner circles on both sides.

The milled silver money consists of crowns, half-crowns, shillings, and sixpences, all having on the obverse a bust to right, laureate and draped, and on the reverse four crowned shields placed crosswise, with the star of the Order of the Garter in the centre, and two interlinked c's in each angle. The king's name and titles occupy the legend on both sides. The edge of the crown is inscribed DECVS ET TVTAMEN, sometimes with the date 1662 in addition; while later examples have ANNO REGNI XV or ANNO REGNI VICESIMO, &c. The first milled crown is distinguished by a rose under the bust, from whence it derives its name of the Rose crown. On some pieces the Welsh plumes appear, and on others the elephant or elephant and castle.

In this reign appear our first copper coins,

and the first English numismatic representation of Britannia. It is said by some that the beautiful Frances Stewart, afterwards Duchess of Richmond, sat as the model for Britannia, but others doubt this. Halfpence and farthings were struck as follows, from dies engraved by Roettier. *Obv.*, Bust to left, laurelled and in armour. *Leg.*, CAROLVS A CAROLO ("Charles from Charles"). *Rev.*, Britannia seated to left

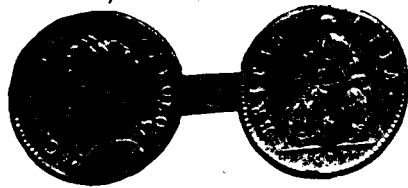


FIG. 47.—Copper farthing of Charles II.

with a palm branch in her right hand and a spear in her left. Beside her rests an oval garnished shield of the "union," bearing the united crosses of St. George and St. Andrew. *Leg.*, BRITANNIA, and date in exergue.

In the union of the English and Scottish crosses on our flag we have the first Union Jack. The saltire cross of St. Patrick of Ireland was added in 1801.

These farthings were first issued in 1672, though some very rare ones exist dated 1671, which were probably patterns. (See Fig. 47.)

In 1684 a tin or pewter farthing was struck, having a small stud of copper through the centre to protect it against forgery. It resembles the copper piece, but the date is on the edge,

accompanied by the inscription NVMMORVM FAMVLVS ("the servant of the coinage"), which means that the piece in question is not part of the coinage, but only the humble representative of a monetary value.

James II., 1685-1689.—James II.'s gold coins are of the same denominations as those of the last or milled coinage of Charles II., and also resembles them in type. *Obv.*, Bust to left, laurelled and undraped, with long hair. *Leg.*, IACOBVS II. DEI GRATIA. *Rev.*, Four crowned shields arranged crosswise, with a sceptre in each angle terminating in an orb. thistle, fleur-de-lys and harp respectively. The centre is plain. *Leg.*, MAG. BR. FRA. ET HIB. REX. and date. The five-guinea has the edge inscribed DECVS ET TVTAMEN, ANNO REGNI SECVNDO, &c. The elephant and castle still appear on some of the pieces.

The silver denominations are also the same as those of the silver milled money of the preceding reign, and of similar type, having on the obverse a bust to left, laurelled and draped, and the legend as on the gold coins. On the reverse are the four crowned shields cross-wise, having the star of the Garter in the centre, but the angles are empty. The legend is a continuation of the royal style, and the usual edge inscription appears on the crown, as on the five-guinea.

The tin halfpenny and farthing have the bust to right, but otherwise resemble the tin farthing of Charles II.

William and Mary, 1689-1694.—Under

William and Mary the same denominations in gold, silver, and tin were issued as under James II., with the addition of a copper halfpenny and farthing. The five-guinea is as follows: *Obv.*, Busts of the king and queen side by side, to the right. The king is laurelled. *Leg.*, GVLIELMVS ET MARIA DEI GRATIA. *Rev.*, Square shield crowned and garnished, having 1 and 4, England and France quarterly; 2, Scotland; 3, Ireland; and the arms of Nassau in an escutcheon of pretence. *Leg.*, MAG. BR. FR. ET HIB. REX. ET REGINA, and date. *Edge*, DECVS ET TVTAMEN ANNO REGNI TERTIO, &c. The other gold pieces are similar, but have no edge inscription, and the shield on the guinea and half-guinea is not garnished.

The crown has draped busts of the king and queen to right, side by side, the king laurelled. On the reverse are four crowned shields cross-wise, with the arms of Nassau in the centre. In each space between the shields is a monogram of W and M, and a figure of the date. The legends on both sides are as on the five-guinea, but read HI for HIB. The edge has the usual inscription. The half-crown has in every case the same obverse as the crown, but three types of reverse. The first has the crowned shield of arms as on the gold coins, but without the garniture, with the date above. The second has the crowned shield as on the first type, but the quarterings are 1, England; 2, Scotland; 3, Ireland; 4, France; and Nassau on an escutcheon of pretence. The third type has the reverse exactly as that of the crown. The legend

on each is as on the five-guinea, and the edges also bear the inscription *DECVS ET TVTAMEN*, &c. The shilling (Fig. 48) and sixpence are as the crown, but their edges are milled.

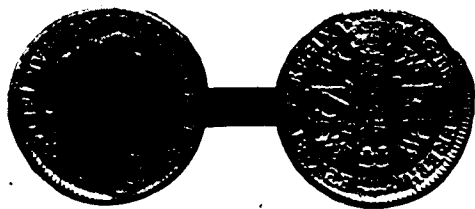


FIG. 48.—Shilling of William and Mary.

The tin halfpenny is as follows: *Obv.*, Busts of king and queen to the right, side by side, the former laurelled and in armour, and the latter in a mantle. *Leg.*, *GVLELMVS. ET. MARIA.* *Rev.*, Britannia seated, as before. *Leg.*, *BRITANNIA.* *Edge*, *NUMMORVM FAMILVS 1690.* (See under Charles II.) Others dated 1691 and 1692 have in some cases the date in the exergue also. The farthing is of similar type.

Copper halfpennies and farthings were issued in 1694, as follows: *Obv.*, Busts of king and queen, differing from those on the tin money, side by side to right, the king laurelled and in armour, the queen in a mantle. *Leg.*, *GVLELMVS ET MARIA.* *Rev.*, Britannia seated, with shield, spear, &c., as before. *Leg.*, *BRITANNIA*, and date in exergue. No edge inscription. (See Fig. 49.)

William III. (alone), 1694-1702.—After

Mary's death in 1694, the gold coins bear on the obverse a laurelled bust of the king to right, and the legend *GVLELMVS III DEI GRA*, and on the reverse four crowned shields, with the arms of Nassau in the centre, and a sceptre in each angle terminating in an orb, thistle, fleur-

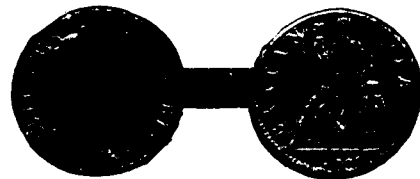


FIG. 49.—Farthing of William and Mary.

de-lys, and harp respectively. The style is continued from the obverse, with the date. The elephant and castle are found on some gold coins of William III. as well as of William and Mary.

William III.'s silver pieces are similar to the gold, but on the crown the spaces between the shields are vacant. On some half-crowns the elephant and castle appear, and others have a Welsh plume in the spaces between the shields. Some of the shillings and sixpences have plumes, and others roses, between the shields.

In 1696 all the old hammered money was called in, melted down, and recoinced. For this purpose mints were set up at Exeter, Bristol, Chester, York, and Norwich. Half-crowns, shillings, and sixpences coined at these places have the initial of the name of the town upon

100 THE STORY OF THE BRITISH COINAGE

them to distinguish them from the Tower coinages.

William III. issued no tin money, and his copper coins resemble the preceding save that they have the king's bust and name alone on the obverse.

Anne, 1702-1714.—In the sixth year of Queen Anne's reign (1707) the Parliaments of England and Scotland were formally united. Numismatically this union is shown by an alteration in the armorial bearings as they appear on the coins. Before the union the arms are arranged in four shields placed crosswise in the following order; 1, England; 2, Scotland; 3, France; 4, Ireland. After the union the order is, 1 and 3, England and Scotland impaled; 2, France; 4, Ireland.

The gold pieces are the five-guinea, guinea, and half-guinea, as follows: *Obv.*, Draped bust of the queen to left, the hair filleted. *Leg.*, ANNA DEI GRATIA. *Rev.*, Four crowned shields arranged crosswise, a rose in the centre, and in the angles sceptres terminating in the orb, fleur-de-lys, thistle, and harp. *Leg.*, MAG. BR. FRA. ET HIB. REG. and date. The five-guinea has the usual edge inscription, DECVS ET TVTAMEN, &c.

The coins of 1703 have the word VIGO under the bust. This refers to the capture in 1702 of the gold of which these pieces were minted, from the Spanish galleons at Vigo, by Sir George Rooke, during the war of the Spanish Succession.

After the union the two-guinea was added to

the coinage. All the pieces continued to be of similar type to the foregoing, with the alteration of the arms and a few differences in detail. The cross of shields has the star of the Garter in the centre instead of the rose. The elephant and castle appear on some of the guineas.

The silver pieces are the crown (Fig. 50), half-crown, shilling, and sixpence, as follows: *Obv.*, Draped bust to left, hair filleted. *Leg.*, ANNA DEI GRATIA. *Rev.*, Four crowned shields, 1, England; 2, Scotland; 3, France; and 4, Ireland; with the Star of the Garter in the centre. Date above. *Leg.*, MAG. BR. FRA. ET. HIB. REG., or a variation. The crown has the usual edge inscription. VIGO is marked on some coins of 1702 and 1703 made from silver captured from the Spanish. After the union the only alteration was in the shields of arms, as described above. The half-crowns show two varieties of head.

The letter E, with or without a star, which is to be seen on some pieces indicates that they were struck at the Edinburgh mint. Some coins of this reign also have plumes or roses in the angles of the cross, the plumes, as we have already noticed, marking silver from Wales, and the roses silver from the West of England. Thus, coins bearing plumes as the crown illustrated by Fig. 50, are the nearest approach to Welsh coins we can show. I point this out because some people think that there was such a thing as a Welsh coinage. With the exception of pieces bearing Welsh mint-names, such as the penny of Stephen, on page 32,

and some tokens, nothing numismatic has come out of Wales. Roses and plumes together

mark English and Welsh silver mixed.

Of current copper coins of this reign we have the farthing only. Patterns were made for halfpennies, but none were struck for currency. Many stories as wonderful as they are untrue have been told concerning the farthing. Of this piece, it has been said, only three specimens exist, which are of immense value, and many have believed that in possessing a Queen Anne farthing they possessed a fortune.

But as a matter of fact, ten Victoria shillings will easily procure one of these coveted coins. They are somewhat scarce, it is true, as the queen's death in the year they were issued hindered any further

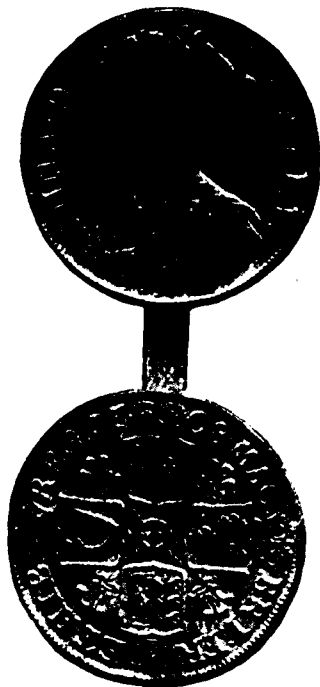


FIG. 50.—Crown of Anne.

coinage of them. Pattern farthings are known, for some of which high prices must be given.

The current farthing (Fig. 51) was as follows: *Obv.*, Draped bust to left, string of pearls in the hair. *Leg.*, ANNA DEI GRATIA. *Rev.*, Britannia seated, holding a palm-branch in her right hand and a spear in her left. At her side the

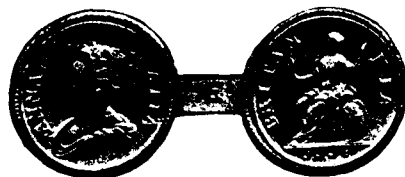


FIG. 51.—Farthing of Anne.

"union" shield as on the farthings of Charles II., and the date 1714 in the exergue. *Leg.*, BRITANNIA.

George I., 1714-1727.—On the death of Queen Anne George Ludwig, Elector of Hanover, great-grandson of James I., ascended the throne. He added to the shields of arms that bearing the arms of Brunswick, Lüneberg, and ancient Saxony, and on an inescutcheon an imperial crown.

The gold coins are the five-guinea, two-guinea, guinea, half-guinea, and quarter-guinea. The five-guinea is as follows: *Obv.*, Bust to right, laurelled, no drapery. *Leg.*, GEORGIVS D. G. M. BR. FR. ET HIB. REX F. D. *Rev.*, Four crowned shields crosswise: 1, England and Scotland, impaled; 2, France; 3, Ireland; 4, the Electorate. The star of the Garter in the

centre, and a sceptre in each angle terminating respectively in an orb, thistle, fleur-de-lys, and harp. *Leg.*, BRVN . ET L . DVX S . R . I . A . TH . ET EL . and date. *Edge*, DECVS ET TVTAMEN ANNO REGNI SEXTO, &c. The name and titles which form the legend on both sides are in full: Georgius, Dei gratia, Magnæ Britanniae, Franciæ, et Hiberniæ Rex, Fidei Defensor, Brunsvicensis et Lunebergensis Dux, Sacri Romani Imperii Archi-Thesaurarius et Elector —i.e., George, by the grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland; Defender of the Faith, Duke of Brunswick and Lüneberg, Arch-Treasurer and Elector of the Holy Roman Empire. The title “Fidei Defensor,” conferred on Henry VIII. by Pope Leo X., now appears on the coinage for the first time. The two-guinea is as the five-guinea, but milled. Of the guinea there are two types, the first having a laureate bust and legends and reverse as the five-guinea, but with the letters PR . before EL ., standing for PRINCEPS ELECTOR, or Prince Elector. The other guineas, with the half- and quarter-guineas, are like the five-guinea, but with milled edges. Some gold pieces have the elephant and castle.

The silver denominations are the same as in the preceding reign, the crown being as follows: *Obv.*, Bust to right, in armour and draped. *Leg.*, GEORGIUS D . G . M . BR . FR . ET HIB . REX . F . D . *Rev.*, Four crowned shields crosswise, the star of the Garter in the centre and the date above. *Leg.*, BRVN . ET L . DVX S . R . I . A . TH . ET EL . *Edge*, DECVS ET TVTAMEN

ANNO REGNI SECVNDO, &c. The other silver pieces are the same.

The copper coins were halfpennies and farthings, as follows: *Obv.*, Bust to right, in armour. *Leg.*, GEORGIUS REX. *Rev.*, Britannia seated to left, palm-branch, spear, and shield as usual. *Leg.*, BRITANNIA. Date in exergue.

The rim of these coins is slightly broadened and a circle runs outside the lettering. The laconic legend on the obverse is in striking distinction to the array of titles upon the other pieces.

Some halfpennies dated 1717 and 1718 are a little smaller and thicker than the others, and bear a smaller bust. These are known as “dumps.”

George II., 1727-1760.—George II.'s coins are divided into two types—the early, or young head, and the later, or old head. In gold they consist of the five-guinea, two-guinea, guinea, and half-guinea, the old head type being introduced in 1739; in silver the crown, half-crown, shilling, and sixpence, the old head being introduced in 1743; and in copper the halfpenny and farthing, the old head being introduced in 1740.

The five-guinea is as follows: *Obv.*, Bust of the king to left, laurelled, no drapery. *Leg.*, GEORGIUS II DEI GRATIA. *Rev.*, A shield of arms, crowned and garnished, having in the first quarter England and Scotland impaled: 2, France; 3, Ireland; 4, the Electorate. *Leg.*, M . B . F . ET H . REX F . D . B . ET L . D . S . R . I . A . TH . ET E . and date. *Edge*, DECVS ET TVTAMEN ANNO REGNI TERTIO, &c.

The other gold pieces are the same, but their edges are milled. The letters E. I. C. on some stand for the East India Company, for whom they were coined or who provided the gold for that purpose. The word LIMA on others signifies that the gold of which they are composed was captured at Lima. The silver coins still retain the four separate shields on the reverse. The crown is as follows: *Obv.*, Bust of the king to left, in armour, draped and laurelled. *Leg.*, GEORGIUS II DEI GRATIA. *Rev.*, Four crowned shields crosswise, the star of the Garter in the centre. *Leg.*, M. B. F. ET H. REX F. D. B. ET L. D. S. R. I. A. T. ET E. and date. *Edge*, DECVS ET TVTATEM ANNO REGNI TERTIO, &c.

The half-crown, shilling, and sixpence are exactly the same, but the two last have milled edges. Many of these pieces have roses or plumes or both in the spaces between the shields; others are plain.

The coins with the old head are like the preceding, except for the alteration in the bust. Some also read GEORGIUS instead of GEORGIUS.

The halfpenny has on the obverse a bust of the king to left, laurelled and in armour, with the legend GEORGIUS II REX, and on the reverse Britannia, as usual, and the date in exergue, and the legend BRITANNIA. The farthing is identical.

On some of the halfpennies the obverse legend is blundered, and they are therefore known as error halfpennies. They are dated 1730 and read GEGIVS for GEORGIUS.

The old head copper pieces are similar to those of the young head type, except for the alteration of the bust. No copper coin was minted from 1754 to 1770 on account of the number of forgeries which were fabricated.

George III., 1760-1820.—Many different types of coins were issued during the long reign of George III.; one or two old denominations were revived, and three new pieces were introduced, these last being the third-of-guinea in gold, and the twopence and penny in copper. The gold pieces of twenty shillings and ten shillings were again issued under the name of sovereigns and half-sovereigns for the first time since the reign of James I. It is true that gold twenty-shilling pieces were subsequently issued by Charles I. and others, but these went by the name of unites, broads, &c.

The first coinage of gold was issued in 1760-1786, and consisted of the guinea, half-guinea, and quarter-guinea, as follows:—*Obv.*, Laurelled bust to right. *Leg.*, GEORGIUS III DEI GRATIA. *Rev.*, A square shield of arms as on George II.'s coins, garnished. *Leg.*, M. B. F. ET H. REX F. D. B. ET L. D. S. R. I. A. T. ET E. The edges of all are milled.

There were several types or coinages issued at different periods, but in saying, for example, that the first coinage was issued from 1760 to 1786 it is not necessarily implied that pieces of every denomination occur of every date from 1760 to 1786. In some years certain pieces were not coined at all. The same remarks apply to the silver and copper coins.

The second coinage was issued 1787-1800, and consisted of the guinea, half-guinea, and third-of-guinea, or seven-shilling piece. The guinea is as follows:—*Obv.*, Bust to right, laurelled and draped. *Leg.*, GEORGIVS III DEI GRATIA. *Rev.*, A small pointed shield, square at the top, and crowned, with arms as on the first guinea. *Leg.*, M. B. F. ET H. REX F. D. B. ET L. D. S. R. I. A. T. ET. E. and date.

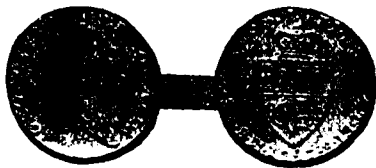


FIG. 52.—Half-guinea of George III.

From the shape of the shield this coin is known as the spade guinea. The half-guinea (Fig. 52) is the same, but the seven-shilling piece has on the reverse a crown and the legend MAG. BRI. FR. ET HIB. REX. The edges of all these are milled.

The third coinage was from 1801-1813 and consisted of the same denominations as the second. But the shield of arms is somewhat different, having 1 and 4, England; 2, Scotland; 3, Ireland; on an escutcheon of pretence the Electorate, and on an inescutcheon an electoral cap, or, later, an imperial crown. The lilies of France now disappear from our coins, having adorned them without a break ever since the time of the king who placed the names of Crecy

and Poitiers upon England's roll of victories—a period of over four and a half centuries. The title of “King of France” is now omitted from the royal style.

The guinea, coined in 1813 only, is as follows:—*Obv.*, Bust to right, laurelled. *Leg.*, GEORGIVS III DEI GRATIA. *Rev.*, Shield of arms as described above, crowned, and enclosed by the Garter, which bears its motto HONI SOIT QUI

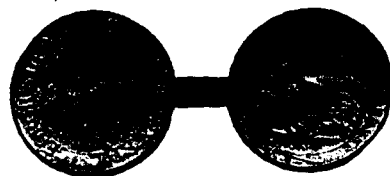


FIG. 53.—Sovereign of George III.

MAL Y PENSE. *Leg.*, BRITANNIARUM REX FIDEI DEFENSOR 1813.

The half-guinea is the same, but the seven-shilling piece is as before, having a crown on the reverse, and the legend BRITANNIARUM REX FIDEI DEFENSOR, and date.

The fourth coinage was from 1817 to the end of the reign in 1820, and consisted of sovereigns and half-sovereigns, the former (Fig. 53) being as follows:—*Obv.*, Head to right, laurelled. Date below. *Leg.*, GEORGIUS III D: G: BRITANNIAR: REX F: D: *Rev.*, St. George on horseback, fighting the dragon, all enclosed by the Garter bearing its usual motto. B.P. is to be seen in small letters below, the initials of Benedetto Pistrucci, the designer. The half-

sovereign has the obverse like the sovereign, but the legend reads *GEORGIUS III DEI GRATIA*. On the reverse is a shield of arms, crowned, and the legend *BRITANNIARUM REX FID. DEF.*

Of silver coins there were four different types, issued in 1763, 1787, 1798, and 1816, *et seq.*, respectively. The first issue consisted of shillings only, as follows:—*Obv.*, Bust to right, in armour and draped. *Leg.*, *GEORGIUS III DEI GRATIA*. *Rev.*, Four crowned shields crosswise, 1, England and Scotland impaled; 2, France; 3, Ireland; 4, the Electorate, as previously described. The star of the Garter in the centre. *Leg.*, *M. B. F. ET H. REX F. D. B. ET L. D. S. R. I. A. T. ET E. 1763.*

"These coins are generally called Northumberland shillings, from the circumstance of their having been struck for the purpose of being distributed among the populace when the Earl of Northumberland made his first public appearance in Dublin as Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland." (Henfrey.) They are rather rare.

Of 1787 there are shillings and sixpences. *Obv.*, Bust to right, laurelled, in armour, and draped. *Leg.*, *GEORGIUS. III. DEI. GRATIA*. *Rev.*, Four shields as on the Northumberland shilling, with the star in the centre and a crown in each angle. *Leg.*, *M. B. F. ET H. REX. F. D. B. ET. L. D. S. R. I. A. T. ET E. 1787.*

Louis Pingo was the artist of these coins. On a few very rare specimens of the shilling the dot in the legend after the numeral III, which comes just over the king's head, is absent.

The shilling of 1798 is of the same type, but

the dot referred to is absent, and the date has the necessary alteration. It is very rare, having been minted from bullion sent to be coined, according to an obsolete law which permitted the proceeding, by some private firm. But the coins were no sooner made than they were remelted, by an order in Council, which declared that "no coinage was lawful without the sanction of a royal proclamation." A few specimens only survived.

The silver coinage now began to diminish, owing to various causes, and an endeavour was made to supply the deficiency by issuing Spanish dollars and half-dollars, countermarked with the head of George III.

In 1816 there was a grand issue of silver coins. We now have the crown and half-crown, as well as the shilling and sixpence. The crown is as follows:—*Rev.*, Head of king to right, laurelled. *PISTRUCCI* in minute letters below the neck. *Leg.*, *GEORGIUS III. D : G : BRITANNIARUM REX F : D :* and date below head. *Rev.*, St. George on horseback in combat with the Dragon, *PISTRUCCI* in minute letters below. All within the Garter, bearing its usual motto. *Edge*, *DECUS ET TUTAMEN. ANNO REGNI LVIII., &c.*

The half-crown is as follows:—*Obv.*, Large bust to right, laurelled. *Leg.*, *GEORGIUS III DEI GRATIA* and date. *Rev.*, Arms as on the third gold coinage, borne on a crowned and garnished shield, enclosed by the collar of the Order of the Garter and the Garter itself, the latter bearing its motto. In minute letters on the garni-

ture, W.W.P. for William Wellesley Pole, Master of the Mint, and W. the initial of Thomas Wyon, the engraver. The edge is milled.

A second type of half-crown has a smaller variety of bust and the legend in larger letters, and on the reverse the collar of the Garter is absent. There are also other trifling variations.

The shilling has a head to right, laurelled, and the legend GEOR. III. D. G. BRITT. REX F. D. and the date below. The type of head here shown is sometimes called the bull-head. The reverse has a shield of arms as on the third gold coinage, crowned, within the Garter, which bears its accustomed motto. There is no legend. The corresponding sixpence is exactly the same.

Of copper coins there are four different types. The first was issued from 1770 to 1775 inclusive, and consisted of halfpennies and farthings. *Obv.*, Bust to right, in armour, laurelled. *Leg.*, GEORGIVS . III . REX. *Rev.*, Britannia seated to left, with the "union" shield at her side, a palm-branch in her right and a spear in her left hand. *Leg.*, BRITANNIA, and date in exergue.

Pinkerton, a contemporary numismatist, had a very low opinion of the coins of this reign. "The first half-pence," he says, "present such a face as human creature never wore, jutting out something in the likeness of a macaw." He goes on to say that the state of its coinage is commonly the barometer of a kingdom's power, and "the decline of the money is justly esteemed a sure symptom of the decline of the state. Some grey-haired medallists, from this circumstance, foretold the loss of America and all the calamities

which, during this reign, have hastened the decline of Britain's glory." It is reassuring for us of to-day to hear that Mr. Pinkerton is only jesting.

One halfpenny, bearing the date 1772, has the name of the king blundered, as was the case with one of George II.'s pieces. The error halfpenny of 1772 reads GEORIVS. Some people have a notion that a reward is given for every one of these returned to the royal mint, but as a matter of fact no such reward is offered, nor do the mint records show that it has ever been paid.

In 1797 we have the first English regal copper penny. Copper pennies had indeed been issued by the Anglesey Copper Mining Company ten years before, but these pieces are merely private tokens. This same year, 1797, also saw the appearance, for the first and last time, of the copper twopenny-pieces—fine coins in appearance, but most inconvenient for use. They weighed twice as much as the pennies, that is to say, exactly two ounces each, and were composed of pure copper, "strictly and unequivocally honest." Both twopennies and pennies (Fig. 54) were coined by Matthew Boulton, of the Soho works, Birmingham, under a royal warrant. They were of precisely the same type; as follows: *Obv.*, Bust of king to right, laurelled and draped. *Leg.*, In incuse or sunk letters on a broad raised rim, GEORGIUS III . D . G . REX. *Rev.*, Britannia seated to right, the union shield at her side, a palm-branch in her right hand and a trident in her left. The waves of the sea roll at her feet,

and in the distance is a three-masted ship in full sail. In minute letters below the shield, SOHO.

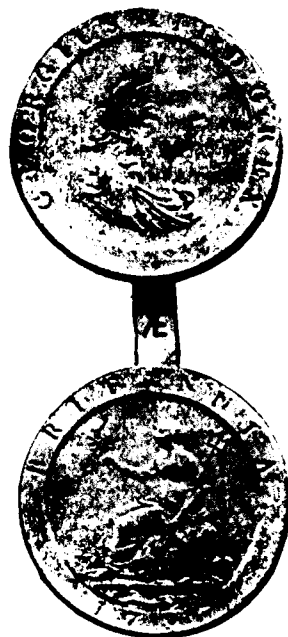


FIG. 54.—"Soho" penny of George III.

Leg., In incuse letters on broad rim, BRITANNIA, 1797. *Edge*, Quite plain.

Halfpennies of this type exist only as patterns. In 1799 another type of halfpence and farthings appeared, the halfpenny as follows: *Obv.*, Bust laurelled and draped, as on the copper coins of 1797. *Leg.*, GEORGIUS III DEI GRATIA REX. *Rev.*, Figure of Britannia seated to right, with shield, &c. The waves of the sea follow the curve of the coin. Ship in the distance, and in small letters below the shield SOHO. Date below, 1799. *Leg.*, BRITANNIA. The

edge is slightly hollowed and milled diagonally.

The farthing is of the same type, but the date is below the head on the obverse and the reverse legend reads BRITANNIA 1 FARTHING.

The fourth type appeared in 1806, when

pennies, halfpennies, and farthings were coined as follows: *Obv.*, Bust to right, laurelled and draped, but differing from any preceding. *Leg.*, GEORGIUS III . D . G . REX, and date below. *Rev.*, Britannia seated, shield, trident, and palm-branch as before, and the ship in the distance. The edge of the sea is straight, not curved. *Leg.*, BRITANNIA.

The edge has a slight hollow, with diagonal milling. The halfpenny and farthing are exactly the same. The copper coins of 1799 and of 1806, like those of 1797, were also of the Soho mint, and designed by Boulton's engraver, Küchler, who, we may note, is the first artist to represent Britannia as ruling the waves, which he does by substituting a trident for the spear which had appeared on all previous copper coins and adding the sea with a ship sailing upon it.

George IV., 1820-1830.—In this reign were struck one type of double sovereign, two types of sovereign, and three types of half-sovereign. The double sovereign has the head of the king to left, neither robed, laureate, nor crowned, and the legend GEORGIUS III . D . G . BRITANNIA . REX . F . D. This design is by J. B. Merlin. On the reverse is St. George and the Dragon, as seen on our present gold coins and crown, and the date 1823 in the exergue, with the initials of Benedetto Pistrucci, the artist, and of William Wellesley Pole, the master of the mint. The edge of the coin has DECVS ET TVTAMEN. ANNO REGNI IV. This piece was struck in 1823 only.

The sovereign has a head to the left, laurelled, and the legend as on the double sovereign, except that the numeral is written IV instead of IIII. This design is by Pistrucci. The reverse is as the double sovereign. The half-sovereign has the same head and legend as the sovereign, and on the reverse either a shield of arms, crowned and garnished, and the date ANNO 1821 below, or, a plain square shield, with a rose, thistle and shamrock below. Both these reverses are the work of Merlin. The shield of arms is as on the last half-sovereign of George III. The first type of half-sovereign was withdrawn almost as soon as issued, on account of its likeness to the contemporary sixpence.

In 1826 the second type of gold sovereigns and half-sovereigns was issued. These have a head to left, by William Wyon, and the date below, and the legend GEORGIUS IV DEI GRATIA. The reverse has a square shield of arms, garnished and crowned, and the legend BRITANNIARUM REX FID. DEF. This is another design of Merlin.

The silver coins include one type of crown, and three types of half-crown, shilling, and sixpence.

The crown has on the obverse a laurelled head of the king, to left. Pistrucci's initials are in minute letters below the head, as well as on the reverse of the coin. The legend reads GEORGIUS IIII. D. G. BRITANNIAR. REX F. D. The reverse has George and the Dragon, and the date in the exergue, and also the initials W. W. P.

The half-crown, shilling, and sixpence have the same head as the crown, while on the reverse they have a shield of arms, crowned and garnished, a rose below, and a thistle and shamrock on either side; W. W. P. is engraved on the shamrock.

In 1823 another type of half-crown and shilling was issued. The half-crown bears the same head as the foregoing silver coins, and on the reverse another design by Merlin, showing a square shield of arms enclosed by the Garter, which bears the usual motto, and the collar of the Garter. ANNO 1823 or ANNO 1824 beneath. The shilling, and the sixpence issued in 1824, are the same, except that the collar of the Order of the Garter does not appear on the reverse, and the dates run 1823, 1824, and 1825 on the former, and 1824, 1825, and 1826 on the latter piece.

A third silver type was issued in 1825. The half-crown has the king's head to left, neither laurelled nor draped, and the legend GEORGIUS IV. DEI GRATIA. On the reverse is a square shield of arms over mantling, surmounted by a royal helmet, crowned. Below, on a ribbon, is the inscription DIEU ET MON DROIT. The legend reads BRITANNIARUM REX FID. DEF. This reverse is by Merlin, while the obverse is by Wyon, after a bust by Chantrey.

The shilling of 1825 *et seq.* and the sixpence of 1826 *et seq.* (Fig. 55) bear the same obverse design, and on the reverse a lion, crowned, and standing upon a crown. Below, are the rose, thistle, and shamrock united, and the legend

reads *BRITANNIARUM REX FIDEI DEFENSOR*. These pieces are called the "lion" shilling and sixpence.

The copper coins show two types of farthing, and one type of penny and halfpenny. The first farthing has a bust, draped and laurelled, to left, and the legend *GEORGIUS III DEI GRATIA*, and on the reverse Britannia seated to right,

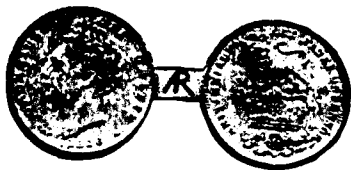


FIG. 55.—"Lion" sixpence of George IV.

with shield, trident, and palm-branch, but no ship, and the legend *BRITANNIARUM REX FIDEI DEFENSOR* and date in exergue. These were engraved by Pistrucci, and on them Britannia is for the first time represented as wearing a helmet.

The penny and halfpenny struck in 1825, and the farthing struck in 1826 have a laurelled head to left, and the legend *GEORGIUS IV DEI GRATIA*, with the date below. On the reverse is Britannia seated to right, helmeted, no palm-branch, and the trident in her left hand. Below are the rose, shamrock, and thistle, with the legend as on the first farthing.

In this reign the last Anglo-Irish copper coins were issued.

William IV., 1830-1837.—The short reign of William IV. did not afford opportunity for

much variety in the coinage. He issued the sovereign and half-sovereign, and the usual silver denominations, with the exception of the crown, which exists only as a pattern, and the three copper coins. The groat is now issued for circulation for the first time since the reign of Charles I.

All the coins alike bear the head to the right, with neither crown, laurels, nor drapery. The artist was William Wyon, whose initials appear on the truncation of the neck in minute letters.

The sovereign and half-sovereign have on the reverse a square shield of arms, garnished and crowned. On the obverse the legend runs *GULIELMUS III D. G. BRITANNIARUM REX F. D.*, and the reverse reads *ANNO 1831, &c.*, below the shield.

The half-crown has on the reverse a square shield of arms on a royal mantle and the collar of the Garter, crowned, the mantle tied with tasselled cords, and *ANNO 1831* below. The shilling has on the reverse *ONE SHILLING* enclosed by an oak and laurel wreath, crowned, and the date below. The sixpence is the same, with the necessary alteration in the wording. The groat, first re-issued in 1836, has on the reverse Britannia seated to right, with trident, and the union shield. The legend reads *FOURPENCE*, and the date is in the exergue. This is the first instance of the

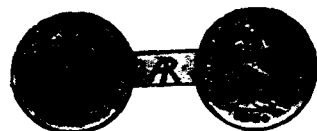


FIG. 56.—Groat of William IV.

Britannia type being employed for a silver coin. (See Fig. 56.)

The copper money has on the reverse Britannia seated to right, exactly as on the second type of George IV.'s copper coins.

Victoria, 1837.—The first coinage of the present reign was issued in 1838. It consisted of sovereigns and half-sovereigns in gold, shillings, sixpences, and groats in silver, and half-pennies, and farthings in copper. Pennies followed in 1841. We will take these in order of date.

The sovereign (Fig. 58) has the following type: *Obv.* Head to left. w. w., the initials of

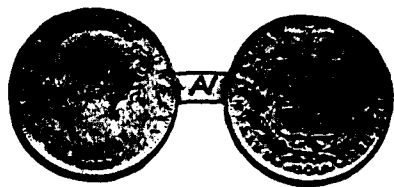


FIG. 57.—Sovereign of Victoria (first type)

the artist, William Wyon, on the truncation of the neck. *Leg.*, VICTORIA DEI GRATIA 1838. *Rev.*, Square shield of arms crowned, between two laurel branches, having England in the first and fourth quarters, Scotland in the second, and Ireland in the third. The rose, thistle, and shamrock united below. *Leg.*, BRITANNIARUM REGINA FID : DEF :

The half-sovereign is similar, but the artist's initials are omitted, the shield is garnished, and the laurels, rose, thistle and shamrock are absent.

The shilling and sixpence have the same head on the obverse, and the legend VICTORIA DEI GRATIA BRITANNIAR : REG : F : D : On the reverse they have the value in two lines surmounted by a crown, within a wreath of oak and laurel, with the date beneath.

The groat has the same obverse, though with a slightly different contraction of the legend, and on the reverse the figure of Britannia, exactly as on the groats of William IV., the legend FOURPENCE, and the date in the exergue. The edges of all the gold and silver pieces are milled.

The penny, halfpenny, and farthing have the same head, and the legend VICTORIA DEI GRATIA and date. The reverse of these pieces is identical in type and legend with that of the copper coins of George IV. and William IV., Britannia seated, with trident, no ship represented, rose, thistle, and shamrock in the exergue. The legend is a continuation of the royal style.

In 1843 half-farthings were issued for use both at home and in the colonies. The obverse is as the other copper pieces, with a fuller legend, while the reverse has the value and date in three lines across the field, a crown above, and the rose, thistle, and shamrock below. These were not struck after 1856.

The half-crown first appears in 1839, but the crown was not issued till 1844, when it presents the same type as the half-crown, except that instead of a milling on the edge it bears an inscription. It is as follows: *Obv.*, Young head

to left, w. WYON R.A. on truncation of neck. *Leg.*, VICTORIA DEI GRATIA 1844 (&c.). *Rev.*, Square shield of arms, crowned, within a laurel wreath. Rose, thistle, and shamrock below. *Leg.*, BRITANNIARUM REGINA FID: DEF: *Edge*, In sunk letters, ANNO REGNI VIII (&c.) DECUS ET TUTAMEN ("A shield and a protection"). The

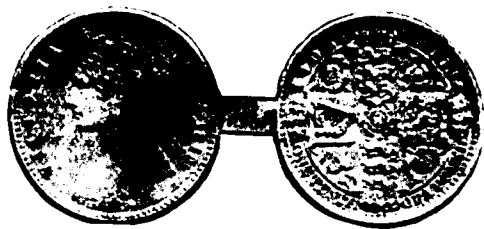


FIG. 58.—Florin of Victoria (first type).

reverse is by J. B. Merlin, a French engraver. This type of crown was not struck after 1851.

The threepenny piece was again added to the currency in 1845, and resembles the shilling, except that it has a plain edge.

In 1849 appeared the first silver florin. It was received by the public with marked disfavour, on account of the omission of the words *Dei Gratia* after her Majesty's name. It was then given the title which it has borne ever since, that of the Godless or Graceless florin. It was issued in 1849 only. (See Fig. 58.) *Obv.*, Bust to left, crowned and draped with an ornamented robe bordered with lace, w. w. in minute letters behind the bust. *Leg.*, VICTORIA REGINA 1849. *Rev.*, Four shields, two of England, one

of Scotland, and one of Ireland arranged cross-wise, each crowned. A rose in the centre, and a rose, a thistle, a rose, and a shamrock each in an angle of the cross. *Leg.*, ONE FLORIN ONE TENTH OF A POUND.

A new florin, somewhat broader than the first, was struck in 1851, and resembles its predecessor, but that the legends are in Gothic instead of Roman, that of the obverse reading *Victoria d : g : brit : reg : f : d : mdccli*. A quatrefoil takes the place of the rose on the reverse.

The Britannia groat ceased to be coined for home use in 1856, and is now withdrawn from circulation. But there have been subsequent issues of this piece for the benefit of British Guiana, and it therefore takes a place in the colonial series.

In 1860 the old copper coinage was succeeded by one of bronze, that is, copper containing a proportion of four per cent. of tin and one per cent. of zinc. This mixture has the advantage of being harder and more durable, and admits of the coins being thinner and so of more convenient weight. The design for these bronze pieces was executed by Mr. Leonard C. Wyon. The story which asserts that the pennies dated 1864 contain gold, owing to an accident at the mint, is pure fiction, and only calls for notice here from the fact that this date is rarely met with in ordinary circulation. No doubt their apparent scarcity is caused by those deluded people who hoard them with the idea that they are of enhanced value.

The bronze coins have a draped bust to left, the hair tied with a ribbon, and the usual legend. The reverses show Britannia seated, a lighthouse behind her, and a ship in full sail in the distance. The latter is an accessory which has already appeared on coins of George III., while the former is now introduced for the first time, and represents the Eddystone lighthouse.

Sometimes, when there is a pressure of work at the Royal Mint, London, the coining of the bronze is undertaken by Messrs. Ralph Heaton and Son, of the Birmingham mint, and all pieces coined by them are distinguished by a small H under the date.

In 1871 the type of St. George and the Dragon, as designed by Pistrucci for coins of George IV. was adopted for the sovereigns, and pieces both of this type and of the first continued to be struck in 1872, 1873, and 1874, after which the use of the first type was abandoned. The half-sovereigns remained as before.

In 1887 the notorious "Jubilee" coins were issued, all bearing an effigy of the Queen designed by the late Sir Edgar Boehm, representing Her Majesty crowned with a very small one-arched crown of state, from which drapery falls to below the shoulders. The initials J. E. B. are on the truncation of the bust.

The five-pound piece and the double sovereign were in this year issued for the first time during the present reign as current coin. They have on the reverse Pistrucci's St. George and the Dragon, "and it is interesting," says the Deputy-Master of the Mint in his Report for

1886, "to compare this purely classical composition with the Gothic treatment of the same subject shown in the George Noble of Henry VIII." These two denominations were struck only in 1887 and 1893. The sovereign is of the same type, but the half-sovereign retains its shield, &c., on the reverse.

The silver crown is again revived, and this also bears St. George and the Dragon. A new coin also appears in the shape of the double florin, having the obverse the same as the other pieces of this issue, and on the reverse an imitation of a design by Thomas Simon, the celebrated engraver to Charles II. The rendering of this design as presented on the double florin can scarcely be admired, and it has been spoken of as "radiating kitchen poker and tea-trays." The double florin had but a short life, and has not been coined since 1890.

The half-crown has on the reverse a square shield of arms, crowned, over the Garter, the whole enclosed by the collar of the Order. The Garter bears the words *HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE*. The florin resembles the double florin. The shilling and sixpence bear the shield of arms, crowned, surrounded by the Garter with its inscription. The date is below. The sixpence (Fig. 59) was soon withdrawn, as when dressed in a gilt coat it could too easily be made to personate a half-sovereign, a fact which was immediately taken advantage of by the dishonest. A substitute was issued in the same year, having the obverse as the other 1887 coins, and the reverse as the first Victorian sixpence, but with

an alteration in the shape of the crown. A similar thing happened in 1821, under George IV., when a like resemblance existed between the two pieces in question, only in this case it was the half-sovereign which was called in.

The threepenny piece resembles the second Jubilee sixpence.

In 1893 new types of gold and silver coins

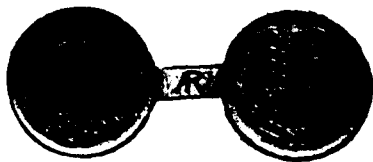


FIG. 59.—Sixpence of Victoria (second type).

were struck, the obverse design, which is the same on all the pieces, being executed by Mr. T. Brock, R.A., who also designed the reverse of the half-crown. The reverses of the florin and shilling are by Sir (then Mr.) Edward J. Poynter, now P.R.A. The legends now include for the first time the title *INDIE IMPERATRIX*, in accordance with the Royal Titles Act of 1876, which ordains that this title is to be used on all instruments, &c., operating beyond as well as in the United Kingdom itself, and its appearance on the coins is justified by the fact that they are legal tender in Australia, Cyprus, the African colonies, &c.

The gold pieces all bear on the reverse Pistrucci's George and the Dragon, which now first appears on the half-sovereign. It is also retained by the crown, which has on its edge in

raised letters *DECUS ET TUTAMEN . ANNO REGNI*, and the date of issue in Roman numerals.

The half-crown bears a spade shield of arms, crowned, over the collar of the Garter, and enclosed by a circle. The legend on the obverse reads *VICTORIA . DEI GRA . BRITT . REG .*, and on the reverse *FID . DEF . IND . IMP . HALF 1893 CROWN*. The florin has on the reverse the shields

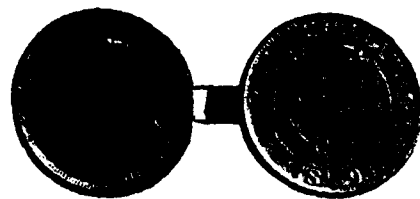


FIG. 60.—Shilling of Victoria (third type).

of England, Scotland, and Ireland, the first two above, the third beneath, resting on the ribbon of the Garter. The two first lean to left and right respectively, and are surmounted by one crown. Behind the shields are two sceptres in saltire; a rose is between England and Scotland, and a thistle and shamrock on either side of Ireland. The Garter is partially enclosed by a beaded circle. The legend reads *ONE FLORIN TWO SHILLINGS 1893*.

The shilling, illustrated by Fig. 60, is as follows:—*Obv.*, Draped bust of the Queen to left. Her Majesty wears a tiara, from which falls drapery to below the shoulders. The initials *T.B.* below. *Leg.*, *VICTORIA . DEI . GRA . BRITT . REGINA . FID . DEF . IND . IMP .* *Rev.*,

The English, Scottish, and Irish shields, crowned; the two first above, the third below, over the ribbon of the Order of the Garter, round which is a beaded circle. *Leg.*, ONE SHILLING 1893, divided by stops composed of five dots.

The reverses of the sixpence and threepence remain as on the last issues.

In 1895 a change was made in the type of

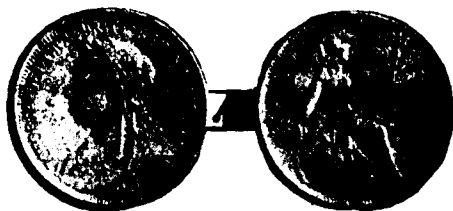


FIG. 61.—Halfpenny of Victoria (third type).

the bronze coinage, the first since its introduction in 1860. The penny is as follows:—*Obv.*, Draped bust of the Queen, to left, as on the gold and silver pieces of 1893, *et seq.* The artist's initials, T.B., below. *Leg.*, VICTORIA . DEI . GRA . BRITT : REGINA . FID . DEF . IND . IMP . *Rev.*, Britannia seated, to right. This design is somewhat similar to that of the preceding bronze coins, but the shield is larger, and the ship and lighthouse are absent. *Leg.*, ONE PENNY, and date in exergue.

The halfpenny, illustrated by Fig. 61, and the farthing, are the same as the penny, except for the necessary variation in the legend.

The reverse was designed by Mr. de Saulles, Engraver to the Mint.

As the similarity between the obverse of the farthings of this type and that of the last half-sovereigns occasionally led to confusion between the two, the farthings issued since April in the present year (1897) have been of a bronze tint, instead of the usual copper-colour.

CHAPTER III

ECCLESIASTICAL MINTS

BOTH before and after the Conquest (see p. 15) various church dignitaries enjoyed the privilege of coining money. After the Conquest the chief ecclesiastical mints were situated at Canterbury, York and Durham. The money issued from these mints was in every respect like the regal money, except that they were distinguished from it by various mint and other marks, which also serve to indicate under which prelates they were struck. Thus the coins issued under Bishop Beck, of Durham, from 1283 to 1310, bear a cross moline, which formed his family arms; and those issued under Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury from 1533 to 1556, bear his initials, T.C.; and some issued by Wolsey when Archbishop of York, and also while he held the bishopric of Durham, bear a cardinal's hat.

The archiepiscopal mint at Canterbury was very early established. The first known pieces emanating therefrom are those of Archbishop laenbrht, though it is probable that coins were

minted there at even an earlier date. Fig. 62 shows a penny of Iaenbrht, which also bears the name of the contemporary king Offa. *Obv.*,

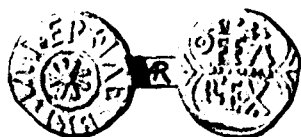


FIG. 62.—Penny of Iaenbrht.

by a row of beads, a cross above, all within an ornamental device.

The following archbishops struck money:—Iaenbrht, 766-793; Ethilheard, 793-805; Wulfred, 805-832; Ceolnoth, 833-871; Ethered, 871-890; Plegmund, 890-915; Bouchier, 1454-1486; Morton, 1487-1500; Wareham, 1503-1533; and, lastly, Cranmer, 1533-1556. Ruding surmises that the fact that no Canterbury coins were struck between the reigns of Ethelred II. and Richard I. is accounted for by the circumstance that the privilege of coining was taken away by the former and not restored until the reign of the latter.



FIG. 63.—Halfpenny of Cranmer.

Fig. 63 shows a halfpenny of Archbishop Cranmer. *Obv.*, Full face head of Henry VIII. in inner circle; between the initials T.C. *Leg.*, H. D. G. ROSA SIE SPIA. *Rev.*, Cross and pellets. *Leg.*, CIVITAS CANTOR.

As in the case of **Canterbury**, it is not known for certain when the Archbishops of York began

to coin money. The earliest pieces extant which belong to this mint are some of Ecgerht, archbishop from 732 to 766, struck in conjunction with his brother Eadberht, King of Northumberland. One

of his stycas (Fig. 64) is as follows:—*Obv.*, Standing figure to right, holding a long cross in each hand. *Leg.*,

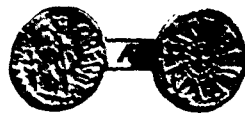


FIG. 64.—Styca of Ecgerht.

ECGBERHT. *Rev.*, A cross within a beaded circle. *Leg.*, -TBEREV-TE-.

This mint was worked also by Vigmund, archbishop from 837-854; Ulfhere, 854-895; and probably by Ulfhere's three successors, Ethelbald, 895-921; Leodeward, 928-931; and Wulfstan, 931-956. It is also very likely that Bowett, Fleming, Kempe, William Booth, Nevill,

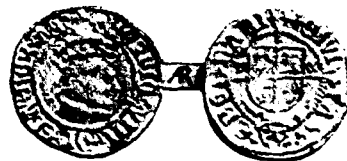


FIG. 65.—Half-groat of Wolsey.

and Laurence Booth, who successively held the see between 1407 and 1480, issued money.

Rotherham, 1480-1500; Bainbridge, 1508-1514; Wolsey, 1514-1531; and Lee, 1531-1545, also coined money at York. Fig. 65 shows a half-groat of Wolsey, as follows:—*Obv.*, Profile of Henry VIII., crowned, to right, in inner circle. *Leg.*, HENRIC . VIII . DI . GRA . REX . ANG. *Rev.*, Shield of arms within an inner circle, crossed by a long cross fleury. T W at the sides, and a cardinal's

132 THE STORY OF THE BRITISH COINAGE

hat and two keys; below. *Leg.*, CIVITAS .
EBORACI.

With the reign of Henry VIII. the ecclesiastical mints ceased to exist.

CHAPTER IV

THE ANGLO-IRISH COINAGE

THE Anglo-Irish series begins with John, who struck money for Ireland in two capacities, first as Lord of Ireland—a dignity bestowed on him by his father in 1177—and second, as King of England, after his accession to the throne in 1199.

The earliest circulating medium in Ireland was probably ring-money, rings of metal valued according to their weight. The first coined money was that struck by the Danish princes or heads of the colonies which the Northmen founded at Dublin, Limerick, Waterford, &c. It consisted of rudely struck pennies in silver, and covers, roughly speaking, the period from the beginning of the tenth century to 1036. Some of the Anglo-Saxon kings also struck money in the island.

Practically, Ireland has never had a coinage of her own. When the Hiberno-Danish coinage ends, the Anglo-Irish issue begins, but of a purely native coinage there seems to be no trace.

The money of John, Lord of Ireland, consists of halfpennies and farthings. The halfpennies have on the obverse a full-face head, with no

neck, whose outline is formed by the beaded inner circle, and the legend IOHANNES . DOM., or DOMI., or DOMIN., and in one instance IBER is added, for Hibernia. The head is said by some to be that of John the Baptist. On the reverse is a short cross, having an annulet or ring in each angle, the whole within an inner circle. The legend is formed by the name of the moneyer and the place of mintage, *e.g.*, ADAM ON DWE, Adam of Dublin. The farthing has on the obverse a lozenge, within a circle, and no legend, and on the reverse a long cross, having a letter in each angle indicating part of the moneyer's name, *e.g.*, NICO, TOMA, &c.

After 1199, when John became king, pennies were added to the coinage, as follows: *Obv.*,

Full-face bust, crowned, with sceptre, enclosed by a tri-

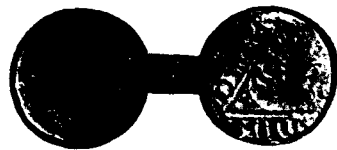


FIG. 66.—Irish penny of John.

angle. *Leg.*, IOHANNES REX. *Rev.*, A star and a crescent and three smaller stars, enclosed by a triangle. *Leg.*, ROBERT ON DIVE (Robert of Dublin), &c. (Fig. 66). The corresponding halfpennies and farthings are of similar type.

Irish coins were issued by every English sovereign from Henry III. to George IV. inclusive, with the exception of Richard II., Henry IV., Henry V., and Anne of whom no such pieces are known. It is also not quite certain if Edward VI. coined for Ireland or no.

The coins known as gun-money consisted of

some base metal, pieces styled crowns, half-crowns, shillings and sixpences, which were struck by James II. when he landed in Ireland, after his deposition. These are mentioned specially only because they are often erroneously classed as English. They were coined from old guns, pots, kitchen utensils, &c., hence their name of gun-money.

Under George I. were issued some copper pieces which have been given an importance they would not otherwise have possessed by the fact that Dean Swift expended a great deal of energetic invective upon them. They consist of halfpence and farthings, coined by William Wood under a royal patent, for use in Ireland, where small change was greatly needed. The Drapier Letters were written for the purpose of denouncing these coins, which Swift considered a scandalous fraud upon the Irish people. He alludes to Wood in such terms as "this wretch," "this vile fellow," "this little impudent hard-ware man," and, in the title of some verses on the subject, as "William Wood, brazier, tinker, hardwareman, coiner, founder, and esquire." He also asserted that the money in question was debased and dishonest. But a committee of the Privy Council, appointed to inquire into the matter, found that Wood's coins were of as good copper as the regal money issued for England, and of much superior weight and fineness to that coined for Ireland under Charles II., James II., and William and Mary.

One type of Wood's coins is as follows: *Obv.*, Bust of the king to right, laurelled. *Leg.*,

GEORGIUS DEI . GRATIA . REX. *Rev.*, Hibernia seated to left, holding a palm-branch in her

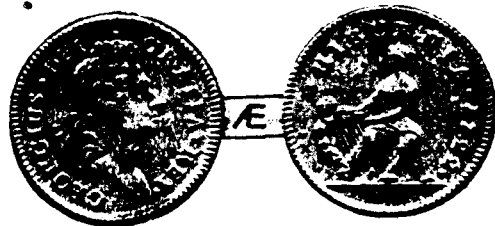


FIG. 67.—Pattern halfpenny for Ireland (Wood's).

right hand; at her side rests the Irish harp., *Leg.*, HIBERNIA . 1723.

These pieces are rather smaller than the English copper coins of the period. Fig. 67 shows a fine pattern halfpenny of Wood's coinage.

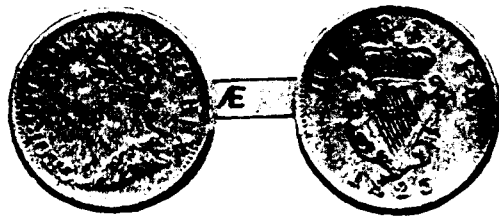


FIG. 68.—Irish halfpenny of George IV.

The last Irish coinage took place under George IV., when pennies, and halfpennies were struck, of the following type. *Obv.*, Bust to left, draped and laurelled. *Leg.*, GEORGIUS IV D . G . REX. *Rev.*, A crowned harp. *Leg.*, HIBERNIA . 1823 (Fig. 68).

CHAPTER V

THE ANGLO-GALLIC COINAGE

THE very interesting series known as the Anglo-Gallic or Anglo-French consists of money struck in French towns and provinces by English princes, either by right of possession through marriage or inheritance, or by right of conquest. Thus, Aquitaine and Poitou, with other provinces, were joined to the English dominions by the marriage of Henry II. with Eleanor, Duchess of Aquitaine, and both Henry and his wife struck deniers in that duchy. The *denier* corresponded in value to the English penny. Later, when they won other possessions in

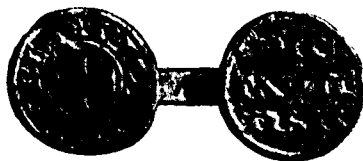


FIG. 69.—Poitou denier of Richard I.

France by less peaceful means, the English kings set up mints by right of conquest, as, for example, at Calais, which surrendered to Edward III. in 1347.

Richard I. coined deniers and half-deniers in Aquitaine and deniers in Poitou and Normandy. They bear no head, but a cross *pattée* within an inner circle and the legend *RICARDVS REX*, and on the reverse *ACVITAINE* or *PICTAVIENSIS*. Fig. 69 shows a Poitou denier. Other silver coins of this series were struck by Edward I., Edward II. (?), Edward III., Edward the Black

Prince (whom his father made Prince of Aquitaine), John of Gaunt, Richard II., Henry IV., Henry V., and Henry VI. Gold coins of this series were first issued by Edward III., and after him by the Black Prince, Richard II., Henry IV., Henry V., and Henry VI.

The final pieces of this series, some groats, were struck by Henry VIII. in Tournay, which he besieged in the year 1513.

The names given to these coins are some-

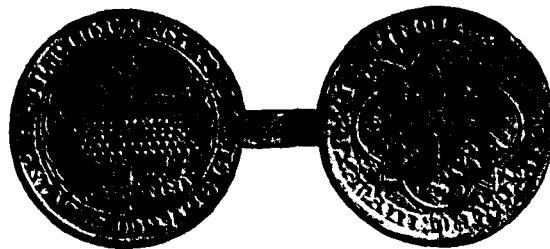


FIG. 70.—Mouton of Edward III.

times rather curious, as for example, the *aiguel* or *mouton* of Edward III. and Henry V., so called from the lamb, intended to represent the Paschal Lamb, which forms its obverse type. This was copied from a piece first struck by Louis IX. A *mouton* of Edward III., illustrated by Fig. 70, is as follows: *Obv.*, The Lamb, to left, holding a banner on a staff terminating in a cross, a nimbus round its head, all enclosed by a tressure of arches and a beaded circle. *EDWARD* below. *Leg.*, AGN : DEI : QVI : TOLL : PECA MVDEI : MSERE :

NOB ("O Lamb of God, which taketh away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us"). *Rev.*, Short cross with ornate ends, a cinquefoil in the centre and a lys in each angle, all within a compartment composed of four pointed and four rounded arches placed alternately, having a lys in each outer angle. *Leg.*, XPE VINCIT. XPE REGNAT. XPE [I]MPERAT ("Christ conquers, Christ reigns, Christ commands").

The motto on the reverse was the battle-cry of the Crusaders under Philip I. of France, at Rama, in 1105. It is also found on the early Scottish St. Andrews.

In connection with this series it is interesting to notice some of the titles borne by our sovereigns. On the earlier English coins of Edward III. we find the title "King of France." On coins struck between 1360 and 1369 this is replaced by "Lord of Aquitaine," in accordance with the Treaty of Bretigny, by which Edward agreed to relinquish his claim to the crown of France and, in return, was to be styled "Lord of Aquitaine," and to hold that province without any feudal obligation to the French monarch. But when, in 1369, Charles V. broke the treaty, Edward assumed both titles and placed the two together upon his coins. It is a remarkable fact that long after the loss of our last French possession, and until late in the reign of George III., our sovereigns continued to style themselves "Kings of France," and side by side with this empty title the arms of France are quartered with those of England and, till as late as the

reign of William and Mary, occupy the first and fourth quarters of the English shield.

CHAPTER VI

MAUNDY MONEY

MAUNDY money, consisting of groats, three-pences, half-groats, and pennies in silver, has been issued by every English sovereign since Charles II., and forms part of the royal alms bestowed every Maundy Thursday upon certain poor persons.

Money for this special purpose was first issued by Charles II., and of this king's Maundies there are two types, the first having a bust to left, crowned, long hair, and IIII, III, II, or I, behind the head to denote the value.

The legend runs: CAROLVS II D. G. M. B. F & H. REX. On the reverse is a shield of arms over a cross

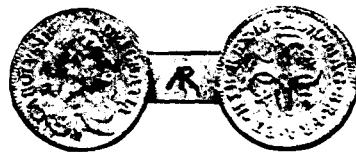


FIG. 71.—Maundy groat of Charles II. (second type).

and the legend: CHRISTO AVSPICE REGNO ("I reign under the auspices of Christ"). The second type, and the commoner, has on the obverse a bust to right, laurelled and draped, as on the current silver coins, and the legend CAROLVS II DEI GRATIA. On the reverse are four, three, or two c's interlinked on the groat,

threepence, and twopence, and one c on the penny, surmounted in each case by a crown and the date. The groat has, in addition, the symbols of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland—viz., the rose, thistle, lys, and harp, and the legend MAG . BR . FRA . ET . HIB . REX . (See Fig. 71.)

James II. issued but one type, having on the obverse a bust to left, laurelled, and on the reverse IIII, III, II, or I, surmounted by a crown and the date. The usual legends are on both sides.

The maundies of William and Mary, William III. alone, Anne, George I. and George II., have the usual obverses and the crowned figure of value on the reverse.

Those of George III. are similar and show the young head, bust in armour, and old head, successively.

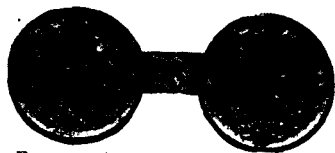


FIG. 72.—Maundy groat of William IV.

One type has *Obv.*, Bust in armour, and *Rev.*, value in writing figures. The maundy money of George IV., William IV., and Queen Victoria are all of the same type, having the crowned figure of value on the reverse. The obverse type, during the present reign, has varied with that of the ordinary silver coinage.

It is not usually known that by the Coinage Act of 1870 Maundy money is legal tender.

SCOTTISH COINAGE

INTRODUCTORY

THE Scottish coinage does not begin until a comparatively late date—the time of David I.—a fact which is more easily understood when we look at the early history of the northern part of our island.

The district which lies north of the Firth of Forth was originally the land of the Picts, while the district south of the Forth was part of the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Northumbria. At an early period a colony of Scots had left their native country of Ireland and settled in Argyleshire, and about 843 A.D. the Picts and Scots were united under Kenneth MacAlpin, a Scot. Although the title of King of the Picts survived for a time, the land of the Picts, less than a century after, became the land of the Scots. The country south of the Forth remained under English rule until Edmund, who reigned 940–946, granted Strathclyde to Malcolm of Scotland. A little later, all northern Northumbria, the Lothians and Teviotdale, was given to the Scottish kings. But these districts were “dependencies only, not portions of Scotia proper. . . Under King David [I.] southern Scotland, which formerly had been a mere dependency, became, as it ever since has been, the most important part of the kingdom.” (Burns.)

Thus, although in Anglo-Saxon times there was a mint at Jedburgh, *Geodburh*, a town whose name shows its Anglo-Saxon origin, it

142 THE STORY OF THE BRITISH COINAGE

was worked by Northumbrian kings, and its coins can in no way be considered as Scottish.

The Scottish coinage, therefore, begins with David I. (1124-1153) and ends with Anne. Some numismatists have placed pennies to Alexander I., but more recent writers regard this attribution as erroneous.

In the general practice of coining the same methods were followed as were customary in England. The coining of money was a royal prerogative. The chief mint or "cunye-hous" was at Edinburgh, that is, at Holyrood, and provincial mints were worked at Berwick, Roxburgh, Glasgow, Stirling, St. Andrews, Dumbarton, Aberdeen, Perth, &c. The names of the mint and moneyer appear on the reverses of the earlier pieces, as on the English coins, but the moneyer's name is not found after the reign of Alexander III. The hammer was the principal coining implement, and silver the principal material coined. Gold was not used until after it was permanently introduced into the English mint in the reign of Edward III. The first Scottish gold piece is one identical in name, and all but identical in design, with Edward III.'s noble. In spite of the statement that the influence of England on the coinage of Scotland is greatly overrated, England in many instances set a fashion to her young sister which was more or less promptly followed. A certain amount of French influence is also noticeable at various times.

The first Scottish milled coins are the silver testoons of Mary, dated 1553. These, however,

were minted in France, where the mill had just been put into operation. The hammer continued in use at the Scottish mint till the year 1637, when its place was taken by the mill, under the direction of Nicholas Briot.

As regards fineness, the Scottish coins were at first the same as the English, the silver being in the proportion of 11 oz. 2 dwts. fine to 18 dwt. alloy. The fineness of the gold noble is not recorded, but it probably followed the English standard of 23 carats $3\frac{1}{2}$ grains fine to $\frac{1}{2}$ grain alloy. Subsequent gold pieces were chiefly of "crown" gold, that is, gold of 22 carats fine to 2 carats alloy. Towards the end of the fourteenth century debasement began, and it becomes difficult to distinguish between coins of base silver and coins of billon; that is to say, there were certain coins of base silver which were not intended to pass as billon, and there were coins of billon which were not intended to pass as silver, although in point of fact there might be little or nothing to choose between the two. Various proportions of fine silver to alloy were employed from time to time, and in 1423 the circulation in England of Scottish money was forbidden on account of its lowness of standard. The gold standard varied, but was never less than 21 carats fine.

DENOMINATIONS ISSUED FROM DAVID I.
TO ANNE

DAVID I.	} Silver: Sterlings or Pennies.
MALCOLM IV.	
WILLIAM THE LION	
ALEXANDER II.	

- ALEXANDER III.—*Silver*: Penny, Halfpenny, Farthing.
 JOHN BALIOL.—*Silver*: Penny, Halfpenny.
 ROBERT BRUCE.—*Silver*: Penny, Halfpenny, Farthing.
 DAVID II.—*Gold*: Noble (value not recorded), Pattern (?).
Silver: Groat (4d.), Half-Groat, Penny, Halfpenny, Farthing.
 ROBERT II.—*Gold*: Lion or St. Andrew. Demy Lion or Demy. *Silver*: Groat (4d.), Half-Groat, Penny, Halfpenny.
 ROBERT III.—*Gold*: Lion or St. Andrew (5s.), Half St. Andrew. *Silver*: Groat (4d.), Half-Groat, Penny, Halfpenny.
 JAMES I.—*Gold*: Demy or Lion (3s. 4d.), Half-Demy. *Silver*: Groat (4d.). *Billon*: Penny, Halfpenny.
 JAMES II.—*Gold*: Demy (9s.), Lion or St. Andrew (6s. 8d.), Half-Lion. *Silver*: Groat (8d. or 6d.), Half-Groat. *Billon*: Penny (2d.), Halfpenny (?) (1d.).
 JAMES III.—*Gold*: Riders (23s.), Half-Rider, Quarter-Rider, Unicorn, Half-Unicorn, St. Andrew (?) (10s., 12s., or 13s. 4d.), Half-St. Andrew (?). *Silver*: Groat (7d. or 12d.), Half-Groat, Penny, (2d. or 3d.). *Billon*: Penny, Plack (2d. or 3d.), Half-Plack. *Copper*: Farthing.
 JAMES IV.—*Gold*: Rider (?) (35s.), Two-thirds Rider (?), One-third Rider (?), Unicorn (20s.), Half-Unicorn, St. Andrew (35s.), Half-St. Andrew. *Silver*: Groat (14d.), Half-Groat, Penny, (3d.). *Billon*: Penny, Plack, Half-Plack.
 JAMES V.—*Gold*: Unicorn (20s.), Half-Unicorn, Crown (20s.), Ducat or Bonnet-piece (40s.), Two-thirds Ducat, One-third Ducat. *Silver*: Groat (18d.), One-third Groat. *Billon*: Plack, Bawbee (1½d.), Half-Bawbee.
 MARY.—*Gold*: Crown (20s.), Lion or Forty-four Shilling Piece (44s.), Half-Lion, Ryal (60s.), Half-Ryal, Twenty-shilling piece (20s.). *Silver*: Testoon (5s.), Half-Testoon. *Billon*: Plack, Hardhead, Penny, Bawbee, Half-Bawbee.
 MARY AND FRANCIS.—*Gold*: Ducat (60s.). *Silver*: Testoon (5s.), Half-Testoon. *Billon*: Nonsunt (12d.), Hardhead or Lion (1½d.).
 MARY, alone.—*Gold*: Crown, Pattern (?). *Silver*: Testoon (5s.), Half-Testoon.
 MARY AND HENRY.—*Silver*: Ryal (30s.), Two-thirds Ryal, One-third Ryal.
 MARY, alone.—*Silver*: Ryal (30s.), Two-thirds Ryal, One-third Ryal.
 JAMES VI., before 1603.—*Gold*: Twenty-pound piece (£20),

Sword and Sceptre (£6), Half-Sword and Sceptre. Thistle-Noble (£7 6s. 8d.), Rider (£5), Half-Rider, Ducat (80s.), Hat-Piece (80s.), Lion-Noble (75s.), Two-thirds Lion-Noble, One-third Lion-Noble. *Silver*: Forty-, Thirty-, Twenty-, Sixteen-, Ten-, Eight-, Five-, Four-, and Two-shilling pieces, current for their nominal values. Ryal (30s.), Two-thirds Ryal, One-third Ryal, Two-Merk Piece or Thistle-Dollar (26s. 8d.), One-Merk or Half-Thistle-Dollar, Half-Merk, Quarter-Merk, Balance Half-Merk (6s. 8d.), Balance Quarter-Merk, Thistle-Merk (13s. 4d.), Half-Thistle-Merk, Quarter-Thistle-Merk, One-eighth Thistle-Merk, Thirty-Penny piece (2s. 6d.), Twelve-Penny Piece (1s.). *Billon*: Plack (8d.), Half-Plack, Saltire Plack (4d.). Twopence, Hardhead, Half-Hardhead. *Copper*: Twopence (2d.), Penny (1d.).

JAMES VI., after 1603:

Gold:

Twelve-pound piece Scottish, or English Unit
 Six " " " " " Double Crown
 Three " " " " " Britain Crown
 Forty-eight shilling piece Scottish, or English Thistle-Crown
 Thirty-shilling " " " " " Half-Crown

Silver:

Three-pound piece Scottish, or English Crown
 Thirty-shilling " " " " " Half-Crown
 Twelve-shilling " " " " " Shilling
 Six-shilling " " " " " Sixpence
 Two-shilling " " " " " Twopence
 One-shilling " " " " " Penny
 Sixpenny " " " " " Halfpenny

Copper:

Twopence and Penny

CHARLES I.—*Gold*: Unit, Half-Unit, Quarter-Unit, Double-Crown, Britain Crown, Half-Crown. *Silver*: Three-pound Piece, Thirty-, Twelve-, Six-, Two-, and One-shilling pieces, as those of James I. after 1603. Three-shilling piece, Half-Merk (6s. 8d.), Forty-penny piece, Twenty-penny piece. *Copper*: Twopence or Turner (2d.), Bodle (2d.), Penny or Half-Turner.
 CHARLES II.—*Silver*: Four-Merk (53s. 4d.), Two-Merk,

One-Merk, Half-Merk, Dollar or Four-Merk, Half, Quarter, Eighth, and Sixteenth-Dollar. *Copper*: Bawbee (6d.), Turner or Bodle (2d.).

JAMES VII.—*Silver*: Forty-shilling piece (40s.), Ten-shilling piece (10s.).

WILLIAM AND MARY.—*Silver*: Sixty-, Forty-, Twenty-, Ten-, and Five-shilling pieces, current for their nominal values. *Copper*: Bawbee (6d.), Bodle (2d.).

WILLIAM, alone.—*Gold*: Twelve-pound piece or Pistole (£12), Six-pound piece or Half-Pistole. *Silver*: Forty, Twenty-, Ten-, and Five-shilling pieces, current for their nominal values. *Copper*: Bawbee, Bodle.

ANNE, before the Union.—*Silver*: Ten-shilling piece (10s.), Five-shilling piece (5s.). After the Union.—*Silver*: Crown, Half-Crown, Shilling and Sixpence, Sterling.

TABLE SHOWING THE RELATIVE NOMINAL VALUE
OF SCOTTISH AND ENGLISH MONEY

(This table has been copied from Cochran-Patrick,
who compiled it from Pinkerton.)

Till	1355	the two coinages were equal
<i>Circa</i>	1390	 as 2 to 1
	1451	 " 2½ to 1
	1456	 " 3 to 1
	1475 (gold)	 " 4 to 1
	1544 (all)	 " 4 to 1
	1560	 " 5 to 1
	1565	 " 6 to 1
	1579	 " 8 to 1
	1597	 " 10 to 1
	1601	 " 12 to 1

CHAPTER I

FROM DAVID I. TO JAMES VI.'S ACCESSION
TO THE ENGLISH THRONE

David I., 1124-1153.—David I. established the coinage of his country on the lines of that of the contemporary King of England, Stephen.

He issued pennies, or stellings, as they were commonly called, of the same weight, fineness, and general type, as the English. Another point of resemblance between the two coinages, although this would seem to be merely a coincidence, is that the majority of David I.'s sterlings are so badly struck that it is difficult to find a specimen having a wholly legible inscription. The mints of this



FIG. 73.—Penny of David I.

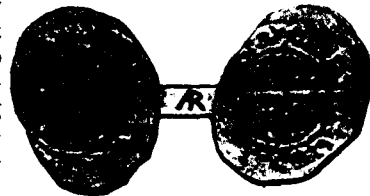


FIG. 73.—Penny of David I.

reign were at Berwick and Roxburgh. Fig. 73 illustrates a sterling from the Roxburgh mint, which is as follows:—*Obv.*, Crowned bust to right, within an inner circle, sceptre in front of face. *Leg.* (Retrograde, to be read from right to left), [X]ER : TIVAD. *Rev.*, Short-cross fleury within an inner circle, a pellet in each angle. *Leg.*, [HVG]O : ON : ROCH (Hugo of Roccasburgh, or Roxburgh).

Malcolm IV., 1153-1165.—Only two sterling coins are known which can be assigned to this king, both of which have a full-face effigy, whereas the coins of David I. have the effigy in profile. The first shows on the reverse a short-cross fleury within an inner circle, having rosettes and pellets in alternate angles. The legend on both sides is imperfect, although enough remains on the reverse to warrant the attribution of this piece to the Roxburgh mint. The second

148 THE STORY OF THE BRITISH COINAGE

example is of the same mint, but differs from the first in having the cross on the reverse placed over a lozenge. The obverse legend reads MALCOLM REX, and the reverse legend, HVGO : ON : ROCAVRG.

William the Lion, 1165-1214.—On the coins of William the Lion, it may be noticed (1), that in or about the year 1195 the short single cross gave place to the short double cross,



FIG. 74.—Penny of William the Lion.

and (2) a peculiarity in some of the legends. On some pieces the obverse legend reads LE REI WILLAME or WILLAM. The appearance of the French title is attributed to the influence of French coiners, who, it is highly probable, were employed in Scotland at this time. Other pieces, however, have the more usual form WILLELMVS REX.

The reverses bear the names of mint and moneyer, or of the moneyer only. The penny illustrated by Fig. 74, is as follows: *Obv.*, Crowned bust to left, in inner circle, sceptre before face. *Leg.*, LE REI WILAM. *Rev.*, Short cross in inner circle, ornaments and pellets in the angles. *Leg.* (mis-struck), ON EDENEV (Edinburgh).

Alexander II., 1214-1249.—The pennies of this reign at first resemble those of preceding issues, but later a change is made in the reverse

type, and the long cross takes the place of the short one, about the same time that a corresponding alteration was made in the English pennies of Henry III. The king's name appears on the coins in various forms, such as ALEXSAMDER or ALEXSANDER REX, and the head is sometimes to the right. Fig. 75 shows a penny, perhaps of Edinburgh, as follows: *Obv.*, Crowned bust to right in inner circle, sceptre before face. *Leg.*, ALEXSANDER R [EX]. *Rev.*, Short double cross in inner circle, a star in each angle. *Leg.*, NDRV RICAR ON . . .

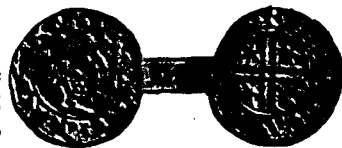


FIG. 75.—Penny of Alexander II.

Alexander III., 1249-1292.—In addition to the sterlings or pennies this king coined halfpence and farthings, probably following the example of Edward I. There is a tradition, by the way, that Edward I. struck money in Scotland, but the tradition is not supported by evidence.

The pennies of Alexander III. are of good and regular workmanship. They have on the obverse a head in profile to left, and on the reverse a long single cross, piercing the inner circle, and having a star or a mullet (*i.e.*, pierced star) in each angle. The obverse legend reads ALEXANDER . DEI . GRA . or a variation, and the reverse, REX SCOTORVM or REX ESCOSSIE, or a variation. The halfpenny and farthing are of similar type, save that the halfpenny has but two mullets, or, as in one case, a star and a

150 THE STORY OF THE BRITISH COINAGE

mullet placed alternately, one in each angle of the cross.

The custom of adding *DEI GRATIA* to the legend was followed by Alexander III. some years before its adoption by the English kings.

There are pennies which have on the reverse a long double cross, but numismatists are not agreed as to whether these should be placed to Alexander II. or III.

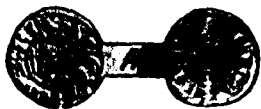


FIG. 76.—Farthing of Alexander III.

The farthing, Fig. 76, is as follows: *Obv.*,

Crowned head to left within beaded circle, sceptre before face. *Leg.*, ALEXANDER . REX. *Rev.*, Long cross with a mullet in each angle, and an inner beaded circle. *Leg.*, SCOTORVM.

John Baliol, 1292, deposed 1296.—John Baliol's pennies and halfpennies resemble those of Alexander III., and have on the obverse the legend *IOHANNES DEI GRA*, or a variation, and on the reverse *REX SCOTORVM*. Some of the pennies, however, have *CIVITAS SANDR* or *CIVITAS SANDRE*, (City of St. Andrew) instead of the latter, and one halfpenny has four instead of only two mullets on the reverse.

Robert Bruce, 1306–1329.—Robert Bruce coined pennies, halfpennies, and farthings, all similar to those of preceding reigns. The legends are alike on all three denominations.

David II., 1329–1371.—David II. issued pennies, halfpennies, and farthings, and on his later coins returns to the old custom of naming the mint-town. His earlier pennies and half-

pennies, however, have on the reverse *REX SCOTORVM* or *REX SCOTORVM*. The farthing also has this legend.

There is one piece known as the *Moneta* farthing, on which the obverse legend reads *MONETA : REGIS : D*; and the reverse, *AVD SCOTTOR*. The division of the king's name, the initial on one side of the coin and the rest of the

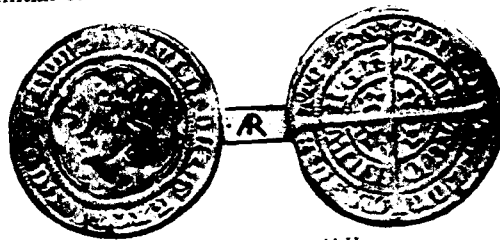


FIG. 77.—Groat of David II.

letters on the other, is very curious. These pieces are similar in type to the coins of previous reigns.

The second coinage of David II., which re-introduces the mint-names, also includes two new denominations, the groat and half-groat. These resemble the English groats, and one example, Fig. 77, is as follows: *Obv.*, Crowned profile to left, sceptre in front of face, partly enclosed by a tressure of six arches. *Leg.*, DAVID . DEI . GRA . REX SCOTORVM. *Rev.*, Long cross extending to outer edge, a mullet in each angle. *Leg.*, In two circles; *Outer circle*: DNS . PTECTOR . MS. & LIBATOR MS. ("Dominus protector meus et liberator meus"—The Lord is

152 THE STORY OF THE BRITISH COINAGE

my protector and deliverer.") *Inner circle:* VILLA . EDINBURGH. The half-groat is similar.

We now come to the first Scottish gold coin.

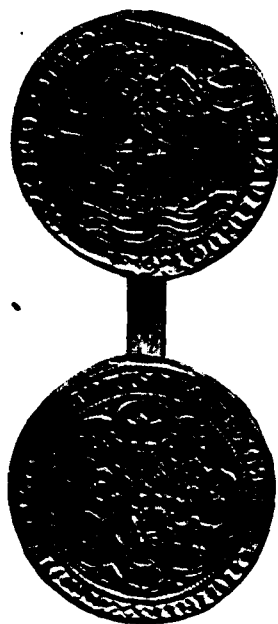


FIG. 78.—Noble of David II.

The Scottish work is a little rougher than the English. Only three or four examples of this coin are known, and as they all differ in detail it has been conjectured that they are merely patterns.

This is a noble, and has been already alluded to as a copy, both in name and type, of the English piece. One in the British Museum is illustrated by Fig. 78.

Obv., The king crowned and in armour, holding a drawn sword and the shield of arms, standing in a ship.

Leg., DAVID : DEI : GRA

[CIA] REX : SCOTQRVM.

Rev., Beaded cross of St. Andrew with an ornament at each extremity enclosing a lys.

A lion surmounted by a crown in each angle, all within a double tressure of eight arches and a beaded circle.

Leg., IHC . AVTEM .

TRANCIENS . P . MEDIVM .

ILLORVM . IBAT.

Robert II., 1371–1390.—Robert II. coined silver money of the same type, and, with the exception of the farthing, of the same denominations as his predecessor. The halfpenny illustrated by Fig. 79 is as follows: *Obv.*, Crowned head to left, in inner circle, sceptre before face. *Leg.*, ROBERTVS . . . *Rev.*, Long cross with a mullet in each angle, inner circle. *Leg.*, VILAI-DINBVG. (Villa Edinburgh.)

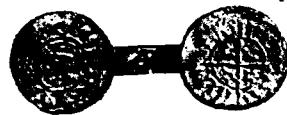


FIG. 79.—Halfpenny of Robert II.

Most authorities assign to this king gold pieces known as St. Andrews and lions respectively. Mr. Burns, however, the most recent writer on the subject, is of opinion that the St. Andrews were originally called lions, and their halves demy-lions or demies, and also concludes that until more evidence comes to light the gold pieces in question must be ascribed to Robert III. However this may be, it will be convenient to describe them here, although no attempt can be made to settle the question of their attribution. The St. Andrew (see Fig. 80) is as follows: *Obv.*, A shield bearing the Scottish arms, and surmounted by a large crown, all within an inner circle. *Leg.*, ROBERTVS : DEI : GRACIA : REX : SCOT. *Rev.*, St. Andrew as if extended on a cross, a fleur-de-lys on either side, within an inner circle pierced by the hands and feet. *Leg.*, DNS . P . TECTO . MS . & LIB. (See p. 151.)

The lion, or demy, is similar to the St.

Andrew as regards the obverse, except that the crown is absent. The reverse bears an X-shaped cross between two fleurs-de-lys, and a form of the legend *XPC . REGNAT . XPC . VINCIT*. (For this legend in full see p. 138.) There are also two rare varieties of the lion known, one having a tressure enclosing the shield, and the other reading on the reverse *DNS . PTECTOR*. MS. I. I.

Robert III., 1390-1406. The gold pieces

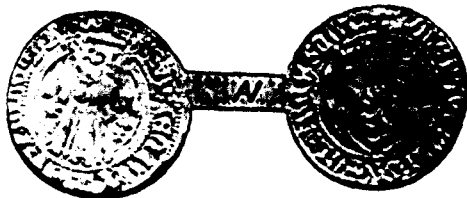


FIG. 80.—St. Andrew of Robert III.

just described are thought by some to belong to this sovereign, to whom also are assigned the short-cross St. Andrews, on which the cross is confined within the inner circle. The St. Andrew of Robert III. has the obverse as that given above, and on the reverse the saint extended on his cross, and the legend *XPC . REGNAT*, &c. The half-St. Andrew is similar, but the reverse shows the saint without the saltire cross.

The silver coins consisted of groats, half-groats, pennies and halfpennies. The groats have on the obverse a full-face effigy of the king, enclosed by a tressure of six, seven, eight,

or nine arches within an inner circle; and on the reverse a long cross with three pellets in each angle, and the legend in two circles. The usual readings appear on both sides. The half-groat is the same. (See Fig. 81.)

The penny and halfpenny are similar, but

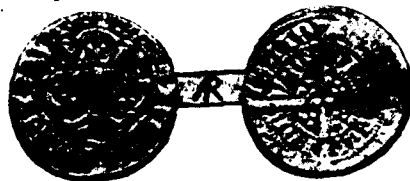


FIG. 81.—Half-groat of Robert III.

have no tressure on the obverse, while the titles occasionally fill the legend on both sides, the mint name being omitted.

James I., 1406-1437.—The gold coins of this reign consist of demies and half-demies, otherwise known as lions and half-lions. The demy is as follows:—*Obv.*, The Scottish arms in a lozenge, contained in a beaded circle. A crown in the legend surmounts the top point of the lozenge. *Leg.*, *IACOBVS . DEI . GRACIA . REX . SCOT*. *Rev.*, A small St. Andrew's cross, a fleur-de-lys on either side, enclosed by six arches bending inward, a lys at each point and a rosette in each curve, all in beaded circle. *Leg.*, *SALVVM . FAC . POPVLVM . TVVM . DN.*, or a variation ("O Lord, save thy people").

The half-demy (Fig. 82) is the same, with a slight variation in the legend.

No silver coins appear to have been issued by

James I., with the exception of groats. There were pennies and halfpennies of debased silver, but it is not easy to draw a line of distinction between these and billon coins. Billon is a

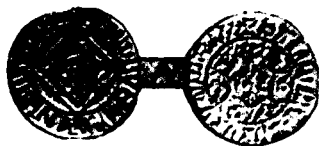


FIG. 82.—Half-demy of James I.

There is some difference of opinion as to what coins should be classed as base silver and what as billon, some applying the latter term to all pieces which contain alloy in the proportion of one-half or more. The fineness of James I.'s penny and halfpenny are not recorded.

The groats are like those of the last reign, but distinguished by the sceptre which appears to the king's right, or, more rarely, to his left. The obverse legend reads *IACOBVS . DEI . TRACIA (OR GRACIA) REX SCOTORVM*, or a variation. The cross on the reverse has three pellets and a fleur-de-lys in alternate angles, and the usual legends occupy the two circles. The penny and halfpenny have the reverse legend, formed by the mint name, in one circle only.

James II., 1437–1460.—James II. coined demies and lions (or Scottish crowns) and half-lions—sometimes called St. Andrews and half-St. Andrews—in gold, groats and half-groats in silver, and pennies in billon. Some authorities give a billon halfpenny as well. These are all of the same general type as before.

With the lions the St. Andrew type is reverted to. They bear on the obverse the crowned shield of arms, with a small crown on either side; and on the reverse St. Andrew on a long cross between two fleurs-de-lys, which are sometimes crowned. The legend reads on the obverse *IACOBVS : DEI : GRA : REX : SCOTTORVM* or a variation; and on the reverse *SALVVM FAC POPVLVM TVVM*, or a form of *XPE REGNAT*, &c.

James III., 1460–1488.—James III. coined gold, silver, billon and copper. The gold coins

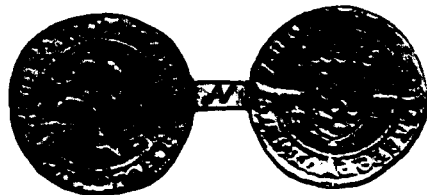


FIG. 83.—Rider of James III.

consisted of riders, half-riders, quarter-riders, unicorns, and half-unicorns. St. Andrews and their halves have also been assigned to this reign, but it is doubtful whether this attribution is correct.

The first of the new gold denominations, the rider (Fig. 83) is as follows:—*Obv.*, King on horseback, to right, holding a drawn sword, within a beaded circle broken by the horse's feet. *Leg.*, *IACOBVS : DEI : GRA : REX SCOTOR.* *Rev.*, Shield of arms over a long cross, crowned, and within an inner circle. *Leg.*, *SALVVM FAC POPVLVM TVVM DNE.*

158 THE STORY OF THE BRITISH COINAGE

Some other riders resemble the above, but the obverse and reverse types change places, while the king rides to the left instead of to the right. The half- and quarter-rider are of this latter type only. These, curiously enough, are the only British coins since 1066 which represent the Sovereign as wearing a helmet.

The unicorn is as follows:—*Obv.*, A unicorn to left, supporting a shield with the Scottish arms,

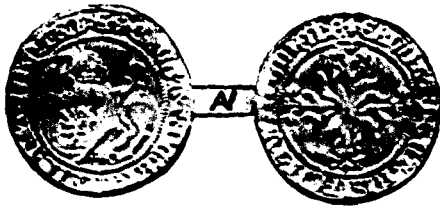


FIG. 84.—Unicorn of James III.

and having a crown round its neck from which hang a chain and ring, all within an inner circle. *Leg.*, IACOBVS : DEI : GRACIA : REX : SCOTO, or a variation. *Rev.*, A large star with wavy rays over a cross fleury, all in beaded circle. *Leg.*, EXVRGAT : DE : ET : DISIPENT : NIMICI : E ("Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered").

Some rare examples (as Fig. 84) have the motto EXVRGAT, &c., on both sides, while the king's name and titles are omitted. The half-unicorn is similar to the unicorn, but none have the peculiarity of legend alluded to.

The lesser denominations of this reign were groats, half-groats, and pennies in silver; pennies, placks, and half-placks in billon; and farthings

in copper. Some numismatists also attribute to James III. halfpennies both in silver and billon. The copper farthing circulated as a half-penny.

The groats, generally speaking, are similar to those of preceding reigns. They have on the obverse a full-face effigy of the king, crowned, enclosed by a tressure of from seven to ten arches, and the legend IACOBVS . DEI . GRA . REX . SCOTORVM, or a variation. The reverse type is the long cross, with three pellets in each angle, or three pellets and a mullet in alternate angles. The legend is in two circles, the outer one reading DNS : PTECTOR : MS : ET : LIBRTY, or a variation; and the inner one VILLA EDINEVRG or VILLA BERWICHI (Berwick). The half-groat is similar.

There are, in addition, some groats and their halves of a rather different type to these just described. They have the head three-quarter face to right, and on the reverse a plain cross with ornate extremities with thistles and mullets in alternate angles. The legend, formed by the mint name, is in one circle.

Yet another variety of the groat has the three-quarter face to left, and on the reverse the cross, with crowns and pellets in alternate angles; and the legend, as usual, in two circles. These have been variously assigned to James II., James III., and James IV.

The pennies, both silver and billon, are of the usual type, having pellets, mullets, &c., in the angles of the cross. The silver penny was current for threepence.

160 THE STORY OF THE BRITISH COINAGE

The new billon denomination, the plack (this name, it is said, being from the French *plaque*), was current at first for threepence, and afterwards, when its standard was lowered, for twopence. It is as follows:—*Obv.*, Shield of arms, partly enclosed by a trefoil contained in an inner circle. *Leg.*, IACOBVS : D : GRA : REX : SCOTTORVM. *Rev.*, An ornate cross, pierced with a lozenge in

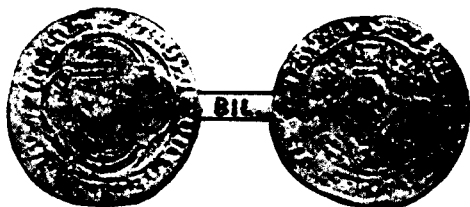


FIG. 85.—Plack of James III.

the centre, in which is a small St. Andrew's cross. A crown is in each angle. *Leg.*, VILLA : EDIN : BVRGH (Fig. 85).

The half-placks are similar, but on some the shield of arms is enclosed by a quatrefoil.

Of the "black farthings," as the copper pieces were called, one type is as follows:—*Obv.*, A crown within a circle. *Leg.*, I. REX. SCOT. ORVM. *Rev.*, St. Andrew's cross, within a circle. *Leg.*, VILLA EDINB. VRG, or a variation.

Others have for the obverse device the letters I R (IACOBVS REX) crowned, and the St. Andrew's cross on the reverse, also crowned.

James IV., 1488-1513.—The gold pieces issued in this reign were unicorns, half-unicorns, St. Andrews, half-St. Andrews, and also, according

to some authorities, riders, two-thirds riders, and one-third riders. We are told that James IV. was so extravagant that he frequently had to coin his jewellery in order to provide himself with money.

The unicorn and half-unicorn are like the original unicorn of James III., and need no further description. On some of the larger pieces Roman lettering is introduced.

The St. Andrews are of the usual type, having on the obverse the crowned shield of arms, and a fleur-de-lys to right and left, and the legend IACOBVS . DEI . GRA . REX . SCOTTORVM . IIII, and on the reverse, the saint upon his cross with a fleur-de-lys to right and left, and the legend SALVVM . FAC . PPLVV . TVVM . DNE . The half-St. Andrew is the same, but from some the numeral is absent.

The silver coins consist of the groat, half-groat, and penny. The first is of the ordinary type, having a full-face effigy, crowned, sometimes draped or in armour, on the obverse, and the cross, with pellets or other ornaments in the angles, and the legend in two circles, on the reverse. On some Q, QT, QR or QRA (for QVARTVS), or a Roman or Arabic numeral, follows the king's titles. Some have SALVVM FAC . POPVLV . TVV . DNE . in place of DOMINVS PROTECTOR, &c. The half-groat is similar, and has Q or IIII after the titles.

The silver penny has a full-face head within an inner circle, and the legend IABVS DEI GRA REX SCOTTOR. On the reverse it has a cross with three pellets and a mullet in alternate

angles, and the legend *SALV FAC POP TVV*. The billon pennies are of the usual type, having a full-face head on the obverse and on the reverse a cross with pellets, or crowns and lys, in the angles, and the mint name as legend. Some, however, have the reverse legend as on the silver penny.

The billon placks and half-placks are of the same type as those of James III., with some difference of detail.

In this reign the use of numerals after the royal name, and the substitution of Roman letters for the Gothic, become very common.

James V., 1514-1542.— Besides the unicorns

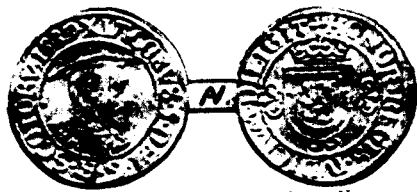


FIG. 86.—Bonnet-piece of James V.

and their halves, which are identical with those of James IV., James V. issued several new gold pieces, viz., the ducat or bonnet-piece, the two-thirds and one-third ducat, and the crown. The ducat or bonnet-piece, which derives its alternative name from the head-dress worn by the king, is the earliest dated Scottish coin. In the use of dates on the coins Scotland preceded England by some years. It is also interesting to note "that these coins were made of native gold, obtained from Crawford Muir and the lands of Corehead." (Burns.) The bonnet-piece (Fig. 86)

is as follows:—*Obv.*, Profile bust of the king to right, bearded, and wearing a "broad bonnet," within an inner circle. *Leg.*, IACOBVS . 5 . DEI . G . R . SCOTORV . 1539 (or a variation). *Rev.*, Crowned shield of arms over a cross of which the top extremity is covered by the crown, all in an inner circle. *Leg.*, HONOR . REGIS . IVDICIUM . DILIGIT ("The king's honour loveth judgment."—Ps. xcix. 4).

The two-thirds and one-third are similar in general type and in legend. The former has an annulet and the latter a dot, behind the head, and both have the letters *IR* (IACOBVS REX) one on either side of the shield. The earliest of both these pieces is dated 1540.

The crown is as follows:—*Obv.*, Square shield of arms, crowned, with a small St. Andrew's cross to right and left, within an inner circle. *Leg.*, IACOBVS . 5 . DEI . GRA . REX . SCOTORVM . *Rev.*, Short cross fleury in inner circle, a thistle-head in each angle. *Leg.*, CRVCIS . ARMA . SEQVAMVR . ("Let us follow the arms of the Cross").

The groats are of a new type. They have on the obverse a bust to right, within an inner circle, and the usual legend, and on the reverse the shield of arms over a long cross which pierces the beaded circle, and the legend *OPPIDV . EDINBVRGI*. One variety reads *VILLA EDINBVRGH*. Other varieties have a somewhat smaller head, while the reverse shield is more angular in the lower part.

There is a noticeable resemblance between the general type of these groats and that of the groats of the contemporary King of England,

Henry VIII. This may be seen by comparing Fig. 87, which shows an *OPPIDV . EDINBURGI* groat of James V., with Fig. 27, which illustrates an early groat of Henry VIII. This particular type, as has been said elsewhere, was merely

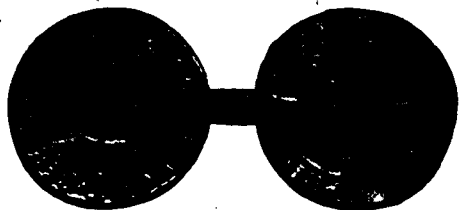


FIG. 87.—Groat of James V.

copied by Henry VIII. from his father's coinage.

The one-third groats are similar to the groats, and have *OPPIDV . EDINBURGI* as the reverse legend. These and the groats are the only silver pieces known of this reign, although some authorities add half or two-thirds groats as well.

The billon pieces consist of placks, and a new denomination, the bawbee, with its half. The placks are like those of James IV., except for various small differences which need not be noticed here.

The name bawbee is considered by some to be a corruption of the French *bas billon* or *bas piece*, while others derive it from the territorial title of Alexander Orrok, the moneyer under whom these pieces may have been first coined, and "Laird of Sillebawbye." A third explanation lies in quite a different direction. If it were

not only a possibility, but a certainty, that the name bawbee was not applied to these or any coins till the following reign, it might be that the word had its origin with those pennies which bear a baby face of Mary Queen of Scots, and which would probably be called babies or bawbees. However, opinions clash here, not for the first time in the story of the Scottish coinage. The bawbee of James V., if bawbee it be, is as follows:—*Obv.*, A crowned thistle-head between 1 and 5, all in an inner circle. *Leg.*, *IACOBVS . D . G . REX . SCOTORVM*. *Rev.*, A St. Andrew's cross with a crown in the centre, and a fleur-de-lys on either side, all in an inner circle. *Leg.*, *OPPIDVM . EDINBURGI*.

The half-bawbees are the same, except that they have no lys on the reverse, and read *R* for *REX*.

Mary, 1542–1567.—Mary, the first and only Queen of Scots, ascended the throne on the death of her father, James V., when but a few days old. Her coins show traces of nearly every period of her life, and introduce several new types.

During the period prior to her first marriage, Mary's coins consist of gold crowns, lions, or forty-four shilling pieces, half-lions, or twenty-two shilling pieces, ryals, or three-pound pieces, half-ryals, or thirty-shilling pieces, and twenty-shilling pieces; silver testoons and half-testoons, and billon bawbees, half-bawbees, pennies, lions or hardheads, and placks.

The crowns generally resemble those of James V., with the necessary alteration in the legend.

The forty-four-shilling piece was as follows :—*Obv.*, Crowned shield of arms, between the letters I G, within inner circle. *Leg.*, MARIA . DEI . GRA . R . SCOTORVM . *Rev.*, MARIA REGINA, in cipher, crowned, a cinquefoil at either side, all in inner circle. *Leg.*, DILIGITE . IUSTICIAM . 1553.

The twenty-two-shilling piece is similar, with one or two variations. The letters I G stand

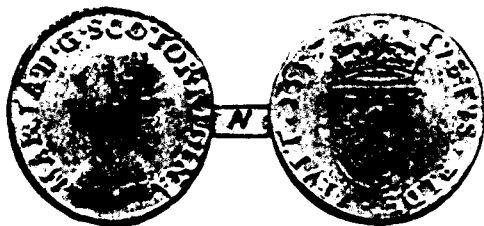


FIG. 88.—Gold Ryal of Mary.

for IACOBVS GVBERNATOR (James, Governor), in allusion to the Regent, James Hamilton, Earl of Arran.

The ryal, or three-pound piece (Fig. 88), and its half, have on the obverse a draped bust to left, with ornaments in the hair, and the legend MARIA D . G . SCOTOR . REGINA, or a variation, and on the reverse the crowned shield of arms, and the legend IUSTVS . FIDE . VIVIT . ("The just man lives by faith") 1555 . &c. The omission of the usual circles gives this coin a somewhat modern appearance, compared with other coins of the period. The half-ryal is exactly the same.

The twenty-shilling piece has on the obverse

the crowned shield of arms in an inner circle of beads, the usual legend, and the date 1 . 5 . 4 . 3 . On the reverse is M R (for Mary Regina) in monogram, crowned, a cinquefoil or star below, all in beaded circle, and the legend ECCCE . ANCILLA . DOMINI ("Behold the handmaid of the Lord").

The silver testoons were first coined in 1553,

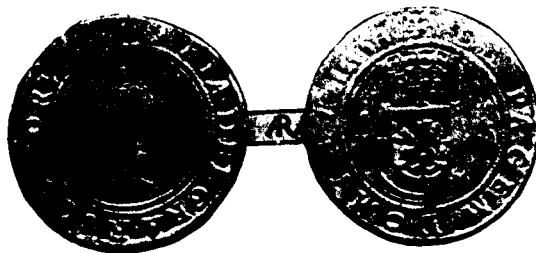


FIG. 89.—Milled Testoon of Mary.

and are the earliest Scottish pieces made by the mill and screw. They were coined, by permission, at the French mint, where, as we have seen (p. 143), the mill was in use some years before its adoption in this island. The milled testoon (Fig. 89) is as follows : *Obv.*, Youthful bust of the queen to right, crowned, within a double inner circle. *Leg.*, MARIA . DEI . GRA . R . SCOTORVM . *Rev.*, Shield of arms, crowned, in inner circles. *Leg.*, DA . PACEM . DOMINE . ("O Lord, give peace") 1553.

The later testoons, dated 1555, are of a different type, as follows : *Obv.*, The letter M, crowned. A crowned thistle-head on either side. *Leg.*,

MARIA . DEI . G . SCOTOR . REGINA . 1555. *Rev.*, Shield of arms over a cross potent—*i.e.*, a cross having cross-bars at the end of each limb. *Leg.*, DILICIE . DNI . COR . HVMILE . ("A humble heart is the delight of the Lord"). This coin has no inner circles. The half-testoon is the same. A third type of testoon was issued in the following year (see Fig. 90). *Obv.*,

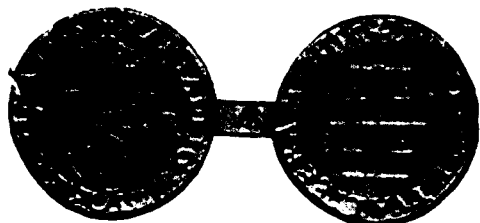


FIG. 90.—Testoon of Mary (third type).

Crowned shield of arms between the letters M and R. *Leg.*, MARIA DEI G SCOTOR REGINA 1556. *Rev.*, Cross potent, with a small cross in each angle. *Leg.*, IN . VIRTUTE . TVA . LIBERA . ME . 1556 ("In thy strength deliver me").

There are also half-testoons of this type. Other varieties of the testoon exist, differing in small details which need not be specified here.

The bawbees generally resemble those of James V., with one or two differences: for instance, M R in place of 15, cinquefoils in place of fleurs-de-lys, and of course the alteration of name. The same remarks apply to

the half-bawbees, except that these have but one cinquefoil on the reverse, which is placed in the lower angle of the cross. Some bawbees minted at Stirling are distinguished by having on the reverse a cross potent with a small cross in each angle, within an inner circle, and the legend OPPIDVM . STIRLINGI.

In 1554 Mary of Guise, the Queen Dowager, brought to a successful close the plans by which she was working to obtain the Regency. Among other favours shown to her countrymen when she attained this office she permitted

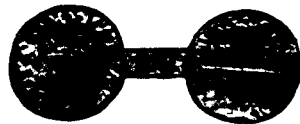


FIG. 91.—Penny of Mary (first type).

the French Ambassador to coin some silver at the Scottish mint and to receive the profits of so doing. This silver was mixed with alloy, and the following type of billon penny (Fig. 91) was issued: *Obv.*, Crowned full-face bust of the infant queen in inner circle. *Leg.*, MARIA D G R SCOTORVM. *Rev.*, Long cross, with a crown and fleur-de-lys in alternate angles, and an inner circle. *Leg.*, OPPIDVM EDINBURG, or a variation.

Another penny, issued in 1556, has on the obverse a cross potent, with a small cross potent in each angle, and the usual legend, and on the reverse VICIT VERITAS 1556 in three lines across the field, surmounted by a crown.

The billon lions, or hardheads, were intended to supply a want of small money on account of which "the commone pepill are gretumly hurt and

endommagit, and . . . the vitallis sik as breid, drink, flesche, fische, [are] sauld in small ar set to highar prices and gretar darth nor they wald be in caiss thair wer sufficient quantite off small money." They have a crowned M on the obverse and the usual legend, and on the reverse the Scottish lion and the legend VICIT VERITAS 1555.

The placks are of the usual type, having on the obverse the crowned shield of arms between the letters M and R, and on the reverse an ornate cross, with crowns in the angles and a cross in the centre. A new legend, however, appears on the reverse: SERVIO . ET . VSV . TEROR . 1557 ("I serve, and am worn by use").

In 1558 the queen, at the age of sixteen, married the dauphin Francis. The French took advantage of this marriage to endeavour to enter into a yet closer connection with Scotland, and the marriage treaty provided that the dauphin should be not merely prince consort, but king of Scotland, and wear the crown matrimonial. This arrangement was carried out by the Queen Regent, in spite of opposition from the Scots, and the title was confirmed by an Act of Parliament.

The coins issued in the joint names of Mary and Francis consisted of ducats in gold, testoons and half-testoons in silver, and nonsunts and lions, or hardheads, in billon. The ducat was ordered to be called "the king and quenis ducatt," and was as follows: *Obv.*, Busts of Mary and Francis *vis-à-vis*, one large crown above. No inner circle. *Leg.*, FRAN . ET . D . G . MA .

R . R . SCOTOR . DELPIN . VIEN . ("Franciscus et dei gratia Maria Rex et Regina Scotorum, Delphinus [et Delphina] Viennensis. *Rev.*, A cruciform figure composed of eight dolphins, two to each limb, every two crowned, having a St. Andrew's cross in the centre and a Lorraine cross in each angle. *Leg.*, HORVM . TVTA . FIDES . 1558 ("The troth of these is sound").

The testoons, sometimes called Lorraines,

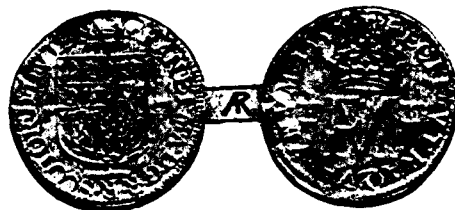


FIG. 92.—Half-testoon of Francis and Mary (first type).

and their halves are of two types, the first being as follows: *Obv.*, Shield bearing the arms of the dauphin impaled with those of Scotland, over a cross potent. *Leg.*, FRAN . ET . MA . D . G . R . R . SCOTOR . D . D . VIEN . *Rev.*, F & M in monogram, crowned, a Lorraine cross on either side. *Leg.*, FECIT . VTRAQUE . VNVM . 1558 ("He has made both one"). The motto on the reverse, taken in conjunction with the shield of arms, may refer as much to the two kingdoms as to the king and queen. Fig. 92 shows the half-testoon of this type.

The second type was struck after Francis's accession to his father's throne, and has on

172 THE STORY OF THE BRITISH COINAGE

the obverse the shield with the arms of France and Scotland impaled, a small plain cross to left and a St. Andrew's cross to right, and the legend *FRAN. ET. MA. D. G. R. R. FRANCO SCOTOR* ("Francis and Mary, by the grace of God, King and Queen of France and Scotland"). On the obverse is the crowned monogram, as before, between a lys and a thistle-head, both crowned, and the legend *VICIT. LEO. DE. TRIBV. IVDA 1560* ("The lion of the tribe of Judah has conquered"). The new billon piece, the nonsunt, or twelve-penny plack, takes its name from part of the inscription it bears. *Obv.*, F & M in monogram, crowned, between a dolphin and a thistle, both crowned. *Leg.*, *FRAN. ET. MA. D. G. R. R. SCOTOR. D. D. VEN.* *Rev.*, Within a four-sided compartment the inscription *IAM. NON. SUNT. DVO. SED. VNA CARO* ("They are now not twain but one flesh"). Below, 1558, above, a cross potent, and a Lorraine cross at either side. The hardheads resemble those first issued in this reign, with the alteration in the titles and FM in monogram instead of M only, between two dolphins. On some the name of Francis is omitted, and the legend begins *ET. MA.*

Although in 1559 Francis and Mary assumed the style of King and Queen of England, together with the arms of this country, in obedience to the dictates of the queen's ambitious French relations, the title does not appear on any of their coins. In 1560 this absurdity was solemnly renounced by Mary and her husband.

In 1559 the Queen Dowager was deprived of the office of Regent by the Lords of the Congregation in the name of the King and Queen, on the ground that her rule was inimical to the liberties and interests of the country.

The only coins issued between the year of Francis's death, 1560, and 1565, are the gold crown and silver testoons and half-testoons.

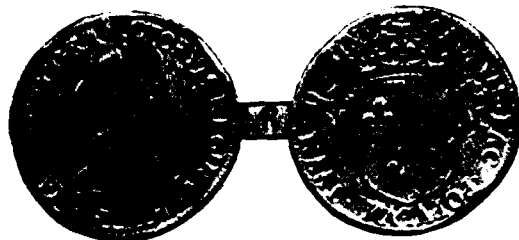


FIG. 93.—Testoon of Mary (fourth type).

Of the gold piece only one specimen is known, which is in the British Museum cabinet, and which may be only a pattern. It has on the obverse a crowned shield of arms, the Scottish partially covering the French, and the legend *MARIA. DEI. GRA.*, &c., and on the reverse an eight-pointed star, every second point terminating in a crowned M, with a thistle-head in each angle of the cross thus formed. The legend reads *EXVRGAT, &c., 1561.*

The testoons (Fig. 93) and their halves have a bust of the queen to left, wearing a cap and a dress with a high-gathered neck, and bear the legend *MARIA, &c.*, and the date on a label below. On the reverse are the arms, as on the

crown just described, with a crowned M at either side, and the legend SALVVM FAC, &c.

In 1565 Mary, who now governed her kingdom for herself, married Henry Darnley, son of the Earl of Lennox, and honoured him so far as to issue proclamations, on her own initiative, bestowing upon him the title of king. The coins of Mary and Henry introduce new types and denominations, namely, ryals, two-third ryals, and one-third ryals, all in silver.

The first type of the ryal is as follows: *Obv.*, Busts of Mary and Henry *vis-à-vis*, no crowns. The date below, 1565, all in beaded circle. *Leg.*, HENRICVS . & . MARIA . D: GRA . R . & . R . SCOTORVM. *Rev.*, The arms of Scotland, crowned, a thistle-head on either side, all in beaded circle. *Leg.*, QVOS . DEVS . COIVNXIT . HOMO . NON . SEPARET ("Whom God has joined together let no man put asunder").

The second type of the ryal is as follows: *Obv.*, As the reverse of that just described. *Leg.*, MARIA . & . HENRIC . DEI . GRA . R . & . R . SCOTORVM. *Rev.*, A palm-tree, crowned, crossed by a scroll bearing the motto DAT GLORIA VIRE ("Glory gives strength"). The date 1565 is in two figures on each side of the trunk, and a tortoise is creeping up the tree. *Leg.*, ENVRGAT . DEVS . & . DISSIPENTR . INIMICI . EI . ("Let God arise and let His enemies be scattered").

"The device of the tortoise, or schell padocke crepand up the schank" of the tree, "has no doubt its significance which is not far to seek in the relative positions of Mary and Darnley

before marriage." (Burns.) The two-thirds and one-third ryal (Fig. 94) are the same,

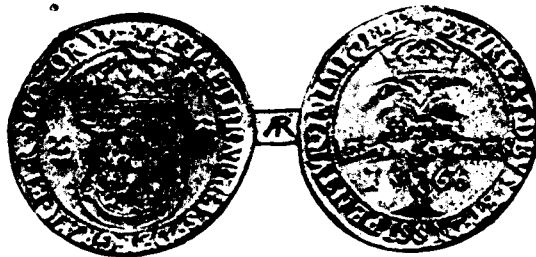


FIG. 94.—One-third-ryal of Mary and Henry.

with slight variations in the legends. After Darnley's death the issue of these pieces was continued by Mary with no alteration except the omission of his name.

James VI., 1567 1625.—On the abdication of Mary Queen of Scots her young son James was crowned king. Many new coins and types of coins appeared in his reign. It will be convenient to deal first with the ones issued before his accession to the English throne, and as these at first sight are confusing in their number and variety the reader is recommended to refer for a moment to the list of denominations issued in this reign given on p. 144.

Taking the gold pieces in order of value, we have first the twenty-pound piece, which is also the first in point of date and which is as follows: *Obv.*, Half-length youthful figure of the king to right, crowned, in ruff and armour, holding a drawn sword in the right and an olive branch in the

left hand; in exergue, IN . VTRVQVE . PARATVS . 1576 ("Prepared for either [war or peace]"). *Leg.*, IACOBVS . 6 . DEI . GRA . REX . SCOTOR . *Rev.*, Crowned shield of arms. *Leg.*, PARCERE . SVBIECTIS . & . DEBELLARE . SUPERBOS. ("To spare the vanquished and suppress the proud"—Virgil, *Æn.* vi. 853).

The thistle noble took its name from the thistle on the side of the ship, just as the first English rose noble took its name from the rose on the side of the ship. The type, a new one for Scottish coins, is as follows: *Obv.*, A ship carrying two flags which bear 1 and 6 respectively; in the centre of the ship is the crowned shield of arms, with a thistle below. All in beaded circle. *Leg.*, IACOBVS . 6 . DEI . GRATIA . REX . SCOTORVM. *Rev.*, Two sceptres crossed behind a thistle plant, each end terminating in a crown; in each angle a crowned lion. The whole enclosed by a figure composed of round and pointed arches alternately; a thistle in each outer angle. All within a beaded circle. *Leg.*, FLORENT . SCEPT . PIIS . REGNA . HIS . IOVA . DAT . NUMERATO, or a variation ("Sceptres flourish with the pious, Jehovah gives them kingdoms and numbers them").

The sword and sceptre, or six-pound piece, is as follows: *Obv.*, Crowned shield of arms in beaded circle. *Leg.*, IACOBVS . 6 . D . G . R . SCOTORVM. *Rev.*, Sword and sceptre in saltire, or "forme of Sanct Androis croce," a crown in the upper angle, the date (1601, &c.), in the lower, and a thistle-head in each of the others. All in a beaded circle. *Leg.*, SALVS . POPVLI .

SUPREMA . LEX ("The safety of the people is the supreme law"). The half-sword-and-sceptre (Fig. 95) is the same.

The rider is as follows: *Obv.*, The king riding to right, in armour and helmet, holding a drawn sword; date below the horse's feet, 1593, &c.

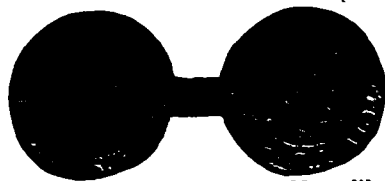


FIG. 95.—Half-sword-and-sceptre of James VI.

All in an inner circle. *Leg.*, IACOBVS . 6 . D . G . R . SCOTORVM. *Rev.*, Crowned shield of arms, in beaded circle. *Leg.*, SPERA . MELIORA ("I hope for better things").

If, as it is said, the motto on the reverse is an allusion to James's hope for the English throne, it must have been highly gratifying to his own people.

The half-rider is the same.

The ducat, or four-pound piece, or, as it is sometimes called, the bareheaded noble, is as follows: *Obv.*, Young head of the king to left, in ruff, a scarf tied on the shoulder. *Leg.*, IACOBVS . 6 . DEI . GRA . REX . SCOTORVM; a small crown just above the head. *Rev.*, Crowned shield of arms, the date in two figures on either side, 15 80. *Leg.*, EXVRGAT . DE . ET . DISSIP . INIMICI . EIVS.

The hat-piece, or four-pound piece (Fig. 96), is as follows: *Obv.*, Bust of the king to right,

wearing a high round-topped hat, a thistle behind the head; all in beaded circle. *Leg.*, IACOBVS . 6 . D . G . R . SCOTORVM. *Rev.*, Crowned lion

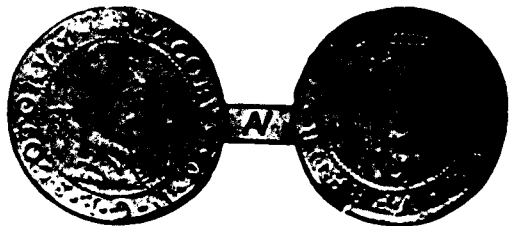


FIG. 96.—Hat piece of James VI.

seated to left, holding a sceptre in right paw, pointing to a cloud, over which is IEHOVAH in Hebrew characters. All in beaded circle. *Leg.*, TE . SOLVM . VEREOR . 1591, &c. ("Thee alone do I fear").

This piece and the corresponding silver coins were issued in order to bring the coinage more into accord with that of "oure nybour cuntre," as the difference between the two gave rise to much inconvenience. For this coinage all the gold money, except the thistle noble, was called in, melted down, and recoined.

The lion, or lion noble, sometimes called the Scottish angel, and its parts, the two-thirds, or Scottish crown, and one-third, or Scottish half-crown, are as follows:—*Obv.*, A cross formed by 1 R repeated four times, once for each limb. Each limb crowned, S in the centre for SIXTH. *Leg.*, DEVS . IUDICIUM . TVVM . REGI . DA . 1584 ("Give the king thy judgment, O God!"). *Rev.*, The crowned Scottish lion, seated facing, sword in

right and sceptre in left paw, all in inner circle. *Leg.*, POST . 5 & . 100 . PROA . INVICTA . MANENT . HEC ("After one hundred and five ancestors this remains unconquered"). The two-thirds and one-third are the same.

The silver coin of greatest value was the forty-shilling piece, which is as follows:—*Obv.*, Half-length figure of the young king, crowned, and in armour, holding a drawn sword, all in beaded circle. *Leg.*, IACOBVS . 6 . DEI . GRATIA . REX . SCOTORVM. *Rev.*, Crowned shield of arms, between 1 & R above, and XL & \$ below, the latter indicating the value. *Leg.*, HONOR . REGIS . IVDICIUM . DILIGIT . 1582 ("The honour of the king directs his judgment"). The corresponding thirty-, twenty-, and ten-shilling pieces are the same, except in the figures of value.

The ryal, or thirty-shilling piece, sometimes called a sword dollar, is as follows:—*Obv.*, Crowned shield of arms between the crowned letters 1 & R, all in beaded circle. *Leg.*, IACOBVS . 6 . DEI . GRATIA . REX . SCOTORVM. *Rev.*, An upright sword, the point upwards, on which is a crown. Below the crown a hand and the figures xxx to left and right respectively. In the centre 1567, &c., divided by the sword. All in a beaded circle broken by the crown. *Leg.*, PRO . ME . SI . MEREOR . IN . ME . ("For me; against me, if I deserve it"). The two-thirds and one-third ryal are the same, with alteration in the figures of value.

The two-merk piece, sometimes called the thistle dollar, is as follows:—*Obv.*, Crowned shield of arms. *Leg.*, IACOBVS . 6 . DEI . G .

REX . SCOTORVM. *Rev.*, Thistle on a stalk between two leaves, 1 & R on either side of the head. *Leg.*, NEMO . ME . IMPVNE . LACESSIT . 1578, &c. The corresponding merk, or half-thistle dollar, is the same, and the sixteen-, eight-, four-, and two-shilling pieces are also the same, but bear the thistle crowned.

The half- and quarter-merk, or noble and Half-noble, which in point of date preceded the two- and one merk, are as follows:—*Obv.*, Crowned shield between 6 and 8, or 3 and 4, figures of value. *Leg.*, IACOBVS . 6 . DEI . GRATIA . REX . SCOTORVM. *Rev.*, Ornate cross, with crowns and thistles in alternate angles, a star in the centre. *Leg.*, SALVVM . FAC . POPVLVM . TVVM . DNE . 1572, &c.

The thistle-merk is as follows:—*Obv.*, Crowned shield in a beaded circle broken by the crown. *Leg.*, IACOBVS . 6 . D . G . R . SCOTORVM. *Rev.*, Thistle between two leaves, crowned, within a beaded circle broken by the crown. *Leg.*, REGEM . IOVA . PROTEGIT . ("God protects the king") 1601, &c.

The half-, quarter-, and one-eighth-thistle merk are the same. The second type of the ten-shilling piece is the following:—*Obv.*, Bareheaded bust to right, in armour, within beaded circle. *Leg.*, IACOBVS . 6 . D . G . R . SCOTORVM. *Rev.*, Thistle plant having three flowers between two leaves, a little crown above, all in beaded circle. *Leg.*, NEMO . ME . IMPVNE . LACESSIT . 1593, &c. The corresponding five-shilling piece, and the thirty- and twelve-penny piece, are the same.

The balance half- and quarter-merk take their

name from the reverse type. *Obv.*, Crowned shield between two thistle heads. *Leg.*, IACOBVS . 6 . D . G . R . SCOTORVM . 1591, &c. *Rev.*, Sword and balances. *Leg.*, HIS . DIFFERT . REGE . TYRANNVS ("In these a tyrant differs from a king").

The billon pieces consist of placks, half-placks, saltire placks, twopences, pennies or hardheads, and half-hardheads.

The plack and half-plack have on the obverse a crowned shield of arms, and a contraction of the usual legend, and on the reverse a crowned thistle and OPPIDVM . EDINBVRGI, or a variation. Some of the placks have inner circles. The name of Achesouns or Atkinsons have been given to these pieces, after Thomas Atkinson, then master of the mint.

The first twopence has on the obverse 1 R crowned, in a beaded circle, and a contraction of the usual legend, and on the reverse a crowned shield of arms in an inner circle, and VINCIT VERITAS. This piece had not long been in circulation when a new variety was issued, like the last except in having on the reverse a lion rampant, to left, two dots behind to indicate the value, all in a beaded circle. The penny is as this last variety of twopence.

The second plack, called the saltire plack, and worth fourpence, has on the obverse two sceptres in saltire, or crossed, united by a thistle, and a variety of the usual legend. On the reverse is a lozenge with a thistle at every point, forming a cross, and the legend OPPID . EDINB.

Twopences and pennies were also issued in

copper, and have on the obverse a bareheaded bust to right in a beaded circle and the usual legend, and on the reverse three thistle-heads placed two and one, in a beaded circle, and
OPPIDVM . EDINBURGH.

CHAPTER II

FROM THE ACCESSION OF JAMES VI. TO THE
ENGLISH THRONE IN 1603, TO 1709

AFTER the accession of James VI. to the English throne in 1603 the Scottish gold and silver money was ordered to follow the English money in every respect. The titles of King of England and King of Scotland were merged in that of King of Great Britain, and the numeral was omitted from the king's style. The first Scottish coinage after 1603 was distinguished from the English by the thistle mint-mark which appears on most of the pieces, while the second introduced the new Scottish shield of arms having Scotland in the first and fourth quarters, England and France in the second, and Ireland in the third. With these and a few minor points of difference which need not be detailed, the Scottish gold and silver coins are in type like the English pieces described under James I., and for further information the reader is asked to refer to p. 69.

In name, however, the two coinages differ to an extent which at first sight is rather perplexing. The matter is clear, however, if it is remembered that nominally the Scottish coins were worth twelve times as much as the English, and that

every Scottish pound was equivalent to an English shilling, and every Scottish shilling equivalent to an English penny. The relative values of the two coinages are shown on p. 145.

The billon coinage was discontinued, and twopences and pennies issued in copper. They have on the obverse a three-headed thistle, in a beaded circle, and the legend *IACOBVS . DEI . GRA . MAG . BRIT*, and on the reverse a crowned lion rampant to left, and dots to denote the value, all in a beaded circle, and the legend *FRANCIE . ET . HIBERNIE . REX*. The twopence is sometimes called a hardhead or bodle, and one variety, called by some the turner, differs from the above only in legend.

Charles I., 1625-1649.—Charles I. issued unites, half, quarter, and one-eighth-unites, otherwise known as double crowns, Britain crowns, and half-crowns, in gold: three-pound pieces, thirty, twelve-, six-, three-, two-, and one-shilling pieces Scottish, half-merks, forty-penny, and twenty-penny pieces, in silver: and twopences or turners, pennies or half-turners, and turners or bodles, in copper.

The early unite and its parts, and the three-pound piece, the thirty-, twelve-, six-, and two-shilling pieces, all resemble those of James VI., and have the same relation to the English coinage. Although they bear Charles's name the portrait upon them is still that of James.

The half-merk, sometimes called a noble, is of the following type: *Obv.*, Crowned bust to left, ^{VI}/₈ behind the head to denote the value,

partially enclosed by a beaded circle. *Leg.*, CAROLVS . D . G . SCOT : ANG : FR . ET . HIB . R . *Rev.*, Crowned shield, having Scotland in the first and fourth quarters, France and England in the second, and Ireland in the third, in a beaded circle broken by the crown. *Leg.*, CHRISTO . AVSPICE . REGNO ("I reign under the auspices of Christ").

The forty-penny piece is similar as regards the obverse, but has XL behind the head, and on the reverse a crowned thistle and SALVS . REIP : SVPR . LEX . The twenty-penny is like the forty-penny, but has XX behind the head and IVST . THRONVM FIRMAT as the reverse legend. These legends are variously contracted.

In 1635 Nicholas Briot was made master of the Scottish mint, two years after his appointment to the post of chief engraver at the Tower. He was instructed to coin gold and silver pieces of the same denominations and weight as those of James VI. Two years after he issued some silver three-pound pieces, thirty-, twelve-, and six-shilling pieces, which were milled, not hammered. The two first are as before, but the king and horse face the left instead of the right, and the shield on the reverse is crowned and slightly garnished. They bear Briot's mint-mark, B. The twelve-shilling piece has on the obverse a draped bust with XII behind the head, and the reverse as on the three-pound piece, except that the shield is plain and has c and R crowned, at the sides. The six-shilling piece is similar.

The milled half-merk resembles the hammered

piece, but sometimes bears c and R, crowned, at the sides of the reverse shield. The forty-penny and twenty-penny pieces are, on the whole, similar to the hammered type described above.

These coins of Briot's were copied in subsequent issues.

The coinage of the half-merks and the forty- and twenty-penny pieces was discontinued in 1642, and three-shilling and two-shilling pieces were issued in their stead. The three-shilling piece has on the obverse a crowned bust to left in an inner circle, a thistle behind the head, and the legend CAR . D . G . SCOT . ANG . FRAN . & . HIB . R . On the reverse is the shield of arms having Scotland in the first and fourth quarters. The two-shilling piece has a crowned bust, and the legend CAR . D : MAG . BRIT . [or SCOT . ANG .] FRAN . ET . HIB . R , and on the reverse the arms of Scotland only, surmounted by a crown which breaks the inner circle.

It will be observed that on coins which could circulate in England and Scotland alike the title "King of Great Britain" is employed.

The copper pieces resemble those of James VI. Of the twopence, however, there is a second variety as follows : *Obv.*, II (denoting the value) between c and R, a crown above, all in an inner circle. *Leg.*, CAR . D : G . SCOT . ANG . FR . ET . HIB . R . *Rev.*, Thistle enclosed in a circle. *Leg.*, NEMO ME IMPVNE LACESSET.

Some turners or bodles were subsequently issued which have nothing to mark in which reign they were minted, whether under Charles I. or Charles II., or both, or Charles I. only. They

have on the obverse C R crowned, and 11 at the side to denote their value. The legends and reverse are similar to the twopence just described. There is also a variety without the numerals of value.

Charles II., 1649-85.—No Scottish gold money was issued in this reign. The silver coins consisted of four-, two-, and one-merk pieces, and half-merks. The four-merk is as follows: *Obv.*, Bust to right, in armour, draped and laurelled. *Leg.*, CAROLVS . II . DEI . GRA. *Rev.*, Four shields of arms in the form of a St. Andrew's cross; 1 and 3, Scotland; 2, England and France; 4, Ireland. Two c's interlinked and crowned, in each angle; ^{LIII} 4 in the centre to mark the value. *Leg.*, MAG . BRI . FRA . ET . HIB . REX . 1664 (&c.).

The other pieces are the same, with altered figures of value. A later type of these coins is as follows: *Obv.*, Bust to left, draped and laureate. *Leg.*, CAROLVS . II . DEI . GRA. *Rev.*, Four crowned shields, in the form of an ordinary cross, 1, Scotland; 2, England; 3, France; 4, Ireland; a thistle in each angle, and two linked c's in the centre. *Leg.*, SCO . ANG . FR . ET . HIB . REX . 1676 (&c.).

The coins of this type are known as the dollar, half-, quarter-, and one-eighth dollar. There was also a one-sixteenth dollar or forty-penny piece having on the obverse a plain saltire cross with a thistle in the upper angle, a lys in the lower, a rose to the right, and a harp to the left. The legends are as on the dollar, but read FRA . for FR.

The copper pieces were bawbees, and turners or bodles. The bawbee, or six-penny piece Scots, has on the obverse a draped and laureate bust to left, and the legend CAR . II . D . G . SCO . ANG . &c., and on the reverse a crowned thistle, and the motto NEMO . ME . IMPVNE . LACESSET . 1677, &c. The turner or two-penny piece Scots has on the obverse a sword and sceptre in saltire, crowned, and its reverse as that of the bawbee, but no crown over the thistle. The legends are both as on the bawbee. For another type of bodle see under Charles I.

James VII., 1685-89.—The only Scottish coins of this reign are silver forty- and ten-shilling pieces. On the former edge inscriptions are introduced. *Obv.*, Bust to right, draped and laurelled, 40 below. *Leg.*, IACOBVS II . DEI . GRA. *Rev.*, Shield with curved sides, having 1 and 4, Scotland; 2, England and France; 3, Ireland; *Leg.*, MAG . BRIT . FRA . ET . HIB . REX . 1687, or a variation. *Edge*, NEMO . ME . IMPVNE . LACESSET . ANNO . REGNI . TERTIO (&c.).

The ten-shilling piece is similar, but has on the reverse St. Andrew's cross with a thistle on the first extremity, a rose on the second, a lys on the third and a harp on the fourth, and a crowned shield in each angle. The edge inscription is absent.

William and Mary, 1689-1694.—William and Mary's coins consisted of silver sixty-, forty-, twenty-, ten-, and five-shilling pieces, and copper bawbees and bodles.

The first four silver denominations are similar to the forty-shilling piece of James VII., but

have the busts of the king and queen side by side and the legend *GVLIELMVS . ET . MARIA . DEI . GRA*, while the shield on the reverse bears the arms of Orange on an escutcheon of pretence. The sixty- and forty-shilling pieces have the edge inscribed *PROTEGIT . ET . ORNAT . ANNO . REGNI . TERTIO (&c.)*, and every piece has figures of value beneath the busts. The

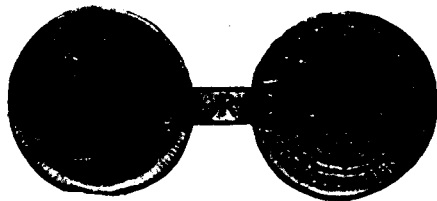


FIG. 97.—Ten-shilling piece of William and Mary.

ten-shilling piece is shown by Fig. 97. The five-shilling piece resembles the larger coins in legends and obverse type, but has on the reverse *w* and *m* in cipher, crowned, and *v* below to mark the value.

The bawbee or six-penny piece Scottish has the busts of the king and queen, with full style, and on the reverse a crowned thistle and *NEMO . ME . IMPVNE . LACESSET . 1691, &c.* The bodle or turner has on the obverse *w* and *m* in cipher crowned, and the legend reads *D . G . MAG . BRIT . &c.*, and as regards the reverse is similar to the bawbee.

The same coins continued to be issued after Mary's death, with perhaps the exception of the sixty-shilling piece, without any change except that William's head and name appear alone, and

the cipher on the five-shilling piece is replaced by a thistle and on the bodle by a sword and sceptre in saltire, crowned.

We now reach the last Scottish gold coins, the twelve- and six-pound pieces Scots, sometimes called pistoles and half-pistoles. They were minted from gold imported from Africa by the Darien Co. They are as follows: *Obv.*, Bust

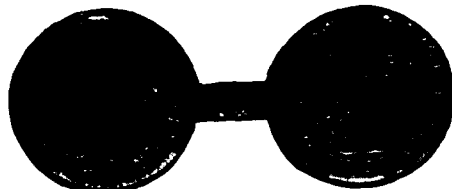


FIG. 98.—Pistole of William II.

to left, laurelled; beneath, the sun rising out of the sea, the crest of the Darien Co. *Leg.*, *GVLIELMVS . DEI GRATIA*. *Rev.*, Crowned shield of arms between *w* and *r*, crowned. *Leg.*, *MAG . BRIT . FRA . ET . HIB . REX . 1701*.

The pistole is shown by Fig. 98. The copper pieces remain as they were under William and Mary, with the exceptions noted above.

Anne, 1702-1714.—Before the union of the two kingdoms, Anne's coins for Scotland consisted only of ten-shilling (see Fig. 99) and five-shilling pieces Scots. *Obv.*, Draped bust to left, figures of value below (10). *Leg.*, *ANNA . DEI . GRATIA*. *Rev.*, Shield as under William III., but without the Orange escutcheon. *Leg.*, *MAG . BRIT . FRA . ET . HIB . REG .* (or a variation) 1705, &c.

The five-shilling has on the reverse a three-headed thistle crowned, and NEMO . ME . IMPVNE . LACESSET . 1705 (&c.).

According to one of the terms of the union, which took place in 1707, the Edinburgh mint was to continue working, subject to the same rules as the mint at London. Accordingly, crowns, half-crowns, shillings, and sixpences

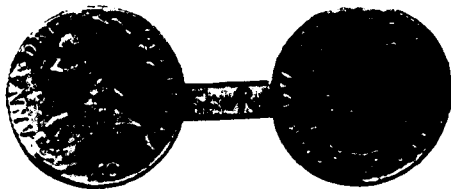


FIG. 99.—Ten-shilling piece of Anne.

were issued, differing from the English pieces only in having the mint-mark E below the bust. Henceforward the English and Scottish arms appear impaled, instead of in separate shields or quarters. The latest of these silver pieces bear the date 1709, and are the last coins of the Scottish series.

COLONIAL COINAGE

UNDER this head are classed all the coins which have been struck at different times for use in the English colonies and possessions. The table on the next page shows which colonies, &c., are included, and the year in which the first English regal coins were struck for each. With but one

or two special exceptions, tokens have not been noticed, otherwise the list would be fuller and in some cases the dates would need alteration. Considerations of space also have rendered it advisable to omit the series struck on the continent by George I., II., III., William IV., and George IV., as Electors of Hanover.

EUROPE

1786 Isle of Man	1830 Channel Islands
1819 Ionian Islands	1842 Gibraltar
1827 Malta	1879 Cyprus

ASIA

1600 India	1863 Hong Kong
1820 Mauritius	1871 Straits Settlements

AMERICA

1616? * Bermudas	1858 Province of Canada
1652 * Early North American colonies	1861 Nova Scotia
1816 British Guiana	1861 New Brunswick
1806 Bahamas	1865 Newfoundland
1870 Jamaica	1870 Dominion of Canada
	1885 British Honduras

AUSTRALIA

1855 Sydney	1872 Melbourne
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The dates affixed indicate in which year the first English regal coinage took place.

* The coinage of this date was not regal.

Europe.

Isle of Man.—For some time the sovereignty of the Isle of Man belonged to the Earls of Derby, and after them, by inheritance, to the Duke of Athol. But in 1765 this sovereignty was purchased by the Crown, although to this day the island preserves its own laws and its own form of government.

George III. coined pennies and halfpennies (see Fig. 100) for Man in 1786 of the following type:—*Obv.*, Bust of king to right, laureate. *Leg.*, GEORGIVS III DEI GRATIA 1786. *Rev.*, Three legs conjoined at the hip. *Leg.*, QVOCVNQVE IE CERIS . STABIT.

Others dated 1798 and 1813 have the bust

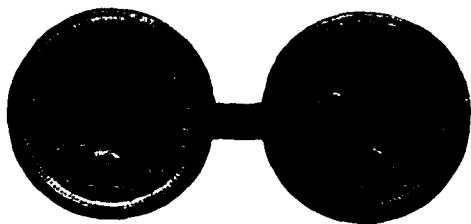


FIG. 100.—Manx Halfpenny, George III. (first type).

draped, and the legend on both sides is in incuse letters on a broad rim.

Queen Victoria coined a Manx penny, halfpenny, and farthing, in 1839 only. These have the same head and legend as the other copper coins of this reign, and on the reverse the three legs and motto as above. This is the last coinage for the Isle of Man.

The Ionian Isles.—Between 1815 and 1863, in which latter year they were annexed to Greece, these islands were under English protection, and thirty-oboli in silver, and ten-, five-, and two-and-a-half-oboli, or pennies, halfpennies and farthings, in copper, were struck for use there, together with a copper obolus.

The silver piece is as follows:—*Obv.*, Bri-

tannia seated to right, helmeted, with shield and trident. *Leg.*, BRITANNIA. *Rev.*, 30 enclosed by an oak wreath. *Leg.*, IONIKON KPATOS (Ionian State), 1834, &c.

The penny has Britannia seated to left, with palm-branch and trident, and on the reverse St. Mark's lion. The legends are as on the thirty-oboli. The halfpenny and farthing are like the penny, but the obolus shows Britannia seated to right, with trident.

Malta.—George IV., William IV., and Queen Victoria have all coined copper thirds-of-a-farthing for Malta which correspond in type and legend to their respective English farthings. In the case of the first-mentioned reign the corresponding farthing is that of the later type. The bronze third-of-farthing issued in 1866 and following years is somewhat different, being as follows:—*Obv.*, Laureate head of the queen, to left. *Leg.*, VICTORIA D. G. BRITT. REG. F. D. *Rev.*, ONE THIRD FARTHING 1866, &c., in three lines across the field, crowned, and enclosed by an oak-wreath.

The Channel Islands.—The Channel Islands are the last of our Norman possessions, a legacy from William the Conqueror. No regal money was issued for them till 1830, in which year copper coins of four doubles and one double, from the French pieces called doubles turnois, formerly current here, were struck for use in Guernsey.

In 1834 an eight double was added, which is as follows:—*Obv.*, The arms of Guernsey, a shield bearing three lions passant guardant and sur-

mounted by three laurel leaves, enclosed by a wreath of laurel and the legend. *Leg.*, GUERNSEY. *Rev.*, 8 Doubles 1834, in three lines, within a laurel wreath.

The four, two, and one double pieces are the same, except that they have no wreath on either side, and the word GUERNESEY is below the shield instead of above it.

The bronze coinage of 1861 and following years has exactly the same type and legends, but is of smaller size.

No coins were struck for Jersey till 1841. In that year three copper pieces were issued bearing the values of one-thirteenth, one-twenty-sixth, and one-fifty-second of a shilling, the English shilling at that time being valued in Jersey at thirteen pence. These pieces are all of the same type. The penny is as follows:—*Obv.*, Head of the queen as on the contemporary English pennies, but that the ribbon which fastens the hair is figured instead of plain. The initials of the artist w. w. (William Wyon) on truncation of neck. *Leg.*, VICTORIA D: G: BRITANNIAR: REGINA F: D: 1841 (&c.). *Rev.*, Square garnished shield with the arms of Jersey, three leopards passant guardant. *Leg.*, STATES OF JERSEY 1-12 OF A SHILLING.

In 1866 these were replaced by bronze pieces, having on the obverse the queen's head, to the left, diademed, with the artist's initials L. C. W. (Leonard C. Wyon), and the legend as before. The reverse is the same as on the copper pieces, but the fraction is expressed in words instead of in figures. In 1877 there was a new issue of

pieces of the values of one-twelfth, one-twenty-fourth, and one-forty-eighth of a shilling. They bear the same head as the first bronze coins, and the same legend, but under the head is a small star, and, on the issue of 1877, the letter H. The H signifies that pieces so marked were coined by Heaton and Co., at Birmingham. On the reverse is a pointed shield bearing the Jersey arms. The date is in two letters on either side of the shield, and the legend reads STATES OF JERSEY, ONE TWELFTH (&c.) OF A SHILLING.

Gibraltar.—In 1842 copper coins of the value of two quarts, one quart, and half-quart were struck for Gibraltar, as follows:—*Obv.*, Head of queen, to left. *Leg.*, VICTORIA D: G: BRITANNIAR: REGINA F: D: 1842. *Rev.*, A castle; below, an upright key. *Leg.*, GIBRALTAR. TWO QUARTS (&c.). The quart or quarto is $\frac{1}{16}$ of a dollar.

Cyprus.—Though neither a possession nor a colony, Cyprus has been governed by England under the Anglo-Turkish Convention of 1878, and the bronze piastre, with its half and quarter, have been issued since 1879. *Obv.*, Head of queen, to left, wearing diadem. *Leg.*, VICTORIA QUEEN 1879 (&c.). *Rev.*, Figure of value in beaded circle. *Leg.*, CYPRUS ONE PIASTRE.

The half- and quarter-piastre are the same.

Asia.

India.—It was under Queen Elizabeth that the first colonial coins were issued. In 1599 a society was formed in London for the promotion of trade with the East Indies, which, in 1600,

received a royal charter, under the style of "The Governor and Company of Merchants of London trading into the E. Indies." They were allowed to trade in "all the islands, ports, havens, cities, creeks, towns, and places of Asia, Africa and America, or any of them, beyond the Cape of Bona Esperanza to the Straits of Magellan," except where they might infringe the rights of other and friendly European nations.

Accordingly, Elizabeth struck some coins for the use of the company trading to the East Indies, for the characteristic reason that "her name and effigies might be hereafter respected by the Asiatics, and she be known as great a Prince as the King of Spain." It is curious, therefore, that these should be almost the only coins of Elizabeth which do *not* bear her effigy. They were designed to supersede the Spanish dollars, which at that time were much used in the East, and consisted of a crown, half-crown, shilling and sixpence: otherwise known as an eight-real, four-real, two-real, and one-real, all in silver. They are called the "portcullis money," from their reverse type.

The crown is as follows:—*Obv.*, Shield of arms, crowned, E and R on either side, also crowned, within an inner circle. *Leg.*, O: ELIZABETH. D: G: ANG: FR: ET. HIBER. REGI. *Rev.*, A portcullis surmounted by a crown, within an inner circle. *Leg.*, O: POSVI. DEVM. ADIVTOREM. MEVM ("I have made God my helper").

The o in the legend on either side is the mint mark, and indicates the date 1600. Other mint marks of the period are the figures 1 and 2,

standing for 1601 or 1602. The smaller pieces are similar in type to the crown, but have some variation of legend. The shilling is shown by Fig. 101.

This "Company of Merchants of London" afterwards became the great East India Company, to whom we owe the possession of India, and who, up to 1858, was the dominant power

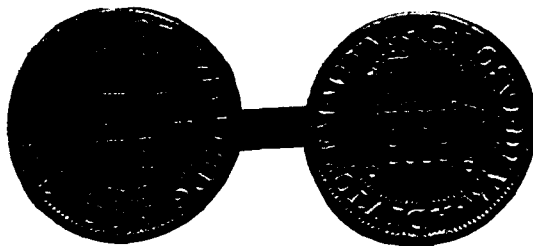


FIG. 101.—"Portcullis" shilling of Elizabeth.

of that vast country. In 1858 the government of India was transferred to the Crown.

With the exception of the portcullis pieces, the only Anglo-Indian money up to the present reign was that coined by the Company. They began to coin for India in 1671, and this privilege was confirmed to them by a clause in the charter granted in 1677 by Charles II. They continued to issue various pieces from time to time up to 1858. They have also coined for Ceylon, Sumatra, the Straits Settlements, and St. Helena.

The first Indian coinage of the East India Company consisted of silver rupees of various types, and half-rupees, for Bombay. This island

was part of the dowry of Catherine of Portugal, queen of Charles II.

One type (Fig. 102) has the following:—*Obv.*, THE RUPEE OF BOMBAY IN THREE LINES, two roses beneath. *Leg.*, BY AUTHORITY OF CHARLES THE SECOND. 1678. *Rev.*, The royal arms, crowned. *Leg.*, KING OF GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND.

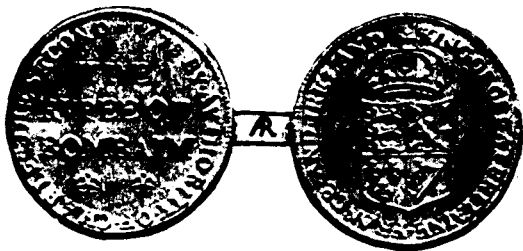


FIG. 102.—Rupee of Charles II.

There were also one or two copper pieces struck at the same time.

Silver fanams and half-fanams, having on the obverse two c's interlinked, and on the reverse a heathen deity, were issued about this period by the Company for use in Madras.

Soon after the transference of the government to the Crown, the following regal coins were struck for India:—Mohurs, ten-rupees, and five-rupees in gold, rupees, half-rupees, and quarter-rupees in silver, and two, half, quarter and one-twelfth annas, and half-pice in copper. The mohur has: *Obv.*, Bust of the queen to left, crowned and draped. *Leg.*, VICTORIA QUEEN.

Rev., ONE MOHUR INDIA 1862 (&c.) in four lines across the field, with an ornamental border.

The other gold, silver, and copper pieces are of similar, though not identical, type. In 1877 the word EMPRESS was substituted for QUEEN.

Ceylon.—Ceylon was not included in the East India Company's territory. It was captured in 1794, during the war with France, having previously been occupied by the Dutch. In 1802, by the treaty of Amiens, England renounced her right to certain other possessions acquired during the late war, but retained Trinidad and Ceylon, and soon after coined double rix-dollars, rix-dollars, and half-rix-dollars in silver, and pieces of four-stivers, two-stivers, and one-stiver. These names are of Dutch origin. Forty-eight stivers made up a rix-dollar.

The silver coins are of the following type:—*Obv.*, An elephant to left, date below 1803 (&c.). No legend. *Rev.*, Figures of value, 96⁺, 48⁺, or 24⁺ in beaded circle. *Leg.*, CEYLON GOVERNMENT.

The copper pieces are similar, and both silver and copper alike are of native workmanship. Later these gave place to coins of English work, comprising silver rix-dollars and copper two-stivers, stivers and half-stivers.

The dollar shows the following type:—*Obv.*, Head of George III. to right, laurelled. *Leg.*, GEORGIUS III D: G: BRITANNIARUM REX. *Rev.*, An elephant, within an oak-wreath. *Leg.*, CEYLON ONE RIX DOLLAR 1815 (&c.). The copper coins are similar, but have no wreath on the reverse.

George IV. and William IV. struck half-

farthings for use in Ceylon, which are exactly like the corresponding English farthings. William IV. also coined silver three-halfpenny pieces for Ceylon and the West Indies, as follows:—*Obv.*, Head to left. *Leg.*, GULIELMUS III D: G: BRITANNIAR: REX F: D: *Rev.*, "1½," date below, crown above, within an oak wreath. The half- and quarter-farthings of the present reign are like the farthings as regards the obverse, but have the value and date in three lines across the reverse, crowned, with the rose, thistle and shamrock united below. The issue of the three-halfpenny pieces of the same type as those of William IV. has also been continued in the present reign.

In 1870 some copper pieces of the value of five cents, cents, half-cents, and quarter-cents were issued, which show the following type:—*Obv.*, Head of the queen to left, in ornamental border. *Leg.*, VICTORIA QUEEN. *Rev.*, A palm-tree, with Cingalese characters on either side, all in a double inner circle. *Leg.*, CEYLON. FIVE. CENTS 1870 (&c.)

Silver pieces of the value of fifty, twenty-five, and ten cents were subsequently issued, having an obverse very similar to that just described, and on the reverse a palm-tree between the figures of value, CEYLON on a scroll above, and CENTS and the date in two lines below, with a legend in native characters.

Mauritius.—For the silver half-, quarter-, one-eighth-, and one-sixteenth-dollar, struck by George IV. for use in Mauritius and the West Indies, see p. 210.

In the present reign silver twenty- and ten-cent pieces, with bronze five-, two-, and one-cent pieces have been issued, the silver coins being as follows: *Obv.*, Head of the queen to left, wearing a coronet. *Leg.*, VICTORIA QUEEN. *Rev.*, Figures of value in a beaded circle. *Leg.*, MAURITIUS. TWENTY CENTS 1877 (&c.).

The copper pieces are similar.

Hong Kong.—For Hong Kong, which was ceded to England in 1841, silver dollars, half-dollars, twenty-, ten-, and five-cent pieces have been issued, together with copper cents and mils. The dollar presents the following type: *Obv.*, Queen's head to left, wearing a coronet, within an ornamental border. *Leg.*, VICTORIA QUEEN. *Rev.*, Chinese characters in an ornamental device. *Leg.*, ONE DOLLAR HONG KONG 1866 (&c.)

The corresponding half-dollar is similar, but one issued later is as follows: *Obv.*, Queen's head to left, wearing a coronet, no border. *Leg.*, VICTORIA QUEEN. *Rev.*, 50 CENTS, in two lines within a circle. *Leg.*, HONG KONG 1890 (&c.) and Chinese characters.

The twenty-cent piece has this obverse, but on the reverse the Chinese characters occupy the inner circle and the legend reads HONG KONG TWENTY CENTS 1866 (&c.). The ten-cent piece has on the obverse a coroneted and draped bust to left, and VICTORIA QUEEN, while the reverse is as that of the twenty-cent, but having TEN for TWENTY. The five-cent is in every respect like the twenty-cent, except for the difference in value. The copper cent is like the ten-cent piece, while the mil is as follows: *Obv.*,

A square compartment, in the centre of which the coin is pierced with a circular hole. Over the square a crown, below it *V R*, and the date in two figures on either side. *Leg.*, HONG KONG ONE MIL. *Rev.*, A square compartment, on either side a Chinese character.

Straits Settlements.—In 1871 the coinage of the East India Company was replaced by silver twenty-, ten-, and five-cent pieces, and bronze cents, half-, and quarter-cents, showing the following type. *Obv.*, Head of queen to left, wearing a coronet. *Leg.*, VICTORIA QUEEN. *Rev.*, Figures of value in beaded circle. *Leg.*, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS TWENTY CENTS 1871 (&c.).

Silver fifty-cent pieces of the same type were subsequently added.

The British Dollar.—In 1895 an important coin was issued, which, while primarily intended for use in Hong Kong, the Straits Settlements, and Labuan, would command, it was hoped, "an extended circulation in countries not under the British crown." Strictly speaking, therefore, it belongs to no colony in particular. This is a silver dollar whose weight, 416 grains, and fineness, 900, are the same as those of the Japanese yen. It is coined at the Bombay mint, where no less than 3,316,063 were struck in 1896 from dies sent out from Tower Hill. Its official title is the British dollar, and it shows the following type: *Obv.*, Full-length figure of Britannia, standing upon a rock in the sea, her head turned towards the left and helmeted. The drapery from her right shoulder is blown by

the wind which at the same time is filling the sails of a three-masted ship in the distance. In her right hand she holds a trident, and with the left supports the union shield. The date is in the exergue. All enclosed by a plain and a beaded circle, and a key-pattern border. *Leg.*, ONE DOLLAR. *Rev.*, An ornamental device having four compartments, and the Chinese labyrinth in the centre. The upper and lower compartments are occupied by the value in Chinese, and the right and left by the value in Malay characters. The whole within a beaded circle and a key-pattern border. *Leg.*, None.

America.

The North American Colonies. The Bermudas.—Before noticing the more important colonies on the mainland of North America, we must stop for a moment at the Bermudas, or Sommers Islands. These were named first after their Spanish discoverer, Juan Bermudez, and then after Sir George Sommers, who suffered shipwreck here in 1609. Settlers came later from England and from Virginia, and a form of government was instituted. A certain Governor Tuckar carried out many useful public works in the islands, and those who laboured under his superintendence had "beside meate, drinke and cloaths," as we are told by an old writer, "a certaine kinde of brass money with a hogge on one side, in memory of the abundance of hogges was found at their first landing."

This brass, or rather copper money, consisted

204 THE STORY OF THE BRITISH COINAGE

of shillings, sixpences, threepences and twopences, and specimens are of the highest rarity. The shilling is of the following type: *Obv.*, A hog to left, XII above; all in a beaded circle. *Leg.*, SOMMER ISLANDS. *Rev.*, Three-masted ship to left, in full sail, within a beaded circle. No legend.

The sixpence is the same, but reads ILANDS.

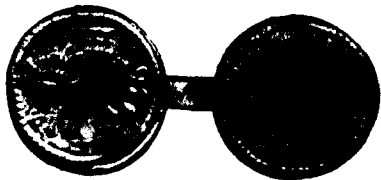


FIG. 103.—Sommer Islands threepence.

The threepence (Fig. 103) and twopence are also similar but have no legends.

Nothing is known of these coins, or more correctly, tokens, except on their own evidence and the few words quoted above, which are taken from Smith's "Generall Historie of Virginia," 1624. But it is to be inferred that these pieces, which are known as hog money, date from some time between 1616 and 1624, and if this inference is correct the hog money has the honour of being the first coinage of the North American colonies.

Under George III. the following penny was issued for the Bermudas: *Obv.*, Laureate bust to right. *Leg.*, GEORGIVS III. D. G. REX. *Rev.*, Three-masted ship to left, in full sail. *Leg.*, BERMUDA. In exergue, 1793.

New England, or Massachusetts.—Next to Virginia, founded by Sir Walter Raleigh in 1584, the oldest North American colony is that of New England, or Massachusetts. It was founded by those "Pilgrim Fathers" who made the famous voyage of the *Mayflower* in 1620, and who were subsequently reinforced by new emigrants from the mother country.

In the first years of their life in New England the colonists endeavoured to supply the want of a currency by utilising anything and everything which could be pressed into the service. The Indian wampum—bead-like pieces of the spiral parts of periwinkle shells—was valued at six beads to a penny; grain and live stock were accepted in payment of taxes, and an order of the General Court set forth in 1634 that musket balls, of a full bore, should pass current for a farthing apiece, but that no one should be obliged to take more than twelve pennyworth at a time. This is one of the earliest pieces of legislation on the subject of the American currency.

Although Charles II. chartered the colony in 1629 he made no attempt to supply it with a coinage. In or about 1652 some shillings, sixpences and threepences were issued locally, of a severely plain type, being merely flans of silver with N E (for New England) on one side near the edge and XII, VI or III on the other, also near the edge. Here we have the first coins of the American continent.

The home government greatly disapproved of the action of the colonists in coining money, as it was considered an infringement of the royal

prerogative. Nevertheless, in the autumn or winter of 1652 the well-known Pine-tree series was begun, which consists of shillings, sixpences, and threepences in silver, showing the following general type:—*Obv.*, A tree, within a beaded circle. *Leg.*, MASATHVSETS . IN. *Rev.*, Date 1652, over the value XII, &c., all in a beaded circle. *Leg.*, NEW ENGLAND AN . DO.

These coins may be said to fall into two

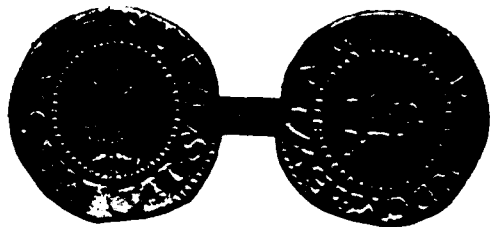


FIG. 104.—Massachusetts shilling.

classes: (1) those on which the tree is a pine, and (2) those on which the tree is not a pine. No more exact classification can be attempted here, but it may be added that some divide the trees into pines and oaks, and others into pines, oaks, and willows. The pine is easily recognised, but the nature of the other tree or trees represented is not so obvious. Besides the denominations given above, there is also a twopence which belongs to the second class. Readers of Hawthorne's tale of the Great Caruncle will remember that the rich merchant, Master Ichabod Pignort, possessed an immense quantity of pine-tree shillings in which he was

accustomed to roll twice a day, so as to enjoy his wealth to the full.

*The first of the very few early English regal coins for America is the following tin piece of James II.:—*Obv.*, King on horseback to right. *Leg.*, IACOBVS . II . D . G . MAG . BRI . FRAN . ET . HIB . REX. *Rev.*, Four crowned shields crosswise, connected by a chain. *Leg.*, VAL . 24 . PART . REAL . HISPAN.

This was designed for use in the plantations where the Spanish money circulated.

In the reign of George I., William Wood, who has already been mentioned in connection with a coinage for Ireland, was granted a royal patent under which he was permitted to coin twopences, pennies, and halfpennies, for use in the colonies of North America. These were to be made of a mixture known as Bath metal, invented by Wood. It is described in the indenture between Wood and the king, dated 1722, as "a certain Composition or mixture consisting partly of fine virgin silver partly of superfine Brass made of pure Copper and partly of double refined linck otherwise called Tuttnaig or Spelter."

These coins form the Rosa Americana series, and are often spoken of as pennies, halfpennies, and farthings. They present several varieties of type, one being as follows, as shown by the twopence, Fig. 105. *Obv.*, Head of the king to right, laurelled. *Leg.*, GEORGIUS . D . G . MAG : BRI : FRA : ET . HIB : REX. *Rev.*, A large rose without a stem. *Leg.*, ROSA . AMERICANA . 1722 . UTILE DULCI, the last two words being on a

scroll. The corresponding penny is similar, but reads *GEORGIUS . DEI . GRATIA . REX* on the obverse, and has no scroll for *UTILE DULCI* on

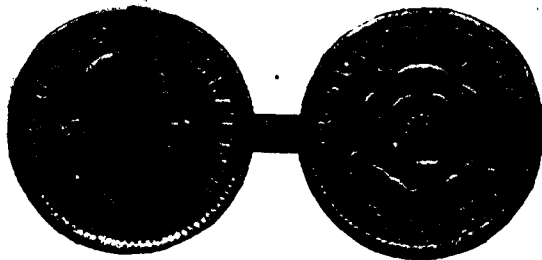


FIG. 105.—Rosa Americana Twopence.

the reverse. The halfpenny is as the penny, but has the reverse legend contracted.

In 1787 appeared a very important and interesting piece—the first legally issued coin of the United States of America, the “revolted daughter” of old Mother England. It was a copper cent of the following type:—*Obv.*, A sundial, over which the sun is shining. *Leg.*, *FUGIO 1787*. In the exergue *MIND YOUR BUSINESS*, in two lines. *Rev.*, *WE ARE ONE*, in three lines, enclosed by a band inscribed with the words *UNITED STATES*. The whole within a border composed of thirteen circles linked together.

The thirteen circles represent the thirteen States. On some patterns of this sundial cent each circle is inscribed with the name of a State, in the following order:—Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey,

Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, New Hampshire.

In 1792 the United States mint was finally established, and pattern pieces were struck, but the coins for currency did not appear till the following year.

British Guiana.—For use in British Guiana, formerly comprised in Essequibo and Demerary, George III. coined silver three-guilder, two-guilder, and one-guilder pieces, with half- and quarter-guilders, as follows: *Obv.*, Bust to right, laureate and in armour. *Leg.*, *GEORGIUS III D : G : BRITANNIARUM REX*. *Rev.*, Figure of value, crowned, within an oak wreath. *Leg.*, *UNITED COLONY OF DEMERARY & ESSEQUIBO 1816*.

The same denominations were struck by William IV., with the addition of a one-eighth-guilder, all of the foregoing type, but bearing the legend *GULIELMUS III D : G : BRITANNIAR : REX F : D :*. In this reign also was issued a new type of guilder, half-guilder, and one-eighth-guilder, as follows: *Obv.*, Head to right. *Leg.*, *GULIELMUS III D : G : BRITANNIAR : REX F : D :*. *Rev.*, *ONE GUILDER (&c.)* in two lines, crowned, within an oak wreath. *Leg.*, *BRITISH GUIANA 1836*.

In 1888 the coinage of the silver groat or fourpenny piece was resumed for this colony.

The Bahamas.—The only special coinage for the Bahamas was that of some halfpennies in 1806–7 of the following type: *Obv.*, Bust to right, draped and laurelled. *Leg.*, *GEORGIUS III*.

D : G : REX . 1806. *Rev.*, Three-masted ship sailing to right. *Leg.*, BAHAMA. In exergue, EXPULSIS PIRATUS RESTITUTA COMMERCIA, in three lines.

Jamaica.—In 1870 a series of nickel pennies, halfpennies, and farthings was begun for Jamaica. These constitute the only nickel pieces ever coined under English authority. *Obv.*, Queen's head to left, in beaded circle. *Leg.*, VICTORIA QUEEN 1870 &c. *Rev.*, Shield of arms, crest, a crocodile, in beaded circle. *Leg.*, JAMAICA ONE PENNY (&c.).

West Indies Generally.—For use in the West Indies generally George IV. coined a silver half, quarter, eighth, and sixteenth of a dollar, which also circulated in Mauritius. *Obv.*, Garnished shield of arms, as on English coins. *Leg.*, GEORGIUS IV D : G : BRITANNIARUM REX F : D : *Rev.*, An upright anchor crowned, between figures of value. *Leg.*, COLONIAR : BRITAN . MONET : and date.

In 1834 silver threepences and three-half-penny pieces were issued. These have the head and titles of William IV. as on all his silver coins, and on the reverse the crowned figures of value over the date and enclosed by a laurel wreath. These have also been coined in the present reign and show the same type. The fourpenny pieces referred to under British Guiana also belong to the West Indian currency.

Canada.—Under this head we have to notice first the Province of Canada, divided in 1791 and united again in 1841, and secondly, the

Dominion of Canada, formed in 1867, which comprises Upper and Lower Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick. For the Province of Canada silver twenty-, ten-, and five-cent pieces, and copper cents were issued in 1858. The silver coins are as follows: *Obv.*, Head of the queen, laureate, to left. *Leg.*, VICTORIA DEI GRATIA CANADA. *Rev.*, Value and date in three lines, a small crown above, all in a maple wreath.

The cent has the same head and legend, but enclosed in a beaded circle, and on the reverse ONE CENT 1858 (&c.), in three lines, within a beaded circle enclosed by a border of maple leaves.

• For the Dominion of Canada a coinage was begun in 1870 consisting of fifty-, twenty-five-, ten-, and five-cent pieces in silver, and a bronze cent. The two first are of the following type: *Obv.*, Head of the queen to left, wearing a coronet. *Leg.*, VICTORIA DEI GRATIA REGINA CANADA. *Rev.*, Value and date within a maple wreath, a crown above.

The other pieces are all generally similar to the corresponding denominations described above.

Nova Scotia.—Before being included in Canada, Nova Scotia was provided with bronze cents and half-cents of the following type: *Obv.*, Bust of the queen to left, draped and laureate, as on the bronze halfpenny. *Leg.*, VICTORIA D : G : BRITT : REG : F : D : *Rev.*, The date, crowned, in a circle enclosed by a wreath of flowers. *Leg.*, ONE CENT NOVA SCOTIA (&c.).

New Brunswick.—The coinage for New Brunswick before it was merged in the Dominion of Canada consisted of twenty, ten, and five cents in silver, and cents and half-cents in bronze.

The silver pieces show the following type: *Obv.*, Laureated bust of the queen, to left. *Leg.*, VICTORIA D : G : REG : NEW BRUNSWICK. *Rev.*, The value and date, in three lines, crowned, within a maple wreath. The bronze coins resemble those of Nova Scotia.

Newfoundland.—This is the only North American colony not included in Canada. Its coins include a gold two-dollar piece (not now struck), silver half-dollars, or fifty-cent pieces; twenty-, ten-, and five-cent pieces, and a bronze cent. The two-dollar is as follows: *Obv.*, Laureate bust of the queen to left. *Leg.*, VICTORIA D : G : REG : NEWFOUNDLAND. *Rev.*, 2 DOLLARS 1865 (&c.) in three lines, in a beaded circle. *Leg.*, TWO HUNDRED CENTS ONE HUNDRED PENCE.

The silver pieces have a similar obverse, except that on the half-dollar the legend is not contracted, and on the reverse the value and date in three lines within an ornamental border. The cent is as follows: *Obv.*, Bust of the queen to left, draped and laureated. *Leg.*, VICTORIA D. G. REG. *Rev.*, The date, crowned, in a circle, enclosed by a wreath of oak, laurel, and flowers. *Leg.*, ONE CENT NEWFOUNDLAND.

Prince Edward Isle.—For this island, which is now included in Canada, only the following cent has been issued, dated 1871.

Obv., Coroneted bust of the queen to left. *Leg.*, VICTORIA QUEEN. 1871. *Rev.*, Two trees, below, the motto PARVA SUB INGENTI, all in a beaded circle. *Leg.*, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND. ONE CENT.

British Honduras.—A bronze cent was issued for British Honduras in 1885, having on the obverse a crowned bust to left, and VICTORIA QUEEN, and on reverse 1 in a beaded circle and the legend BRITISH HONDURAS ONE CENT 1885 (&c.). Later, silver fifty-, twenty-five-, ten-, and five-cent pieces were added, of the following type: *Obv.*, Coroneted bust to left. *Leg.*, VICTORIA QUEEN. *Rev.*, 50 cents (&c.) in two lines in a beaded circle. *Leg.*, BRITISH HONDURAS 1894, each word contained in a separate compartment of the ornamental border.

Australia.

Sydney.—A branch mint was established at Sydney in 1855, but the only coins struck there were gold sovereigns and half-sovereigns. *Obv.*, Head of the queen, to left. *Leg.*, VICTORIA D : G : BRITANNIAR : REGINA : F : D : 1855 (&c.) *Rev.*, AUSTRALIA, across the field, within a laurel-wreath; a small crown above. *Leg.*, SYDNEY MINT ONE SOVEREIGN (OF HALF-SOVEREIGN).

The lighter colour of the early Sydney coins is owing to the larger proportion of silver in the alloy. This also makes their intrinsic value rather higher than that of the ordinary gold pieces. In 1870 the English type and standard were adopted, and the only difference between

the gold minted in London and that minted in Sydney is that the latter bears the mint mark **S**. **Melbourne.**—The Melbourne branch mint was not established till 1872. It coins gold only, which is distinguished from the English gold by the mint mark **M**.

Perth.—At the time of writing a new branch mint is in course of erection at Perth, Western Australia.

TRADE TOKENS

TOKENS are pieces issued by merchants and others to do duty as temporary money, or *tokens* of such and such a monetary value. The need, of small change, especially among the poorer classes, created a demand which tavern-keepers, grocers, and tradespeople generally, endeavoured to supply by issuing "tokens" of lead, tin, latten (a sort of brass) and leather, which, at first, could be spent only at the place where they were received. Later, they could be exchanged for coin of the realm. The practice of issuing tokens first began to obtain in the time of Henry VIII. Under Elizabeth Bristol, Oxford, and Worcester were allowed to have their own city tokens. But James I. considered that all these pieces were "made in derogation of the king's prerogative royall," and Royal tokens for a farthing were issued by Lord Harrington under licence from the Crown, and commonly went by the name of "Harringtons" (see Fig. 39). They were extensively forged, and were not looked

upon with any great favour by the general public. Their intrinsic worth was much below their nominal value, and they were sold in packets of (nominally) a guinea's worth for eighteen shillings only. They continued to be struck for a while under Charles I., and a goodly profit was made both by those who coined them and those who could afford to buy them in large quantities. In 1635 Charles I. issued similar farthings by his own direct authority which bear a rose in place of the harp which distinguishes the "Harringtons." The name of Tokenhouse Yard, London, still serves to remind us of the site of the office whence these farthings were issued.

But the number of private tokens did not in any way diminish until about 1672, when their issue was strictly forbidden, and the first English copper coins, consisting of halfpennies and farthings, were struck by Charles II. It has been estimated that about twelve thousand distinct varieties of seventeenth-century tokens are

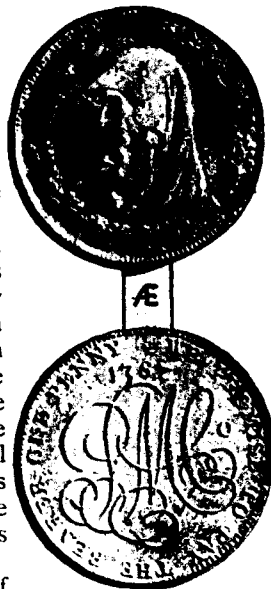


FIG. 106.—Anglesey penny token.

known. In 1787 the regal copper coinage being very scanty, pennies and halfpennies were struck by the Anglesey Copper Mining Company, and there began a fresh token-epoch. The Anglesey pennies (see Fig. 106) are the first copper pieces of this denomination, as the first royal copper pennies were not coined till 1797.

The tokens of both the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries present an immense variety

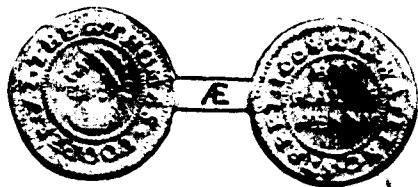


FIG. 107.—17th-century halfpenny token.

of types, the former being the most curious, and sometimes even fantastic in shape, design, and legend. A seventeenth-century token is shown by Fig. 107. There was scarcely a town or village in the country of any importance from which one or more such tokens did not emanate. The number issued in London and Middlesex together in the seventeenth century is reckoned at three thousand two hundred varieties. All such pieces are of great value to those interested in local or family history. It is a rather curious fact that only one seventeenth-century token is recorded as being issued in Scotland. As Boyne says, "The Black Money of the Scottish kings, and the patent farthings of James I. and Charles I. seem to have met the requirements of the

trade of that period," so far as Scotland was concerned. The solitary token alluded to bears no design, but merely has GEO. COMBES, FARTHING, in three lines across the field, and on the reverse DUNBAR. 1668, in two lines across the field.

Ireland produced a few, though not very many of these pieces.

Eighteenth-century tokens occur in large numbers, but though exceedingly interesting are not so quaint as their predecessors. Persons, buildings, coats of arms, local legends, political events, &c., are all drawn upon for subjects of design, and to work out the history and meaning of every single type represented on these pieces would form a liberal education.

Tokens are usually of copper, but occasionally of silver, while a few gold specimens also are known.



INDEX TO ENGLISH COINAGE

ABERYSTWYTH, 76, 81, 82, 84
 Aignel, 137
 Albans, St., 24
 Alfred the Great, 29
 Angel and angelet, 41
 Anglo-Gallic coinage, 136
 Anglo-Irish coinage, 132
 Anglo-Saxon coins, 26, 27, 35
 Anne, 100
 Aquitaine, 136
 Archbishops, coinage by, 15, 28, 129, 130, 131
 Arms, 39, 60, 61, 68, 97, 100, 103, 108, 120, 139
 Athelstan, 15
 BARONIAL coinage, 32
 Blondeau, 91, 92
 Boehm, Sir E., 124
 Boulton, M., 113, 115
 Breeches money, 88
 Britanny, Treaty of, 38, 138
 Briot, N., 78, 81, 82, 84
 Bristol, 36, 81, 82, 99, 214
 Britain, early coinage of, 22, 23, 24
 Britannia, 95, 115, 118, 119
 Brock, T., R.A., 126
 Bronze coinage, 123; colour altered, 129.
 CAMBRIDGE, 86
 Camulodunum, 24
 Canterbury, 15, 50, 51, 129, 130
 Cardiff, 32
 Carlisle, 86
 Castle, 91, 94
 Cenethryth, 27
 Charles I., 77; II., 90
 Chester, 81, 99
 Chichester, 30
 Coining, 14
 Colchester, 24, 25
 Commonwealth, 88
 Copper coins, 94
 Coventry, Bp. of, 34
 Cromwell, 89
 "Cross and pile," 16
 Crown, Britain, 69; gold, 48; Petition, 92; Rose, 94; silver, 53; Thistle, 69
 Cunobeline, 24
 DATES on coins, 56, 58, 68
 Debasement of coins, 20, 88
 "Declaration," 80
 Denier, 26; Anglo-Gallic, 136
 Denominations, list of, 11
 Dollars, countermarked, 111
 Draper Letters, 134
 Dublin, 132, 133
 Durham, 129
 ECCLESIASTICAL coinage, 15, 129-32
 Edinburgh, 101

Edmondsbury, St., 34
 Edward I., 36; II., 37; III., 37; IV., 42; V., 43; VI., 52; the Confessor, 29; the Black Prince, 137
 Elephant, 91, 94; and castle, 91, 94, 99
 Elizabeth, 61
 Exeter, 15, 81, 82, 99
 FARTHING, 36, 94
Fidei Defensor, 104
 Fineness of coins, 19
 Five-pound piece, 124
 Florin, gold, 37; godless or graceless, 122; silver, 122
 Foreign coins current in England, 61
 Fourpenny piece, *see* Groat
 France, arms of, 39, 47, 108, 138
 French mint, 16, 78
 GAUL, 22
 George I., 103; II., 105; III., 107; IV., 115
 George-noble, 48
 Gold coin, first, 35
 Gold, "crown," 20, 21; guinea, 91; in bronze pennies, alleged, 123
 Greek coins, 9, 10, 22
 Groat, 36
 Guinea, 91
 Gun money, 133
 HALF-Britain-crown, 69
 Half-crown, gold, 48; silver, 53
 Half-farthing, 121
 Half-gorth, 37
 Half-George-noble, 37
 Half-groat, 37
 Half-guinea, 91
 Half-noble, 37
 Halfpenny, 36; Error, 106, 113; Saxon, 27
 Half-pound, silver, 84
 Half-sovereign, 48
 Harold II., 30
 Harrington, 76, 214
 Heaton, Messrs., 124
 Henry I., 31; II., 33; III., 34; IV., V., VI., 41; VII., 44; VIII., 48
 Hereford, 29, 30
 Hiberno-Danish coinage, 132
 IRELAND, 64, 68, 95, 132, 217
 JAMES I., 68; II., 96
 John, 34
 John of Gaunt, 137
 KENT, 23, 26
 Kichler, 115
 LANCASTER and York, 46
 Laurel, 73
 Lewes, 15
 Lichfield, 33
 Limerick, 132
 London, 15, 25, 29, 31, 33, 36, 44, 50, 87, 190, 216.
See also Tower
 MARV, 57
 Maundy money, 27, 139, 140
 Merlin, J. B., 115, 116, 117, 122
 Middlesex, 24, 216
 Mill, mill and screw, 16, 17, 61, 91
 Milled coins, first, 63; making of, 16
 Mint marks, 43
 Mint, Royal, 113, 124, 128.
See also Tower
 Monton, 137
 NEWARK, 86
 Noble, 37; George, 48; Rose, 42

Normandy, 136
 Northumberland, kings of, 28
 Norwich, 99
 Numerals after king's name,
 34, 37, 44

OFFA, 26, 27, 130
 Oxford, 77, 81, 82, 83, 84,
 85, 86, 214

PENNY, copper, 107, 113;
 gold, 20, 35; long and
 short cross, 33, 34; pur-
 chasing power of, 32;
 silver, 26

Philippine, 22
 Pingo, L., 110
 Pistrucci, B., 109, 111, 115,
 116, 124, 126
 Pomes, 80, 83, 84, 99, 101
 Poitou, 136
 Pontefract, 86
 Pound, silver, 84
 Poynter, Sir E. J., 126
 Protectorate, 89

QUARTER-FLORIN, 37
 Quarter-guinea, 103
 Quarter-noble, 37

RAWLINS, T., 82
 Richard I., 33; II., 40;
 III., 44
 Rochester, 15
 Roettier, J., 91, 92
 Rose on coins, meaning of,
 46, 101
 Roman mints in Britain, 25
 Royal or Ryal, 42; Double,
 44; Rose, 72; Spur, 72

SAULLES, Mr. de, 128
 Saxons, 25
 Scarborough, 86
 Seacat, 26
 Screw-press, *see* Mill
 Shaftesbury, 15

Shilling, 44; Lion, 118;
 Northumberland, 110
 Shrewsbury, 79, 81, 82, 84,
 85
 Siege pieces, 85
 Silver, Welsh, 80, 94; West
 of England, 101
 Simon, T., 91, 92, 125
 Six-angel, 52
 Sixpence, 53
 Soho works, 113, 115
 Southwark, 56
 Sovereign, 44; Double, 48;
 Pound, 48; Triple, 52
 Stater, 23, 10, 22
 Stephen, 32
 Stycas, 28

TASCOVANUS, 24
 Testoon, 44
 Third-of-guinea, 107
 Threefarthings, 64
 Threehalfpence, 64
 Threepence, 53
 Tin coins, 95, 96, 97
 Titles, Royal, 52, 109, 126,
 138
 Tokenhouse Yard, 215
 Tokens, 214
 Tower of London, 16, 78,
 80, 82, 83, 84, 100. *See*
also London
 Triple-unite, 77
 Turnemire, W. de, 16
 Twopence, copper, 107;
 silver, *see* half-groat

UNION Jack, 95
 Unite, 69

VERULAM, 24
 Victoria, 120

WALES, 101
 Waterford, 132
 Werham, 15
 Weymouth, 81

William I., 30, 31, 30;
 III., 98; IV., 128; and
 Mary, 96
 Winchester, 15
 Wolsey, 51, 129, 131
 Wood, W., 134
 Worcester, 81, 114

Wyon, L. C., 123; T., 112;
 W., 116, 117, 119, 120,
 122
 YORK, 28, 46, 50, 51, 57, 81,
 82, 83, 99, 129, 130, 131
 Yorke, Sir J., 56

INDEX TO SCOTTISH COINAGE

ABERDEEN, 142
 Achesouns or Atkinsons, 181
 Alexander I. 142; II., 148,
 III., 149
 Andrew, St., 153
 Andrews, St. (city), 142, 150
 Anne, 142, 189
 Angel, 178
 Arms, 153, 171, 172, 173,
 182, 185, 186, 187, 188,
 189, 190

BALANCE half-merk, 181
 Balance quarter-merk, 181
 Bawbee, 164
 Berwick, 142, 147, 159
 Billon, 143, 156
 Bodle, 183
 Bonnet-piece, 162
 Briot, N., 184, 185

CHARLES I., 183; II., 186
 Crown, 162; Britain, 183

DARNLEY, Henry, 174
 Dates of coins, 162
 David I., 141, 146; II., 150
Dei Gratia, 150
 Demy, 156, 155
 Demy-lion, 153
 Denominations, list of, 143
 Dollar, 186; Thistle, 179;
 Sword, 179

Ducat, 162
 Dumbarton, 142
 Dunbar, 217

EDINBURGH, 142, 148, 149,
 153, 163, 174, 181, 190
 Eighth of dollar, 186; unite,
 183
 English coins, 142, 151, 163,
 176, 182, 183; Standard,
 143; Influence, 142

FARTHING, 149; Black, 160
 Fineness of coins, 143, 156
 Five-shilling piece, 180
 Forty-four-shilling piece, 165
 Forty-penny piece, 183
 Forty-shilling piece, 179
 Four-pound piece, 177
 Four-shilling piece, 180
 Francis and Mary, 170
 French Ambassador's coin
 age, 169
 French coiners, 148; influ-
 ence, 142; mintage of
 Scottish coins, 167

GOLD, crown, 143; native, 16
 Gold coin, first, 152
 Glasgow, 142
 Groat, 151

HALF-BAWBEE, 164

Half-demy, 155
 Half-dollar, 186; thistle-dollar, 180
 Half-groat, 151
 Half-lion, 135, 155
 Half-merk, 180
 Half-noble, 180
 Halfpenny, 149
 Half-pistole, 189
 Half-plack, 160
 Half-ryal, 147
 Half-ryal, 165
 Half-St. Andrew, 156
 Half sword and sceptre, 177
 Half-testoon, 168
 Half-unicorn, 157
 Half-unite, 183
 Hardhead, 165
 Hat-piece, 177
 Holyrood, 142

JAMES I., 155; II., 159; III., 157; IV., 160; V., 162; VI., 175; VII., 187
 Jedburgh, 141
 John Baliol, 150

LION, 153, 155
 Lorraines, 171

MALCOLM IV., 147
 Mary, 165
 Merk, 180; thistle, 180
 Mill and screw, 142
 Milled coins, first, 167
 Mint, chief, 142

NOBLE, bareheaded, 177; gold, 152; lion, 178; silver, 180; thistle, 170

PERTH, 142
 Pistole, 189
 Plack, 160; saltire, 181

QUARTER-DOLLAR, 186
 Quarter-merk, 180
 Quarter-ryal, 157
 Quarter-unit, 183

RIDER, 157
 Robert Bruce, 150; II., 153; III., 154
 Roxburgh, 142, 147
 Ryal, gold, 165; silver, 174

SHILLING, 183
 Six-shilling piece, 183
 Sixteen-shilling piece, 180
 Sixteenth of dollar, 186
 Sixty-shilling piece, 187
 Stirling, 142, 169
 Sword and sceptre, 176

TESTOON, 167
 Third of lion-noble, 178
 Third of ryal, 174
 Thirty-penny piece, 180
 Thirty-shilling piece, gold, 195; silver, 183
 Three-pound piece, 183
 Turners, 183
 Twelve-penny piece, 180
 Twelve-shilling piece, 183
 Twenty-penny piece, 183
 Twenty-pound piece, 175
 Twenty-shilling piece, 165
 Twenty-two-shilling piece, 165
 Two-merk piece, 170
 Two-penny piece, 181
 Two-shilling piece, 180
 Two-thirds-lion-noble, 176
 Two-thirds-ryal, 174

UNICORN, 157
 Unite, 183

WILLIAM the Lion, 148
 William and Mary, 187

INDEX TO COLONIAL COINAGE

AMERICA, North, 191, 203, 204, 205
 Australia, 191, 126, 213

BAHAMAS, 191, 209
 Bermudas, 191, 203
 Bombay, 198, 199, 202
 British Guiana, 191, 209
 British Honduras, 191, 213

CANADA, 191, 210, 211, 212
 Cents, 200, 201, 202, 208, 211, 212, 213
 Ceylon, 197, 199
 Channel Isles, 191, 193
 Connecticut, 208
 Crown, 196
 Cyprus, 191, 195

DELAWARE, 209
 Dollar, 201; British, 202
 Double, 193
 Double-rix-dollar, 199

EAST INDIA CO., 195, 196, 197, 199, 202
 Eight-double, 193
 Eight-real, 196
 Eighth of dollar, 200, 210
 Elizabeth's coinage, 195, 196

FANAM, 198
 Farthing, 192, 210
 Fifty-cent, 200, 202, 211, 212, 213
 Fifty-second of a shilling, 194
 Five-cent, 200, 201, 202, 211, 212, 213
 Five-bolds, 192
 Five-rupee, 198

Forty-eighth of a shilling, 195
 Four-double, 193
 Four-real, 196
 Four-stiver, 199

GEORGIA, U.S.A., 209
 Gibraltar, 191, 195
 Groat, 209
 Guernsey, 193
 Guilder, 209

HALF-ANNA, 198
 Half-cent, 200, 211, 212
 Half-crown, 196
 Half-dollar, 200, 201, 210, 212
 Half-fanam, 198
 Half-farthing, 200
 Half-guilder, 209
 Halfpenny, 192, 207, 209, 210
 Half-piastre, 195
 Half-pice, 198
 Half-quart, 195
 Half-rix-dollar, 199
 Half-rupee, 197
 Half-sovereign, 213
 Heaton & Co., 195
 Helena, St., 197
 Hog-money, 203, 204
 Hong Kong, 191, 201, 202

IONIAN Isles, 191, 192
 India, 191, 195

JAMAICA, 191, 210
 Jersey, 194

LABUAN, 202

MALTA, 191, 193

- Man, Isle of, 191
 Maryland, 209
 Massachusetts, 205, 208
 Mauritius, 191, 200, 210
 Melbourne, 191, 214
 Mil, 201
 Mohur, 198
 Musket-ball currency, 205
- NEW BRUNSWICK, 191, 211, 212
 New England, 205, 208
 Newfoundland, 191, 212
 New Hampshire, 209
 New Jersey, 208
 New York, 208
 Nickel coins, 210
 North Carolina, 209
 Nova Scotia, 191, 211, 212
- OBOLUS, 192
- PENNSYLVANIA, 209
 Penny, 192, 204, 207, 210
 Perth, W. Australia, 214
 Piastre, 195
 Pine-tree series, 206
 Portcullis-money, 196
 Prince Edward Isle, 212
- QUART, 195
 Quarter-anna, 198
 Quarter-cent, 200, 202
 Quarter-dollar, 202, 210
 Quarter-farthing, 205
 Quarter-guilder, 209
 Quarter-piastre, 195
 Quarter-rupee, 198
- REAL, 196
 Rupee, 197
- SHILLING, 196, 204, 205, 206
 Sixpence, 196, 204, 205, 206
 Sixteenth of dollar, 201, 210
 Sommers Isles, 203
 Sovereign, 213
 Stiver, 199
 Straits Settlements, 191, 197, 202
 Sumatra, 191, 213
- TEN-CENT, 200, 201, 202, 211, 212, 213
 Ten-oboli, 192
 Ten-rupee, 198
 Third of farthing, 193
 Thirteenth of shilling, 194
 Thirty-obolus, 192
 Three-guilder, 209
 Threepence, 204, 206
 Trinidad, 199
 Twelfth of shilling, 195
 Twenty-cent, 201, 202, 211, 212
 Twenty-five-cent, 211, 213
 Twenty-fourth of shilling, 195
 Twenty-sixth of shilling, 194
 Two-and-a-half-obolus, 192
 Two-anna, 198
 Two-cent, 201, 202
 Two-dollar, 212
 Two-double, 193
 Two-guilder, 209
 Twopence, 207
 Two-quart, 195
 Two-stiver, 199
 Two-taler, 196
- UNITED STATES, 208, 209
- VIRGINIA, 203, 204, 209
- WEST INDIES, 200, 210