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NUMISMATIC CHRONICLE.

I.

SOME UNPUBLISHED OR RARE GREEK COINS.

SECOND CONTRIBUTION.

(See Plates I.—III.)

THE NUM. CHRON., Vol. XII., Third Series, 1892, I
 have a communication to the Numismatic Society on
 some coins in my collection. The following are some of
 more interesting coins which I have acquired during
 the last four years.

Cumae. *Æs.* 127.6 grs.

Obv.—*ΑΥΧ* Archaic female head to r., in plain
 Corinthian helmet, with high top and small neck-
 flap; some curls of hair visible on forehead and
 below the neck-flap. Plain border.

Rev.—Large mussel (*Mytilus galloprovincialis*), hinge to r.;
 beneath it, under the concave side, a crab (*Pinnotheres*
 or *Pinnoteres*), which seems to hold the
 mussel and to endeavour to open it by means of
 a pebble. All in a round incuse. [Pl. I. 1.]

This coin is different from any with which I am ac-
 quainted, and offers several points of interest. The weight,
 grains, is that of the Attic or Tarentine didrachms
 (grains), allowing for some loss by oxidation. This
 fact, according to Dr. Head,¹ prevailed at Cumae only

¹*Historia Numorum. A Manual of Greek Numismatics.* By
 V. Head. Oxford, 1887.

Double line of exergue; the upper plain, the lower bordered. A slanting line in exergue.

Rev.—Fore-part of roaring lion r.; truncation dotted; square border around; the whole in incuse.
[Pl. III. 19.]

This is a further subdivision of the preceding coin: diobol, or trihemiobol. The slanting line in the exergue may possibly be only a flaw.

67. *Cyprus: Marion, Stasioticos* (?). *AR*¹. 10.5 grs.

Obv.—**MAPI**. Bearded head r.; hair rolled up back and forehead in female fashion, in contour. Dionysos or Zeus (?).

Rev.—Head of Aphrodite l., wearing stephanos, rosette earring, and necklace with pendant; hair raised in chignon. Border of dots. [Pl. III. 20.]

This obol has types similar to those of a small gold coin published by J. P. Six, *loc. cit.* p. 344, and of another published by Babelon, *loc. cit.* p. 112, 770; but the head on obverse is different, and appears to me to represent Dionysos rather than Zeus.

68. *Paphos* (uncertain king). *AR*¹. 162.9 grs.

Obv.—Bull, with bearded human face, kneeling r., head turned back. Dotted line of exergue. In upper left corner, above, **ΑΘ** (or **Α** ?); in exergue, **ΠΛ** (?).

Rev.—Astragalus; on right, **Δ**, on left, **Σ**. Contour field. Border of dots. [Pl. III. 21.]

The types are the same as those of the coins described by J. P. Six, *loc. cit.* p. 352, No. 2, VII. 14, and by Babelon, *loc. cit.* p. 108, 743, XX. 11; but the legend is different. The letters are unfortunately not quite distinct.

69. *Paphos: Pnytos* ? *AR*¹. 40.3 grs.

Obv.—Laureate head of Zeus to r., with a remarkably large hooked nose.

Rev.—**Ω** **Δ**. Eagle, with closed wings, standing left; in front, crux ansata; beaded square within incuse square; in upper right corner, spray of laurel with three berries. [Pl. III. 22.]

This tetrobol, which is quite new, seems to belong to the series of Pnytos, Six, *loc. cit.* p. 354, with the bull on the obverse and eagle's head or eagle on the reverse. Cf. Babelon, p. 108, 745 to 748, and Pl. XX. 13, 14, 15, 16. The reverse of the coin figured by Babelon (XX. 16), is indeed similar to that of my

boldly, in large curly masses. The general outline of the hair on the forehead and temples is, however, similar to that seen in the coin-portraits, and the disposition of the masses of the hair is characteristic of the work of the Pergamene school. A certain latitude in treatment might be allowed to a great artist, whereas the portrait on the coins (at least of this time) would be faithful. As regards the modelling of the face, prominence of the outer corner of the eyebrows keeping with the portrait on the coins.

By the courtesy of Professor Studniczka I have enabled to see a photograph of the head of a bronze statue in Rome, which he regards as the portrait of Perseus. I am bound to admit that this head shows certain points of resemblance to the portrait of Perseus, but the identification does not seem to me to be convincing. The chief point of difference is in the nose, which in the bronze is slightly aquiline. Now, all the traits of Perseus agree in showing that his nose was in the least degree aquiline. Although there is a slight protuberance on the bridge, the main line of the nose is perfectly straight, and the angle between upper lip and nose is a right angle, not acute as on the bronze. Further, the protuberance of the frontal bone in the bronze is greater than on the coins, and there is a marked difference in the way in which the hair lies on the forehead instead of standing up from it.

The identification of ancient portraits is, under the best of circumstances, somewhat uncertain. The p

* *Antike Denkmäler*, i., Pl. V., where, however, the details of the execution of the slight beard and moustache are not visible.

liarily intense expression of the head which we have described, may, it has been suggested, be ascribed rather to the style of the period than to the model. But this suggestion does not exhaust the portrait-character of the head. I think we may be certain that the head is a portrait; by which I do not exclude the possibility that Perseus may have been represented in a group in the character of some hero.

G. F. HILL.

