

MISCELLANEA

COINS OF THE SUSSEX MINTS

Addendum (See Vol. XXVIII, p. 524)

Lewes. Cnut, type BMC viii.

136a. + CNVT RE+ ANGLOR Godman H.H.K.
+ GODMAN ON LEPE.

Corrigendum (See Vol. XXVIII, p. 257)

Hastings. William I, type BMC v.

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The entry of this coin as being in the British

Museum is incorrect. It is a cast in the Museum of a coin, ticketed 'P.C-B., Jan. 1911'. As it was not in any of Major P. W. P. Carlyon-Britton's sales in 1913, 1916 and 1918, it was presumably in the fourth portion of his collection sold privately to Spink & Son. Since then it has disappeared, Spink's records being lost in the last war.

HORACE H. KING.

FOUR 'NEW' COINS OF THE HUNTINGDON MINT.

THE four coins described below come from a fine collection of Saxon and Norman coins of the Huntingdon mint, a small selection of which recently became available for study. If not actually unpublished all four coins are, it is thought, of sufficient interest to warrant their being recorded here together with the brief notes on them which follow.

(1). Canute. BMC Type XVI (Pl. VII, No. 1).

Obv. +CNVT/RE—

Rev. +ÆLFGAR ON HVNT

Weight. 17.4 grs. die axis. ←.

This moneyer Alfgar is not recorded in Hildebrand, BMC or Brooke. I see however that Alfgar is recorded as a Huntingdon moneyer in this reign in Mr. J. J. North's recently published book (*English Hammered Coinage* Vol. 1.). Mr. North's authority for this is the Huntingdon coin of the same reign and type which was comprised in Lockett Lot 3765 and is now in the British Museum. This piece is of anomalous style and I regard it as being Scandinavian or, at any rate, 'non-English'. The obverse inscription is wholly unintelligible. The reverse reads +ÆOIGAR ON HYNT.

This is clearly a blundered reading although the moneyer's name could well have been intended to be read as Alfgar. Although of distinctly 'non-English' style Mr. Dolley considers that the coin probably is English. Obviously Mr. Dolley's opinion must be respected and it is significant that we now have clear evidence from a coin (or rather from two coins as the collection in question contains a die-duplicate specimen in much better condition than the one illustrated here) of undoubted English work to prove the existence of this, until quite recently, unpublished Huntingdon moneyer for the reign.

(2). Edward the Confessor. BMC Type IV. (Pl. VI, No. 2).

Obv. +EDPA/DREX

Rev. +PV/LFP/TON/VNT/.

Weight. 15.4 grs. die axis. ←.

This is a very rare type for the mint; only one of it is recorded in Hildebrand and there is only one (BMC No. 560) in the British Museum, both by the same moneyer, Wulfwine, as the foregoing. All three coins are from different dies but what is interesting about this one is that instead of PACX

it reads $\begin{array}{c|c} c & x \\ s & p \end{array}$ in the angles of the cross on the reverse in which respect it is, I believe, unique.

(3). Henry I. BMC Type XIV. (Pl. VII, No. 3).

Obv. —NRICVSREX (unusually neat style.)

Rev. —FPINE: ON: hv—.

Weight. 20.2 grs. die axis. →

(4). A die duplicate of No. 3. (Pl. VII, No. 4).

Obv. —RICVS REX.

Rev. cross potent EL[F]PINE: ON:—

Weight. 22.2 grs. die axis. →

This is a very rare type for the mint and hitherto only one moneyer, Derlig, has been recorded in it. These two die duplicate coins combine to give the name of an unpublished moneyer, Alfwine (or, as it becomes at this period, Elfwine), for the reign. Alfwine is, of course, a common enough name throughout the Saxon and Norman periods but it is of only intermittent occurrence at this mint. It is pretty well continuous from c. 1040 to c. 1055; the name then disappears for some thirty years to recur, for a short period, as that of the sole moneyer of the mint in William I Type VIII.

It is unrecorded in William II and hitherto has been unrecorded in Henry I. In this instance the lapse of time is even greater than previously and cannot have been much less than forty years.

Coin No. 3. came from the large 'Canterbury' Find of 1901 which Carlyon-Britton partially published in *BNJ* XIX (1909) where (p. 97) its reading —FINE: ON: HVN— is recorded under Huntingdon. Actually only HV— is visible on the coin but this is sufficient to establish the attribution. There is no reference there to coin No. 4 but it is certain that there were a considerable number of 'strays' from this partially recorded find with its somewhat 'sketchy' background¹ and my guess is that coin No. 4 also came originally from the same source as No. 3.

It is also certain that Brooke did not know of the existence of these two coins as even coin No. 3 is not mentioned in *BMC Norman Kings*. Presumably, and quite understandably, Brooke regarded the *BNJ* reading by itself, and without his being able to verify it, as too speculative even for inclusion in his

list of doubtful attributions at the foot of the table of moneyers in the Introduction to *Norman Kings*.

The exceptionally fine collection of coins of the Huntingdon mint, whence these came, must have been formed over a considerable period and one which probably spanned the first twenty years of the century. It seems remarkable that the owner of it should have recognised the die-link between coins Nos. 3 and 4 and, having done so, should have kept the knowledge to himself. Coin No. 3. was certainly in Carlyon-Britton's possession in 1909 but it is equally certain that it was not there when Brooke examined his collection coin by coin preparatory to the publication of *Norman Kings* in 1916. If my guess that coin No. 4. was a stray from the 'Canterbury' Find, acquired by Carlyon-Britton sometime during the intervening six or seven years, could ever be proved to be right then obviously the credit for the discovery of the die-link must be given to him.

F. ELMORE JONES.

TWO FURTHER COINS OF HENRY I FROM LLANTRITHYD

THE purpose of this note is to put on record two further coins of Henry I which have come to light in the course of the excavations conducted by Mr. T. F. R. Jones at the site of a mediaeval manor at Llantrithyd some ten miles to the west of Cardiff. The coins were found at different times and at different parts of the excavation in the course of the 1963 season, and all the evidence indicates that they had been lost on different occasions. One is clearly a 'stray' from the scattered find recorded in pp. 74–79 of the 1962 *British Numismatic Journal*, and adds disappointingly little to our knowledge of the coinage of that period, but the other, unfortunately a cut halfpenny and chipped into the bargain, is perhaps the earliest coin that can be attributed with absolute confidence to the mint of Cardiff, antedating as it does by some fifteen years the sensational penny of Henry I type XI discovered on the same site in 1962.

The 'stray' from the hoard is a whole coin. It can be described as follows:—

BMC type XI = North 867 = Hawkins 258

Obv. HEN [|||||].

Rev. Outer: [||||] | [||||] | MA | NO Weight: 20.2gr.

Inner: + [|||||] DE: Die-axis: 180°

[Fig. 1 a]

The inner legend on the reverse can be restored with confidence to read +NLUNDE— indeed the initial

N, the completion of the locative preposition begun in the outer legend, can be made out on the actual coin — and so the mint is incontrovertibly London. The identification of the moneyer is not so easy, though as it happens the deuterotheme —MAN is not particularly common where the names of Henry I's London moneyers are concerned. The obvious candidate is *Blac(a)man* who is actually known for the type (cf. *NC* 1901, p. 82) but the coin is from different dies. Moreover, even if we allow the spelling *Blacman*, the need to allow for an initial cross as well precludes a strictly symmetrical disposition of the letters of the outer legend. It is not pretended, though, that this objection is decisive, and it may well be thought that a reconstruction +BL | AC | MA | NO or +B | LAC | MA | NO is very plausible. On the other hand, there is a *BMC* type XV moneyer *Derman* whose name allows of the absolutely symmetrical division +D | ER | MA | NO, and it could be argued that it is purely fortuitous that he has still to be recorded in *BMC* type XIV, the only intervening type that could be described as at all common. Although, then, *Blac(a)man* on balance seems the stronger candidate, the question is one that should be left open. So little is known as yet concerning the London moneyers of the middle years of Henry's reign that it is by no means inconceivable that the missing proto-

and also the 12 coins listed on pp. 347–8 of the same volume to which the same possibility applies.

¹ For evidence of this see Mr. Dolley's article in *BNJ* XXVI (1951) where (p. 345) 6 coins are listed which may well have been 'strays' from this find

theme will be shown by a future discovery to be neither *BLAC-* nor *DER-*.

Still there are not known more than two dozen coins of *BMC* type XI, and so Llantrithyd with its eight coins from at least six mints has an assured place in any new study of the coinage of Henry I. The two dozen coins are from fourteen mints, and so the type might be considered relatively common beside *BMC* type V where the number of known coins is fewer than twenty, and the number of mints until now only ten. Perhaps the most remarkable of all the coins from Llantrithyd is a chipped cut halfpenny which can be described as follows:—

BMC type V = North 861 = Hawkins 267

Obv. +||||| E+ Die-axis: 270°.

Rev. ||||| RDI AFIE ?

[*Fig. 1, b*]

The portion that remains of the reverse legend is quite satisfyingly sharp and, the only real uncertainty is whether the *E* is followed by another letter or by the initial cross. It may be thought too, that the *R* which precedes the *D* is of rather unusual form, the loop being abnormally large in proportion to the tail, but even if the letter be accepted as indeterminate the letter-combination *DI AFIE* on a coin found within ten miles of Cardiff leaves room for only one prototheme, the Welsh

caer-, on the coin almost certainly rendered *CAR-*.

There seems little room for doubt, then, that the cut halfpenny from the Llantrithyd excavations ranks as the earliest known coin of the Normans in Morgannwg — in the earlier note it was pointed out that the Carlyon-Britton attribution of the 'Devitun' pieces to a hypothetical mint at St. Davids and Brooke's identification of *CAIRDI/CARITI* as Cardiff are open to objection on a number of grounds. It is unfortunate that the halving of the coin gives no hint of the name of the moneyer. Presumably the missing portion of the legend amounted to at most nine letters and in all probability no more than seven or eight. Four of these would be taken up by the locative preposition and the first two letters — *CA* — of the mint-signature, and so the moneyer's name must have been very short. This is not a fatal objection — more than a dozen of Henry I's moneyers have names of only three or four letters — but it may just prompt speculation as to whether we are right automatically to preclude the possibility that there may have been no moneyer's name at all. Granted that the dies are very obviously of 'London' work, it is still within the bounds of feasibility that the first element of the reverse legend could be a Latin, Old English or even Norman French noun indicating that Cardiff was a fort or



FIG. 1.

castle or town. A 'marcher mint' is so often a law unto itself, and this hypothesis, and it is nothing more, has the advantage where the new coin is concerned that it dispenses with a preposition and so adds two letters to the prototheme. However this may be, the //RDIAFIE? of the new coin must surely denote a mint established at Cardiff not much later than the end of the first decade of the twelfth century, and the more so because the *BMC* type XI coin found in 1962 provides incontrovertible

evidence of the operation of the mint at the site only a very few years later. It only remains to add that the two coins that form the subject of this note have been acquired by the National Museum of Wales, and to put on record the writer's regret that these pages appear too late for them to have been perused by the late Major John Youde for whom the Norman coinage of Wales had a very special fascination.

R. M. H. DOLLEY

TWO INTERESTING SITE FINDS

1. *Anglo-Saxon Sceatta*

The finding of a silver sceatta with a secure and somewhat unusual provenance seems worthy of record. The sceatta (wt. 10.5 grs.) is an example of type 23(e) (*BMC* 117) with whorl on obverse and helmeted figure holding two long crosses on reverse (Fig. 1). The coin is from the excavation of a

round barrow near Temple Guiting in Gloucestershire and was found in the top of the ditch surrounding the barrow. The excavator, Mrs. H. E. O'Neil, with whose permission this coin is published, reports that the find spot was not far from a Saxon grave inserted into the edge of the barrow.

FIG. 2.

FIG. 3.



FIG. 1

2. *Imitation sterling*

An extremely rare and interesting imitation sterling penny was found in 1963 in the excavations at the deserted mediaeval village of Gomeldon in the Bourne valley north-east of Salisbury. The coin was turned up in a yard area constructed over a building of late 12th century date.¹

The coin is, unfortunately, rather worn and the detail difficult to decipher, but it is clearly a second example of the previously unique piece of John the Blind of Luxembourg of the mint of Arlon (Fig. 2), published by Bernays in the supplement to his account of the coins of Luxembourg.² The details of the coin are as follows:

Obv. Bust, crowned, facing.

+EDWANNES o DNSREGYB

Rev. Cross with 3 pellets in each angle.

MON/ETA/ERL/ONS Wt. 12.6 grs. (Fig. 3).

The original example in Bernays' collection provided the evidence for the establishment of the mint at Arlon in 1346 in the reign of John the Blind and not in that of Charles IV whose coins had previously been the earliest on record from this mint. Only two known examples suggest a very small issue but it should be noted that the example from Gomeldon is from a different pair of dies.

The coin is now in the Salisbury Museum and I am indebted to the curator, Mr. H. de S. Shortt, for permission to publish this rare piece.

R. A. G. CARSON

¹ For another unusual sterling found in Wiltshire see *BNJ* 1960, p. 189.

² Bernays, *Histoire numismatique du comté puis*

duché de Luxembourg et ses fiefs, Mémoires, Académie royale de Belgique, 2^e série, t.X, p. 52 ff.

ANOTHER SMALL PARCEL FROM THE GREAT FIND AT ECCLES

IN the *Journal* for 1954, Mr. R. H. M. Dolley published details of a small parcel of Short Cross pennies which he postulated had come from the Eccles (1864) hoard (*Inventory* 152). The collection of coins in Maidstone Museum includes a parcel from that hoard and it may be thought instructive to compare the two. The Maidstone parcel was presented to the Museum by a Miss Romilly in March, 1900. It consists of 58 pennies: 55 English Short Cross and 3 Irish of John. Analysed in accordance with the classification evolved by Dr. L. A. Lawroec, there are 15 coins of class V, thirteen of class VI and twenty seven of class VII. There are no specimens from the period prior to the recoinage of 1205. The parcel described by Mr. Dolley, although consisting of only 24 pennies, included two of the early issues and two Scottish of William the Lion, but no Irish. Tabulated the two parcels appear as follows :—

Class	'Dolley'		Maidstone	
	Coins	%	Coins	%
I - IV	2	8	—	—
V	9	38	15	26
VI	4	17	13	22
VII	7	29	27	47
Irish	—	—	3	5
Scots	2	8	—	—
	—	—	—	—
	24	100	58	100
	—	—	—	—

Whereas we would anticipate the composition of a parcel from the Eccles hoard to show coins of class VII to be in excess of 50 per cent of the total, neither of these parcels so do. The Maidstone coins are not too far away from the expected ratios, especially when we consider the small size (0.93%) of the sample, but the coins shown to Mr. Dolley give the classes in a ratio which would seem more appropriate to a hoard deposited in the third decade of the thirteenth century. This may, however, be no more than the effect of chance selection in such a tiny (0.39) percentage of the find, or, and much more probable, the especial inclusion, in both groups, of coins from a selection of mints. As illustration of the latter theory the tables are shown again below after excluding the provincial mints and also the 'foreign' coins which are over-represented.

Class	'Dolley'		Maidstone	
	Coins	%	Coins	%
IV	1	6	—	—
V	3	20	10	20
VI	4	27	13	26
VII	7	47	27	54
	—	—	—	—
	15	100	50	100
	—	—	—	—

The Maidstone parcel now shows a ratio consistent with the similar finds from Colchester (*Inventory* 94) and 'France' (NC 1897), and the parcel published by Mr. Dolley is perhaps not inconsistent with them when it is taken into account that the transfer of merely one coin from the earlier classes to the latest would give the latter 53 per cent of the total.

The Maidstone coins are of the following mints and moneyers :—

ENGLAND		Lawrence Class					Total
		Vb	Vc	VI	VII		
LONDON	Abel	—	—	2	—	2	22
	Elis	—	—	—	3	3	
	Ilgel	—	—	4	—	4	
	Rauf	—	1	1	—	2	
	Raulf	—	—	1	1	2	
	Rencr	1	—	—	—	1	
	Ricard B	1	—	—	—	1	
	Terri	—	—	—	2	2	
	Walter	—	1	1	—	2	
	Willelm B	—	1	—	—	1	
	Willelm L	1	—	—	—	1	
	Willelm T	1	—	—	—	1	
						—	
CANTERBURY	Arnaud	1	—	—	—	1	24
	Henri	—	—	1	1	2	
	Hiun	—	—	1	—	1	
	Ioan	—	—	—	3	3	
	Ioan Chic	—	—	—	1	1	
	Iohan	1	—	—	—	1	
	Iun	—	—	—	1	1	
	Osmund	—	—	—	1	1	
	Roberd	1	—	—	—	1	
	Roger	—	—	—	2	2	
	Roger of R	—	—	—	3	3	
	Salemun	—	—	—	1	1	
	Samuel	—	—	1	1	2	
	Simon	—	—	—	1	1	
	Simun	—	—	—	1	1	
	Tomas	—	—	—	1	1	
	Walter	—	—	1	—	1	
						—	46

		<i>Lawrence Class</i>					<i>Total</i>	
		<i>Vb</i>	<i>Vc</i>	<i>VI</i>	<i>VII</i>	<i>brought forward</i>		
ENGLAND (<i>cont.</i>)								
BURY ST.								
EDMUNDS	Norman	—	—	—	3*	3	4	
	Willelm	—	—	—	1	1		
						—		
DURHAM	Pierces	—	1	—	—		1	
LINCOLN	Hue	1	—	—	—		1	
NORTHAMP-								
TON	Adam	1	—	—	—		1	
WINCHESTER	Miles	1	—	—	—		1	
YORK	Davi	1	—	—	—		1	
		—	—	—	—		—	
		11	4	13	27		55	
		—	—	—	—		—	
IRELAND								
DUBLIN	Roberd						3	

*Two of these coins are from the same dies, one of them being very double-struck.

J. D. BRAND.

TWO SMALL LATE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY HOARDS FROM CO. TYRONE.

In checking through a small collection of coins in the possession of Capt. J. B. Butler, now living with his son-in-law and daughter, Major and Mrs. G. A. N. Boyne, Kinnaird House, Caledon, Co. Armagh, the writer came across a halferown of William III 1696 OCTAVO, in fairly good condition. It was in a folded-up letter reading as follows :

"The Bank Buildings
Belfast 11 April, 1888.

Mr. Milligan begs to enclose a Wm. 3rd 2/6 to Miss Bernard. This with five others was found recently in a leather purse in a Bog near Castlederg, Co. Tyrone, and were all in good order.

Mr. Milligan arranged with Dr. Bernard to send you the coin'.

Mr. Milligan was Seaton Forrest Milligan, J.P., M.R.I.A., ultimately a director of Robertson, Ledlie and Ferguson. He was local secretary and Vice-President for several years of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland and contributed a number of interesting papers to the *Journal*; he also produced a small guide to Tyrone and Fermanagh.¹

Dr. Walter Bernard, of Buncrana, Co. Donegal, practised in Londonderry and was the uncle of Miss Mary Emily Bernard. It was he who was largely responsible for the restoration between 1874 and 1878 of the great stone fort of Grianan of Aileach, the royal seat of the northern O'Neills, Kings of Ulster. His niece, the aunt of Capt. Butler, lived in Dublin.

Another small cache terminating at approximately the same date, but lower in value, was found at Stewartstown, in the eastern part of County Tyrone, in 1956. This came to the notice of the Ministry of Finance when workmen were digging a sewer trench at Castle Farm in the second week of March.

The coins were as follows: William III, shilling and sixpence, both dated 1696; Scotland, Charles II, bawbee, 1678; Ireland, halfpennies (22). The Irish pieces consisted of Charles II, 1681 (2), 1682 (1), 1683 (3), date uncertain (3); James II, 1686 (1); William and Mary, 1692 (2), 1693 (2), 1694 (3), date uncertain and holed (3); William III, 1696 (1), date uncertain (1).

The extremely worn condition of one William III halfpenny makes it unlikely that this small collection of coins was lost or buried much before the end of the seventeenth century. As there was no re-issue of Irish copper coinage until Wood's halfpence in the reign of George I (1722), the deposit may well have taken place in the early eighteenth century.

The coins were obtained by the Ministry and later handed over to the Ulster Museum.

W. A. SEABY

A 1918 SILVER HOARD FROM LURGAN, CO. ARMAGH.

On Friday 4 September 1964 Mr. Patrick McGeown, a builder's labourer, employed by Messrs. Lavery, building contractors, was breaking up rubble (taken from a row of cottages in Lake Street, Lurgan, which were being demolished and dumped by lorry at a new housing site on the Portadown Road) when his

pick struck a small linen bag amongst the débris and he heard a tinkling of money. On picking up the bag he found inside the remains of a paper packet with the name and address of a former local grocery store which was in existence c. 1900-48 (M. O'Neill, Family Grocers, Tea and Coffee Dealers, Wine and

¹ Mr. R. H. M. Dolley reminds me that it was Milligan's letter to Dr. Frazer which was the principal evidence for his reconstructing the summary form

of the hoard of Hiberno-Norse and Anglo-Saxon pennies found near Ballycastle in 1890. See *Ulster Journ. Archaeol.* xxiv & xxv (1961/2) pp. 88-90.

Spirit Stores, 2 Church Place, Lurgan) and £20 in silver coins, £16 being in halferowns and £4 in florins. Examination of the linen bag revealed faintly the words: WALKERS/PARKER CO.'S/(Limited)/PATENT SHOT/CHESTER/6 surmounted by the Royal Arms. From the style of the printing, this bag appeared to be of nineteenth century date.

The bags and the coins were shortly afterwards handed in at the R.U.C. (police) station where Sergeant A. J. Kennedy took a statement from McGeown. Later it was learned that the old single-storeyed houses in Lake Street had been in the possession of the Soye family since 1882 and that the present owner was Mr. Richard William Soye, Home Farm, North Street, Lurgan. The tenements were numbered 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 15. With the exception of No. 7 which had been vacant for some years all were occupied until July 1964 when the various occupiers were moved out as the result of slum clearance; there had been many changes of tenants down through the years. Mr. Soye, on being questioned, disclaimed any knowledge of money being hidden in any of the premises. Although the police were able to interview all the last occupiers of the houses none could give any information regarding the coins or make any claim on them. Notification was given to each of the intention to hold an inquest.

On instructions from the Head Constable, in consultation with the Coroner for the district, the coins with Sergeant Kennedy's report and list were sent to the Ulster Museum for fuller examination. This was carried out by the writer who also notified Mr. Patrick Shea, Assistant Secretary of the Works Directorate and Secretary to the Ancient Monuments Advisory Council, Ministry of Finance. The coins were found to range from 1846 to 1918 and were made up of 128 halferowns and 40 florins. The hoard was passed over to the Ministry for safe keeping and the Coroner duly informed.

At an inquest held at Lurgan Courthouse on 29 October 1964 before Mr. H. M. Thompson, (Solicitor, 1 Church Street, Portadown) the principal witnesses testified to the discovery and to the silver content of the coins, and the Coroner after hearing all the evidence declared that the coins constituted treasure trove and as such belonged to the Crown¹. From the nature of this find it was suggested that the hoard had been well hidden in the masonry of one of the

old houses in Lake Street, most probably in a small hole at the top of a front or back wall directly under the roof. The dates on the coins, which included 39 pieces of 1918, made it patently clear that the deposit was put down in that year or very early in 1919, certainly before the general issue of any coins bearing the latter date.

The condition of the coins ruled out any idea of the hoard having been amassed over a long period. The very considerable wear on the earlier pieces, with the exception of one or two coins which can be readily explained (see below), and the comparative freshness of the latest coins strongly suggested that the money had been drawn on a bank, probably against payment of Treasury or bank notes. One other possibility might be the conversion of a gold hoard, laid down in or prior to 1914, delay of which had been caused by the intervention of the Great War, with the owner realising that by leaving his 'nest-egg' hidden for too long he might experience difficulty in cashing his gold without questioning.

Lake Street is in a Roman Catholic area and the inhabitants, particularly the older folk up to the period of Partition, would be those most likely to employ the traditional Irish method of conserving their money.² Bank saving deposits might be as much mistrusted as government paper money, which if stored in walls is subject to loss by decay or fire, and to attacks by rodents; also it has the disadvantage of being called in when new notes are issued. Once gold had been demonetised there would be no option but to use silver currency. At least one old couple, known to have lived and died in the terrace at the material date, are said to have been of a miserly disposition(!)

The hoard is of interest since it must be almost the latest which could have been concealed before the first debasement of the coinage in 1920; but that the lowering of the silver standard had no bearing on it is evidenced by the total absence of 1919 issues. It may also be considered as one of the last deposits to come within the scope of Treasure Trove as the law in England and Northern Ireland stands at present, for it is doubtful if, without a Treasury or Ministry of Finance ruling capable of being sustained in the courts, the second silver issue of George V which contained 50% alloy could be accepted by any coroner as 'treasure' within the meaning of the Act; *prima facie* the cupro-nickel coinage of 1947 would seem certainly not to fall within this classification.³

¹ A full report on the inquest was given in the *Lurgan Mail*, 6.11.1964. News reports giving brief details of the find were published in the *Lurgan Mail*, 11.9.1964 and in the *Irish News*, 14.9.1964 and *Belfast Telegraph*, 30.10.1964.

² See Seaby 'Two Gold Hoards from Northern Ireland' in *BNJ* xxx (1962), p. 244.

³ I am indebted to Mr. R. H. M. Dolley for commenting on these points and for passing on other information contained in the paper.

In the present case, however, the Ministry of Finance waived its claim to the money, realising that numismatic interests had been served by the inquiry. Since it was recognised that the coins were worth more than their face value as collectors' specimens, it was agreed to hand back the entire hoard to Mr. McGeown, as finder. The Ulster

Museum subsequently bought fifty of the coins for its cabinet, Armagh County Museum acquired by purchase a small representation, as also did Mr. Soye, the landowner. The remainder of the coins have been disposed of to Ulster collectors and the coin market, and all monies therefrom paid over to the finder.

Content and Summary List.

Generally speaking the silver showed a very consistent wear over the whole period of seventy or more years which it covered. Exceptions were no. 129, the Gothic florin of 1856, which had an exceptionally well raised rim on the obverse preventing undue rubbing of the legend on that side; also no. 137, the Jubilee florin of 1887. In the latter case the relatively good condition was almost certainly due to its being one of the souvenir pieces which were put aside by many persons during that year; probably it only got back into circulation after the old Queen's death or on the death of the original owner. It is not a specimen from one of the proof sets but a normal issue. Several of the Edwardian half-crowns had well-raised rims which had also to some extent prevented their reduction by wear.

Of the nine Gothic florins, all were in so poor a condition that only the last two or three figures of the dates could be distinguished; however, enough remained of the details generally to assign dates to all of them. More difficult was the dating of several Edward VII two shilling pieces, the last figure being in a position to receive most wear and in one case at least was completely obliterated. The average weight of eight of the earliest halfcrowns (1846-87) was 205.75 grains as against eight of the best halfcrowns of 1918 which on average gave full weight at 218.00 grains; the average weight of ten florins (1856-87) was 166.10 grains as against ten of George V (1915-18) which averaged out at 174.10 grains. This showed a metal loss of approximately 12.25 and 8.25 grains respectively in the older pieces as against nil and .25 of a grain in the later series. Four halfcrowns and five florins of Edward VII showed an overall loss per coin of 3 grains.

*Halfcrowns*¹

1-26. Victoria:

(Y.H.) 1846 (S. 680) 1; 1878 (S. 701) 1; 1881 (S. 707) 2; 1884 (S. 712) 2; 1885 (S. 713) 1; 1886 (S. 715) 4; (J.H.) 1887 (S. 719) 1; 1889 (S. 722) 4; 1891 (S. 724) 1; (O.H.) 1893 (S. 727) 1; 1895

(S. 729) 1; 1896 (S. 730) 3; 1898 (S. 732) 2; 1899 (S. 733) 1; 1900 (S. 734) 1.

£3. 5. 0d.

27-37. Edward VII:

1902, raised rims (S. 746) 2; 1906 (S. 751) 2; 1907 (S. 752) 3; 1908 (S. 753) 1; 1909 (S. 754), one with raised rim, 2; 1910 (S. 755) 1.

£1. 7. 6d.

38-128. George V:

(A) 1911 (S. 757) 3; 1912 (S. 759) 4; 1914 (S. 761) 13; 1915 (S. 762) 12; 1916 (S. 763) 13; 1917 (S. 764) 15; 1918 (S. 765) 31.

£11. 7. 6d.

Florins

129-142. Victoria:

Gothic (B1) 1856 (S. 813) 1; (B3) 1872 Die 9 (S. 840), Die 46 (S. 840) 2; 1874 Die 10 (S. 843) 1; (B5) 1878 Die 2 (S. 849) 1; (B8) 1883 (S. 859) 1; 1884 (S. 860) 2; 1886 (S. 863) 1; (J.H.) 1887 (S. 868) 1; 1890 (S. 872) 1; 1892 (S. 874) 1; (O.H.) 1900 (S. 884) 2.

£1. 8. 0d.

143-149. Edward VII:

1903 (S. 921) 1; 1905 (S. 923) 1; 1906 (S. 924), two doubtful, 3; 190-(S. ?) 1; 1909 (S. 927) 1.

14s. 0d.

150-168. George V:

(A) 1911 (S. 929), one with raised rim, 2; 1912 (S. 931) 1; 1914 (S. 933) 1; 1915 (S. 934) 5; 1916 (S. 935) 1; 1917 (S. 936) 1; 1918 (S. 937) 8.

£1. 18. 0d.

Face value total £20. 0. 0d.

W. A. SEABY

¹ Reference: H. A. Seaby: *English Silver Coinage from 1649* (second edition, 1957).