

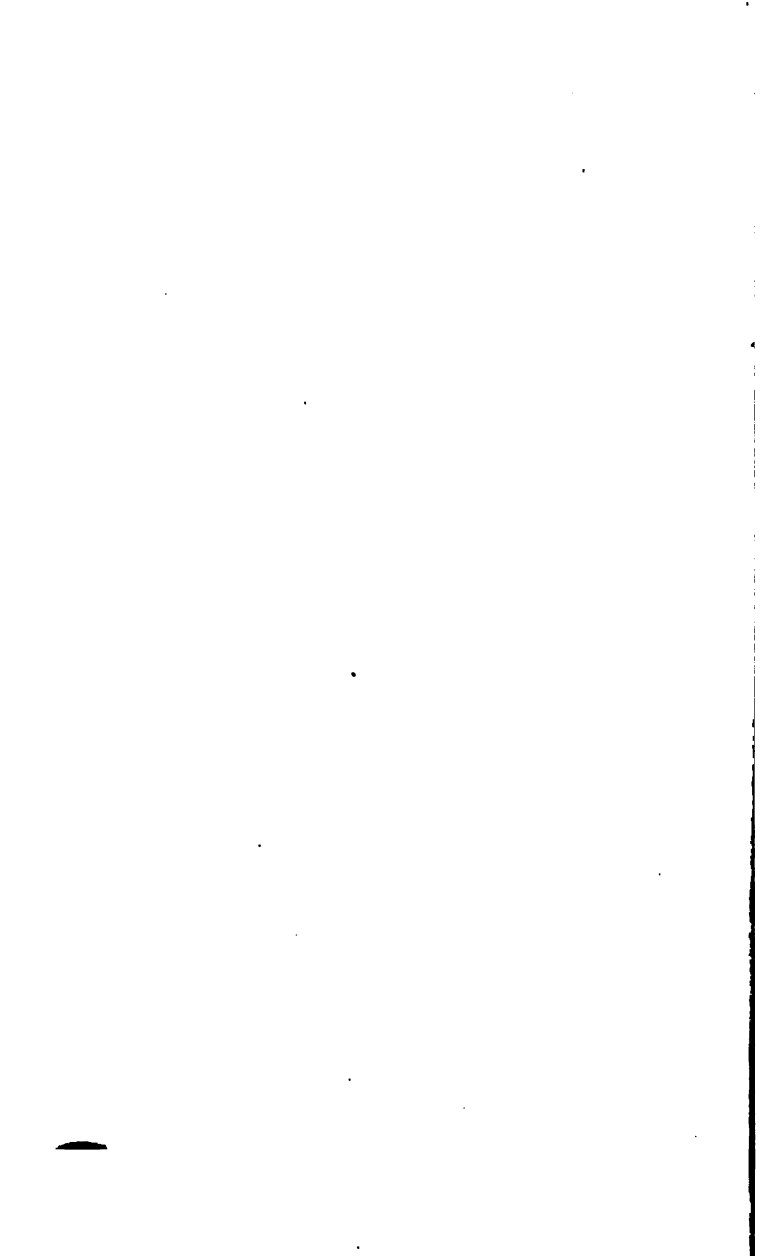
*An Essay on the Roman Denarius
and English Silver Penny*





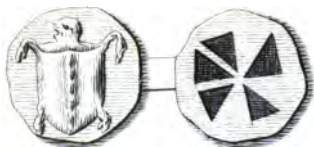








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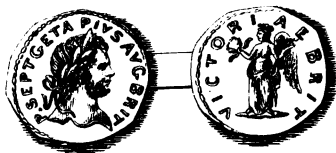
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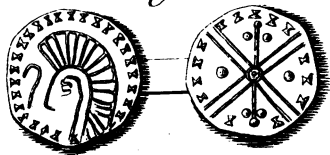
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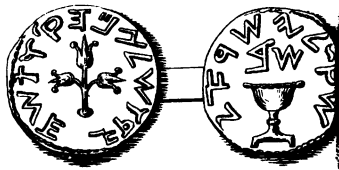
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AN ESSAY
ON
THE ROMAN DENARIUS
AND
13430 ENGLISH SILVER PENNY,

Shewing their Derivation from the Greek Drachma of Ægina.

TO WHICH IS APPENDED
A LIST OF
ENGLISH AND SCOTCH PENNIES,
FROM THE CONQUEST, 1
TOGETHER WITH THEIR SEVERAL DEGREES OF RARITY; 1

AN ACCOUNT OF
THE FARTHING OF QUEEN ANNE;

A LIST OF BOOKS,
NECESSARY TO THE COLLECTORS OF MEDALS;
Transactions of the Numismatic Society,
WITH A LIST OF ITS MEMBERS;

AS WELL AS THAT OF COLLECTORS OF MEDALS IN ENGLAND AND
ON THE CONTINENT; LIKEWISE OF MEDAL ENGRAVERS.

WITH AN ADDENDA, &c.

BY WILL^M TILL, MEDALLIST,

Member of the Numismatic Society, &c.

17, GREAT RUSSELL STREET, COVENT GARDEN.

SECOND EDITION.

"In the absence of our historians, monuments, and inscriptions, Medals
alone would be sufficient to convey to posterity the record of past events."

LONDON:

LONGMAN, ORME, BROWN, GREEN, AND LONGMANS;
AND BY THE AUTHOR.

1838.

G. L. D.



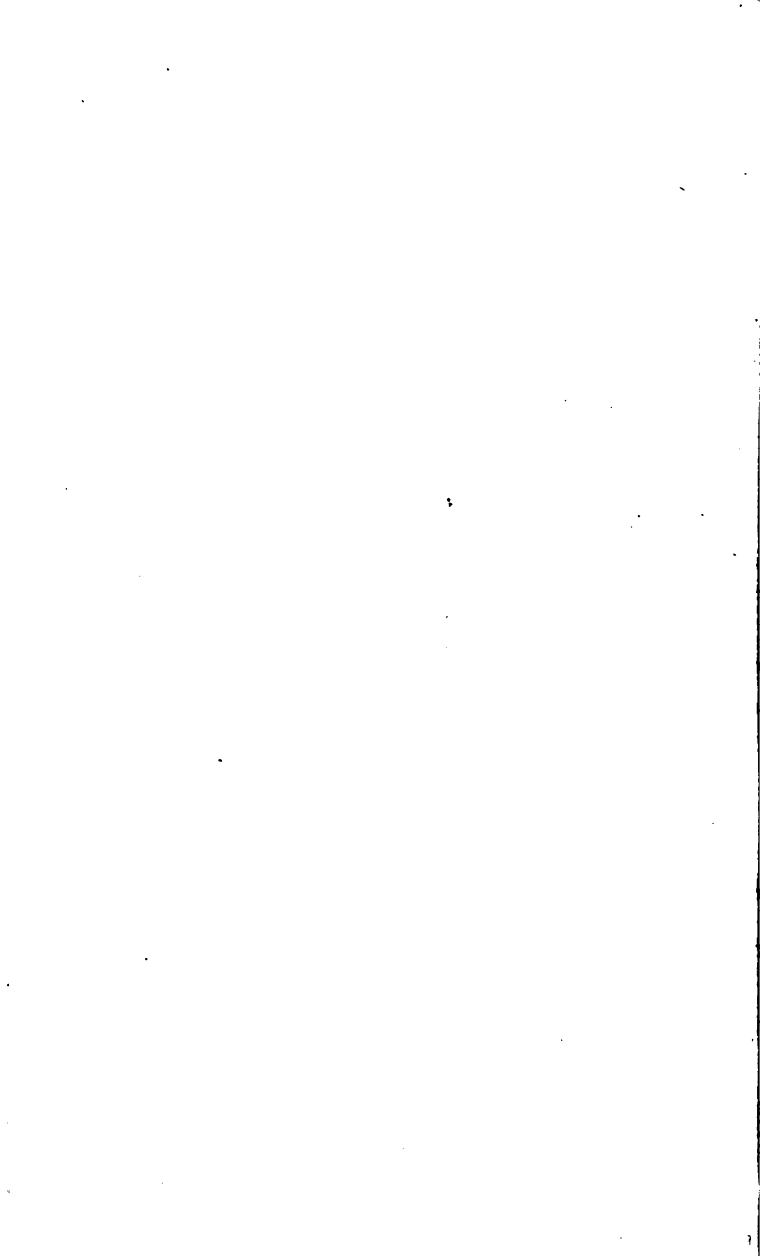
TO THE PUBLIC.

I much fear I shall be censured for having followed the wishes of my friends in publishing this trifle. Unaccustomed as I am to writing, and, from the nature of my business, so liable to interruption, doubtless many errors may appear; I therefore bow, with perfect submission, to the better judgment of those more competent than myself, and willingly solicit from them that information I shall be happy to afford to others.

If time be spared me, it is my intention to publish a volume on Greek, Roman, Saxon, English, Scotch and Irish Coins, &c.—giving a brief account of their several degrees of rarity, and to the Roman the price of each coin, taken from actual practice, and assisted by the best authors; adapted to those collectors who have not opportunities of referring to voluminous learned works on the subject of Numismatics.

WILLIAM TILL.

17, *Great Russell Street,*
Covent Garden, London.



P R E F A C E.

WHEN the following essay was commenced, I had no idea of introducing the extraneous matter which has, I fear, been very incongruously put together.

The Numismatic Society at that time had no existence. Nor was it my intention to notice again the farthings of Queen Anne, much less to give an account of the battle of Barnet, and to advert to various localities connected with that town.* If any excuse be required, I apprehend it will be for my officious trespass on the province of the historian; but I found it impossible to resist an impulse that led me thus to digress, enthusiastically attached as I am to the history and antiquities of

* See the Addenda at the end.

my own country, and interested as I personally feel in a spot, a small part of which is my own property, and on which one of the most decisive and influential battles has been fought; a battle, on the issue of which the existence and fate of a whole dynasty depended.

Besides, as a voluminous history of England is not accessible to every one, I trust I shall be excused digressing from the subject first treated of, by giving an extract from one of our most celebrated writers on that subject.

TO THE PUBLIC.

INDUCED by the wishes of a few partial, but I fear injudicious, friends to publish this trifle, I expose myself to censure, in common with others who write without due pretensions to authorship; and feeling likewise that I am but an imperfect scholar in the science of Numismatics, I may expect on many points the animadversions of those who, with a more perfect knowledge of coins, unite the advantage of possessing sound classical erudition. Such animadversions, however, will be received by me with respectful deference, and I shall feel grateful for any remarks that may tend to render a future publication more correct, and more worthy of perusal.

Some excuse for defects may, perhaps, be allowed, in consideration of the repeated interruptions I experience. In short, my business requires my mind to be volatile, and to pass from coin to coin, in compliance with the various tastes of the

parties who do me the honour of inspecting my cabinets; thus the very encouragements I meet with, as a dealer in medals, have a tendency to put to flight all my ideas on the particular subject on which I am writing.

I therefore bow with submission to the judgment of Numismatists more competent than myself, and shall willingly receive from them whatever they may condescend to offer, either for the amendment of what is wrong, or the improvement of what is right.

If time be spared me, it is my intention to publish a volume on Greek, Roman, Saxon, and English coins, &c. giving a brief account of their several degrees of rarity; and to the Roman, the price of each, taken from actual practice; adapted to those collectors who have not opportunities of referring to the voluminous and expensive works of learned writers.

WILL^M TILL.

26th June, 1837.

*17, Great Russell Street,
Covent Garden.*

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DESCRIPTION OF THE PLATE.

No. 1. A Drachma of Ægina, of the earliest Greek work. On the obverse, a Tortoise, of barbarous execution. The reverse, rude indentations.

No. 2. Drachma of Antiochus VI. (ΕΠΙΦΑΝΟΤΣ ΔΙΟΝΤΣΟΤ) of Syria. This brilliant gem, the production of the early Greek mint, is from the collection of the late Mr. Abraham Edmonds, of Castle Street, Southwark; and by the special permission of Mrs. Edmonds, here engraved. In its preservation it is unique; in its production almost inimitable,—and may truly be considered the chef-d'œuvre of Grecian art; indeed, the face on this medal is of such exquisite design, and of such extraordinary beauty, that one is led to suppose the artist had the bust of Apollo, or of some other model of perfection, in his view while engraving it. The obverse represents the head of Antiochus Epiphanes Dionysus, the youthful King of Syria,

adorned with a radiated Crown and a Fillet,—the Grecian emblem of sovereignty. On the reverse, a seated figure, with the king's name and title : ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΑΝΤΙΟΧΟΥ ΕΠΙΦΑΝΟΥΣ ΔΙΟΝΤΕΟΥ, under the letters ΗΣΡ, the monogram, or abbreviation for the place of mintage.

Vaillant, in his account of the Syrian Kings, describes this figure as being that of Apollo, seated on what he designates a Cortyna; but I am tempted to differ with this high and respected authority, and to presume it to be a female figure, with the hair braided in the Grecian style and hanging over her shoulders,—probably that of Diana, having the bow and arrow. This figure differs from that on the Drachma of the same Prince engraved by Bartolozzi, inasmuch as he therein is represented in a state of nudity, and without the ringlets; this has, at least, a very little drapery.

No. 3. A Denarius of the Carisia family; a common but very interesting coin, bearing on the obverse, the head of Moneta, with name; and on the reverse, the implements used by the Romans in their coinage, viz. the two dies, with hammer

and pincers, and the name of the family, the whole within a garland. How it was possible, with the hammer here represented, to give that effect to the coinage which we meet with in the Roman series, I know not, still, doubtless it is a correct representation of that used in the Roman mint.

No. 4, represents a coin of the Junia family, bearing the heads of Brutus and Ahala; not the assassin Marcus Brutus, who stabbed his bosom friend and reputed father, but his progenitor. This is the Lucius Junius Brutus who doomed his own sons to death, and witnessed the sentence executed on them. Verily, these Romans must have been formed of strange materials. We may imagine the inflexibility of the judge in the condemnation of his sons, from his patriotism and stern love of justice, but we cannot account for the absence of all parental feeling in the father, to witness the infliction of their punishment. On the reverse, is the head of Ahala, another worthy, an officer under the Dictator Cincinnatus, who slew Melius for refusing to answer certain political accusations brought against him.

This Denarius was struck by Marcus Brutus immediately after the murder of Julius Cæsar, intending probably to defend the crime in which he had been a guilty participator, by presenting to the Roman people, the busts of two individuals, whose memory they revered, and whose statues were preserved in the Capitol,* and like himself had either directly or indirectly imbrued their hands in blood.

Marcus Brutus likewise struck other pieces commemorative of and in allusion to this eventful period; (these coins are properly classified as Consular, still their date would permit them without impropriety to be arranged with the Imperial Series, as they were certainly struck subsequently to those of Julius Cæsar, with whose coins commences the latter class). One Denarius bears on the obverse the head of his favorite Deity, "the Goddess of his idolatry," "Libertas;" on the

* There can be no doubt but this is an accurate portrait of Lucius J. Brutus, and in all likelihood taken from his statue, as well as that of Ahala, alluded to by Cicero in his second Philippic, chapter ii.

reverse, Lucius Junius Brutus attended by the Lictors. Another has his own head, with that of Lucius Brutus on the reverse; but the most curious is that with his head on the obverse, and on the reverse, the Cap of Liberty (the *Bonnet rouge* of modern times) between two daggers, with this inscription, EID. MART. On this piece, Marcus Brutus is represented with that ferocity depicted in his countenance which one would expect to find in such a man.

These coins will be found finely portrayed in the “*Thesaurus Morellianus, sive Familiarum Romanarum Numismata Omnia, &c.*” being the coins of the Consular Families, beautifully engraved, and excellently described by Andrea Morellio.

This curious Denarius, last mentioned, is from the collection of my very earliest and kind friend, the late Mr. John Peckham of Slough: it is one of a number of his coins which, when a boy, I have almost worshipped, (not out of respect to the characters it portrays), and the possession of this piece, at that time, would have completely unsettled me; it would have haunted me in my very

dreams: that day is gone; that feeling never can return. Enthusiasm is now sobered down to admiration. I have had too many fine coins pass through my hands for the pleasurable excitement I speak of to have been kept up undiminished. The whole of Mr. Peckham's collection came into my possession by purchase subsequently to his decease,* and some few of the coins I preserve, as a memento of one of the best of friends, whose memory I revere, and of whom I cannot speak too highly.

As this trifle is published not altogether with a view to sale or profit, I must be permitted a digression or two. In looking the other day over my debtor and creditor account of benefits received, I found in my balance sheet *the names of many individuals to whom I am much indebted*; if not in a pecuniary view, still in that of having kindnesses bestowed upon me, which I have not,

* I had the melancholy task of attending the remains of my kind old friend to the grave; he was interred in the chancel of Upton Church, Bucks, close by the side of the celebrated astronomer Herschel.

to my own satisfaction, repaid. I must therefore take advantage of the channel which this publication affords me, of *publicly and gratefully* acknowledging the same with my best thanks, regretting that the return is by no means commensurate with the advantages received.

It may perhaps be gratifying to some of my readers, and I speak, I trust, with that modesty that becomes me, to receive some account of the family of the Bruti and of Ahala, who have been mentioned in the foregoing descriptions of Denarii impressed with their effigies. I venture therefore to mention that *Lucius Junius Brutus* was the son of Marcus Junius and Tarquinia, the second daughter of Tarquin Priscus. The father, with his eldest son, were murdered by Tarquin the Proud, and Lucius, unable to revenge their death, pretended to be insane. This artifice saved his life ; he was called BRVTVS for his stupidity, which he however soon afterwards shewed to be feigned.

When Lucretia killed herself, 509 years before Christ, in consequence of the brutality of Tarquin, Brutus snatched the dagger from the wounds, and

swore upon the reeking blade immortal hatred to the royal family. His example was followed, the Tarquins were proscribed by a decree of the Senate, and the royal authority vested in the hands of Consuls chosen from Patrician families. Brutus, in his consular office, made the people swear they never would again submit to kingly authority; but the first who violated their oath were in his own family. His sons conspired with the Tuscan Ambassador to restore the Tarquins, and, when discovered, they were tried and condemned before their father, who himself attended at their execution. This occurred 465 years before Christ.

This Brutus was subsequently slain in a battle fought between the Romans and the Tarquins.

Tarquinius Priscus was the fifth King of Rome, and son of Demaratus, a native of Greece. His first name was Lucumon, but this he changed when, by the advice of his wife Tanaquil, he had come to Rome. He called himself Lucius, and assumed the surname of Tarquinius, because born in the town of Tarquinii, in Etruria.

Marcus Junius Brutus was married to Servilia, the sister of Cato, by whom he had a son and two daughters. After the death of Sylla, he was besieged in Mutina by Pompey, by whose orders, after surrender, he was put to death.

His son, of the same name, (and whose coins are alluded to) seemed to inherit the republican principles of his great progenitor. He was one of the murderers of Julius Cæsar, which deed was perpetrated 44 years before the christian era. The mother of Marcus Junius Brutus, Servilia, the sister of Cato, was greatly enamoured of Julius Cæsar, and from the intimacy that existed between them, some have supposed that the Dictator was the father of this Marcus Junius Brutus.

Ahala is the surname of the Servilia family at Rome. *Servilius Ahala* was Master of the Horse to the Dictator Cincinnatus. When Melius refused to appear before the Dictator, to answer the accusations which were brought against him on suspicion of his aspiring to tyranny, Ahala slew him in the midst of the people, whose protection he claimed.

This took place 439 years before Christ. *Ahala*

was accused for this murder, and banished, but this sentence was afterwards repealed. He was subsequently raised to the Dictatorship.*

No. 5. A Denarius of Geta, struck after his father's expedition to Britain, and particularly relating to that event. On the obverse is the head of Geta, regarding his left, laureated, and with a beard.

This Prince is generally represented on his silver coins without one. On the coin before me (which is from my own private cabinet) he is made to appear like a man of forty, when in reality at his death he was only twenty-three years old. His name and titles are given as follows—P. SEPT. GETA PIVS AVG. BRIT., *Publius Septimius Geta Pius Augustus Britannicus*.

On the reverse, a winged Victory, with her right arm extended, and presenting a crown of laurel;

* A few of my authorities for these references may suffice. Livy, i. c. 31, 46, and 56—ii. c. 1; Dionys. Hal. iii. c. 59—iv. c. 48—and v.; Corn. Nep. in Attic. 8; Pliny, viii. c. 41; Plutarch, in Brutus and Cæsar; and Aen. vi. v. 817 and 818.

whilst in her left she holds a palm branch, encircled by the legend VICTORIAE BRIT., *Victoriæ Britannicæ*.

His father, the Emperor, Sept. Severus, agitated and alarmed by the continual and inveterate enmity manifested by his two sons against each other, gladly embraced, as Gibbon relates, any pretext for withdrawing those hopeful youths from the licentiousness of the Roman capital. An opportunity was not long wanting. The Caledonians had revolted: Severus was determined to chastise them in person, and, attended by Caracalla and Geta, he lived long enough to obtain a victory at an immense sacrifice, but not the homage of the hardy Scot, who again appeared in arms, and was only saved from extirpation by the death of the conqueror at York, leaving his sons to return with hasty strides to Rome, there to revel in excesses which ended in the murder of Geta by his brother. This coin, of course, was intended to perpetuate and record Geta's participation in the victory here so significantly alluded to. Very similar coins occur of his father, and his brother Caracalla.

This Denarius is well known, and has been frequently engraved; but I feel assured that no excuse is required for introducing it here, as it relates so particularly to our own country.

No. 6. A coin of Magnus Maximus, an usurper in Gaul, A. D. 385. This piece is here introduced merely to convey to the reader a specimen of the Roman coinage at a late period of the empire, and to shew how closely the Saxons followed in the weight of their Pennies. This coin weighing 1 dwt. 2 grs., two grains only above the standard weight of the Saxon Penny, (hence the word Pennyweight); in fact, I possess a Penny of Ethelred II., and another of the Confessor, each weighing nearly two grains above the proper Pennyweight; but, on an average, the Saxon Pennies will be found to be two or three grains less than the standard weight, even if finely preserved.

This Denarius of Magnus Maximus shews his bust clothed in armour, with his head laureated, and looking to his left, with this legend, D. N. MAG. MAXIMVS P. F. AVG. (Dominus Noster Magnus Maximus Pius Felix Augustus).

On the reverse is a seated figure, holding in the right hand a globe, surmounted with a small victory; and on the left, a staff or spear, with the following legend, **VIRTVS ROMANORVM**. The exergue contains the place of mintage abbreviated, **T. R. P. S.** (*Treveris Pecunia Signata*) or, **Money struck at Trevers.**

These coins, although common here, are considered rather scarce on the Continent, which is the more singular, as there they were struck.

No. 7. A Saxon Penny of Offa, King of Mercia. On the obverse, the bust of the king in profile, looking (as a herald would describe) to the sinister, or the left side. The head adorned with a fillet, composed of a double row of pearls; the hair apparently falling behind in a club—(It would seem this monarch was what in our present time would be termed a regular dandy; and if you examine Ruding's plates of him, you will find his hair twisted into a variety of shapes, more like unto that of a female than of a Saxon King of Mercia: the probability is that his connexion with the court of Rome induced him to ape this style).

He is represented as having what appears to be a branch in his hand, and around the bust his name and title. On the reverse, an ornamental cross, surmounted with devices, and the letters of the moneyer's name Dud.

This rare, and as far as it relates to the type, unique coin, differs very materially from any of the same king engraved in Ruding, and before this was unpublished. It passed through my hands some years since, and the present possessor has kindly permitted me to engrave it.

No. 8. An extremely rare Penny of the Conqueror: one of a large quantity discovered at Beaworth, near Winchester. The rarity of this Penny consists in its being of what is termed the pax type, and having the head in profile, instead of full faced; this peculiar type was unknown until this discovery took place, and they are still very rare. On the obverse is the bust of the king, with name and title PILLELM. REX. On the reverse, a cross, and between its limbs are four circular compartments, with the letters PAXS, in direct imitation of his predecessor Harold II. The legend is

composed of the place of mintage ON. PINC. i. e. WINC. (Winchester). The Saxon W differing but little, if at all, from the modern P.

This coin is in the highest state of preservation, and from a very celebrated collection; but unfortunately the bust of the sovereign and the name of the moneyer "Linold" are not struck up, consequently, a little imperfect, and this is a very common occurrence with the Pennies of our early kings.

No. 9. A very rude Irish Penny, discovered some few years since in Ireland, with many others. It is doubtless Prelatical, as on the obverse we find a head of the most barbarous execution, and before it a crosier, with short straight strokes instead of letters in the usual place of the legend. On the reverse is a long double cross, with pellets and strokes similar to those on the obverse.

This coin is extremely thin, and weighs only seven grains. Of about one hundred which came into my possession, this appears the average weight, but some are still lighter.

I am not aware that *these gems* of the Emerald isle have been engraved before.

No. 10. A very rare, curious, and extremely interesting coin, the antient Jewish Shekel, solicits peculiar attention. It is a silver coin of Simon Maccabæus, the High Priest and Prince of the Jews. Its weight is 219 grains. The specimen here referred to was struck 142 years before the Christian era. On the obverse is represented the golden pot of Manna, and over it the date of the coin, expressed by the current year of the independence of the Jews, a year coinciding with that of Simon's reign and pontificate. As to the date itself, it is comprised in two Samaritan characters, to be read from right to left, contrary to the mode of reading European languages. The first letter, similar to our W is that of Shin, or SH of the Hebrew word "*Shenath*," signifying year; the second "Beth," used as a numeral to express two, and thus the two characters are to be read *Shenath Shetaim*, which phrase means *the second year*. The legend on the same side, is likewise expressed in Samaritan letters, and begins with Shin, the letter similar to W, and is as follows, SH.K.L. I.S.R.A.L, that is, SHeKeL ISRAeL, the Shekel of Israel.

On the reverse is beheld a trifed branch of the Almond tree with blossoms, such being intended as the representation of Aaron's rod that budded; in connection with which is the following legend in Samaritan characters, J.R.U.S.L.I.M H-K.D.O.-SH.H, that is JeRUSaLaIM Ha-KeDOSHaH, meaning Jerusalem the Holy.

Although the above curious piece may bear no affinity to the Greek Drachma, the Roman Denarius, or any other coin here treated of, I could not avoid presenting it, if only to correct a false notion that is prevalent, that a coin of modern fabrication, which often occurs, is the Jewish Shekel.

The false coin I allude to, is somewhat smaller than our half-crown, weighing from 160 to 185 grains. On the obverse is a Censer, from which the smoke of incense arises, encircled by the following legend in the Hebrew characters, (but which characters are badly formed,) "SHeKeL ISRAeL. On the reverse, is seen a large branch of the Almond tree, with the accompanying legend, "JeRUSaLaIM Ha-KeDOSHaH."

When and where these coins were first fabri-

cated, I believe no one can accurately state, and that they are fabrications there is not a moment's doubt, although the Jews, generally speaking, consider them as their Shekel, yet in this they are deceived. There are two or three varieties of these false coins, but as there is a great similarity between them, it may be sufficient for the information of the public, to describe this type only.

Simon, or Simeon, of the house of the Maccabees, (see the first book of the Maccabees,) was the first Jewish Prince who struck money; previous to his time, there can be no doubt that the Shekel was, according to its appellation, a weight only, and in no specific form. This is borne out in evidence through nearly the whole of the Old Testament, commencing with the book of Genesis, and concluding with that of Amos. In carefully examining the Bible, I find the Shekel named in no less than sixty different places,* but the following extracts

* Genesis xxiii. 15. xxiv. 22. Exodus xxi. 32. xxvi. 24, 25, 26. xxx. 13, 15, 23, 24. Leviticus v. 15. xxvii. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 16. 25. Numbers iii. 47, 50. vii. 13, 14, 19, 25, 31, 37. xviii. 16. xx. 26, 32, 38, 44, 50, 56, 62, 68, 74,

will probably be sufficient for our purpose. Relative to Rebecca, the sacred historian, in the twenty-second verse of the twenty-fourth chapter of Genesis, says, "The man took a golden ear-ring of half a shekel weight, and two bracelets for her hands of ten shekels weight of gold." Again, in the first book of Samuel, at the fifth and seventh verses, Goliath's helmet and coat of arms weighed five thousand shekels of brass,"—"and his spear's head six hundred shekels of iron."

In the Apochrypha, we find the shekel assuming the shape of a coin, (see the Plate No. 10,) Antiochus, sixth King of Syria, granting Simon the privilege of issuing money with his own name. "I give thee leave also to strike money for thy country with thine own stamp." Fifteenth chapter of the first book of Maccabees, and sixth verse.

80. Deuteronomy xxii. 19, 29. Joshua vii. 21. Judges viii. 26. xvii. 2, 3, 10. 1 Samuel ix. 8. xvii. 5, 7. 2 Samuel xiv. 26. xviii. 11. xxiv. 24. 1 Kings x. 16. 2 Kings vii. 1. xv. 20. 1 Chronicles xxi. 25. Nehemiah v. 15. x. 32. Jeremiah xxii. 9. Ezekiel iv. 10. xlv. 12. Amos viii. 5.

Of Simon we have the Shekel, the Bekah or half-shekel, and the quarter thereof, in silver. These coins are all very rare ; likewise three different sizes in copper, some large, and these also are scarce. His descendants, Alexander, Jannæus, and Jonathan, struck copper only, and those of small size. John, the son of Simon, struck no coins ; at least none have reached us.

From the time of the Maccæbean Princes to that period when Judea again had her kings, who were tributaries to the Roman Emperors, we obtain no Jewish coins ; of those sovereigns, the following struck them:—Antigonus, Herod I. (the butchering Herod, falsely called the great), Herod II. and III., Philip the Tetrarch, Agrippa I. and II., and Zenodorus the Tetrarch. They are of copper, and small in size, and thereon we obtain portraits of Philip, Agrippa I., Herod III., and Zenodorus. On their obverse are the heads of the Emperors to whom they were tributary, but they are poor things, and very rare. Of none of the other kings have we any portraits.

AN ESSAY

ON

THE ROMAN DENARIUS,

AND

ENGLISH SILVER PENNY.

“ Ambition sigh'd. She found it vain to trust
The faithless column, and the crumbling bust ;
Huge moles whose shadow stretched from shore to shore,
Their ruins perish'd, and their place no more !
Convinced, she now contracts her vast design,
And all her triumphs shrink into a *coin*.
A narrow orb each crowded conquest keeps ;
Beneath her palm here sad Judea weeps ;
Now scantier limits the proud arch confine,
And scarce are seen the prostrate Nile and Rhine.
A small Euphrates thro' the piece is rolled,
And little eagles wave their wings in gold.”

Pope.

AN ESSAY

ON

THE ROMAN DENARIUS.



The Engraving of this Token is copied from a fine pattern for a Penny in bronze, executed by one of the first artists in London, Mr. William Taylor, whose abilities as a medal engraver require only to be known to be appreciated, and whose talent in executing the various society medals in which he has been engaged, has drawn forth the general approbation of his employers.

The lithographic sketch here given is by no means equal to the original, which may be said to compete in work with a very fine medal executed by the celebrated Hedlinger.

If high antiquity or illustrious descent be a subject for admiration, the English Silver Denarius or Penny possesses it in an eminent degree.

This coin, now struck merely as an object of curiosity, has, as to its services and uninterrupted succession, the pre-eminence over every other, of whatever grade or material.

We first find it as the Greek Drachma of Ægina, six hundred years previous to the Christian era; then as the Drachma of other parts of the Greek Republic, till four hundred years before Christ, when it was continued by the Grecian Kings previous to the death of Alexander the Great, and by his successors, the Kings of Macedonia, Sicily, and Syria,* as well as by the Parthian

• The splendid Drachma of Antiochus VI. ἐπιφανὸς διονύσιος, King of Syria, (see the plate No. 2) is now in the possession of Christopher Edmonds, Esq. of the Borough of Southwark.

I regret the engraver has here failed, to a certain extent, in giving that contour of countenance so peculiar to this Prince, and which is so well expressed on the coin, where we see the smiling face of a boy; but in the plate, the expression of the face is more allied to grief than the contrary passion.

Kings, or Kings of Persia, called the Arsacidæ. The same coin too, under the name of Denarius, was struck by the high Consular families of Rome, and subsequently by the Emperors. It was even carried very far into the Byzantine Empire, and was taken up by the Saxon Heptarchic Sovereigns, after the retirement of the Romans from Britain. Its course continued uninterrupted through the Saxon, Danish, and Norman dynasties, and finally settled in the English series. It was almost the only coin in circulation in Britain, from the first king of Kent, A. D. 797, until the reign of John in 1193, who struck in Ireland its half and quarter. A few half-pence, indeed, as well as Sceattas, (or small silver coins,) were in circulation in the times of the Saxons. The Copper Northumbrian and York Prelatical Stycas were likewise minted by the Saxons, but the Silver Penny was the coin of the highest value.*

This coin, in its first state, is thick, and very

* They had imaginary coins of higher value, intended to facilitate computation and exchange.

rudely executed. On the obverse a tortoise, and on the reverse an indented square, without inscription. Those of less early date, have the name ΑΙΓΙΝΩΝ, and weigh the eighth of an ounce. Subsequently the coin in question evinced superior workmanship, and exhibited the heads of the Greek Sovereigns in high relief; and when the Drachma became a Denarius, it was in most instances of very fair execution, and frequently very fine in the Consular and Imperial state of Rome, until the declension of the empire.

The degenerated Denarius was barbarous in the hands of the Saxons, a few instances excepted, and very bad during the English dynasty, until after the reign of Edward VI., when it became progressively superior. After the restoration of Charles II. it was executed by the celebrated Simon, and subsequently by the Roetiers, Croker, Pistrucci, and our present eminent artist, W. Wyon.

If the Denarius claims our respect for its long and extensive utility in society, to the artist, the antiquary, and the man of science, it must be esti-

mable. On the Drachma or Denarius we meet with portraits, not only of the far famed heathen deities fallaciously worshipped, but of the sovereigns ruling in the regal state of Greece. In short, many of these coins are exquisite gems of art, therefore well might Pope exclaim:—

“The Medal, faithful to its charge of fame,
“Through climes and ages bears each form and name;
“In one short view subjected to our eye,
“Gods, Emperors, Heroes, Sages, Beauties lie.”

In the Consular state of Rome, we find history recorded and edifices portrayed, of which we know nothing but through that very medium of transmitting to us their likenesses. On such Denarii too, are depicted the costume of the Roman warriors, priests, and senators; thus also, the Romans give us a view of their triumphs, combats, treaties, naval and military ensigns, together with their shipping and instruments of war, their mode of voting at elections, and even the manner of striking their money.

Amongst the events recorded on the Denarius

of Consular Rome, we find one in connexion with the Æmilia family, and although the event is transmitted on a coin very common, it is in itself not the less interesting. I allude to the victory gained by the Roman general, Scaurus, over Aretus King of Arabia. The captive monarch is represented on his knees, beside a camel, indicative of his country, in which attitude he is humbly tendering the olive branch to his victorious conqueror. On the reverse of the medal, is the triumphant Roman in his Quadriga, haughtily bearing aloft, in his left hand, the thunder of Jove, and in his right, the reins of his chariot. Even the return of Ulysses is depicted, his faithful dog meeting and recognizing him. The fable of the twin founders of Rome being discovered by the king's shepherd is represented; the wolf is portrayed as turning round with a ferocious growl, and gazing at him, while he himself, leaning on his staff, appears rapt in wonder at the sight of the infants receiving sustenance from their strange and savage foster mother.

The Roman Denarius has been more *honoured*,

and more *debased*, than all other coins. It is honoured pre-eminently, inasmuch as it is the coin to whose "image and superscription" Jesus Christ drew the attention of the Jews, when they endeavoured to elicit from him an answer that might be construed into opposition to the Roman government, their question being, "Is it lawful to pay tribute unto Cæsar, or not?" What this image was, the obverse of the Roman Denarii shows us, as well as the Jews: and, as Jesus taught them to render to the personage thus depicted, what He called, (in the present tense,) "things that are Cæsar's," we perceive that the Denarius in question was one of Tiberius, the reigning emperor. As there is reason to believe that Judas received his thirty Shekels' weight of silver in coins current in Judæa, then a Roman province; the Denarius might have its share of ignominy on that occasion.

On the Denarius we have a succession of portraits, not only of the Emperors of Rome, but of other personages interesting beyond description to those who have, not mechanically, but intellectually, entered into the merits of the coin in ques-

tion. We thus meet with the heads of celebrated characters, not to be found elsewhere, such as that of Ancus Marcius, King of Rome; of Juba, King of Mauretania; of Sylla the Consul; of Pompey the Great; of Lepidus; and of Agrippa, the confidential minister, son-in-law, and victorious general of Augustus, not more a general illustrious for the victories he gained, and the confidence he secured, than for his unassuming merit, in refusing the honors with which his imperial master would have loaded him.

Through the same medium also, we can glance through the vista of nearly two thousand years, and behold Mark Anthony is presented to our view, with his Consort, the voluptuous and unfortunate Cleopatra; and, last in estimation, whilst conspicuous in infamy, we meet with *the assassin Brutus, the murderer of his friend and reputed father.*

The Imperial series is no less prolific in interesting representations. Nay, it far exceeds the earlier series, both in variety of portraits, and in reverses recording remarkable events. The first

in rank is the Dictator Cæsar, with his high laurel crown awarded him by the Senate, and with his long spare neck. Next comes the artful and time-serving Augustus, with a countenance so mild, as to lead the beholder to doubt the commission of those atrocities attributed to him in early life; atrocities involving the sacrifice of his best and highly gifted friends to his own interests. With equally faithful accuracy are depicted the libidinous Tiberius, the mild and beneficent Germanicus, the infamous Caligula, Claudius, as weak as his wife was notorious, the cruel and persecuting Nero, the glutton Vitellus, Vespasian and Titus the conquerors of Judea, and the virtuous Antoninus.

By the portraits on the Denarius, we are rendered familiar with the countenance of the philosopher Marcus Aurelius, who had public thanks offered to the gods for providing him with a wife so *faithful*, so *gentle*, and of such *wonderful simplicity* of manners; when, in fact, her *amours* were as open as the day. He intreated her deification, and the obsequious Senate assented. We then behold the mild and unostentatious Pertinax, and his suc-

cessor, Didius Julian, who purchased empire, and but a few days rule, with an immense fortune and by a cruel death. Afterwards we contemplate the able but deceptive Severus, who promised but to ensnare,* and who terminated his victorious career at York. We behold, likewise, the fratricide Caracalla, who, not content with murdering his brother, (Geta) even in his mother's arms, to whom he had fled for shelter, but must consecrate in the temple of Serapis, the weapon with which he had accomplished the deed: his guilty soul, however, was incessantly agitated by the supposed phantom of the murdered youth. The Denarius also presents to our view the voluptuous and vicious Elagabalus, whose follies exceed belief; and the amiable Alexander Severus, who, being superior to the prejudices of the heathen world, placed by the side of the acknowledged deities of Rome, the statues of Christ and of Abraham. Again, we see Maximinus, whose stature was that of a giant, and whose

* Witness his treatment of the children of Albinus, whom he murdered.

daily consumption, according to antient authors, is almost incredible. Next, we behold the effeminate and execrable Gallienus, who could permit the stuffed skin of his father Valerian to be carried as a trophy before Sapor, King of Persia, who had taken the said Valerian prisoner, while he himself revelled in debauchery, thus permitting the imperial majesty of Rome to be in his person disgraced. His punishment came, though late; he was slain by his own troops near Milan. We have the portraits of Diocletian, the reputed persecutor of the Christians, who with his colleague Maximian, (Hercules) magnanimously resigned the command of the best part of the world, and, retiring to a private station, the hand that had wielded a sceptre was subsequently employed in tending his plants; and he boasted that while thus engaged, he found that true happiness which the command of empire was incapable of bestowing. His co-partner, Maximian,* was less patient under loss of power,

* Some few years since, an interesting discovery took place on the Continent of a large number of Denarii; they

and attempting to regain sovereignty was put to death.

We likewise meet with the portraits of the British Emperors Carausius* and Allectus. Carau-

were of Maximian, (Hercules) Diocletian, Licinius, and Constantine the Great, and others. It was my good fortune to procure a few of the very best of them, which had, I have reason to believe, been selected as the finest from the original hoard. They are in the most brilliant state of preservation, literally gems, with the bloom of the die actually on them, as if fresh from the mint. These coins had been secreted in an urn, and have since formed the nucleus of a small private collection of my own, which it gives me much pleasure to exhibit, on condition they are not handled, or any offer made to purchase, *as they are not for sale*. Confining myself to this small collection, I take especial care that it neither comes in contact with, or interferes with, the desires of those gentlemen who honour me with their confidence and commands.

• The Caros of Ossian, “the king of ships.”

“Who comes towards my son with the murmur of a song? His staff is in his hand, his gray hair loose on the wind. Surly joy lightens his face. He often looks back to Caros. It is Ryno of songs, he that went to view the foe. What does Caros, king of ships? said the son of the

sius, in despite of his imperial masters, Diocletian and Maximian, not only kept possession of this island, but actually prevailed on them to recognize his usurped sovereignty. His murderer and successor, Allectus, being slain, Britain again fell under the immediate dominion of Rome. On the Denarius we see the crafty Constantine, surnamed the Great, who renounced the religion of his forefathers, certainly one as ridiculous as it was false, to embrace another for which he had no respect, his design being to make it subservient to his own views. He,* however, procrastinated his admission

now mournful Ossian; spreads he the wings¹ of his pride, bard of the times of old? He spreads them, Oscar, replied the bard, but it is behind his gathered heap."²—"The war of Caros."—*Ossian's Poems*.

¹ The Roman standard, the Imperial Eagle.

² Agricola's wall, repaired by this sovereign.

* To this we may attribute the unfrequency of such symbols of christianity on this emperor's coins, as are so often met with on those of his successors. One of these symbols is very remarkable, and occurs on the small brass, bearing the labarum or banner, piercing or pressing

into the pale of the church by baptism until the moment of his dissolution was nigh, and he was then baptized, fallaciously calculating that the religious rite would absolve him from any atrocity previously committed. He is figuratively represented on his coins as the Sun, and arrayed in the attributes of that divinity. His almost immediate successor Julian, (called the Apostate,) is seen generally with that beard which rendered him an object of ridicule to his enemies, who designated him by the appellation of the goat. This prince, whose elegant and refined mind was tinctured with cruelties incompatible with his general character, not satisfied with abandoning the new faith, which he doubtless embraced from his uncle's influence over him, actually recorded his apostacy on a coin, by portraying on it his Egyptian object of worship, the bull (Apis).

on a serpent—the whole surmounted by the monogram of Christ. I know but of one more variety which bears the monogram, and that is placed in the banner. Two other varieties in the same metal, and of the same size, bear the cross only in the banner.

In the Byzantine Empire, in continuation, we have the busts of Theodosius, (celebrated for his transcendent abilities,) and of Justinian, with other Sovereigns of less note. We even find on the *Aureus*, or larger gold coin of this era, the portrait of Christ, with the name and title "*Dominus Noster Jesus Christus, Rex Regnantium.*" The first I have met with is that of Justinian II., struck A. D. 685. From him it is carried down to almost the last emperor, Constantine Paleologos, who fell bravely, in 1453, in defending the throne of the last of the Cæsars against that enemy of the cross, the Turkish Sultan, Mahomet II.

These portraits of the Saviour, when the workmanship is good, are of the utmost interest, and are not unfrequently met with. We observe the same placid countenance that we see in modern portraits of him, a full round forehead with ringlets hanging down on each side of the face, with the beard parted below at the middle. At a glance, therefore, we perceive that the portraits on the medals just mentioned were, in fact, the originals. Thus a Guido, or a Raphael, has doubtless been in-

debted to an engraver of the Byzantine Empire, for the models of those exquisite gems of art which they have produced.

To return to the Imperial Denarius, and describe the interest arising from it, would be almost endless. Suffice it to say, that scarcely a remarkable event transpired, without its being directly or indirectly recorded on a medal. Can any man, with a mind one degree above that of an idiot, behold with indifference a Roman Denarius commemorating the subjugation of *his own, his native country?* (if such a man exists; may I hold no communion with him!) This subjugation of Britain is depicted on a* Denarius of Claudius, a triumphal arch, with DE. BRITANN, surmounted with a trophy, and an equestrian figure, recording to distant ages the conquest of a country, in extent in and comparison to his imperial Italy, a mere speck on the ocean, but in the subjugation of which he doubtless prided

* Mr. Akerman deserves well of his countrymen for publishing his very interesting work on Roman Coins relating to Britain: it is worthy that gentleman's industry and talent.

himself more than in any other conquest. For not satisfied with commemorating this victory on his coins, he even named his only child after the country in which he had been victorious; and Britannicus would have been the imperial master of the best part of the globe, had not Agrippina, and her son Nero, destroyed him by poison in his thirteenth year. A naval crown placed over the palace of the emperor, was also intended to perpetuate his excess of pride and exultation, in conquering this, *our own country, Britain*. Commodus, with little or no claim to any thing British, added the epithet of Britannicus to his other titles. Severus, and his two sons Caracalla* and Geta, copartners in their expedition against Britain, record on their Denarii

• The Caracul of Ossian. The son of the King of the World.

Fingal:

“ Raise, ye bards, the song, raise the wars of the streamy Carun; Caracul has fled from our arms along the field of his pride. He sets far distant like a meteor that encloses a spirit of night, when the winds drive it over the heath, and the dark woods are gleaming around.”—Comala—*Ossian's Poems*.

their conquests over the hardy Caledonian, and his more southern neighbours. On the reverse of each, is a figure of Victory marching with a trophy, and leading a captive Briton by the hand, the inscription "Victoriae Brit." with the title of "Britannicus," added to their respective names.

Among the Roman triumphs, that over Judæa* arrests peculiar attention. A Jewess, in unutter-

• It may be foreign to this essay, but certainly not uninteresting, to notice a coin which has lately caused some investigation. I allude to the ancient Jewish Shekel. Nearly nine months since, a gentleman, proficient in the Samaritan and Hebrew languages, on purchasing three copper coins of me, recently imported from the Greek islands by Lieutenant Greaves, discovered them to be of Simon of the house of the Maccabees, High Priest and Governor of the Jews. This induced him to make further inquiry as to the Shekel; and on my referring him to my friend, Mr. Young, for his superior knowledge on this subject, he shewed me one, but not in fine condition; stating that two more were in the hands of other gentlemen. One of these I procured. The characters, being Samaritan, were translated by the gentleman before named; a description of which, with a rough sketch of the coin, I gave to Mr. Young, who was pleased to accept of them.

able anguish, is represented seated, weeping for the loss of country, of home, and of her splendid

This was about the middle of August. Since then, the same subject has been handled in the *Numismatic Journal* in a manner far superior to any thing I could attempt. This *Journal* was published on the 1st of September; to it I refer my reader, as a very long, elaborate, and exceedingly interesting account is given, embodying, I understand, some of the same remarks, and giving the same quotations from the thirteenth and fifteenth chapters of the first book of the *Maccabees*, which I had as well found in the *Apocrypha*. It is rather curious, that on my shewing a rough drawing which I had made, and a copy of the Samaritan inscription on it, to a respectable member of the Hebrew persuasion, that he looked on both with a sort of enthusiasm, such as I can never forget, and earnestly entreated, as if for his life, that I would permit him to show both the *Shekel* and description to the present High Priest of the Jews, the Reverend Solomon Herschell. What was I to do? The coin was not mine own, the owner out of town; I refused it, but overcome at last by his solicitations, I assented. He carried the *Shekel*, the coin of his forefathers, to his High Priest, who it appears has for many years been anxious to view this piece, so often named, so little understood. It was received with great satisfaction, and returned with many thanks.

and sacred temples, laid in irretrievable ruin by the hand of the heathen. Her right hand is supporting her head, behind her is a military trophy, and on the exergue is the word "Judæa." * This

In a note addressed to me, dated "Bury Court, November 6th, Anno Mundi 5596," the Rev. Solomon Herschell says, "I return you my thanks, sir, for your courtesy, in allowing Mr. Russell to have the coin to shew me, at which I was much gratified, it being the first of that description that I have ever met with, that approaches those of the antient High Priests." The reverend and learned gentleman concludes by adding, "in all respects, I see no reason to doubt its authenticity."

We meet with coins of the Hebrew Princes of the Macca-bees. Simon, (before Christ 143 years,) Alexander Jan-næus, and Jonathan. Simon's coins being in Silver, Brass, or Copper. The characters are Samaritan, and express the name of the Prince, with the appellation of the Jewish Metropolis: and in coins struck 143 years before Christ, and for three years afterwards, the date is also added, that is of the Prince's reign under whom it was struck.

* An additionally interesting circumstance connected with this device, "Judea Capta," on the coins of Vespasian and Titus is, that it would almost appear that the ar-

event, so interesting to the Christian world, is more fully portrayed on the large or first brass.

At this point, however, I am losing sight of my main subject, which comprises silver only: *and entirely devoted as I am to the study of coins*, I should, if I did not check myself, be led into details which, however interesting, would be endless. But I must here describe a few of the existing varieties of the Brass coins in question. On one of them you will see the captive Jewess, as already mentioned, seated and beneath a palm tree, the tree of her native country, doomed like herself to destruction. Her conqueror, the Emperor Vespasian, is represented in his military costume. In his right hand is a spear, and in his left the baton of command, while his left foot is raised and trampling on armour. The legend is "Judæe," or "Judea Capta." On another large brass coin, we

tist employed was acquainted with the prophetic language of Isaiah, delivered many centuries before, who, describing the melancholy fate that awaited Jerusalem, on account of her sins, says, "She being desolate shall sit upon the ground."—chap. iii. verse 26.

meet with a palm tree, to which is attached a shield-like medal, or a shield itself, and before this palm tree we behold a figure of Victory in the attitude of an engraver, inscribing on the medal "Judea Capta." On the obverse is the head of Vespasian, with his name and titles. Coins of the same description are found of his son and colleague, Titus, but are more rare than those of his father.

The Emperors Domitian, Trajan, Marcus Aurelius, Lucius Verus, Maximinus, &c., also record their several triumphs. Indeed we meet with them in connexion with the reign of almost every emperor. Those of Trajan on the conquest of Dacia, and of Aurelius on his victories in Germany, are beautiful; and should the reader be desirous of knowing the construction of their triumphal arches, temples, and bridges, he can here meet with them.

The different countries are figuratively represented by appropriate symbols. Thus, Egypt appears as a female recumbent, with the Sistrum in

her right hand, and the Ibis at her feet.* Africa is beheld with the Elephant's proboscis on her head, a Crab in her hand, and a flower pot and plant at her feet. Hispania with the Rabbit, presents to our contemplation, the fecundity of that country. The Nile, as an aged man stretched at his ease, with a cornucopia in his hand, symbolical of the fertility arising from that river. Italia, as mistress of the world, appears seated on a Globe; and last, but not least, *we behold our own country, our own island*, figured on the first and second brass of Antoninus Pius, on which coins a female figure represents the *then subjugated and prostrate Britain*. She is seated on a rock, with a spear in her left hand, and in her right is a military ensign, which sometimes is seen supporting her head, apparently in a pensive attitude, as if contemplating her future freedom and numerous victories.

Again, we behold Hadrian, whose life when he

* It is worthy of observation, that no early medals have hitherto been found with those remarkable monuments, the Pyramids, portrayed on their reverses.

was emperor was a series of journies. In short, to use the words of a celebrated historian, we may say, "as he possessed the various talents of the soldier, the statesman, and the scholar, he gratified his curiosity in the discharge of his duty; careless of the difference of seasons and climates, he marched on foot and bare headed over the snows of Caledonia, and the sultry plains of the Upper Egypt. Nor was there a province of his empire, which in the course of his reign was not honoured with the presence of the monarch." "If all our historians were lost, medals, inscriptions, and other monuments, would be sufficient to record the travels of Hadrian."

This sovereign is represented granting immunities to the various provinces he visited. In numerous instances he is seen on his coins receiving a female bending on her right knee, whom he is gracefully raising from that humiliating posture, with the legend "*Restitutori Hispaniæ*," "*Restitutori Africae*," "*Achaiæ*," "*Italiæ*," "*Galliæ*," &c. We also observe such wild animals depicted, as were provided by the munificence of the Emperors.

The most conspicuous in liberality was Philip, senior, who at one entertainment in honor of the secular games, provided twenty zebras, ten elks, and as many camelopards: "the loftiest and most harmless creatures that wander over the plains of Sarmatia and Æthopia." To these were added, by way of contrast, three African hyenas and some Indian tigers, both species being the most implacable savages of the torrid zone; and besides these, were the hippopotamus and rhinoceros, as well as many elephants and other beasts. Probus improved on this spectacle, and even ordered large trees to be torn up by their roots, and transplanted into the circus; and into this artificial forest were turned loose fallow deer, ostriches, and wild boars, of each a thousand, which were abandoned to the people of Rome.

Nor can I return to my main subject without noticing one beautiful and conspicuous feature in the imperial Denarius. I allude to the elegant portraits of the Roman empresses and other illustrious females of Rome. Unfeeling and callous must be that mind that can without admiration

look upon such models of female beauty as Julia Titi, and Sabina, the elder and younger Faustina, the latter frequently portrayed with that smile of witchery for which she was so celebrated, and which in a consort less placid than her's would have excited jealous suspicion. Plautilla and Orbiana may likewise be referred to as noble specimens of feminine elegance. History has recorded the beauty of Cleopatra V., Queen of Egypt, but if her Denarius gives a faithful portrait of her, Augustus has but little merit for his continence. She is there represented as any thing but handsome, unless a masculine face, with strongly marked features, is the standard of beauty.

In viewing the Denarius as a coin, we find it taken up by the Saxon kings of Kent, A. D. 750, and also by the kings of Mercia, of the East Angles, of the West Saxons, and of Northumberland, as well as by the prelates of Canterbury, under Offa and Coenwulf. At York, Lincoln, and St. Edmund's Bury, Pennies were struck to the honor of the following Saints—St. Peter, St. Martin, and St. Edmund. From Ecgbeorht, (or Eg-

bert) the first sole monarch of England, the Silver Penny may be traced through the Saxon and Danish dynasties to the Norman conquest in 1066.

If beauty is wanting in the series under consideration, such defect is supplied by the delight with which we contemplate even a rude representation of our Saxon monarchs, particularly when we recognize an *Alfred* or a Harold. For usurper as the latter may be termed, his claims were paramount to those of an *illegitimate Norman freebooter*. These Pennies of the Saxons are generally very badly executed, though they are of higher relief and better defined than the Pennies of the period immediately succeeding that of the two Williams. But even among Saxon coins, there are not wanting instances of fine work. Offa had visited Rome, and like the British king Cunobeline, (who had been in high favour with Augustus*) he had the good taste not to return without an

* "*Caius Lucius*. — I am sorry, Cymbeline,
That I am to pronounce Augustus Cæsar
(Cæsar, that hath more kings his servants than
Thyself domestic officers) thine enemy :—

Italian artist to improve his coinage. *Alfred, our inimitable Alfred*, turned his attention to the currency, after taking his Danish opponent (Guthram) prisoner, whom, by the bye, he had baptized by the name of Ethelstan, and generously made king of the East Angles. We have his bust clothed in armour, with the head laureated; and his Pennies, of fine work, generally bear the monogram of his metropolis (London) on the reverse.* The Pennies struck in the early part of his reign are inferior in material, and of extremely rude execution. Those struck by some of the other sovereigns are more and more inferior in workmanship, until we behold a head so extreme in ugliness as not to be compared to any thing ever yet produced in nature.

Cymbeline. Thou art welcome, Caius.

Thy Cæsar knighted me; my youth I spent

Much under him; of him I gathered honour:—"

Shakespeare—*Cymbeline*, act iii. scene i.

* A splendid one of this description was imported into this country some years since from Ireland, by Mr. P. Reynolds, medallist. It subsequently brought at Mr. Dimsdale's sale a very high price.

We also meet with buildings on some of the Saxon Pennies; and though these buildings are presumed to be cathedrals, yet on one Penny is an evident imitation of such a representation on a Roman Denarius as was never intended for any edifice in this country. Ecclesiastical or prelatical coins of Canterbury are also found with portraits. Wulfred and Ceolnoth, archbishops, appear to have been the most ambitious of bequeathing their likenesses to posterity.

Contemporary with the coins struck by the Saxon monarchs, are those found in Ireland, having for a legend straight strokes, instead of letters. A very considerable number of these coins have recently been discovered, and the major part of them brought to London: being all of one type. Presenting on the obverse, a very rude head with a crosier; and on the reverse, a cross—see the plate. They are evidently prelatical, and though heretofore known, are still unpublished. Pennies of the kings of Dublin are also found, with the superscribed title and the name added. We meet with those of Sithric, Dymnroe, Inidfrid, Stired, &c.

Our Saxon kings, Eadgar, Ethelred, Edred, and Anlaf, struck Pennies in Ireland; the first of these monarchs having conquered that country. The Pennies, as before stated, were the chief coins circulated by the aforesaid sovereigns and prelates: the sees of Canterbury and of York having the privilege of striking them. Coins, also of the Penny size, are sometimes seen bearing what indicates neither an English or Irish origin, while their locality identifies them with the British isles; and it is presumed that these coins are either Danish, or were struck by sovereigns whose sway extended to the Isle of Man, being frequently found there. They bear on the obverse, a rude head; reverse, a cross, &c. very similar to our early English Pennies at the commencement of the twelfth century.

William, the *usurper* and conqueror of England, A. D. 1066, fearing the consequences of too frequently reminding his new subjects of their degradation and fallen state, took especial care to strike his Penny on the model of that of his predecessor, Harold II. The Conqueror's portrait, however,

as far as the inferior work can perpetuate it, is faithfully delineated, being that of a *merciless and rapacious tyrant*. On some of his coins he appears in profile, and on others full faced, with and without a sceptre, or a cross ornamented.

The Pennies of the Conqueror are all rare, if we except the Pax type, which from being extremely scarce, have now become very common, from the circumstance of an abundance of them being found at Beaworth, near Winchester. This discovery has furnished us with a new type before unknown; that of having the portrait in profile to the left, instead of full faced, as heretofore, with Pax on the reverse, (see the plate). The canopy type of the sovereign still continues very scarce.

Of William II., A. D. 1087, we have but one type; the face being longer than that of his father, and of very different work. On the reverse are two crosses, one terminating at the point of the branches with a dot, and on each side of the head is a star.* There is another Penny which likewise

* See Snelling, plate i. No. 12. The face is too round in this plate of Snelling.

has two stars on the obverse. On the reverse is an ornamented cross, with a square also ornamented with dots.* This variety, as well as the former one, has been assigned to Rufus, but from a recent circumstance, it has been proved to be a coin of the Conqueror; for amongst a great number of the Pennies of William I. lately discovered at Beaworth, not one of the former variety was found, but several of the other type. The Pennies of Rufus are very scarce.

Henry I., A. D. 1100, is represented both three-quarter and full faced, and sometimes in profile, either with or without the sceptre, occasionally accompanied with one or more stars or pellets. On the reverse are crosses, variously and profusely ornamented. The Pennies of this monarch are all rare, more particularly those with stars beside the head, or that variety having a double legend on the reverse. Those of good work are very desirable.†

* Snelling, plate i. No. 11.

† A large number of this sovereign's Pennies were turned up by the plough some few years since, on an

Stephen, A. D. 1135. His Penny in one instance bears his head three-quarter faced; but in general he is represented in profile, with sceptre, a banner, or a battle axe. On the reverse are crosses, ornamented. His Pennies are all rare, particularly those on which he is represented with a flag, or mace.

Stephen and Prince Henry. We likewise meet with a curious and extremely rare coin, bearing two portraits at full length, with a long cross between them. One figure representing Stephen, the other

estate called Oxhey Farm, near Watford, in the possession of Mr. Wilcher. They were accompanied with some of Stephen, and had been deposited in an oak box. A few having been brought to me for my opinion by a gentleman, who stated the circumstance of their discovery, I was induced to hasten to the spot, where I was informed they had been sent to a gentleman of Watford, a magistrate, to whom I was referred by Mr. Wilcher; but I learned the coins were previously forwarded to the British Museum, and I lost the satisfaction of seeing them. Amongst them were some types of extreme rarity, which were selected for that establishment. Speed gives a Penny of Henry I. in mistake for Henry II. Rapin, on the contrary, presents us with one of the latter, and attributes it to Henry I.

Prince Henry, son of the Empress Maud. This coin, therefore, is presumed to have been struck A. D. 1154, when those princes entered into a treaty relative to the succession to the crown. The reverse presents us with a highly ornamented cross, with small roses, or ornaments, instead of an inscription.

Eustace, the eldest surviving son of Stephen. Of this prince we meet with two very curious and rare Pennies, one having his portrait nearly at full length, accompanied by a drawn sword, on his head a helmet in the shape of a cone, and his body clothed in armour in connexion with which is his name. On the reverse is a cross, to which is added "Eboraci," the place of mintage. Another coin of this prince, has on the obverse a leopard, under which are two shackle bolts with a cross and his name. On the reverse are two ornamented crosses, with small devices in lieu of an inscription.*

* It has frequently been asked whether the early Princes of Wales struck any coins subsequently to their being driven into the mountains, and forming their Principality. I should answer in the negative. I have never seen any;

Henry, the brother of Stephen, the powerful Bishop of Winchester, struck Pennies, with a portrait and a crosier encircled by his name. On the head is a regal crown, like that of his brother Stephen: reverse, a cross on a cross fleuri with his brother's name and title. They are of extreme rarity.

We find a Penny also of Robert Earl of Gloucester,* (natural son of Henry I.) Chief Captain

doubtless they were satisfied with the currency of their conquerors. When George IV. was Prince of Wales, John Milton, the medal engraver, cut dies for a half crown, shilling, and six-pence, with the Prince's bust on the obverse, and on the reverse the royal arms with the Prince's plume. But they were never struck for common currency, proofs only from the dies being taken off.

• It is not surprising that this Earl struck coins, as we find that when Stephen was released from prison, one condition was, that "Robert Earl of Gloucester should (under him) have the whole government of the land. But as he was unwilling to be absolved from his allegiance to the Empress, this condition was not fully acted upon. He had the command of her army, and the charge of her son, Prince Henry, but he did not live long enough to see that Prince ascend the throne of England."

and Counsellor of the Empress Maud, his half-sister. He was one of the most potent barons and generals of his day. On his coin he is represented on horseback, with a drawn sword and with helmet, both sword and helmet are of the peculiar shapes distinguishing those on the Penny of Eustace. On the reverse is an ornamented cross, encircled with small devices in lieu of an inscription. This Penny is of the first degree of rarity.

Authors state that the rebellious Barons in Stephen's reign struck coins. Amongst a lot of Pennies of Stephen found at Wallsop, were two bearing a full-faced portrait, and with name: the reverse of one of them being very similar to that of Henry in plate I., No. 24, of Snelling. Rogers Ruding has engraved them as belonging to Rufus.* From the company in which they were found, and from their similitude to the coin just mentioned, I have no hesitation in assigning them, either to the Barons, or to William, the third son of Stephen, which William in right of his wife, was Earl of

* See his Supplement, Part 2nd., plate II., Nos. 1 and 2.

Surry, and in his own, Earl of Normandy.* Another circumstance would induce me not to assign them to a sovereign. The portraits are ornamented with a double row of pearls, instead of a regal diadem. Another coin found with those discovered near Salisbury, Ruding has engraved as Baronial, inasmuch as it bears a portrait in armour, with a drawn sword and a helmet similar to those of Eustace and Earl Robert. The helmet, indeed, is rather broader, but it is evidently of the same fashion, and is accompanied by the title "Comes;" the reverse corresponds to one of Henry I. He suspects it to be Danish, but I cannot say on what grounds. These coins are all very rare.

* This William was likewise Lord of Norwich, Pevensey, and Mortagne. Henry II. confirmed his English titles and knighted him. He was not without ambition, having after the death of Eustace unsuccessfully attempted the capture of Prince Henry on his return from his father's court. He was aided in this enterprize by the Flemings. Stephen also had an illegitimate son of the name of William.

Of Matilda, although crowned Queen of England, A. D. 1141,* we have no coins.

Henry II., A. D. 1154, is represented with a three quarter face looking to the dexter side, and accompanied with a sceptre. On the reverse is a long cross, with a small one between each limb. He likewise struck the Denier (a headless Billon coin) in Aquitaine. His Pennies are not scarce. The Denier is rare.

Richard I., A. D. 1189. We now come to a break in the English series. Of this monarch we obtain no English coins. Richard Cœur de Lion was only eight months in Britain during his reign. To this circumstance probably we may attribute the want of his coinage. Snelling, an admirable writer on English coins, but unfortunately for his credit as a judge of medals, has engraved two as being found with others near Leeds in Yorkshire. But he was deceived. A person of his day† fabricated

* On the authority of Hume.

† Of the name of White.

them, and thereby gained a disgraceful notoriety by his trickery. Folkes and Ruding have perpetuated this blunder, by likewise engraving them. The latter indeed is excused, as he not only alludes to them as being false, but was obliged to publish them, having the loan of the original plates of Folkes in order to embellish his own work. Rapin gives a Penny of Edward the Confessor, struck at York, as one of this sovereign, and by some unaccountable mistake has made it read "RICARD" instead of EADPARD. Another Penny, assigned by the same author to Richard I. and engraved in page 258, is not of this king. Speed has made the same blunder,* by assigning the same coins to Richard.

That the heavy sum paid by his subjects for his ransom (to the eternal disgrace of the Emperor Henry VI.), should have taken all his coins out of the country, had there been any, is a truly ridicu-

* A little book by Bishop Fleetwood on English Coins fell into my hands the other day. It may possess merit as to the subject it treats of, but the coins therein engraved are sadly misnamed.

lous supposition. For had the monarch in question issued even but a few coins, no human power could have so traced them, as to leave none in the kingdom for future discovery. And there are those in every age whose curiosity nothing can repress. I will therefore fearlessly assert, that the absence of all English coins of a sovereign so much beloved as Richard Cœur de Lion, can only be attributed to one cause, namely, their primitive non-existence. Nor was his ransom paid in coin, but with one hundred and fifty thousand marks, in weight, of fine silver. If therefore the reader is desirous of possessing a coin of Richard I., he must procure one struck in that monarch's paternal dominions of Aquitaine and Poictou, a coin nearly the size of the English Penny, but of base silver and without portrait. Such coins are termed Anglo-Gallic:* they are extremely rare.

* Some few years since a gallant general from the north, making what may be termed a tour of speculation; and visiting the country of the Plantagenets, the paternal domain of our early kings, by dint of exertion and from the high rank he bore, was enabled to get together a large

John, A. D. 1199, struck no coins in England, (at least none have been discovered.) This circumstance is the more singular, as according to the records, we find he had various places of mintage in this country. He struck his Pennies and other coins in Ireland; the former alone I allude to. His portrait on the obverse is full faced within a triangle surrounded by his name and title, and in his right hand is a sceptre. On the reverse is a similar triangle enclosing a crescent and a star. The Pennies of this king are rather scarce.

Henry III., A. D. 1216, presents us with a Penny of the rudest description. His portrait is full faced, and sometimes even a bust to the head is wanting, in which case the face is long with an ornamented

number of Anglo-Gallic coins, chiefly from Normandy; and possessing more than were necessary for his private cabinet, the duplicates were brought to auction, but they did not realize the sum the proprietor had calculated upon, and this circumstance, for a time, rather reduced their value. Amongst them were pieces previously almost unknown in this country.

beard, or a beard composed of dots from each side of the head to a point below. The invariable reverse of the Penny in question is either a long or short cross, between the limbs of which are pellets, like those on his father's Penny. He also struck Pennies in Ireland, with his head enclosed in a triangle very similar to those of his father. This king's Pennies are extremely common, if we except those which read "Rex Terce" and "Rex Ang." these are scarce. His Irish Pennies are rather scarce.

Edward I., A. D. 1272, and Edward II., A. D. 1307. The coins of these kings are a little better, for though they exhibit no likeness of a real personage, yet they make some advance towards a sensibly improved series. It is, however, useless for me to attempt that which men of ability have failed in, the distinguishing with certainty between the Pennies of the first two Edwards. Those which read EDW are supposed to be of Edward I., and the others which bear EDWA—EDWAR or EDWARD are assigned to Edward II.; in both cases

the portraits* are full faced (as, indeed, are all after this time until the reign of Henry VII.) The Pennies of the first two Edwards bear on their reverse† a cross with pellets. These sovereigns

* Having paid some attention to the portraits of our sovereigns, I am decidedly of opinion that we occasionally see a real, though rough, likeness in profile of our earliest kings, even of William I. As to Henry I. and Stephen, any one who is a judge of portraits may find, on comparison, a certain profile preserved throughout. Of course, this fact is more distinctly seen in coins of tolerable good work, and some of this description are found among the Pennies of Henry I. With full faced coins the case is different, though I have seen a Halfpenny and a gold Noble of Richard II., both struck when he was a boy, and conveying to a certain extent the image of the youthful sovereign. But it is not until the reign of Henry VIII. that we obtain a real likeness on a *full faced coin*.

† From the Conqueror down to Edward I. it was invariably the rule to add the Moneyer's name to the place of mintage, but on the reverses of the Pennies of the latter sovereign, we meet with one only (Robert of Hadley), after whose time the place of mintage only is given, in connexion with a cross or with the royal arms, &c. *It was reserved for the enlightened age of George III. to have allowed the name, at full length, of an Italian artist to be impressed on the coinage of Great Britain.*

struck the same coins in Ireland, adopting the triangle, &c. * as their predecessors had done, and at Bourdeaux they struck the billon Denier without a head. The Pennies of these sovereigns are extremely common, those excepted struck at Kingston, Cestrie and Exonie, and they are rare. The Reading Penny is very scarce, and their Anglo-Gallic coins are all rare.†

* It has been suggested by authors, that the triangle on coins is intended to designate their being Irish, as the harp was described of that shape.

† Sir Oswald Moseley, Bart., in his recent "History of the Town and Honour of Tutbury" (in Staffordshire), gives the following account of the finding of an immense quantity of coins in the river Dove, in the month of June, 1831:—"Mr. Webb, the proprietor of the Cotton Mills at Tutbury, being desirous to obtain a greater fall for what is commonly termed the tail water of the wheel, which works the machinery of his mill, prolonged an embankment between the mill stream and the river much farther below the bridge (of the Dove) than it formerly extended; and, as a part of his plan, it became necessary to wheel a considerable quantity of gravel out of the bed of the river, from the end of his watercourse as far up as the new bridge. While they were engaged in this operation, on Wednesday,

About this time we meet with coins of the Penny size much calculated to puzzle those not versed in

the 1st June, 1831, the workmen found several small pieces of silver coin about sixty yards below the bridge; as they proceeded up the river, they continued to find more; these were discovered lying about half a yard below the surface of the gravel, apparently as if they had been washed down from a higher source. On the following Tuesday the men left their work in the expectation of finding more coin, and they were not disappointed, for several thousands were obtained that day; as they advanced up the river, they became more successful; and the next day, Wednesday, June the 8th, they discovered the grand deposit of coins, from whence the others had been washed about thirty yards below the present bridge, and from four to five feet beneath the surface of the gravel. The coins were here so abundant, that one hundred and fifty were turned up in a single shovel-full of gravel, and nearly five thousand of them were collected by two of the individuals thus employed on that day: they were sold to the bystanders at six, seven, eight, or eight shillings and sixpence per hundred; but the next day a less quantity was procured, and the prices of them advanced accordingly. The bulk of the coins were found in the space of about three yards square, near the Derbyshire bank of the river. Upwards of three hundred individuals might have been seen engaged in this search at one time, and the idle and

them. I allude to those pieces called counterfeit sterlings, they being made in direct imitation of

inquisitive were attracted from all quarters to the spot, Quarrels and disturbances naturally enough ensued, and the interference of the neighbouring magistrates became necessary. At length the officers of the crown asserted the king's right to all coin which might subsequently be found in the bed of the river, since the soil thereof belonged to his Majesty, in right of his Duchy of Lancaster. A commission was issued from the Chancellor of the Duchy, prohibiting all persons, excepting those appointed therein, from searching, or authorizing others to search, for coin in the river; and for the purpose of insuring the king's right, the commissioners were directed to institute a further search on behalf of the crown, which search commenced on the 28th June, and was discontinued by them on the 1st July, after having obtained under it upwards of fifteen hundred more coins, which were forwarded to his Majesty and the Chancellor of his Duchy. At the end of this search, the excavation, from whence the coins were principally taken, was filled up, and a quantity of gravel spread over it for the purpose of levelling the bed of the river, so that any further search would now be quite ineffectual. The total number of coins thus found is supposed to have been, upon the most moderate computation, one hundred thousand.

“ The coins thus found, besides a number of Sterlings

the English sterling Penny, and like them, bearing on their obverse, a head with a name and title, while on the reverse is a cross with pellets. The bust and coronet are made to resemble those of Edward I., being in some instances a fac simile of

of the Empire, Brabant, Lorraine, and Hainault, and the Scotch coins of Alexander III., John Baliol, and Robert Bruce, there was found a complete English series of those of the first Edward, who at various times had his money struck at the following places, viz.:—London, York, Canterbury, Chester, Durham, Lincoln, Bristol, Exeter, Berwick, St. Edmunds, Kingston, and Newcastle; and also of those he had struck at Dublin, Waterford, and Cork. There were also found specimens of all the Prelatical coins of Edward I. and Edward II., as of Bishops Beck, Kellar, and Beaumont, Bishops of Durham; some others, thought to have been struck by the Abbot of St. Edmunds, bearing upon them the name of ‘Rob. de Hadley,’ and a few issuing from the Archiepiscopal See of York. Besides these enumerated, there were many of Henry III., both of his first and second coinage, and a few of the most early of Edward I.

“On the whole, a finer museum of early English, Scotch, and Irish coins was never before, under any circumstances, thrown open to the inspection of the antiquary and historian.”

them. They are to be detected, however, not by the difference of the name and title, but by the place of mintage given on the reverse, and in some cases the head is without a diadem. They are in general rather lighter than the real Penny, though the exceptions are not very uncommon. These imitation coins are of the Dukes of Brabant, of the Counts of Hainault and of Ligny, Loos, Flanders and of Namur, as well as of the Lords of Harstel and Porcein, &c. They were struck in Flanders and Hainault, and are by no means uncommon.

On turning our attention to the north of our island, we find the Scottish kings likewise issuing the Penny. Commencing with David I., A. D. 1124, a Penny of this sovereign, of extreme rarity, is in the possession of a highly distinguished collector, it is very similar to those of his contemporary Stephen. Cardonnel commences the Scotch series with William the Lion, A. D. 1165. Snelling engraves two coins as given by another author,* to Alexander I., and one to David I., at the same

* Anderson.

time states his opinion that, in reality they belong to David II., and William the Lion. The above authors had doubtless never seen the real Penny of David to which I allude in the first instance.

William the Lion commenced his reign A. D. 1165. On his Penny he is represented with a rude head (commonly turned to the right) adorned with a circle or diadem of pearls, surmounted by a cross formed likewise of pearls, and with a sceptre. Reverse a double cross with a star between each limb. Another variety, very different, exhibits the Sovereign with a coronet formed of fleur de lis, the sceptre surmounted with a Maltese cross, or one composed of pearls, and behind the head a small crescent with a pellet. The Reverse, a long cross with a small crescent with pellet and the place of mintage. There are some with the head turned to the left; these are very rare. Stow gives these coins to William I. of England, but doubtless erroneously, as on them we find various places of mintage, and all in Scotland. These Pennies were formerly considered rare; they have recently become rather common.

Alexander II., A. D. 1214. He is likewise represented with head regarding the right, with a coronet of five points, the centre surmounted by a cross of pearls, and before the bust a sceptre. Reverse, a long double cross, with stars in the quarters, and the place of mintage. I have seen two Pennies of this king with the head turned to the left; they must have been unknown both to Snelling and Cardonnel, by neither of whom are they engraved.* Tyssen possessed one of the first variety, which was without the sceptre, and had on the reverse a short cross. These coins are not common.

Alexander III., A. D. 1249. His Penny is very similar to that of his father's. His head the same way, with a sceptre. Reverse, a long single cross, with a star as before, but with the title "Rex Scotorum," instead of the place of mintage; one

* They are in the possession of a gentleman whose cabinet contains indisputably the most choice and valuable collection of Saxon and antient and modern British coins in the kingdom, and whose urbanity in communicating information on the subject adds greatly to the pleasure of inspecting them.

variety reads "Escossie Rex." The Pennies of this king are extremely common; this variety excepted, which is very rare.

John Baliol, A. D. 1292. Head with sceptre as before, with the reverse very similar to that of his immediate predecessor, either with title or place of mintage. His coins are rare.

Robert Bruce, A. D. 1306. The obverse and reverse very like the coins of John Baliol; on the former the word "Villa" is used, instead of "Civitas." In some instances, the bust is found fuller, and with a larger head than those portrayed on the Pennies of Baliol. They are not very common.

David II., A. D. 1329. His Pennies are very similar to those of his father; with title or place of mintage on the reverse, and the cross and stars as usual. They are rather more common than those of his predecessors, Alexander III. excepted.

Robert II., A. D. 1371. The type very similar to those of David Bruce; on the reverse is a cross, as usual, with the place of mintage. The Penny of this monarch differs from that of Robert I. in being of a less weight; it is not rare.

Robert III., A. D. 1390. On the Penny of this king, he is represented full faced, and without a sceptre. Reverse, a long cross, within the limbs of which are three pellets, similar to the English Penny, to which is added the place of mintage. This Penny is not very rare.

James I., A. D. 1405. Of this prince I have seen no Penny.

James II., A. D. 1437. Snelling gives no Silver Penny to this king, Cardonnel engraved one full faced, and without a sceptre. On the reverse, a cross; between each limb, a coronet of fleurs de lis. One of these coins is in the possession of a gentleman at Edinburgh. It is extremely rare.

James III., A. D. 1460. Cardonnel gives no Penny of James III. Snelling presents us with one full faced. Reverse, a long cross, with a star and three pellets between its limbs, and the place of mintage. This Penny is rare.

James IV., A. D. 1488. There is a very neat Penny, which I believe to be of this sovereign: it bears on the obverse a full faced portrait, and on

the reverse a star in two quarters, and in the others three pellets; the legend differs a little from the former ones. With this king ends the series of Scotch Silver Pennies, unless we take in those issued by the English monarchs subsequent to the Union.

Mary, A. D. 1544. Of this queen we find a billon Penny, with head full faced. Reverse, a long cross, with a coronet and another ornament between each limb, with a legend. Another, without head, bears on the obverse a thistle, with her initials, M. R. Reverse, a St. Andrew's cross, with a coronet in the centre, and a legend. These billon Pennies are very rare.*

* This word, Billon, having frequently been made use of, it may perhaps be necessary to explain that in coinage it signifies a composition, consisting either of precious and base metal, or of gold or silver alloyed with copper, in the mixture of which the copper predominates. The word came to us from the French. Some have thought the Latin *bullæ* was its origin, but others have deduced it from *Villis*. The Spaniards still call billon coin *moneda de vellon*.

In the "*Recherches Curieuses des Monnoyes de France*," folio, Paris, 1666, at p. 142,^{*} Bouutteroue states, that in

In returning to the English series, we find that on the Pennies of Edward III., A. D. 1326, his bust is represented differently from those of his two immediate predecessors. It is broader, and

France, billon of gold was any gold beneath the standard of twenty-two carats fine, and billon of silver all below ten Pennies fine. Boizand, in his "*Traité des Monnoyes, de leurs circonstances et dépendances*," 12mo. Haye, 1714, tome 1, p. 16, says, that gold beneath the standard as far as twelve carats fine, and silver to six Pennies fine, were properly base gold and base silver; but that it was the mixture under these quantities which made billon of gold, and billon of silver, in consequence of copper being the prevailing metal. Bouteroue, however, speaks of two kinds of billon; one termed "*haut billon*," the other "*base billon*," according to the proportion of copper introduced.

Black money, or billon, was struck in the mints of the English dominions in France, by command of the kings of England, for the use of their French subjects. Money of billon was common throughout France from about the year 1200. Hardies, authorized money of Edward the Black Prince, are also found of similar mixture. It was probably one consideration with Henry VIII., in coining base money, that it would circulate in France to his advantage. Henry VIII. and Queen Elizabeth both caused base money, approaching to billon, for the use of Ireland.

without drapery; although in other respects a great similarity is preserved, and on the reverse the cross remains unaltered. Edward III. also struck coins in Aquitaine and Bordeaux; those of the former place bearing a fine portrait, and those of the latter a lion. The portrait is represented with a three-quarter face, and in execution infinitely superior to the English Penny. On the breast of the King is portrayed a lion passant. The Pennies of Edward III., although not so common as those of his two immediate predecessors, are by no means rare, whilst the Penny struck at Calais is extremely scarce.*

Edward the Black Prince, son of Edward III., and father of Richard II., struck coins of the Penny size, with portrait, both in profile and full-faced; the said coins being struck in Aquitaine and named Sterling, and at Poitiers and called the Hardet or Hardie. The full-faced coins represent the figure of the Prince, either armed cap-à-pied, and bareheaded, with a sword in his right

* Neither Snelling or Ruding notice this coin, but they give the groat and its half.

hand, or else clothed in his robes of state. His right hand, as in the other case, grasps an elevated sword, and his left is raised with his finger very significantly, pointing to it as his defence. His head is either decorated with a diadem, or encircled by a chaplet of roses, the inscription being an abbreviation of "Edwardus Primogenitus Regis Angliæ." On the Reverse, is a cross, within the limbs of which are lions and a Fleur de Lis, with his title, "Princeps Aquitanix" likewise abbreviated. Those coins having a profile, exhibit the Princee with robes and a sword as before, his head being decorated with the Chaplet, while the reverse shews a plain cross with pellets in conjunction with the Prince's title. These coins are rare, more particularly those with the portrait in profile.

John of Ghent, who was commonly called, "John of Gaunt," (from his birth place) was the fourth son of Edward III., Duke of Lancaster and Aquitaine, and also King of Castile and Leon. Of this personage we have a very curious coin, called a Denier, the obverse of which presents his bust in profile directed to the right. The hair is

long and flowing, and on his head is a crown composed of Fleurs de Lis, and ornamented with roses. Round the shoulder is a collar formed of roses with his name and title "Joann. Rex." On the reverse is a cathedral or castle (more probably the latter) that being the symbol since used on the coins of Castile. The legend is "Castelle E. Legionis." This highly interesting coin is presumed to be unique.*

Richard II. A. D., 1377, struck his Pennies† at London and York; those of the metropolis being very similar to the Penny of his grandfather, and those of York are of extremely rude work and badly defined. The London Pennies bear a cross on the reverse, plain as usual; those struck at York have an open compartment in the centre of the cross. In his Norman Dominions, Richard II. also struck the Hardit similar to his Father's. The

* It is in the possession of General Ainsley.

† One distinction between the coins of Richard II. and those of Richard III. is the Mint-mark. Richard II. always has a cross as a Mint-mark, whereas Richard III. bears a boar's head or a rose.

Pennies of this Sovereign both of London and York are scarce. I have found the latter to occur most frequently. His Anglo-Gallic coins are all rare.

Henry IV., A. D. 1399, his son, the victorious Henry V., A. D. 1413, and the unfortunate Henry VI., A. D. 1425, struck Pennies, but it is impossible with any degree of certainty to appropriate them. Those with the eyelet-hole on each side of the head are generally ascribed to Henry V., but that distinction may be erroneous. Other Pennies have a star in the same place, and on the reverse a plain cross or an open compartment.

These Princes likewise struck Anglo-Gallic coins of Billon. Their English Pennies cannot be considered scarce, neither are they so common as those of Henry III., or the two first Edwards.

Edward IV., A. D. 1460. In this Sovereign's Pennies, his bust appears thinner than that of Edward III., and the coins themselves are not so heavy as those of that Monarch. The obverse is generally ornamented with a small cross, a rose or a star on each side of the head, the work being

different from that exhibited on the coins of his predecessors, and existing specimens generally very much clipped. On the reverse are the cross and pellets as before described. This Prince likewise struck coins in Ireland with and without a portrait. On the obverse are the Royal Arms, and on the reverse three Crowns; or a rose is seen on the obverse, and on the reverse a Sun, his favourite badge. To the similarity of this device to that of his opponent, the Earl of Warwick, which was a star with rays, is attributed his victory over the Lancastrians at Barnet, enabling him from its being so decisive to lead captive his former Sovereign, the meek and unfortunate Henry, both to prison and to death.* The

* Edward was very partial to this emblem, as may be perceived, from the following circumstances. The battle alluded, too namely, at Gladsmore Heath (now enclosed and its name entirely lost) generally designated that of Barnet, was fought on Easter Sunday, the 14th of April, 1471, between that Monarch and the powerful Earl of Warwick. At the moment when victory was doubtful, the stars on the liveries of the Earl of Oxford, (a partizan of Warwick) from the mistiness of the atmosphere were mistaken for the suns borne by the followers of Edward.

rose likewise from the same cause is often seen on his money. His Pennies are rather scarcer than those of the Henries last named.

A volley of shot intended for the Yorkists was discharged at Oxford; he fled, and this turned the scale in favour of Edward, who re-ascended the throne.

Possessing a small freehold on the very spot adjoining the supposed field of battle, I have taken some pains to ascertain the exact scite of the conflict; but after many enquiries and much investigation, I am obliged to accredit the received and prevailing opinion that this memorable engagement took place at a short distance to the north of Hadley Green. Mogg, in his *Paterson's Roads*, published in 1822, (p. 179,) says, but I know not on what authority, the battle took place "a little before the meeting of the St. Albans and the Hatfield Roads."

In the immediate vicinity of Wrotham Park, the residence of George Byng, Esq., M.P., an obelisk was erected to commemorate this event in the year 1740 by Sir Jeremy Sambrook, Bart. (at exactly $11\frac{1}{2}$ miles from London) and in the Parish of Hadley.

Another pillar for the same purpose may be seen in a gentleman's garden, from two to three miles north west of the first-mentioned monument. In the edition of Speed, published in 1750, the place is not designated (as usual) in the body of the map, but in the corner of the page, and

Edward V., A. D. 1483. Of this infant Monarch we have no coins.

Richard III., A. D. 1483. The Pennies* of this

he says the battle was fought "near the towne of High Barnet."

The number of slain must have been very great, as Edward had issued orders not to give any quarter. "The dead were buried in the field of battle, half a mile from Barnet, where a chapel was afterwards built in memory of them." See Hall, fol. 218. Hollingshead, p. 1335, and Stow, p. 423. Crutwell in his Tour, vol. IV. p. 5, edit. 1801, says that "Hadley was formerly a Hermitage belonging to Walden Abbey, founded by Edward IV. to pray for the souls of those were who slain at the battle of Barnet."

My informant, I find, has committed an error in stating the obelisk, (or, as it is called, the high stone), near Wrotham Park, to be in the Parish of Hadley, instead of the adjoining one of South Mims; likewise that the name of Gladsmore, or Glademoor Heath is entirely lost, as since the former part of this publication went to the press, an intelligent inhabitant of Barnet, Mr. G. W. Miller, who to a love of science adds a thirst for antiquarian lore,

* See Ruding's Annals of the Coinage, second Supplement, plate 3, No. 1.

King are almost invariably much clipped, (a fine round one of him or his brother Edward, would be

informs me that the scite of Glademoor Heath embraces Hadley Green, and the southern part of Mr. Byng's park, he conceives it to have extended northward towards Northaw, or rather terminated by the bar called Potters Bar, with some extensions westward towards Ridge and South Mims, which partakes of the properties of moor land to the present day. Glade signifying an open space in a forest or wood, it would not be too much to conceive the derivation of Glade Moor Heath, and this is borne out by the fact of Glademoor having been the field of combat between the contending armies. (See in an addenda, at the end, a short account of this celebrated battle, &c.)

In regard to the assumption of the cognizance of the sun by Edward, which it is supposed took place on the eve of the victory he obtained at Mortimer's Cross in Herefordshire, on Monday, the 2nd February 1461, over the troops of Jasper Tudor, Earl of Pembroke, half brother to Henry VI., and leading to his being seated, for the first time, on the throne of England, he might probably have considered it as an earnest of future good fortune, and thus continued to bear it as a badge. After the decisive victory at Barnet, securing to him the crown, Hall, fol. 218, says, "in the afternoon of that day (Easter

a great desideratum.) The letter S is found on the breast of this sovereign, being the initial of the

Sunday, 14 April, 1471) Edward offered 'up his standard in St. Paul's.'"

Both Hume and Rapin are silent as to the motive of Edward for assuming this cognizance. In my humble opinion, it arose from the occurrence of a Parhelion, and in the absence of all other authority, I venture to quote that of Shakspeare, who has most pleasingly recorded many historical events. In his third part of Henry VI. Scene 1st. "A Plain near Mortimer's Cross, in Herefordshire,—

Edward. Dazzle mine eyes, or do I see three suns?

Richard. Three glorious suns, each one a perfect sun.

Not separated with the racking clouds,

But sever'd in a pale clear shining sky.

See, see! they join embrace and seem to kiss,

As if they vow'd some league inviolable:

Now are they but one lamp, one light, one sun,

In this the heaven figures some event.

Edward. 'Tis wondrous strange, the like yet never heard of.

I think, it cites us, brother, to the field,

That we, the sons of brave Plantagenet,

Each one already blazing by our meeds,

Should, notwithstanding, join our lights together,

Bishop (John Sherwood),* in whose diocese it was struck. That coin engraved in Snelling and Ruding, as a Penny of Richard III., is in reality a Penny of Richard II. in an altered state. These coins bear the usual cross and pellets on the reverse. This King's Penny is extremely rare.

Henry VII., A. D. 1485. The victorious Earl of Richmond is represented in a chair of state, and from that circumstance his Penny is called the Sovereign

And overshine the earth, as this the world.

Whate'er it bodes, henceforward will I bear

Upon my target three fair shining suns."

This quotation is so peculiarly apposite and beautiful that I feel assured I shall be excused for its insertion.

Authors have justly considered it very extraordinary no remains of this sanguinary conflict have been discovered, and it is the more to be wondered at, as a road was recently made over part of the ground, in the construction of which it was found necessary to excavate to a considerable extent. Nothing however of Antiquarian interest has hitherto been brought to light, either relating to this battle or otherwise, that I have been enabled by repeated enquiries to ascertain, if I except some common

* Of Durham, formerly Chancellor of Exeter.

Penny;* the crown with which he is decorated differs from those of his predecessors in being arched. On the reverse are the royal arms with a cross, and with keys, or two initials. The Pennies of Henry VII. are not uncommon, except those of his first and second coinage, with front face, which are extremely rare. The keys discover them to be of the Archbishop's coinage.

Henry VIII., A. D. 1509. This burly sensualist is exhibited both three-quarter and full-faced, on base silver. The sovereign type of his father was likewise retained, and sometimes coins of this de- and injured groats of the Henries, and a few of those pieces denominated Abbey or Nuremberg tokens, which were found by a labourer on the scite of the new road.

* This is not entirely new to the coinage of this country, as we find Edward the Confessor struck some of his Pennies of the Sovereign type, but differing from these in their appearance. Henry III. was the only Monarch who added the numeral to his name, until Henry VII., when the custom was continued. Rapin, fol. edition, London, 1743, page 692, says, Henry VII. coined small pieces called *Dandy-prats*, but of what value or fashion these *Dandy-prats* were, I am quite at a loss, having never seen any.

scription were struck by the Prelates of Canterbury and York, namely, by Cranmer, Bainbridge, and Wolsey, their own initials being added. Indeed, on one coin struck by the ambitious Churchman last-named, we behold his Cardinal's hat also, which was one of the charges that would have been brought forward against this haughty but munificent minister, had not death released him from the *tyrant's* grasp. The Pennies of the sovereign type are of good silver; there is likewise a great difference in the quality of the metal of which the others are composed. The Sovereign Pennies of this monarch are very common; those with his bust rather scarce

Edward VI., A. D. 1547. Of this Prince we have a Penny with his head in profile, as well likewise as another of base silver without his head, having on one side a rose, and on the other the royal arms and place of mintage. We obtain also his Penny in fine silver of the sovereign type, very similar to that on his father's coin. His Sovereign Penny is of extreme rarity, as is likewise the side-faced base Penny; those as well of base silver with a rose on

the obverse, and on the reverse the royal arms, are rare.*

Mary, A. D. 1553. Issued her base Penny with rose and coat of arms, struck both before and after her marriage with Philip. The only difference in these coins and those minted by Edward VI. is in the initial of the name. She likewise issued a Penny of fine silver with her head, struck previous and subsequent to her marriage, and on the reverse are the arms of England.

The Pennies of Mary with her portrait, both in her single and married state, are of extreme rarity; her base Penny likewise very similar to her brother's (the difference being in the initial) with rose and arms of England, is rare, but I meet with it more frequently than that of Edward VI.

Elizabeth, A. D. 1558. This Queen struck her Penny both hammered and milled. On the obverse her bust, with the arms of England on the reverse. Her hammered Pennies are very common, but her milled Penny, so termed, extremely rare.†

* Snelling improperly terms this a halfpenny.

† Snelling and other authors have committed an error in

James I., A. D. 1603. This Prince issued Pennies with and without his head. Those of the for-

calling those pieces of Elizabeth with the engrailed edge, milled coins, whereas the mill had nothing to do with their manufacture. The fact is, the first coins for circulation which we find milled, are those of the Protector, by T. Simon: if you argue that those pieces were not struck for currency, there being coins of the Commonwealth which were in circulation of the same date, I cannot contradict you. Then the earliest milled coins will be found of Charles II. well executed by the Roettiers, about the year 1663. Peter Blondeau, a native of France, is considered to have been the inventor or improver of the mill and inscribed edge, and the first who used it in England. As the Author of the work on "Coins, Medals, and Great Seals," executed by T. Simon, asserts his belief that Simon engraved or assisted Blondeau to engrave his Pattern pieces, there can be no doubt that the former artist was indebted to him for the knowledge of the mill.

Blondeau appears after all to have been scurvily treated by the English moneyers of that day attached to the Mint, who had by artifice and unfair means obtained possession of his secret. Much as I execrate the idea of seeing any but an Englishman as our chief engraver, still we have no right to invite foreign talent, make it our own, and abuse instead of rewarding the possessor of it.

mer description bearing the profile (as a Herald would blazon) to the sinister, and behind the head the numeral. On the reverse the royal arms surmounted with a Fleur-de-lis. The Penny without the monarch's head, has on the obverse a rose, and on the reverse a thistle-head, in allusion to the union of the two crowns of England and Scotland. His Pennies with the rose on the obverse, and on the reverse a thistle-head, are extremely common ; those with his head are not so.

Charles I., A. D. 1625. Of the unfortunate Charles I., we meet with a variety of types, some of the portraits being by Briot, and very fine after the original pictures of Vandyke.* Other portraits

* A noble Lord (the Earl of Harrington) whose father was Governor of Windsor Castle when the coffin of Charles I. was opened in the month of April 1813, in the presence of the Prince Regent, stated to me, that being at that period a youth of Eton College, and on a visit to the Castle, he was permitted to accompany the Prince into the Vault, in which lay the body of Charles. His Lordship added that when the coffin lid was removed, and the head raised, it had the pointed beard, and bore even then a strong resemblance to that beheld on the coins of that unfortunate Sovereign.

are very rude, though uniformly agreeing as to likeness. Some of this Sovereign's Pennies bear no portrait, but have a rose both on the obverse and on the reverse: others are seen with the Prince's plume, a full blown rose, or an inscription of three lines across the centre of the coin, with date below on their reverses. These are of the country mints, such as of Aberistwith, Exeter, and Oxford. The Pennies of Charles I., struck in London, are very common; those with a head, but with a rose on the obverse and reverse, are more scarce. His Pennies of the country mints are (of Aberistwith and Exeter) much rarer, but the Penny struck at Oxford is one of the scarcest coins in the English series.*

Commonwealth, A. D. 1649. In proceeding to the Commonwealth, it may be observed that the fanatic Republicans issued their Penny, bearing on one side the cross of St. George, in a shield encircled by two branches (of laurel and olive) and

* I considered myself very fortunate some years since in procuring one at a sale for £9, for the Oxford Museum; had there been further competition, it would have brought double that sum.

on the other side the shields of England and Ireland conjoined with the above numeral. On their larger pieces they had the presumption to add, "God with us."

The Commonwealth Pennies are not scarce.

Charles II., A. D. 1660. The first Pennies struck by Charles II. were hammered and executed by the celebrated Thomas Simon. Of these there are three or four varieties. On the obverse is the bust of the King, the head regarding the right and crowned. Reverse, the royal arms. One variety has neither the inner circle nor value behind the head: another the value, without the inner circle; the third difference have both the inner circle and value. The portrait of Charles II. is very good, and that variety having the value without the inner circle, is, if well preserved, a very fine specimen of engraving; the other specimens are not only of inferior work, but are very frequently badly struck, such coins being any thing but a credit to the Mint from which they issued. With the hammered money of this King, we take leave of the Mint-marks on our coins; they are

not found on any of our subsequently milled money, nor do we again meet with the head crowned.

Charles II., however, not satisfied with the highly gifted Simon, must needs introduce *Foreigners* to supersede *an Englishman* ! Two *Dutchmen* of the name of Roettier, were made the chief engravers at the Royal Mint, while the *native artist* was compelled by his Sovereign to fill an inferior situation. Nor was that splendid specimen of medallic engraving, called his *Trial piece*, and presented to his Royal Master, sufficient to raise in the breast of that voluptuous Prince, one single benevolent feeling towards his discarded servant.

I may be digressing in expressing my poor opinion on such subjects, but I am induced to speak my mind from the repeated remarks and complaints I have heard, respecting the fact of our own countrymen being so far superseded as for *a Foreigner* to be ever authorized to be chief engraver. Surely native talent was never at so low an ebb, that we could not find an Englishman equal to the task ! Nay, even presuming this to be the case, and I know it was not, every true Briton would prefer seeing one

of his own nation at the head of the engraving department. I hope for the credit of my country, I shall never see another *Foreigner's name*, and least of all, *at full length*, under the head of a British King, and that head, as to likeness, completely erroneous. Surely that very clever and distinguished artist,* must have been shackled with an execrable model to work from: he never could have seen George III. It excites our risibility to notice the first half-crown of this monarch, exhibiting our respected old King with a *neck like unto a Gladiator*. This it appears did not please; another was executed; the fault, if any, was mended, *and still no likeness; unworthy the Mint from which it emanated, and a disgrace to the heads of that department who permitted it to be issued.*

If the head on the crown piece was a likeness, why not then have engraved the half-crowns from the same model? They present different portraits altogether; surely this must be very absurd—*what can be more ridiculous than to see three coins representing the same person issued at one and the same*

• Pistrucci.

time, all bearing different countenances? Why not have taken the copper two-penny piece, engraved at Soho, (near Birmingham,) by Kutchler, as a copy? *this is like* the Sovereign, probably one of the best likenesses extant; or, if at a loss, many fine medals by the same artist or the Wyons, convey a faithful resemblance of George III.* Having studied the countenance of that monarch from a child, *and with*

• Of all the blunders which have emanated from our National Mint, those of the two error half-pence of George II. and George III., formerly termed “Tower Half-pence,” stand pre-eminent. Indeed, it must ever remain a matter of astonishment, that such a circumstance could have taken place. If the collector of these coins will take the trouble to search, he will find in the year 1730 one of the half-pence of the first named sovereign, spelled GEOGIUS. This certainly is very extraordinary; but is it not much more so to find, subsequently, one issuing from the Mint of his successor George III. likewise misspelt? This reads GEORIOUS instead of GEORGIUS, and was issued in 1772. From what I have heard, I have reason to believe, that after the latter coins were circulated, a reward was offered for each piece if returned to the Mint. This is probable, as they are more rare than those of George II.

a veneration I can scarcely describe, I flatter myself I have a perfect remembrance of almost every lineament of his face, and the impression thereof made on my mind will never be effaced.

In continuation. The subsequent coinage of Charles II. was executed by the Roettiers, and performed with the mill and collar,* thence termed

* It may afford some information to those unacquainted with the terms, hammered and milled coins, to explain them. The hammered coins were thus executed: a large piece of metal was divided into small squares, as near to the size of the coin required as possible; the corners were then cut off, and the pieces reduced to their proper weight. They were then by a gentle hammering rendered as round as they could be by this process, placed in the die, and struck off by the blow of an immense hammer. In some instances, for the larger pieces, repeated blows were necessary.

The milled money is thus produced: a piece of gold, silver or copper in a bar, or otherwise, is placed between two rollers (called a flatting mill), and by compression is brought to the proper thickness of the coin intended to be struck. The blanks are then cut out with tools made for that purpose, reduced to the weight required, and placed separately in the die, encircled with a steel collar, which produces the milling on the edge of the coin, and by

milled money. In the Penny we find on the obverse the King's head laureated, regarding the left, being in the opposite direction from that on the hammered Pennies. It should be distinctly understood, that when a medallist states, the portrait is regarding or looking to the right or left, that he presumes the portrait so described is facing him; consequently that what would be to the left hand, or to use an heraldic phrase, the sinister side of the head, would be to the right of the observer.

Medallic writers differ on this subject as to which means of a press, instead of the hammer, as formerly, the coin is perfected.

It will be seen in a moment, that the collar produces that marked difference between the hammered and milled coins, being perfectly round; and as the blank within it cannot escape from the blow or squeeze given, it leaves the die a complete circle, and having the milling or letters, if there are any, on the collar: if letters, the collar must be in parts, generally three or four, as may be seen on the edges of our crown pieces: it would be impossible otherwise to release the coin from it without erasing the letters. And when a collar of this description is used, it is enclosed within another of one piece only, to enable it to withstand the force of the compression.

is most proper; whether to follow this plan, or on the contrary, describe the head in its position as it appears most commonly to those unacquainted with numismatics. I here follow the best authorities by adhering to the method first stated.

On the reverse of this Penny is the initial of the Sovereign, surmounted with a crown and a legend.

The hammered Pennies of this King are not rare, and the milled ones extremely common.

James II., A. D. 1685. His coins were likewise executed by the Roettiers. On the obverse the King's head is laureated and the bust without drapery; the reverse presents the numeral surmounted with a crown and with legend. These Pennies are scarcer than those of his brother Charles II.

William and Mary, A. D. 1689. Their Penny presents us with two heads, both facing to the left the busts without drapery, with the usual reverse, the numeral as before surmounted with a crown. The Pennies of William and Mary are not very common.

William III., A. D. 1694. After the death of Mary, William struck coins with his head alone,

better executed and struck than those preceding, the bust clothed with drapery. These Pennies are the rarest of all the Sovereigns subsequent to the scarce milled Penny of Elizabeth.

Anne, A. D. 1702. This Queen employed Croker, the same artist who executed for her those beautiful farthings, of which so much has been said, and of which so little, generally speaking, is understood.

The Penny of Anne bears an elegant bust of the Queen with drapery, probably equal to any portrait we meet with, either of Greek or Roman workmanship. On the reverse the numeral and crown as before. These Pennies are not very common.

George I., A. D. 1714. The same artist executed this Sovereign's coins. The Penny has on the obverse the laureated head of the monarch, the bust clothed with drapery. The reverse the same as the last. These coins are common.

George II., A. D. 1727. His Penny presents his head laureated,—it is what is termed the young head. The larger pieces struck towards the end

of his reign give us a very different portrait, for distinction sake called the old head, but on the Penny we meet with the former only. There is no variety, the reverse the same as the preceeding Sovereign. These Pennies of George II. are extremely common.

George III., A. D. 1760. In this King's Pennies we find four distinct varieties, which I shall designate under the following titles. The first coinage with the young head; the wire money, so termed from the numeral being extremely fine, and which is more conspicuous in the other small pieces of higher value; the robe money, from the bust being richly clad with drapery; and the broad head money, being of his last coinage from 1816 to 1820. The first coinage represents the bust naked; the second and third with drapery; the two latter are similar, except in the numeral and crown on their reverses. The last coinage has a fair, bold head of the monarch, without drapery on the bust. These pieces, with the exception of the wire money, are very common. The wire money is of only one date, 1792, and this mintage is rare.

George IV., A. D. 1820. We now come to a splendid little gem,* executed by Pistrucci, the same artist who engraved the crown of George III. Whatever mistake there might have been in that

• If any thing can equal or probably surpass this production, it is the minute representation by the same artist of George IV. on the reverse of his Coronation Medal. This figure is exquisite, (the head in particular is a wonderful effort of art), it certainly possesses more grace, elegance and freedom than that of Charles II. on his Coronation Medal by Simon, beautiful and faithful as to likeness, as the latter undoubtedly is. The execution of the three female figures, representing England, Scotland and Ireland is very fine. Their attitudes may, in a degree, be objected to, from an apparent sameness in them.

It is deeply to be regretted that this country, at the accession of our present Sovereign, was so poor, or so niggardly, as to be unable, as heretofore, to afford two Coronation Medals, one of his Majesty, and the other of the Queen. There would have been ample scope for a reverse to each, from the King's affinity to and attachment to the Navy, and from the amiable qualities which adorn his consort. But Wyon has certainly done his best, as the Coronation Medal by him, bearing on the obverse the bust of the Sovereign, and on the reverse that of her Majesty, is beautifully chaste, and finely executed.

coin, here he has amply redeemed his character as an engraver. This exquisite and beautiful minute specimen of medallie engraving represents the King with his head laureated, inclined to the right. On the reverse the numeral, surmounted with a crown and with the date, the whole within two branches of oak. These Pennies are common.

William IV., A. D. 1830. Of our present deservedly popular Monarch we have a beautiful Penny by Wyon. But we meet with nothing extra: we have the King and nothing but the King, as like as it is possible to convey a portrait on a medal; no laurel crown, but the head engraved from a bust from nature, alike creditable to the Sovereign's taste, and the artist's ability. The reverse very similar to that of George IV. His Pennies are common.

The Roman Denarius in the Consular state weighed on an average from 2 dwts. 10 grs. to 2 dwts. 13 grs., and in the early Imperial from 2 dwts. 6 grs. to 2 dwts. 9 grs. of good silver. In the time of Trajan or Hadrian its weight was barely

2 dwts. 2 grs. Afterwards, and in the reign of Severus this coin was much debased, and in the Byzantine Empire it was brought down very low in weight, one of Magnus Maximus being 1 dwt. 6 grs., others of Valens and Valentinian 1 dwt. 3 grs. Others may be quoted still lower, being reduced to the Saxon and early English standard, namely a Pennyweight, so named from the coin.

The Saxon Pennies were from twenty-two grains to a Pennyweight. Indeed, I have one of the Confessor's which weighs above 1 dwt. 1 gr. There is truly something relative to the coins of the last named Sovereign not to be understood. Our best judges cannot satisfy me on this head. I refer to his very small type. A great number were discovered some time since, many of them of the same type and size, being almost five-eighths of an inch in diameter, while there was a considerable diversity in their weight. I have them as low as $11\frac{1}{2}$ grains, (the proper weight of the halfpenny, allowing for wear), and I have them also up to the Pennyweight in almost regular progression, some being 13 grains, some 15, and others 18 grains,

still of the same diameter, but varying in thickness. Thus a difficulty presents itself which I must leave to a head better than mine to solve.

The Conqueror's Pennies weigh from 20 to 22 grains, and those of Henry I. to Edward I. 21 to 22½ grains. Richard II. reduced the Penny to 18 grains; Edward IV. to 15 grains; Richard III. to 12 grains; Henry VIII. to 10 grains; and Elizabeth to 8 grains, and such has been nearly the weight of the Penny ever since; the Penny of our present Sovereign being 7 grains.

Before the Reader of this dry subject takes his nap over it, I must be permitted to pass an eulogium on the beauty and production of those small pieces termed Maundy money. They are finely executed*

• It may afford information to some few of my Readers to explain what is meant by the term Maundy money; previous to which I must digress, by stating that in the Roman Catholic Church it was the custom on the Dies Mandati, or day of command, so termed, being the day preceding Good Friday, now called Maundy Thursday, for the religious to entertain and wash the feet of a number

and well struck up. Indeed, in some instances they are like proofs, *and why should not our other*

of poor persons, (in accordance with the same act performed by our Saviour), after which alms were bestowed upon them of pieces of silver. A relic of this custom we preserve, and surely the most fastidious will not presume to find fault with a usage which is the occasion of much relief to the aged widow and those in need. On the day named a certain number of poor men and women, of each the exact number of the years of our Sovereign's age, attend Divine Service in the Royal Chapel, Whitehall, in the morning and afternoon. Bread, meat, and fish is distributed to them in large wooden bowls, and a procession formed of the King's Almoner, or his Deputy with other Officers, who are decorated with white scarfs and sashes, and carrying bouquets of flowers, one of the Officers bearing a large gold dish or salver, on which are placed small red and white kid bags; the red containing a sovereign, and the white the pieces termed Maundy money. One of each of these bags is given to the persons selected to receive the Royal Bounty; they have likewise cloth, linen, shoes, &c. given to them as well as a small maple cup, out of which, previous to the termination of the ceremony, they drink the King's health. There is something very imposing in this little formula, from the peculiar appearance of the Yeomen of the Guard in their antiquated costume, being that of the time of Henry VIII. As the Chapel for some years past has been under repair, the above ceremony

coinage be the same? It is truly lamentable to see the infamous state in which some of the gold and silver coins are issued from the Mint. Look at the

has taken place in a temporary building erected for the occasion.

The Maundy Money is to the amount of a penny for each year of the King's age; presuming that to be seventy-one, there would be given to the value of five shillings and eleven pence. This, however, is not all bestowed in pennies, but generally in the following proportion: three fourpences, six threepences, ten twopences, and twenty-one pennies; and those pieces severally impressed with the date of the year in which they are presented. This is as it should be; but in the reign of George III. there was no rule as to the dates, and the Maundy money in many instances was of a period some years anterior to the day of its presentation.

These small pieces are, by an order of Government, declared current coins of the realm; no one, therefore, dare refuse to take them if they are tendered in payment, still they are not in reality intended for that purpose; as a proof of this, the new groat recently issued, will be found, on examination, to be from the die of the Maundy threepence, that is, the head side; but it has a different reverse and is thicker, and of course of the weight of the Maundy fourpence. They are struck chiefly as presents for various officers attached to the Crown, as well as to others.

half-crowns, shillings, and sixpences, issued since the year 1821; the shillings in particular of 1825, and the present half-crown and half-sovereign of William IV. Observe the centre of their reverses, even if new from the die, they appear as if beaten with a hammer. The Romans had no steam engines, or other appliances, which in the present age we boast of, and still their coins are not thus imperfect. The very early coinage of George III. is well struck up. Notice his first shillings and the old guinea. Those coins are not like our present gold and silver. The coins of 1821 are likewise beautiful in design, in execution, and in production. Those also of the present day in fine work preserve a correctness of portraiture which cannot be surpassed. Why should they not be struck up both on the obverse and the reverse? I am told that, from the immensity of the numbers which are now coined, it would be impossible to issue them as perfect as formerly; then let them strike fewer; better this, than disgrace the country. I cannot, I do not pretend to say where the fault lies, but the fact itself no one can dispute; and for our own reputation it should be corrected.

We should not permit the small German States* to outvie us, and leave us to discover the imperfections of our currency by contrast. If the parties employed cannot afford, as they are now paid, to use that force and occupy the time which is required to perfect a coin, let them be better remunerated. *No Englishman (and I judge from my own feelings) will cavil or reluctantly contribute to the removal of every impediment to the perfection of our coinage, which at present is no credit to the country, and must tend to lessen us in the estimation of other nations.*

I notice one peculiarity in Roman gold and silver coins; a radiation appears in some of those which are well preserved, particularly in the Aureus; it

• The Thalers, and small pieces of Prussia, and of Sardinia in particular, are very superior, not indeed in their design or execution, but they are (to use a medallic phrase) infinitely better made. Speaking here of design, I allude not to our present shillings and sixpences, with a Latin legend on the obverse and on the reverse, the value in English. It may be serviceable, but it certainly does not look well, and by many is considered an incongruity.

emanates from the centre, and diffuses itself over the whole field of the coin: (this is scarcely to be seen on those coins badly preserved.) I can account for this as follows: the metal of which the coin was formed, in the first instance, was cast in a mould, and turned out a complete ball, and then placed in the die; the force of the blow it received caused this appearance, and the irregularity likewise of its edges.

To this, as well, we may attribute the fine and deep impressions which we obtain in the Greek and Roman series (so far superior to those of our own *improved coinage* of the nineteenth century), and which could not from the simple blow of a hammer be obtained, had not the shape of the metal assisted the maker of the coin. That in striking the hammer alone was used is evident; observe that coin of the Carisia family struck in the Consular State of Rome,* bearing on the obverse a female head, with the word "Moneta," and on the reverse the two dies, a pair of pincers

* See the Plate, No. 3.

and the hammer, with the name of the family, and the whole encircled with a wreath. That coins, issuing from the Roman mint, were never cast, I feel assured of, although others may differ with me on this point; from the thousands which I have seen, not one could I select, unless it was a modern forgery, that would bear the appearance of being formed in a mould.

READER, if you have followed me thus far from the commencement of this dull, and I fear faulty essay (written, I can assure you, piecemeal), I give you credit for your patience. The only return I can make you for accompanying me will be to offer, in the most unreserved manner, my assistance to you in this study; that is, if the little knowledge I have gained from actual practice will be worth your acceptance. Should this be the case, I will *impart it freely*, “without hope of fee or reward.” I am too much of an enthusiast in Numismatics, not to take a pride in communicating that information to others, which, from experience

and friendship with some of the first medallists of the age, I have obtained; at the same time, before we part, let me recommend to your notice those books on coins which will be worth your reading, and which you should possess.

We will commence with the Greek. Eckhel may be considered the most valuable of Numismatic writers; his works have been the source from whence our modern authors have enriched their own publications. We will not quarrel with this, as the works of this celebrated writer are scarce and expensive, while those of Mionnet are more easily obtained.

Eckhel's "*Doctrina Numorum Veterum*" on Greek and Roman Coins, 4 volumes each, is therefore very desirable.

Combes' "*Hunterian Collection of Greek Civic Coins*," 1 volume, 1782.

Pellerin's "*Recueil de Médailles des Peuples et des Villes*," 1763.

Mionnet's *Greek Cities and Kings*, with the different degrees of rarity, &c.

Paruta on Sicilian Coins.

The Prince Torremuzza's "*Siciliæ Vet. Num. Antiquæ.*"

Mr. Payne Knight's Catalogue of Greek Civic and Regal Coins, bequeathed by him to the British Museum, and which is to be obtained at that establishment.

Gesner appears to be the only author who has given plates of all the Greek and Roman coins then known. He wrote in 1738; they are indifferently executed. This is a very rare work to procure in a complete state.

The above enumerated authors I should recommend to the collectors of Greek coins, to which may be added Rasche's Universal Lexicon of Greek and Roman Coins, which will be found of the greatest service.

Greek Imperial, or Coins struck by the Roman Emperors in Greece, will be best consulted in Vaillant's account of them, in 1 volume, printed at Amsterdam, in 1700.

The Roman Consular will be found finely explained and most exquisitely engraved in Morell's

“Thesaurus,” 2 volumes, folio; Amsterdam, 1734. This book I recommend above any other on the Roman Family Coins; no collector should be without it; or, in lieu of this, Vaillant’s “Nummi Familiarum Romanarum,” in 2 volumes.

For the Imperial Roman, procure Vaillant’s “Numismata Imperatorum Romanorum,” in either two or three volumes, quarto. The latter is the best edition, printed at Rome in 1743, and dedicated to the Pope Benedict XIV. In this copy will be seen the Roman medallions, that is, pieces of larger denominations than the coins intended for currency, which are not contained in the other editions. The plates are splendidly engraved. This work commences with Julius Cæsar, and carries you down to the reign of Constantine the Great.

You should then procure Banduri’s “Numismata à Trajano Decio ad Paleologos, 2 volumes, folio. This work, as the title expresses, commences with Trajanus Decius, A. D. 249, and is continued down to the last Emperor, Constantine Paleologus, A. D. 1453. Both Vaillant and Banduri give plates of the coins. So that, in fact, in possess-

ing Morel, Vaillant, and Banduri, you commence with the earliest period of Consular Rome, and conclude with the extinction of the Byzantine Empire in the 29th year of our Henry VI. The Byzantine coins themselves towards the last will be found, with but a few exemptions, not worth collecting.

Eckhel (as before stated), on Roman coins, is very desirable, but very scarce; instead of which purchase Mionnet's "*De la Rareté et du Prix des Médailles Romaines*," 2 volumes, quarto; Paris, 1815. This author, in his very excellent work, has closely followed Eckhel; coupled with this as Custodier of the King's collection of Medals at Paris, he has been enabled to produce a book of infinite utility: the prices in numerous instances are not to be depended upon, as many of the coins which are most rare, both in the Greek and Latin series, are valued too low, and in those which are more common this is still more apparent. As a dealer, I should myself be happy to give double the sum for many coins at which he estimates them.

As the reader may prefer a work, very similar to the last named, in an English dress, I would advise him to apply for a publication by J. Yonge Akerman, F. S. A., entitled "A descriptive Catalogue of rare and inedited Roman Coins," in 2 volumes, quarto; Effingham Wilson, Jun^r. London, 1834. This work gives the degree of rarity, but not the price. The said gentleman has likewise published at the same place, in 1836, a small octavo volume on Roman coins, struck in and relating to Britain. As an Englishman it should be in your library; it is entitled "Coins of the Romans relating to Britain."

Cooke's Medallie History of Rome is worth possessing; it relates to coins of peculiar interest, and describes them in two volumes, folio. It is thought but little of by the higher grade of collectors, still I beg leave to recommend it. This book I find rather scarce.

There are many other works on Greek and Roman coins, which, for want of space, I am prevented naming; but Occo's Imperial Roman, in one volume, folio, is a very desirable work, particularly the edition of 1730.

Last in the train comes John Pinkerton, with his useful (although, in some instances, faulty) *Essay on Medals*, cutting right and left at the very authors preceding him, from whom he had *stolen* (from Jobert in particular). This was very unfair; but his book, indeed, was made to sell. He was paid a certain sum for his compilation; and although an old and highly respected friend of mine, Mr. Richard Miles,* offered to correct the

* Probably, reader, in your passage through life, you may have met with some one who has taken you by the hand, whose every exertion, if required, would have been brought into action for your benefit, *and whose memory you cherish with a feeling almost allied to idolatry; if you have, you may conceive how highly I venerate that of the late Mr. Richard Miles. This is not flattery, but common gratitude, and the only means left me of attempting to repay the confidence, I may proudly say, the unbounded confidence he so often placed in me.* This gentleman was the first medallist (or coin dealer) of his day, contemporary with Snelling, and Pinkerton, intimate with, and esteemed by the highest class of collectors, many, like him, no more—he had no compeer. *(I may be accused of arrogance in designating a coin dealer a gentleman; but it must be remembered he was of a supe-*

copy for him, and divest it of its errors, his reply was, " I have agreed to do it for a stipulated amount, and I shall take no further trouble with it."

So much for an author writing on a subject of which he knew little or nothing, merely for the sake of a trifling consideration. Such was the case with Pinkerton. It has been the fashion to censure this work, indeed much more than it deserves; at any rate it has been a serviceable *compilation*, and the standard by which our country collectors have been guided for the last forty years.

A catalogue likewise of Roman large brass has been published by Captain W. Henry Smyth, R. N., Knt. St. F. & M., F. R. S., &c. &c.,* de-

rior grade; his classic education, his attainments, and, above all, his urbanity of manners, his conscientious dealing, and his general conduct, fully entitle him to that appellation.)

* I must here be permitted to express my grateful thanks to this gentleman for the very many kind acts of friendship which, in common with others, I have received from him.

scribing these coins, commencing with Julius Cæsar, and concluding with Gallienus, when this series terminates.

This descriptive catalogue furnishes the English collector (who may not possess a classical education), with great facility in appropriating, as well as in appreciating the interest arising from the reverses of these medals, as the author, although himself a classic scholar, still in mercy to those who are not thus gifted, has given the description in plain English—indeed, in some instances, in “regular” nautical phrases, and it is by far the best familiar account yet published. The coins themselves were collected without respect to expense, and with a liberality but seldom equalled. A copy of this work is open to the medallist who may favour me with a call; it is a private publication and not intended for sale, if private it can be said to be, *after its generous author has, with that kindness peculiar to himself, been so unsparing in his gifts of it to collectors of Roman coins.*

Roman Colonial. For these coins Vaillant again

presents you with another work, in 2 volumes, folio, printed at Amsterdam in 1700.

Imperial Egyptian; that is, coins struck by the Romans in Egypt, while under the dominion of the Emperors, and subsequently to the era of the Ptolemies, will be found to be correctly described by Zoegas, in one volume, quarto; Rome, 1787.

Ancient Persian, and other Oriental Medals, are elaborately described by Marsden, in his "*Numismata Orientalia Illustrata*;" 2 volumes; London, 1825.

British and Saxon will be found in Ruding's "*Annals of the Coinage of Great Britain*," in 5 volumes, quarto; London, 1819; with a volume of plates.

I understand that a new edition of this work is now in the press, and will be presented to the public some time in the course of the present year. Considerable additions will be made to it, and many plates of coins hitherto unpublished will be furnished, from types existing in the cabinets of our chief collectors, who have kindly promised to afford their important assistance in the prosecution of the undertaking. The price of the work, I am

informed, will be much under that of the original publication.*

In the same work the English coins, and those of the British Colonies, are engraved and described as well as Anglo-Gallic. The English coins are brought down to 1818, and the plates to this work, of English gold and silver, from the Conquest to the reign of George II., A. D. 1745, and 1747, are the same as those which were published by Martin Folkes, in his two volumes of English coins.

I would strongly recommend to your perusal, and for the study of English gold and silver, Snel-ling's "View of the Gold and Silver Coinage of England; published originally in 1763, and written from actual practice, in parts; each part whereof I

* William Parsons, who engraved the Saxon coins for Rading's work, evinced good taste as an enthusiastic admirer of Roman coins, and was considered one of the best judges of them in his day; but having an unfortunate itch for cleaning them, he spoilt many a fine impression. For some years previous to his death he kept a small print and coin shop in Little Bedford Street; he was an eccentric but very clever man, and his style of engraving peculiar, being entirely self-acquired.

can procure separately, or otherwise, from my esteemed friend, Mr. M. Young, he having purchased the plates and copyright of that excellent work. Snelling gives you the degrees of rarity of those coins which he treats of, and to do which no one was more capable, he being himself a dealer; and this is borne out by his correctness as to the respective degrees he gives. Of course, since his time various discoveries having been made, the degrees of rarity he has mentioned must, in some instances, be altered. His work is brought down to 1745, in the silver series, and in the gold to 1762.

He has also produced a very thin folio volume on the copper currency of England up to his time, as well as another on Scotch coins, from the earliest period down to the Union in the reign of Queen Anne, intitled "A View of the Silver Coin and Coinage of Scotland," &c.; to which are added four plates of gold, billon, and copper coins of the same kingdom.

The same author treats on pattern pieces, early counters, counterfeit sterlings, abbey pieces, or

more properly Nuremberg tokens, early tradesmen's tokens, and Anglo-Gallic. These, as before stated, are generally to be procured in parts.

Cardonnel likewise presents you with a work on Scotch coins, in one volume, folio, 1786, named "Numismata Scotiæ;" being a series of the Scottish coinage from the reign of William the Lion, to the Union. This author gives plates of gold and silver coins, many of them execrably executed, very inferior to those in Snelling. For this he had no excuse, although, in many instances, he was compelled to copy from bad work; yet, in others, he not only had good, but even fine work; witness the money of Charles I. by Briot. And hear how this man, of infinite modesty, censures his predecessor and superior, Snelling, in his Preface to the "Numismata Scotiæ," as an attempt at an apology for publishing it: "*Snelling on Scottish money is very defective; many of his plates are so badly executed, that they scarcely bear any resemblance to the pieces they mean to represent.*"

Cardonnel certainly must have possessed some assurance after this remark, to have sent forth such

a plate as No. 12 in his book. Look at the horrible face which he has there given to the unfortunate Charles I. His head, after decapitation, and while being handed round the scaffold, could not to his rebellious subjects have presented a more distorted, rueful, or outrageous countenance, than is there given to it, and Cardonnell himself appears to have been the engraver. He might have possessed the confidence, but certainly not the talent of many of his highly gifted countrymen of the present day.

Irish coins are treated of in an admirable work, intitled "Simon's Essay on Irish Coins," in one volume; Dublin, 1810. We here meet with plates of the early Kings of Dublin, with those of our Saxon Monarchs, who struck coins in that city, and continued down to the time of Charles I. in the silver, with the copper money to the reign of George I.; accompanied by a supplement, and an additional plate by that indefatigable author, Snel-ling. Collectors of Irish coins will find this a great desideratum, and very easy to be procured.

Anglo-Gallic, or coins struck by the early Princes of the Plantaganet Line, in their paternal

dominions of Normandy and Aquitaine, as well as others, struck subsequently to the time of our latter Henries, will be found in a work by Ducarel, named, "A Series of above Two Hundred Anglo-Gallic, or Norman and Aquitaine Coins of the Antient Kings of England," &c., with sixteen plates, finely engraved; one volume; London, 1757.

For Obsidional coins, commonly called Seige Pieces, or Distressed Money, you must procure Duby's "Recueil Général des Pieces Obsidionales et de Necessité." Paris, 1786.

Tradesmen's Tokens (modern) are treated of by Pye, as well as in Conder's "Arrangement of Provincial Coins, Tokens, and Medalets," in one volume; Ipswich, 1798.

But the most desirable catalogue of provincial tokens is that admirable work by Thomas Sharp, Esq. in one volume, folio; London, 1834; taken from the splendid collection of Sir George Chetwynd, Bart., of Grendon Hall, Warwickshire. This publication presents you with a description of almost every variety known. On the title

page is portrayed a fine token, engraved by Benjamin Wyon, for the Baronet. On the obverse is a very good bust of Sir George, and a great likeness, with the exception, however, of the countenance being much too stern for the original. On the reverse is seen Grendon Hall, a fine old English mansion, well worthy of its distinguished and patriotic occupier. These tokens are very rare, and none but his family, and those whom he has been pleased peculiarly to honour, have been presented with them. My private cabinet does not *as yet* contain one, but I possess a beautiful copy, splendidly bound, of the work alluded to. It was most liberally presented to me by Sir George Chetwynd himself, accompanied with a very handsome and flattering communication, and I feel highly honoured in its possession.

This book being strictly private cannot be purchased.

Dollars and other coins of various States are published in Maidai, four volumes, 1765; and in Bonneville's "Traité des Monnaies d'Or et d'Argent," being gold and silver coins of all countries.

We are but indifferently off for works on our English medals. I was in hopes that, ere this, we should have had one from a certain quarter, the party possessing an infinite variety of them, and no one, probably, more competent to this herculean task. Government would no doubt afford facility (and give assistance if required) to this national undertaking. At present the best is the "Medallic History of England," 1 volume, London, 1802; in this are engraved forty plates of medals. The medals of the Kings of England by Dassier are introduced; likewise a small Counter of Edward III.; after which those of the time of Henry VIII. and down to the reign of James II.

Snelling also gives us a volume, with plates of medals, but without letter-press, he having died before it was completed.

Those of the reign of William III. are published in 1 volume by N. Chevalier; Amsterdam, 1692.

The medals, pattern pieces, and coins executed by Thomas Simon, with the Great Seals of England, are beautifully engraved by George Vertue, in 1 volume; London, 1780. Mudie likewise

caused his forty medals of the English Commanders, termed the "National Medals," to be engraved and published in 1 volume, London.

Foreign medals of the Low Countries are engraved in a work by Van Mieris, in 8 volumes. After this comes "Van Loon's Medallic History of Holland, in 5 volumes, folio, 1732. This Work gives a full description of each medal, amongst which many English are introduced, and the engravings of the whole are very fine.

French medals of Louis XIV. are published in 1 volume, with description, &c. The medals of the French Revolution are treated of by Millin, in 1 volume, and continued by Millengen in the "Medallic History of Napoleon," from 1796 to 1815, with Supplement. But the best work on this subject is by Hennins, published in 1826.

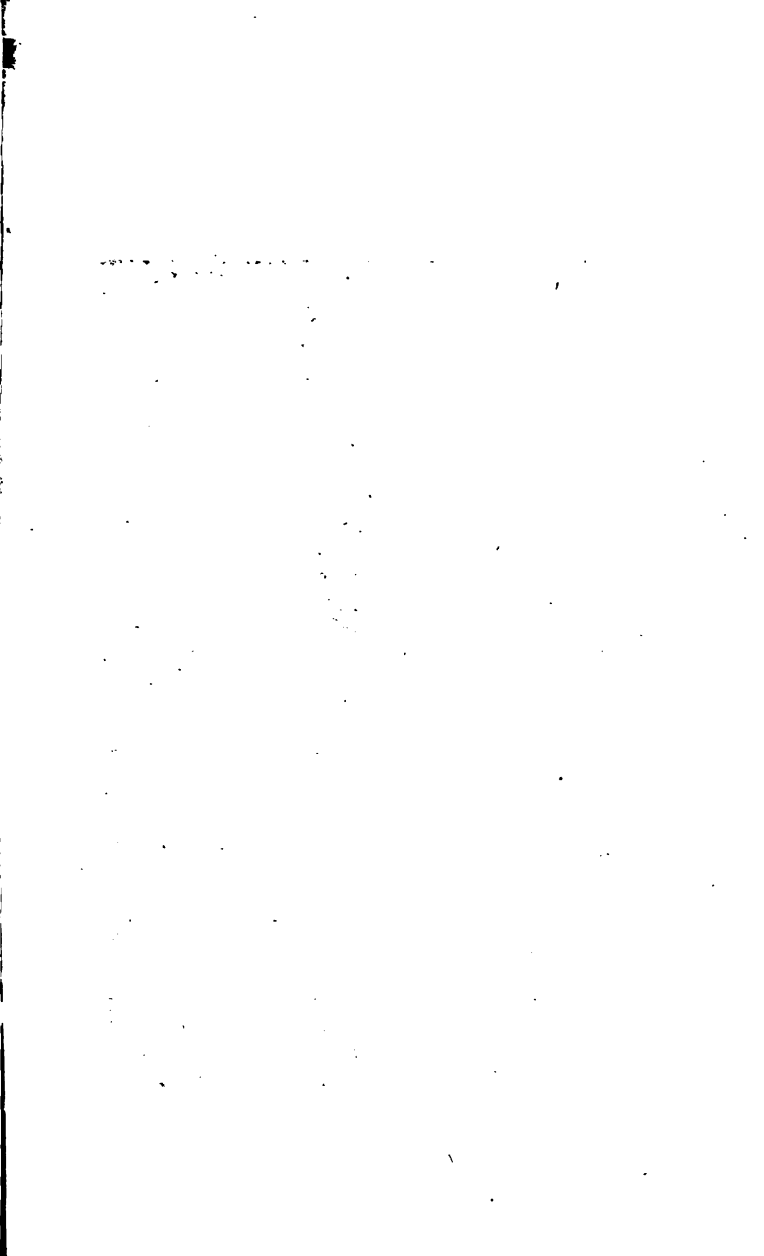
Medals of the celebrated Hedlinger are published and engraved in 1 volume, Basle, 1776, by Chrétien de Mechel, and dedicated to Gustavus III. of Sweden. If any work of art can approximate to the splendid productions of Hedlinger, it must be the engravings of them in this publication.

It is proper also to mention that a quarterly publication, entitled the "Numismatic Journal," has recently appeared. It contains a series of papers on numismatic subjects, contributed by literary collectors, and is likely to prove of interest and utility in the study of coins and medals of all descriptions.

Be it understood that the foregoing list of Numismatic Works are only a part or parcel of what might have been given, had this little publication space sufficient, but they will be found as much as can be required for the general use of almost any collector.

If this trifle which I now send forth to the world, not so much for immediate profit as for a card of my business, be not too severely censured, I intend in a future publication to extend the list of Numismatic Writers; in the mean time, offering to the service of the public the use of any of the works I have named, as well as the inspection of a series of English Pennies here alluded to, one of each sovereign, intended to illustrate this essay.







A DESCRIPTION
OF THE
FARTHING & PATTERN HALFPENCE
OF
QUEEN ANNE.

" But you have not a farthing of Queen Anne? You know there were only three of them struck."—*Old Fable.*

A DESCRIPTION OF THE FARTHING OF QUEEN ANNE.

FOR introducing the Farthings of Queen Anne again to the public,* I will make no apology, as I flatter myself it may in a degree set at rest the mischievous and ridiculous fable relating to them, and prevent many a futile and weary journey. It will scarcely be believed, that persons from almost all parts of England have travelled to the metropolis, on the *qui vive* to make, as they supposed, their fortunes, with a Farthing, or presumed Farthing, of Anne in their possession; and which, on being taken to the British Museum, has been found to be almost or entirely worthless. From York, and even from Ireland, persons have come. A poor man from the former, and a man with his wife from the latter place. Indeed, it is to be regretted, that these are not the only instances known

* These Farthings are likewise engraved in the Mirror paper of the 30th May, 1835, and published by Limbird, at 143, Strand.

by many. Most of our countrymen labour under the delusion that Queen Anne struck only three Farthings: *I beg leave most unequivocally, and with deference, to assure them that Farthings of her were struck to the number of some hundreds.* To trace with any degree of certainty this fable to its original source, would be extremely difficult, but by information obtained from our chief medallist, it appears, that some years since, a lady of Yorkshire having by accident lost a Farthing of Anne, which from some circumstance or other was rendered valuable to her, she offered a reward for the same, thereby stamping a fallacious and ridiculous value on it. Others, on the contrary, believe that only three were struck, and that the die broke on striking the third.

The British Press newspaper, of the 14th February, 1814, and the Numismatic Journal of April last, contains the particulars of a very curious trial which took place in Dublin, relating to one of these pieces.

In the British Museum there are six distinct varieties of the Farthings of Queen Anne; indeed,

there may be said to be seven, *but one sort alone really circulated*, and this is the variety on which we see the figure of Britannia on the reverse, and below it, in the exergue, the date 1714, (see No. 6 of the plate). I count in my own cabinets from fifteen to twenty of them.

The other five varieties are what are termed pattern pieces, struck for approval, but from which no copies for circulation have been taken. The portraits on the obverses are much the same, the busts ornamented with drapery, and the head adorned with a string of pearls. The reverses, except in one instance, differ from the common Farthing which circulated; and on the pattern, in which no difference is found, we find, instead of "Anna Dei Gratia," the legend "Anna Regina," surrounding the queen's bust, (see No. 5). This pattern is rare. The following are the reverses of the other patterns: on one (No. 1) we observe the figure of Peace, in a car drawn by two horses, (numismatically termed a biga); in her right hand she holds an olive branch, in her left a wand or spear; the legend "Pax missa per orbem," (Peace

sent forth throughout the world) with the date 1713. This variety is extremely rare, and like most of the others, it is found in fine gold, silver, and copper. On another we see the figure of Britannia seated on a globe, (No 2) and beneath a portico, with the legend Britannia, the date in the exergue 1713—this likewise is very rare. Another of the same date (No. 3) presents us with the Britannia rather differing from the same figure on those of 1714: the right leg being more exposed, and the drapery on the bust altogether different; with the legend Britannia, and the date, 1713, immediately following it, instead of being in the exergue, as before * —these patterns are much more common than the two last described. The scarcest of the whole is that variety (No. 4) which represents the bust of the queen of inferior work, and her name instead of being raised is sunk; and on the reverse, Britannia is re-

* Another variety which I have not introduced in the body of this paper, may be seen in the British Museum, exactly of the same type as No. 3; but the figure of Britannia, and the letters of the legend, are much smaller, and it has the engraving round the coin without the inner circle.

presented erect, with an olive branch in her right hand, and in the left a spear; legend, "Bello et Pace." These last described Farthings, if Farthings they really are, are of extreme rarity; indeed, they differ so much from the others in their execution, as to induce me to doubt their emanating from the royal mint. The work on them appears very inferior to that of Croker. They might have been executed by Samuel Butt, or Gabriel Clerk, two other Mint engravers at this period.

The following may be quoted as the value of the Farthings just described. No 1, being exceedingly scarce, if fine, is worth from £3. to £5., indeed, it has brought more at a public auction. No. 2 may be worth from £2. to £3. No. 3, being less rare, from £1. to £1. 10s. No. 4 would bring from £5. to £10., or probably more, if extremely fine; as I believe the very few specimens which are known are not in the highest state of preservation. No. 5 is rather scarce, and is worth from £1. to £1. 10s. The common and real Farthing of Anne, which was current generally, brings from 7s. to 12s., and if extremely fine in preservation, may be worth a

guinea. Some are found with a broad rim, those are considered more scarce than the others. I speak of these coins as being in copper.

Having described the real and pattern Farthings of Queen Anne, it may be desirable to mention a lot of trumpery tokens of *brass*, which have caused much trouble to the possessors, as well as annoyance to others, particularly to the officers attached to the medal room in the British Museum.

These tokens of *brass* are thinner than the real *copper* Farthings of Anne. On the head side, they present you with an execrable bust of the queen, with a long scraggy neck, unlike that of this sovereign, with the legend "Anna Dei Gratia." On the reverse, the royal arms in the shape of a cross; (roses are sometimes seen between the quarterings)—indeed, very similar to the shilling of Anne before the Union. Their date generally, 1711. These worthless counters have caused an immense deal of trouble; the lower classes becoming possessed of them, and starting off (as before stated) for London, to make their fortunes. They would not be worth noticing here, were it not to publish them as pieces of no value whatever.

The public, as well as their very humble servant, are much indebted to Edward Hawkins, Esq. for so readily and so kindly permitting the original Farthings to be copied. To C. F. Barnewell, Esq. another gentleman of the British Museum, I am also much indebted, for the kind and polite attention which I have received, in common with all who visit the medal room.

The plate here annexed was engraved from casts, taken by Taylor, of No. 13, Conduit Street, from the real coins in the British Museum.

There are pattern Halfpence likewise of this sovereign of seven different varieties, but none struck for common currency. The following is a description of those in the British Museum.

No. 1. Obverse—a fine bust of the queen, with name and title, the hair without any ornament. Reverse—the figure of Britannia seated on a globe, in her right hand a branch of olive, in her left a spear, above her head a crown; without any date.

2. Obverse—the bust, and legend, as before. Reverse—Britannia, as in the preceding one; in her right hand, a rose and thistle, instead of the olive branch.

3. Obverse—as before. Reverse—a rose and thistle, surmounted with a crown.

4. Obverse—as the preceding one. Reverse—a rose and thistle, as before, but without the crown.

5. Obverse—the figure of Britannia, very like No. 1, but the branch of olive in the right hand rather different. Reverse—the rose and thistle, similar to the reverse of No. 4.

The fact is, the above coin is made up, for the sake of variety, of two reverses.

6. On this we find two obverses are taken for the same purpose; having a fine bold bust of the queen, in higher relief than the others. The reverse is exactly the same, with the legend “Anna Dei Gratia.”

7. There is another variety (not in the Museum) which I have never seen. On it are the two figures of Britannia, which constitute the reverses of the others; one on the obverse, the other on the reverse.

The above pattern Halfpence of Queen Anne *are all very scarce*; that most frequently met with is the variety in which we find the Britannia with a rose and thistle. The double headed one is exceedingly rare, as are some of the other varieties.

THE NUMISMATIC SOCIETY,

&c. &c.

“ With sharpen'd sight pale antiquaries pore,
The inscription value, but the rust adore;
This the blue varnish, that the green endears,
The sacred rust of twice ten hundred years.
To gain Pescennius one employs his schemes;
One grasps a Cecrops in ecstatic dreams;
Poor Vadius, long with learned spleen devour'd,
Can taste no pleasure since his shield was scour'd,
And Curio, restless by the fair one's side,
Sighs for an Otho, and neglects his bride.”

Pope.

THE NUMISMATIC SOCIETY,

&c.

Desirous of imparting to Country Collectors all information relative to Numismatics, I shall connect with this essay some account of the proceedings of a Society very recently formed, and which, I trust, the reader will not consider uninteresting, even though he may deem such an addition somewhat remote from the subject of this publication.

The Society termed the *Numismatic Society*, is composed of the first Numismatists of the day, and one of its objects is to facilitate the collecting of medals, and to diffuse information concerning them; and in its present embryo state it has the sanction and support of the following gentlemen:—President for the year, John Lee, Esq. LL.D. F.R.S. F.S.A. F.R.A.S., of Hartwell House, Bucks, and

of Doctors' Commons. Dr. Lee, too, is Treasurer, and one of the Council, which includes also Sir Henry Ellis, K.H. F.R.S. F.S.A.; Captain William Henry Smyth, R.N. K.S.F. V.P.R.S. F.S.A., member of the French Institute; Edward Hawkins, Esq. F.R.S. F.S.A.; William Wyon, Esq. Chief Engraver at the Royal Mint, and A.R.A.; William Debonaire Haggard, Esq. F.S.A. F.R.A.S.; Charles F. Barnewell, Esq. F.R.S. F.S.A.; Thomas Burgon, Esq. John Yonge Akerman, Esq. F.S.A., London and Edinburgh, &c., and Isaac Cullimore, Esq. M.R.S.L., are Honorary Secretaries.

Under the guidance of the above-mentioned gentlemen, what may not be effected? The following distinguished Collectors are also among the members of the Numismatic Society:—His Grace the Duke of Devonshire; The Very Rev. the Dean of St. Patrick's; The Rev. Dr. J. Goodall, Provost of Eton College; Sir George Musgrave, Bart. F.S.A.; The Rev. E. C. Brice; The Rev. J. W. Hawkesley; The Rev. Edward Hincks; The Rev. John William Mackie; The Rev. J. W. Martin; The Rev. Henry Philpott; The Rev. G.

C. Renouard; The Rev. Charles Turner; Dr. Burney, F.S.A. &c.; Col. G. Landmann; Col. W. Leake; Lieut.-Col. Bowler; Lieut-Col. John Ross; and E. H. Barker; John Bate; John Bel-four, M.R.S.L.; William Bentham; J. B. Bergne; Samuel Birch; Robert Boyne; Henry Brandreth, F.S.A.; Thomas Bristoll; James Broad; William Henry Brooke, F.S.A.; William Henry Brown; John Brumell; John William Burgon; Robert Carey; J. G. Children, F.R.S.; Scipio Clint; G. R. Corner; James D. Cuff, F.S.A.; Henry Cureton; Richard Cust; Arthur Davis; Hugh Welch Diamond, F.S.A.; F. H. Diamond; B. Dickenson; J. Doubleday; Christopher Edmonds; Charles Edmonds; C. Evans; John Field; A. R. Freebairn; John Freeman; John Gage, M.A. &c.; F. T. Grayling; William R. Hamilton, F.R.S. M.R.S.L. &c.; G. R. Harrison, Blue Mantle; Edmund Halsewell, M.R. F.R.S.; Francis Hayward, K.L.H.; Henry Hering; W. R. Hodges; Richard Hollier, F.S.A.; John Huxtable; Josh. Janson; T.W. King, F.S.A. *Rouge Dragon*; Charles Konig, K.H. F.R.S.; C. W. Loscombe; Philip Leathes, F.S.A.; George Littlewood; M. Martin; Edward Mullins; J. New-

man, F.S.A.; J. G. Nicholls, F.S.A.; J. B. Nicholls, F.S.A.; Benjamin Nightingale; T. J. Pettigrew, F.R.S. F.S.A. &c.; W. V. Pettigrew; J. G. Pfister; G. P. Philipe; G. A. Philipe; Theodosius Purland; Abraham Rhodes Rhodes; John Rutter; G. R. Rowe, M.L. F.S.A.; W. D. Saull, F.R.S. F.G.S.; D. R. Scratton; Mr. Serjeant Scriven; S. Sharp; William Smee; Benjamin Smith, F.R.S.A.; E. O. Smith, F.S.A.; Charles Roach Smith, F.S.A.; Leigh Sotheby; Edward Spencer, F.G.S.; Richard Taylor, F.S.A. G.S. &c. William Taylor; A. J. Valpy, M.A.; George Walter; William Wansey, F.S.A.; John Williams; Effingham Wilson, junior; T. Windus, F.S.A.; W. A. A. White, F.R.S.; Benjamin Wyon; Thomas Yeates; Matthew Young, Esquires; and their humble servant, William Till.

I had the honour on the first preparatory Meeting, held the 22nd December, 1836, of adding the names of the following gentlemen to the list of original members; namely, The Very Rev. the Dean of St. Patrick's; Lieut.-Col. Bowler; Abr. Rhodes Rhodes, Esq.; Edmund Halswell, Esq. M.A. F.R.S.; Francis Hayward, Esq. M.L.H.; John

Freeman, Esq.; James Broad, Esq.; John Field, Esq.; and Messrs. William Taylor, Thomas Bristol, Theodosius Purland, Edward Spencer, the celebrated geologist, and Charles Edmonds; and, subsequently, William Archibald Armstrong White, Esq. F.R.S.

Their meetings are held once every month, in the rooms belonging to the Astronomical Society, at Somerset House, at half past six in the evening, about an hour previous to the meeting of the Society of Antiquaries, thereby giving those gentlemen, who are members of both societies, an opportunity of attending to the interests of each, by retiring from one room to the other. Each member is permitted to introduce a friend as a visitor. The expense is very trifling; the annual subscription being one guinea, and a guinea entrance. Those who are proposed as members, are balloted for in the usual manner.*

I had not the most distant idea of being named

* Doubtless there are many of our intelligent country Collectors who would feel pleasure in being connected with the Numismatic Society; but, possibly, from diffi-

as a candidate, the gentlemen first forming the Society being so much my superiors; but I was solicited; and appreciating the distinguished honour of meeting the members composing the Numismatic Society, I could not for a moment refuse to consent. Naturally warm and energetic in any project which I form, or to which I become attached, it will be my study to promote the objects which the Numismatic Society has in view. My humble services, if worth acceptance, will be entirely devoted to them, more particularly in preserving for inspection any specimen, or variety, which may furnish illustration, or in any way tend to promote the science of Numismatics; and should any peculiarly interesting coins, or medals, be discovered in our provinces, or elsewhere, if the spe-

dence, might be backward in expressing their inclination. Should this be the case, (and I trust, as a member myself, I am doing no more than my duty in offering a suggestion) I should have much satisfaction in being the channel through which they may be elected, by proposing them at the ensuing meeting, on their wishes being communicated to me by letter.

cimens themselves, or a description of them, be forwarded to me, the same shall be laid before the Society on the night of their next meeting, and an early answer faithfully returned. In the third number of the Numismatic Journal, edited by J. Y. Akerman, Esq., one of the honorary secretaries of the Society, there is an article on their first meeting; and in succeeding numbers further reports are given, and will continue to be regularly made.

On Thursday, the 26th of January, 1837, the Society held their first *ordinary* Meeting; and in the absence of our much esteemed president, Dr. Lee, the chair was taken by Edward Hawkins, Esq., supported by Sir Henry Ellis, William D. Haggard, Charles F. Barnewell, and William Wyon, Esquires, and others of the council. From the influence of the prevailing epidemic, not more than 27 members were present. Indeed so overspreading was the malady, that though I had ten gentlemen to introduce, four only were able to come. After the regular business of the evening had been disposed of, a very handsome donation

was presented from Dr. Lee, consisting of two copies of Captain Smyth's valuable work on Roman large brass Coins. One was a large paper copy, and very rare; to these desirable books were added Akerman's interesting little work on the "Coins of the Romans relating to Britain;" likewise a fine five guinea piece of George II.; with a large Swedish copper coin, &c. Other coins were also presented. A letter was then read from Sir Henry Ellis, accompanied by an extract from a most extraordinary trial relating to a farthing of Queen Anne, a trial which took place in Ireland in the year 1814.* An extract, likewise, was then read from a letter addressed by the Dean of St. Patrick's to myself, in which letter he states his desire to become a member of the Society, and expresses an earnest wish to forward its interests as much as possible; and no gentleman in Ireland possesses such facility

* To Sir Henry Ellis the Society is much indebted for contributing so largely to its information and its interests; scarcely a meeting having passed without a valuable paper on the subject of Numismatics having been received from him.

as the Dean, in consequence of the extensive collection of native Irish, and other coins, with which his cabinets are enriched. The communication was received with much pleasure, and will be gratefully acknowledged by the Society.

As the study of Numismatics is not of a very lively character, I would beg leave to be permitted to suggest that when the ardent friends of the science meet, they may prevent a sombre cast pervading the assembly, and render the meeting both intellectual and amusing, by each member, when convenient, contributing, without diffidence or reserve, his quota towards the interests of the Society, and introducing some coin, or numismatic information. I regret to say that reserve is too frequently the characteristic of the Numismatist; and that the higher he may be rated as a collector, the greater is his temptation to retire with his treasure. That he should, indeed, fondly entertain the idea that he has that which no one possesses but himself, is no more than the fact justifies; and so far from such an idea being injurious to the science, great good may result from such a prudent,

but generous, use as enables the possessor to enrich the science without the remotest danger of impairing his own cabinet.

Let the miser have the sole odium of having a useless golden god. The Numismatist may be as great a benefactor to science as those illustrious men whose names are immortalized in the annals of nations. For my own part, I cannot conceive what gratification any one can find in possessing a variety of beautiful coins, and keeping them to himself. It is true there can be no pleasure in shewing a fine work of art, or antiquity, to persons incapable of appreciating the beauty of the one, or the curiosity of the other. But to those of intellectual powers and cultivated minds, the possessor of ample collections of coins may be regarded as twice blessed, if, in addition to the stores he has the happiness of owning, he makes them, like the sun in the firmament, an inexhausted fountain of light and heat to others.

If the plan I allude to be pursued by the members, it will assist and render easy the labours of the Chairman ; will give a zest to the meeting, and

tend to the stability of a Society which I sincerely hope will exist in unimpaired prosperity for ages.

The second Meeting of the Society took place on the 28th of February, our President in the chair. After confirming the minutes of the preceding meeting, a letter from Sir Henry Ellis was read; a very interesting communication, containing an extract from a newspaper published in the reign of Charles the First, called "The Kingdome's Faithfull and Impartial Scout, 1648;" in which paper the Editor informs the public that some prisoners had been taken from the royal army, then stationed at Pontefract, and that on them had been found pieces of silver coin, somewhat square, and bearing on one side a C. R. surmounted by a crown, and accompanied by a legend; and on the other side a castle, with P. C. &c.* The Editor says, also, that "these pieces they make of plate, which they get out of the country." This gratifying intelligence from Sir Henry was received with the approbation it deserved. Isaac Cullimore,

* The coin here alluded to is the Pontefract shilling, of which there are four varieties. They are all rare.

Esq. then read an elaborate dissertation on the Medo-Persian coins termed Darics (or by some called Archers, from the figure of an archer being represented on the obverse), which was received with much pleasure.

It gave me much satisfaction to have the opportunity of presenting for inspection, a cast of an extremely rare coin; one, in fact, so rare as not to have been seen, as far I can learn, by any collector of the present day, till I discovered it in a splendid cabinet of coins, many of which have been treasured up for a century or two. Having, however, the privilege of being introduced by a liberal friend of mine to the proprietor of so ample a store, I had the pleasure to descry the medal in question. The piece of money I allude to, is the dollar of Henry Lord Darnley, and Mary of Scotland, as king and queen, *having their respective busts*. The possessor of this desirable coin was agreeably surprised when I stated to her its rarity, and consequent value, as she was entirely ignorant either as to what the coin was, or its worth. It is in good preservation. The bust of Henry is on the dexter

side, and the queen's opposite; indeed, similar to those of Philip and Mary on their coins. Writers state, that James the First, of England, was unlike either his father, or his mother; they being both handsome. Hence, those who make such a statement scruple not to indulge in a free notion on the subject, and to hint that the Italian, Rizzio, had a less disputed claim than Henry to paternity in the person of the young Prince James. With what reason such insinuations were hazarded I am at a loss to imagine, as Rizzio himself is celebrated for peculiar elegance of person. If, therefore, Mary could be pronounced guilty or innocent from the features of her child, the test resorted to proves the injustice of the attack on her character; inasmuch as on the coin in question, we meet with an original bust of Lord Darnley, with the *fac simile* profile of his son. The turn up nose, and various other peculiarities, all combining to form the *beautiful features* of James the First, of England. The similarity of portrait is probably no where seen so strikingly as in the early Scotch coins of James, particularly in what is termed his

thirty-shilling piece, a coin somewhat larger than our half-crown.* The portrait of the queen is

• One might be tempted to suggest, that the Scottish artists had here followed the example of the engravers of the Roman mint, who in so flattering a manner assimilated the likeness of the reigning emperor to that of the preceding one, in cases where the sovereign then wearing the purple had been nominated a successor. Witness the first coins of Domitian, how like his father, and his brother, he is represented on them ; while others, struck subsequently, when he alone was the idol to be worshipped, give his own portrait quite unlike the former. Notice the early Denarii of Trajan : in many instances you can scarcely distinguish them from those of Nerva. The restored coins bear the same peculiarity. On one now before me, a sestertius of Augustus, restored by Nerva, we find the comely features of the first named emperor distorted to form the scraggy neck and the aquiline (Wellington) nose of Nerva. To guard, however, against any misconception on this point, I will quote a paragraph from an article in the Numismatic Journal for April, 1837. "The tyro in numismatics must not be misled into the notion that little dependance is to be placed on the fidelity of medalllic portraits in general. No conclusion would be more false. The instances commented upon are peculiar exceptions, thoroughly understood by experienced numismatists ; and so far from misleading, merely amuse by the skill and ingenuity

represented with a close head dress, with her bust clothed up to the neck, having the addition of a stomacher, &c.

I have examined the whole of the medallic portraits which I have seen of her, and which were executed in her day, and I have seen original pictures, but have in both cases sought in vain for the beauty for which she was so celebrated. I

they display. The fact that these ingenuities are so readily detected, proves the truth of the standard likenesses with which the regular coins abundantly furnish us. Certainly, excessive flattery prevailed on ancient coins, though scarcely more so than it does on most modern medals; but this was worked into the legends, and imaginary devices, while the portraits were studiously copied from the reality." From an attentive observation of the portraits on these coins, it is long since I first remarked the circumstance which is here noticed, and indeed which must strike the most inexperienced numismatist. But this flattery must not in reality be placed on the shoulders of the engravers of the Scottish mint, as in all existing portraits of James we find the same profile as that representing his father on this coin. Probably of all the English monarchs, James I. had the least pretension to personal attractions.

fear I am on dangerous ground in maintaining this assertion, but as I make use of my own eyes alone, I am answerable for the consequences of thus underrating the presumed handsome features of the Scottish queen. On the reverse of the coin under consideration, are the arms of Scotland, a lion within a shield; indeed, very similar to the obverse of the dollar of Mary, *without her head*, the difference being in the legend.

There fell in my way also a scarce and curious medal of Caroline Matilda, and Christian the Seventh, king of Denmark. This was likewise presented for inspection. The Princess Caroline Matilda was the posthumous daughter of Frederick Prince of Wales, and youngest sister of George the Third. She was generally known under the appellation of the unfortunate Queen of Denmark. In 1766, this lady, then in her sixteenth year, was united in marriage with her first cousin, Christian the Seventh, (he being the son of the Princess Louisa, daughter to George the Second, of England, and the King Frederick the Fifth, of Denmark). This prince was then a mere stripling, a

beardless youth, whose intellectual capacities were equalled only by the frivolity of his pursuits. The marriage proved exceedingly unfortunate, which is generally attributed to the artful and ambitious intrigues of the queen-dowager, the mother-in-law to Christian the Seventh. The young queen, thinking no evil of the latitude allowed in many of the Continental courts, was accused (justly or not it is impossible to say,) of unjustifiable intercourse with the Count Struensee, who, with another minister, Brandt, had their heads struck off. The unhappy princess, with her infant child, was conveyed to the castle of Cronenburgh. In 1772, she was given up to her brother the king of England, who had her conveyed to Zell in Germany, where she died three years afterwards.* Her imbecile husband

* The female branches of the illustrious House of Brunswick do not all appear to have been born under propitious planets. The queen of George I., Sophia of Brunswick Zell, was confined nearly forty years at Ahlden in Germany, for gallantries alleged indeed, but never satisfactorily proved. She died in that country in 1726, never having set her feet on English ground. Again, the amiable Charlotte Christina, of Brunswick Blackenberg, who was

survived her thirty-three years, he dying on the 12th of March, 1808.

married in 1711 to the Prince Royal, or, as he was termed, the Czarowitz Alexis of Russia. He was the ferocious son of Peter the Great, and to his brutal treatment she owed her death. It is not generally known that our late Queen Caroline (consort of George the Fourth,) had an elder sister named Augusta Caroline, and who was eldest daughter to the celebrated Duke of Brunswick Wolfenbüttele, who fell at Auerstadt. This unfortunate princess met with her death in a manner which has, I believe, never been clearly understood. When very young she was married to the Prince of Wirtemberg, by whom she had three children, (the reigning sovereign of Wirtemberg being one of them). The Prince entered the service of Russia, where his family resided. This service, however, he quitted in 1787, taking with him his children, but leaving his consort behind under the protection of as libidinous a monster as ever disgraced a diadem; I mean the late Empress Catherine of Russia, equalling, if not exceeding, Messalina in her amours, and our Elizabeth in her injustice, in inflicting a punishment on a princess over whom she had no just control. Elizabeth might have pleaded, to a certain extent, the poor excuse of self-preservation, but the potent Catherine had no compeer whose liberty might have endangered either her crown or her life; her victim was powerless, and without friends who could

I have never before seen a bust of this personage on a medal. On that before me, the obverse

assist her. The princess, however, incarcerated by Catherine, died, or was reported to have died, within two or three years afterwards; the female sensualist of the North gave no notice to her father and husband that she ceased to exist. The Duke of Brunswick, with the feelings of a father, begged with earnest entreaties to see the body, but his pressing solicitations were of no avail, and it was doubted at the time whether his daughter was not in reality still in existence. When Revolutionary France was, like a pest, spreading desolation over the Continent, it was reported, as I well remember, that a princess had been discovered in a place of confinement, and this princess, too, was presumed to have been Augusta Caroline of Wirtemberg; but the report seems to have been unfounded. Her husband, it appears, was exonerated from having any share in the transaction, as we find him in 1797 paying court to the Princess Royal of England, whom he married in the month of May of the same year. This princess, who was afterwards Queen of Wirtemberg, fearlessly, and I believe successfully, put an end to all apprehension in her union with the prince. The history of the late Queen Caroline, sister of the first Princess of Wirtemberg, is too recent and too well known to require notice here.

I can almost fancy I hear some one say, "What has this story to do with your account of the Denarius, or the Nu-

presents you with the busts of Christian VII. and his Queen ; his head is laureated, (a cap with bells would have been more appropriate), his bust clothed, and in armour ; her head richly decorated with jewels, the face almost a *fac-simile* of that of Maria Louisa, the widow of Napoleon Bounaparte, and very unlike any of the members of her own family. What renders the resemblance more striking is, that the same ornament is attached to the head-dress as was usually worn by Maria Louisa. On the reverse, a female figure with a wreath of laurel, anchor, &c., and legend.

The third meeting of the Numismatic Society was held on the 16th of March, our President in the chair. After the minutes of the former meeting had been read, Mr. Akerman produced an

numismatic Society ? My answer would be " Nothing ;" still there are those to whom the perusal of these little anecdotes may be as acceptable as they were to myself when first I read them ; for such persons they are here related. Variety is pleasing, and interesting as the accounts of coins may be, some short anecdotes to which they give rise, may perhaps relieve the reader rather than embarrass him.

extremely interesting and valuable article of his own, on the coins of the ancient Britons, in which he proves that many of the coins given by the continental authors to Gaul, belong indisputably to Britain, and states the fact that such coins as those with the words VERVLAMIO, or CVNO-BELINVS, or with the same words abbreviated, are never found in France; he likewise enters fully into an account of certain rings, considered by many to have been intended for ancient coins, and mentions the circumstance of a cart load of these rings, in brass, being discovered a few years since in a tumulus in the county of Monaghan, in Ireland, (they are likewise found in gold and silver). He then describes coins which are formed like, or bear the representation of a wheel on them, presuming the cross formed by the spokes of the wheel might have some relation with the far famed druidical circle; he says, "The whole formed an appropriate amulet or charm against evil." This very clever and ingenious article is given in the Numismatic Journal of last April, as well as plates of the ring money, and of British

gold, silver, and copper, to the amount of 25; many, or the whole, never before published, amongst which I recognised some of them as having passed through my hands, one in particular, being of a lot discovered some years since in St. James's Park, while the labourers were there excavating. The person who brought this one, with four others to me, stated, that presuming them to be of no value, the remainder were flung into the soil again; the other four, that intelligent and much respected antiquary, the late William Hamper, Esq., of Birmingham, purchased of me: the one now engraved is in the possession of my friend Mr. Edward Spencer.

This article I would strongly recommend to the perusal of my readers, as well as others in the same journal; one of them on the ancient restored coins of the Roman mint, by the Rev. E. C. Brice, will well repay an attentive perusal. Mr. John Freeman, of Stratford, has likewise supplied a brief but learned paper on the weights of the Spanish and English grains, supplying a table for assimilating those weights. Another gentleman,

facetiously signing himself S.P.Q.R. (Senatus Populusque Romanus), sends a paper, cutting up Dr. Walsh for what he calls an error in his Essay on ancient coins, illustrative of the early progress of Christianity. Which of the learned gentlemen may be right, I am sure it is not for me to say; I know the work alluded to, possessing a copy of it, which the Doctor himself presented to me when first published. At that time, which was some years since, on perusing it, I considered it required no little stretch of the imagination to conceive some of the coins there engraved to have any reference whatever to Christianity. To J. G. Pfister, Esq., the Editor of this periodical is much indebted for a long and very clever letter on the coins of the middle ages, or those pieces struck by the Florentines, and termed florins, giving an engraving of "The Fiorino D'Argento," of 1181, with representations of the Baptist and others found on them. He states that these coins are now more sought after than ever; likewise that Greek and Roman coins are at present the rage in Italy, (this shews their good taste), but that in Germany the Romans begin

to get out of fashion. If this be the case, let them send them to England; our collectors will be ready to give them a welcome reception, particularly if amongst them a few good medallions should be interspersed. I have reason to believe that we, of England, generally get only what the Continental collectors choose to spare us in their liberality, or when an occasional necessity may drag from their recesses some few very rare medals, by the powerful magnetic attraction of British gold. Roman coins were never sought after with greater avidity than in the present day, and this taste will continue. What can be more consistent? it is the money of our ancestors, they were coins of the world, have circulated almost every where, were the medium of currency in Britain for three to four centuries, indeed, from the early conquests of the Romans until their retirement from it. A child may read them, and with more facility than our early Saxon, or even our early English coins, with the eternal crosses, and the "POSUI DEVM ADIVTOREM MEVM"*

* This motto or legend might have been consistent with the character of the mild and pious Henry the Sixth, or

of the latter; and the splendid embellishments of dots on their reverses, or in lieu of that, the moneyer's name (*à la Pistrucci*), with place of mintage. The learned author of the article on the florin, concludes by passing an eulogium on Petrarch, who, he says, was one of the earliest collectors of Roman coins on record. Leaving the journal to the protection of the British public, I revert to the Numismatic Society. Mr. H. W. Diamond presented two books on coins, one of them having the autograph of Ortelius. A specimen of the currency of the Gold Coast of Africa, called a manilla, was presented by Mr. John Williams; and a paper communicated on the Egyptian coins of the Ptole-

of the last of the Edwards; but that those atrocious despots, those wholesale regal butchers *of the good old times*, the usurper and regicide Richard the Third, and that stifler of domestic and all natural feeling, Henry the Eighth, should have adopted it, is little less than blasphemy. Those who do me the honour to read this, must not consider me otherwise than a staunch royalist—I *am one from my very heart*; but this at a time when our sovereign has neither the inclination, nor happily the power, to commit crimes such as those of the above named princes.

mies, by Samuel Sharp, Esq., was received with much satisfaction. At this meeting I embraced the opportunity of placing before the members a cast from an unique gold medal, or pattern piece of Charles the First, (see the plate). This extraordinary piece is in the possession of Lieut.-Colonel John Drummond; indeed, it was at my suggestion that he recently purchased it of the Rev. Mr. Commeline, Senior Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge. This gentleman is a collateral descendant of Bishop Juxon, who attended the unfortunate monarch in his last moments. It appears that at that eventful period the king possessed the jewel of the order of the Garter, and another diamond, and two seals, and previously, or at the time just referred to, this identical medal, which his Majesty presented to Bishop Juxon, as a mark of regard for the attention and attachment the bishop had shewn him. There appears to be a tradition in Mr. Commeline's family, that it was given by the king to the bishop while the monarch was on the scaffold, but this statement may be doubtful. Sir George Chetwynd, Bart., is descended from



A Gold Medal or Pattern of Charles 1st

A. Friadell's Lith. Estab^o. 15, Southampton St. Strand.

Elizabeth Juxon, a niece of the bishop, and who possessed the original jewel of the order of the Garter, which all authorities acknowledge was given by the king only a few moments previous to his death, and Sir George informs me that he has heard his father likewise state, from tradition, that the Garter alone was given on the scaffold. Be that as it may, it cannot increase or diminish the value and interest attached to this medallie memorial. That it came from the king is certain, and that it was given to the bishop is likewise certain, for he by will bequeathed it to Mrs. Rachel Gayters, who gave it to her granddaughter, the wife of the Rev. James Commeline, who was father of the present Rector of Red Marley, Worcestershire, of whom Colonel Drummond purchased it.

This curious medal bears on the obverse the bust of the king, with his name and title, and with the rose as a mint mark; the likeness is very good, but it cannot compete with the likenesses executed by Briot, from the original portraits of that sovereign by Vandyke: that on the coin in question is doubtless the work of Rawlins, an artist who fol-

lowed the fortunes of his royal master, and was subsequently employed by Charles the Second. He executed that very rare crown-piece, struck at Oxford, and having that city represented under the horse on which the king is seated. If the medal under consideration be compared with this coin, the portrait of Charles will be found to be exactly similar on both pieces, though a slight difference is perceptible in the costume; still the workmanship of both is evidently traceable to the same hand. On the reverse are the arms of England, crowned, with C. R. &c., and accompanied by the legend, "Florent Concórdiâ Regna," (Kingdoms flourish by concord), doubtless in admonitory allusion to the unsettled state of the times: this side likewise bears a mint mark. It may be asked for what purpose was it struck; was it intended for a coin or a medal? * I reply, without fear of contradiction, that it was meant as a pattern for a coin, or else for

* The reader must still bear in mind that Numismatists, when speaking technically, term a coin a medal; on the contrary, nothing could be worse than to call a medal a coin, it not being struck for currency.

what reason are the mint marks? The coin weighs 733 grains, and has what is termed an engrailed edge, but it is not milled. There is a twenty shilling piece in gold, very similar in appearance, having for the mint mark an anchor, and the king's titles more abbreviated.

After the thanks of the Society had been awarded for presents, &c. the meeting was adjourned to the 20th of April, on which occasion a considerable number of members were present, with Dr. Lee in the chair. The Editor of the Athenæum presented fifty numbers of his publication, in which he had recorded the transactions of the Society. A book was likewise sent from Professor Brandt, of Berlin, through J. G. Pfister, Esq.; Mr. Valpy also presented one, and other presents were made by different members. The same evening, Mr. Benjamin Nightingale offered a very curious and extraordinary coin of fine tin, struck by the Burmese. I must permit him to describe it himself, by giving a copious extract from his letter, which accompanied the coin.

“ I have the honour to present to the Numis-

matic Society, a coin of the Burman Empire. It is composed of fine block tin, and bears on the obverse a rude representation of some quadruped, probably a horse, with branching feet and tail, such as the serpent or dragon is represented with on the silver coins of Cochin-China. It is very probably a delineation of some animal sacred to Bhudda, their chief divinity, Buddhism being the prevalent religion of the Burmese. Around the coin is a double circle, within which runs a series of pellets or studs. On the reverse appears a similar double circle and pellets, then an inscription or legend in Burmese characters, and in the centre is a *wheel*, that symbol which so constantly occurs on the early British and Gaulish coins, and indeed on the early rude money of almost all nations.

“ I regret that I have so little information to communicate to the Society respecting the value, and denomination, or the signification of the inscription on the coin. The friend, who gave it me, brought it from Tavoy, a port on the coast of Tennasserim, in the Burman Empire. He could tell me no farther than that it was the regular common

money of the place, that it was also current at Rangoon, and other parts of the coast. Among all the books relating to the Burmese which I have consulted, I have been unsuccessful in obtaining any direct information concerning this coin. Marsden does not give it in his 'Oriental Coinage,' and Crawford, in his 'Journey to Ava,' merely states that the money of the Burmese consists of conical lumps of silver, which are current by weight. Captain Lowe, in his 'History of the Coast of Tenasserim,' now publishing in the Asiatic Journal, comes nearer to the point, for under the head of '*Tavoy*,' he speaks of *a large tin piece* being in circulation there, which he denominates a 'Kabeau,' but he gives no description of it, so as to enable us to identify it with this coin; he states that 84 of them were the equivalent for a dollar. Mr. Wilson, the Oxford Professor of Sanscrit, who very obligingly inspected the coin, could not interpret the characters on the reverse; indeed, he was of opinion that they were not letters at all, but were merely intended for an embellishment.

“ Mr. Norris, the Secretary of the Asiatic So-

ciety, was of a different opinion, and shewed me a Burmese Alphabet, to some of the letters of which the characters on the coin bear an exact resemblance, as far as the rude and imperfect construction of the latter would enable us to judge. I am decidedly of the latter opinion, because the shape and formation of the characters apparently prove that they were intended for such ; whereas if the object of them had been merely ornament, there would have been a nearer approach to regularity and uniformity in their arrangement. In Hamilton's East India Gazetteer, I find the following passage:—‘ The character in common use throughout the Burmese territory is a round Nagari, derived from the square Pali, or religious text, formed of *circles or segments of circles*, variously disposed, and written from left to right.’ This description exactly applies to the form of the letters on the coin before us.

“ From the resemblance of some of the characters on the coin in question, to some of the letters in the Asiatic Society's Burmese Alphabet, the English signification of which was attached to them,

I am inclined to think that they describe the name of the coin (Kabeian) and the place where struck; but I must confess that my opinion in this particular amounts to little more than mere conjecture."

This, as well as a similar coin from a lady, was gratefully received. A letter from Mr. Hogg was then read by Mr. Cullimore, relative to the subject of a paper which was produced at a former meeting. Mr. John Williams then gave the first part of a lecture on the earliest Greek coinage, with explanatory remarks, illustrated with magnified drawings and casts in sulphur of the coins themselves. With respect to the earliest mintages, the remarks he made were doubtless correct, that those pieces which have rude indentations on their reverses instead of prominent figures, were struck by having the metal of which the coin was to be formed, placed on sharp points to fix it in the required position to receive the blow intended to stamp the obverse, and that in process of time the artist had so far progressed as to be enabled to

strike coins with a perfect obverse and reverse. This lecture gave evident satisfaction to the party assembled ; after which the meeting was adjourned to the 25th of May.

On this evening, the President being in the chair, Sir William Beetham, Ulster king at arms, produced a paper, in which he proved the affinity of the ancient British, Celtic, and Phœnician languages with that now in use in the Highlands of Scotland and Ireland, as well as some explanatory remarks on the ancient wheel money before alluded to. After which, Mr. John Williams read the continuation of his lecture on the coinage of Greece and Rome, illustrating the subject with some fine casts taken by himself from the originals ; he noticed also the medallions. Some varieties, however, were omitted. First, the Contorniati, pieces struck as ticket-medals for the games, being large and thin, with a hollow circle within their rim, whence their name. The imperial As, struck by Nero, being of the size between the second and third brass, was also omitted.

A remark or two on these coins would afford

some information to the unexperienced Numismatist. I allude to the imperial double As, or the Dupondius, of fine yellow brass, (the metal anciently termed orichalcum). Of Nero, we meet with the As likewise, weighing about 106 grains; also its half, the Semis, with an S on it, which will be found to weigh 54 grains, besides a smaller piece, in weight about 26 grains. The Dupondii of Nero bear on their reverses a figure of Victory, with a branch of palm in the left hand, and in the right a crown of laurel, with the legend, "Victoria Augusti," and, in the exergue, the value designated, being that of two Ases, by the numerals for the number 2, with a stroke above them. Another presents an elegant figure of a female seated in a reclining posture, with the legend, "Securitas Augusti," with the same numerals in the exergue. These coins, on an average, weigh about 229 grains; of course, the state of preservation must be taken into consideration. I have here quoted their actual weight from the originals before me. The As of Nero has on one of its reverses a graceful figure of the Emperor, in the character of Apollo

playing on a lyre, with the legend, "Pontif. Max. Tr. Pot. Imp. P. P." with the numeral 1 in the exergue. On another we find the Emperor sacrificing, the legend, "Genio Augusti," with the numeral as before. The half As, or Semis, is a splendid little coin; indeed, a medallie gem of the Roman mint. On the obverse, a fine bold head of Nero, of exquisite work and high relief, as usual laureated, with his titles as Cæsar and Imperator; on the reverse, a table on which is placed a two-handled vase with embossed figures; beside this is a laurel crown, on the other side the S denoting its value; under the table a discus, above which are two animals, said to be griffins; but on the coin before me, it being a little injured, they appear like two cats, each in an attitude of defiance; the legend "Certamen. quinq. Rom. Co." This coin was intended to commemorate certain games which were instituted by Nero, and celebrated every fifth year. The smallest coin of this class presents on the obverse a pillar surmounted with a helmet, with the Emperor's name and title; on the reverse a tree with a legend. Another bears,

on the obverse, an owl with extended wings standing on an altar, with a reverse similar to the last. The above are all of yellow brass, but the metal apparently not so fine as that of which the Sestertius is formed.

Mr. Pinkerton tells you that the Dupondii were continued to be struck, and that they bore double the value of those other coins also of the second size, but which are of copper. He likewise makes a wonderful discovery, and for which the talented compiler takes no little credit to himself. This is, that the imperial Sestertii, or first brass, are invariably found to be of fine yellow brass. Now if Mr. Pinkerton had turned his steps towards Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, and applied to his old and very good friend, Mr. Richard Miles, in addition to the information which the latter had supplied him with, for a few inferior large brass of the time of Gordian III. or Philip Senior, or up to the extinction of the Sestertius under Gallien; then with a file had taken off a small fraction of each from the edge of the coin, this extraordinary discovery would have turned out to have been

erroneous; he would have found not a few of them to have been formed of copper, aye, within a shade of the copper currency of George III. He quotes Pliny as an authority; so far good as related to his own time; but what authority is Pliny for that which took place a century or two after his death? In addition to this discovery, he should have engaged fast sailing vessels to have wafted the news to those collectors on the Continent, who, although with every facility before them, were still ignorant that the Sestertius was formed of fine yellow brass. That the Sestertii of the earlier emperors are of brass no one will deny. The mine from which the metal was taken, presumed to have been the Livian so named from Livia, the wife of Augustus, may have been worked out, and the amalgamation of metals (copper and zinc, or lapis calaminaris,) which would constitute brass, may have been too expensive a process to be continued. All who collect what are termed *Roman brass*, must have noticed the beauty of the material with which many of the second size are formed. Observe those of the Clovia family bearing the head of Venus

Victrix, with the legend "**Cæsar Dic., Ter.**" and some of **Augustus**. Those of **Livia** as **Justitia**, &c. **Tiberius**, **Antonia**, **Germanicus**, **Nero** and **Drusus Cæsars**, &c., and indeed of the first six Emperors, many of them possess such beautiful tints, that one is led to believe that gold may form part of their fabric; indeed I have known them to be assayed under that impression. That the major part of the coins of the Upper Empire, in the first brass series, were made of this metal, cannot be disputed; but even in the times of the Antonines, we find some which bear a very near relationship to copper; indeed one now before me, of **Julia Domna**, is of that metal, apparently without any mixture. If all those in the second brass series, which are of fine brass, are **Dupondii**, then I agree that the **Dupondius** accompanied the **Sestertius** until the extinction of the latter, and, consequently, were of a superior value to the copper in that series; but I am induced to differ from this opinion, and believe those of brass and the others of copper bore the same value. The **Dupondii** of **Nero**, as before stated, bore their value on them; I see no such marks on

the others of fine brass, and I have before me some scores of each sort of them ; neither do we find the reverses of those in brass conveying by the figures or symbols portrayed on them any signification differing from the copper. Some are of opinion that the brass coins are superior in workmanship to the copper, but this I cannot find out. Two other varieties were not named, as follow :—the double Sestertius of Trajanus Decius, and his consort Herennia Etruscilla, and which are considered to be medallions, whereas, in reality, many of them being double the weight of the Sestertius, doubtless were intended for pieces of two Sestertii. This is not only proved by their weight, but the reverses on the pieces which I allude to are of the ordinary character, being that of a female, a personification of Happiness, with a cornucopiæ in her left hand, and in her right a long caduceus, with the legend “ Felicitas Saeculi.” It is well known that Trajanus Decius, like our George the Third, in 1797, restored the coinage ; and like him, too, struck pieces of larger denomination than any which had previously circulated ; indeed, the English monarch

issued a piece of four times the value of the largest preceding one. But neither the double Sestertius of Trajanus Decius, nor the two-penny piece of George III., appears to have been approved of, as we find the striking of them discontinued by their successors. Of the Roman emperor here named, we also find the third brass again making its appearance; none having been previously struck from the reign of Pertinax. Another distinct variety likewise not noticed, is the Minimi, or fourth brass of the early emperors, and of the Constantine family, as well as of Valentinian, Arcadius, Honorius, Marcian, and others. These pieces weigh from 22 to 24 grains, according to preservation; whilst the third brass of the same emperors will, on an average, be found to weigh from 42 to 48 grains. They appear to have escaped the notice of collectors, which should excite no surprise, as any thing like a series of them is not to be obtained; add to this their minuteness, and the imperfect state in which they are generally found. Still there are exceptions; so much so, that a few

which I have in my own little cabinet are in reality gems.*

The paper read by Sir Wm. Beetham, as well as the lecture here alluded to, afforded much information and pleasure, and received the thanks of the Society. Some medallic works were then presented; a very good copy of Martin Folkes on English coins, from Abraham Rhodes, Esq.; and Simon on Irish coins, with a book on medals, by Mr. T. Purland; after which nine gentlemen were balloted for, and admitted members. The society then adjourned until the 15th of June.

On this occasion, after the minutes of the preceding meeting had been confirmed, the president exhibited a cast from a medal of Bolivar, the ori-

* I will say nothing of the Spintriat of Tiberius, which from their infamous representations are rendered inadmissible into any respectable cabinet; nor of those small coins with the head of an aged female (Cæsar-like, veiled and laureated) on their obverse, presumed to be intended for that of Acca Laurentia, the wife of Faustulus and nurse of Romulus, and bearing on their reverse an S C, considered to have been struck for use in the celebration of the Saturnalia.

ginal of which it seems had been once highly decorated with jewels; these had been surreptitiously extracted from it. From the circumstance of its having been presented to the Liberator, the original may possess some interest; otherwise it would be unworthy of a place in any cabinet, being of extremely rude work, and representing the chief of Peru with a face scarcely human; nor has it even rarity to recommend it; still the thanks of the society were not less due to the gentleman who kindly forwarded the cast for inspection.

The secretary then read a very curious and interesting letter on certain ancient coins of the Chinese empire, called knife coins, from the pen of a member of the society, Mr. Samuel Birch, a gentleman who, it appears, has paid the greatest attention to the currency of the *celestial* empire, and, if we may judge from the abstruse nature of his communication, it will be long before he finds a compeer in the field which he has made his own, and has so successfully explored. The following is the substance of his communication, which I gathered by taking notes at the time.

“ The sulphur impression now offered to the gentlemen present, is from a fragment of a *taou*, or knife coin, of the Chinese in the British Museum. It is of brass, or bell metal, exhibiting a light brown bronze appearance on the exterior, and an iron-coloured granulation at the edge of the fracture, consisting of a perforated ring and the upper portion of a fluted blade. Knives appear at an early epoch to have been worn by the various Tartar hordes, who thus characterize themselves, in the language of the tragedian—‘ The wild chase is our trade, battle and conquest our chief occupation.’ They were worn attached to the girdle; for in a juvenile Chinese Encyclopedia, a stanza of the Kooloo-foo poem is quoted, in which a wife thus deplores the absence of her husband:—

‘ Oh, my husband, where art thou
Beyond yon hills, which tower o’er each other?
Shall I hear the head of your great *knife*,
When the moon like a rent mirror ascends the heaven?’

The commentary explains the head of the great knife, as the ring by which this instrument was

attached to the girdle, producing a clinking noise, and forewarning the approach of the wearer. The *Istorica Relazione del gran Regno della Cina* of P. Alvaro Semedo, in its narration, mentions among the presents made by the Mahomedan ambassadors to the Chinese throne, '600 knives and as many files,' and the narrator continues, 'this last present appearing to me very extraordinary to offer to a monarch, I inquired what use the king made of them, and found none who could tell me, but a certain captain alone said, 'That it was a very ancient custom, and so strictly observed, that no substitution was allowed.' " The use of knives as coins is of a far earlier epoch, and the reason of this feudal right being demanded in the seventeenth century, probably had reference to that haughty arrogance of the Chinese court, which regards all other monarchs as its vassals.

"The *Chin-paou*, a tract upon precious things embodied in the *San-tsae-too-kiuuy*, contains an account of the early currency. It appears from this tract, that the knife coin was the actual adaptation of this shape to the currency, and its

accounts relative to these coins are as follow:—
Ancient knives used under the former monarchs in the same way as silks and gems. Gold knife of the Emperor Wangmang, A. D. 10, perpendicular inscription in the seal character, 'one knife equal to 5000.' Knife of unnamed material coined by the same monarch, perpendicular inscription in the seal character, 'legal knife 500.' Knife found in the fifth year of Seunho in a field near Kinhœen, a village of Munching, with a perpendicular inscription in an old court hand, 'heart-shaped spoon currency 500.' Silver knife, with an illegible inscription, found by Wangkung, a high literary officer in Kinchown, uncertain whether cast under the Kewfoo.

"Hager, in his *Numismatique Chinoise*, gives a drawing of a Chinese knife coin, quite perfect, belonging to the French Museum, probably remitted by P. Amiot from Pihking; and the great rarity of these coins may be inferred from the fact of none belonging to the collection of Mr. Marsden, who had every facility for acquiring them."

Probably no coins in the world are less intellec-

tual or interesting than those issued by the Chinese, who, notwithstanding the insulting presumption for which they are notorious, are immeasurably behind all other civilized nations in the art of mintage. Their common currency of a base material approximates to what is termed bell-metal, and is cast with a square hole in the centre to allow of stringing. We meet with them of an early date; one before me, for instance, is of the Emperor KEENYEN, A. D. 1127; this bears the emperor's name on the obverse, the reverse being quite plain. Another of much earlier date has on it PWAN-LEANG, A. D. 10, signifying half an ounce. Of those inscribed WOCHO coined in the year 81, there are four varieties before me, like the preceding, plain on their reverses. Others are of HUNG-CHE, A. D. 1486; CHINGTIH, A. D. 1515; TEENKE, 1625; YUNGCHING, 1725; and KEENLUNG.

“These pieces are from the mints of Canton (KWANG), Pihking, and Yunnan. Some of them have characters on both sides; one an ornamented engrailed edge. These coins are sunk in the field,

with the characters raised, the border projecting; most of them, in addition to the emperor's name, have TUNG PAOU, signifying current money.

“The above consist of varieties of the *tseen* or *kash*, and are distinguished from the currency of the west by the square hole in the centre. The early ones are known from those of a later date by their inscription, which is generally in a neat seal character, and indicates the weight of the piece, as *woo-choo*, ‘five twenty-fifths of an ounce,’ or by metaphoric expressions, as *hotseen*, ‘source of wealth.’ They are said by the native authorities to have circulated from a century before to a few years after the christian era, and their date is indicated by their diameter and weight, probably dependent on the necessities of the state.

“The coins of a secondary epoch have four characters on one side only, reading perpendicularly and horizontally, or running round the coin from right to left. The component parts of the inscription are, the imperial, national, or felicitous names assumed by the emperor, to mark the qualities of his reign, and during the early dynasties

frequently changed. These names therefore mark chronological epochs. Thus we have Tae-ping, A. D. 967 to 975; Hung-woo, A. D. 1366 to 1397; Teen-Ke, A. D. 1620 to 1629, &c. The other portion of the inscription is the expression for money, as before stated. In addition to this, the coins of the present Tsing, or Manchow dynasty, are inscribed on the reverse with two characters, expressive of the town at which they were fabricated.

“When the Tartar yoke became more firmly rivetted on the Chinese, they dropped the use of the Chinese character on the reverse, and the coins of the later Emperors have the Manchow transcription only, as *Yun-poo*, ‘money of Yun-nan,’ reverse of a coin of Keenlung, A. D. 1780 to 1796. *Kweipoo* ‘money of Kweichow,’ reverse of a coin of the same monarch.”

Coins of Japan are made on the same model, but differ in execution. Of the Javanese we meet with pieces somewhat similar, but larger in dimensions, and representing human and other figures, as well as buildings.

As to the silver coins of the Chinese, it appears they are satisfied with those of other countries, such as the Spanish dollar, &c. which as they pass through the hands of the merchants are counter-marked; but Cochin China has recently issued a silver dollar of respectable appearance, which, in the absence of a silver currency among the Chinese, may be regarded as a step towards improvement. On the obverse is the lung, or dragon, the national emblem; on the reverse are four characters, reading perpendicularly *Ming-ming*, the imperial name, and horizontally *tung-paou*, and in the centre a radiated sphere.

The Rev. Mr. Reade presented some moulds found in the neighbourhood of Whitby, in Yorkshire, in which Roman (silver) coins had been cast. They were doubtless the manufacture of forgers, and from what I could gather from the speech of Mr. Reade, he conceived they might have been executed by the Roman army, presuming them to be deficient of cash. This I must beg leave to dispute, not believing that under any circumstances the Roman government sanctioned the *casting* of

coins, indeed none but what were struck, and that too by officers appointed for the purpose; for, as before stated, I have never, in the whole of the practice which I have had amongst Roman medals, seen a genuine Roman denarius that could, on a minute inspection, be taken for a cast, although there are many of Aquilia Severa, Julia Soemias, Maesa, and others, which have very much that appearance on a cursory view. Indeed I have seen denarii that bear very much the appearance of being cast, of the reign of Albinus, who assumed the purple in Gaul, and there struck coins as emperor. They differ in appearance from those struck in Rome as Cæsar only. I allude not to that type with the legend "Fides Legionum Cos. II." but to others; still I have no doubt if they are cast, they are ancient forgeries.

In the rooms of the Geological Society may be seen one of these moulds, or indeed part of two, bearing the impress of the head of Caracalla on one side, and on the other, that of his brother Geta; for it appears that many of the moulds were placed together, and all filled at the same time.

The mould alluded to was discovered at Lingwell Gate, near Wakefield, and geologists pronounce it to be composed of clay containing fossil infusoria of two species, namely *navicula* and *gaillonella Romana*.

Mr. John Hey, in the "Transactions of the Philosophical and Literary Society of Leeds," vol. i. part 1, gives the following interesting account of various discoveries of these ancient clay moulds.

"The first authenticated discovery in this kingdom was at Lingwell Gate in 1697. They were again found there by our town's-man Thoresby about the year 1706. The coins for which they were intended were Severus, Julius Domna, Caracalla, Alexander Severus, Mammæa, and Diadumenian. About the same period, great numbers were found at Lyons in France, the whole of which were of Severus, Julia, and Caracalla; others were discovered nearly at the same time at Edington, in Somersetshire, and at the latter end of the last century at Ryton, in Shropshire. The moulds at Ryton, were of Severus, Julia, and Caracalla; those at Edington, of the same, and also of Geta,

Macrinus, Elagabalus, Alexander Severus, Maximin, Maximus Cæsar, Plautilla, Julia Paula, and Julia Mammea.

“ But the largest deposit which has yet been known, was turned up by the Plough at Lingwell Gate in 1830. The circumstance having attracted the attention of some gentlemen at Wakefield, a further search was made, and four crucibles were discovered, along with several funnels, used in the process of casting. The whole of these were found of a bluish white clay, which was very plentiful on the spot about 18 inches from the surface.”

Mr. Hey is of an opinion that the parts where the moulds were discovered have originally been forests, consequently impervious to general notice, and that here the forgers congregated to carry on their unlawful practices.

A list of the donations which had been presented to the Society was then read. After which Dr. Lee, in an eloquent address of considerable length, took a retrospective view of the Numismatic information which had been offered to the Society during the meetings; connected with which, he gave an

admirable lecture on the production and progression of early coinage. At the termination of which, a vote of thanks was proposed to be presented to him as President, for his indefatigable and unceasing exertions for the welfare and prosperity of the Society. This was carried with acclamation.

The Session then terminated, the meeting of the Society being adjourned to November next.

A LIST
OF
THE CHIEF
COIN AND MEDAL COLLECTORS
IN LONDON,
AND IN THE COUNTRY,
&c.



A LIST

OF

COIN AND MEDAL COLLECTORS

IN LONDON, AND IN THE COUNTRY.

Pinkerton gives you the names of a few of the principal collectors of his day, of whom five or six are still living. Numismatics must have wonderfully progressed since his time, when in London alone, at present, we can enumerate the following Noblemen and Gentlemen as the chief Collectors, namely:—

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| The Duke of Devonshire | J. Y. Akerman, Esq. |
| The Earl of Harrington | J. Baker, Esq. |
| Baron Bolland | William Bentham, Esq. |
| Sir Henry Ellis, K.H. | J. B. Bergne, Esq. |
| Colonel Fox | Charles Barclay, Esq. |
| Colonel Durrant | James Broad, Esq. |
| Lieut. Col. Bowler | John Brumell, Esq. |
| Dr. Lee | Samuel Birch, Esq. |
| The Rev. E. C. Brice | Robert Boyne, Esq. |
| The Rev. J. A. Giles | Thos. Burgon, Esq. |
| The Rev. Mr. Cotton | J. D. Cuff, Esq. |

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| L. J. Curtis, Esq. | Fred. Perkins, Senr. Esq. |
| Pitt Cobbett, Esq. | T. C. Powell, Esq. |
| William Dicken, Esq. | —— Pybus, Esq |
| Chris. Edmonds, Esq. | Hy. Robson, Esq. |
| John Freeman, Esq. | J. Sams, Esq. |
| Josh. Guilt, Esq. | C. R. Smith, Esq. |
| George Guilt, Esq. | Edward Spencer, Esq. |
| W. D. Haggard, Esq. | (Aeronaut) |
| Edward Hawkins, Esq. | Archd. Stephens, Esq. |
| John Hills, Esq. | Thos. Thomas, Esq. |
| —— Hayward, Esq. | —— Towers, Esq. |
| —— Hunt, Esq. | William Wansey, Esq. |
| Edward Ivardan, Esq. | T. Walsh, Esq. |
| —— Jameson, Esq. | Wm. A. A. White, Esq. |
| —— Laing, Esq. | Ralph Willet, Esq. |
| P. H. Leathes, Esq. | R. W. Wilsome, Esq. |
| —— Lincoln, Esq. | —— Wood, Esq. |
| Benj. Nightingale, Esq. | C. Wyatt, Esq. |

And in the Country the following :—*

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|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| The Duke de Blacas (<i>Paris</i>) | The Marquis Coningham |
| The Duke de Luynes (<i>Paris</i>) | The Marquis de Lagrange |

* A few also are enumerated of well known collectors on the Continent.

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| The Marquis de la Goy (<i>Paris</i>) | General Ainsley Lieut. Gen. John Ramsay |
| The Earl of Derby | Lieut. Col. Drummond |
| The Earl of Pembroke | Lieut. Col. Leake |
| The Earl of Asburnham | Major Dyson |
| The Count Pourtalès (<i>Paris</i>) | Capt. W. H. Smyth, R.N. Doctor Frank (<i>Vienna</i>) |
| Lord Visct. Holmesdale | The Rev. Archdn. Potts |
| Lord Northwick | Rev. Dr. Burney |
| Lord Nugent | Rev. Dr. Nott |
| Count St. Genois (<i>Vienna</i>) | Rev. Mr. Dymock |
| Baron Baillyet (<i>Paris</i>) | Rev. J. Martin |
| Baron Roger (<i>Paris</i>) | Rev. Mr. Wellings |
| The Baron Bretfield (<i>Vienna</i>) | Rev. Fred. Blick Rev. E. I. Shepherd |
| The Baron Hammerstein (<i>Vienna</i>) | Rev. Mr. Tufnel Rev. Frederick Pawsey |
| The Lord Bp. of Litchfield | Rev. Jervis Kenrick |
| The Dean of St. Patrick | Rev. C. P. Price |
| The Provost of Eton | Rev. Rd. Wellesley |
| Sir J. D. Astley, Bart. | Rev. Wm. Marshall |
| Sir Geo. Chetwynd, Bart. | Rev. Mr. Dansey |
| Sir Geo. Musgrave, Bart. | Rev. Mr. Coates |
| Sir John Twisden, Bart. | Rev. Mr. Duke |
| Gen. Louis de Taux (<i>Vienna</i>) | John Allen, Esq. (<i>Oporto</i>) Edward Acton, Esq. |

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| A. Arbuthnot, Esq. (<i>Scotland</i>) | John Hawkins, Esq. |
| —— Anstice, Esq. | Edward Hallswell, Esq. |
| G. B. Baker, Esq. | William Haines, Esq. |
| Frederick Bauer, Esq. | John Hall, Esq. |
| —— Bagster, Esq. | —— Heath, Esq. |
| —— Baron, Esq. | William Hoare, Esq. |
| William Benson, Esq. | Isidor Löwenstern, Esq. (<i>Vienna</i>) |
| John Bluett, Esq. | Q. Kennedy, Esq. |
| William Beckford, Esq. | H. Knatchbull, Esq. |
| —— Boddington, Esq. | R. N. Lee, Esq. |
| —— Borrel, Esq. (<i>Smyrna</i>) | —— Lindsey, Esq. (<i>Cork</i>) |
| John Boase, Esq. | C. W. Loscombe, Esq. |
| J. Trotter Brockett, Esq. | —— Lucas, Esq. |
| L. H. Bunbury, Esq. | George Marshall, Esq. |
| James Dawkins, Esq. | Josh. Mayer, Esq. |
| George Daubeny, Esq. | —— Marmin, Esq. (<i>Boulogne</i>) |
| Frederick Dickson, Esq. | M. Millingen, Esq. (<i>Paris</i>) |
| Henry Durden, Esq. | —— Mules, Esq. |
| Prosper Dupré, Esq. (<i>Paris</i>) | T. H. Newenkirchen, Esq. (<i>Frankfort</i>) |
| Andrew Fountaine, Esq. | —— Norris, Esq. |
| G. Griesbach, Esq. | John Parkinson, Esq. |
| J. H. Griesbach, Esq. | William Peckover, Esq. |
| —— Gollerman, Esq. | |

| | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| —— Promber, Esq. (<i>Vien- enna</i>) | —— Stewart, Esq. (<i>Naples</i>) |
| J. G. Pfister, Esq. | Francis Sharpe, Esq. |
| —— Purcell, Esq. | Thomas Sharpe, Esq. |
| J. G. Reeves, Esq. | Wm. T. Spurrier, Esq. |
| Robt. Reeve, Esq. | —— Simmons, Esq. |
| —— Revil, Esq. (<i>Paris</i>) | Studley Vidal, Esq. |
| A. Rhodes Rhodes, Esq. | —— Vint, Esq. |
| Richard Sainthill, Esq. | Welzl de Wellenheim, Esq. |
| (<i>Cork</i>) | <i>Vienna</i> |
| —— Sarjeant, Esq. | Charles Warne, Esq. |
| | Adam Young, Esq. |

And many other gentlemen, whose names I do not remember; likewise a vast number who are unknown to me. The following are those who stand pre-eminent in the richness and value of their collections:—

To Thos. Thomas, Esq. the precedence must be awarded; his cabinets are stored with selections from almost every sale which has taken place for some years past, including Greek and Roman, in gold, silver, and bronze, with splendid specimens of proof and pattern* English coins, chosen with

* It may not be irrelevant to describe here (again) the difference between proof coins, and those medals denomi-

great care and matured judgment. Indeed this gentleman possesses, I believe, not only duplicate, but triplicate coins of extraordinary rarity and value, not to be found in other collections.

Lord Northwick and Mr. James Broad (the latter is considered, and truly so, to be one of our first judges of antique medals) possess, as well as Mr. Burgon, very fine cabinets of Greek coins. Sir George Musgrave's Roman gold, silver, and copper, are very splendid, both in the Consular and Imperial series. Mr. Brumell's Roman in the precious metals, as well as in bronze, are very beautiful, and chosen with great taste. Capt. Smyth's Roman large brass series are nearly all of them of the very first description; indeed this true friend to the medallic science spared no expence in their completion, and amongst them will be found coins of extraordinary rarity and

nated pattern pieces. The former are coins struck with great care, and frequently in fine gold, or silver, and are generally the first impressions from the die. Patterns are those pieces struck and presented for approval, as specimens for the current coin.

beauty. The facility too with which the owner permits collectors to view them, cannot be too much appreciated. The cabinets of Mr. Cuff are enriched with the choicest and most rare varieties of the early British, Saxon, English, Scotch, and Irish mintages, as well as of patterns and proofs of the milled money; likewise the milled money itself in all its differences; attached to which are British Colonial, the whole brought together without any reference as to expence: indeed, this collection, as a private one, is unequalled in the kingdom; there are in it many unique and unpublished coins, which will be found to be a great treasure to science, as I am justified in stating, that the liberal possessor of them, from his attachment to Numismatics, will permit them to be published.

Baron Bolland's English gold coins are very splendid, both in proof and pattern pieces. General Ainsley has a fine series of Anglo-Gallic coins, which he procured from their native soil, whilst travelling on the Continent in the ancient paternal dominions of our monarchs of the Norman dynasty. He had those facilities for procuring them which

are available to few others. The general has subsequently published a very desirable work on Anglo-Gallic coins, in which he introduces pieces of such extreme rarity as to have been almost or quite unknown before his discovery of them. The Dean of St. Patrick, besides a great variety of Roman and other ancient coins, has a fine and extensive assortment of the early British, Saxon, English and Irish, as well as a choice collection of English medals, more particularly of those relating to Ireland, conjointly with British and Irish antiques. If any part of the Dean's collection may be named as pre-eminent, it is his ancient Irish coins, and antiques relating to Ireland, which do him great credit for the spirit of nationality with which they have been collected.

Sir John Twisden has got together a miscellaneous and very extensive collection of all sorts—a regular *melange*. It is impossible to say, from his arrangement of them, in which series he excels most; but from the prices which he has paid for some, and the quantity he has procured, he must have some fine coins by him. Col. Durrant has a

splendid cabinet of fine English coins, as well as patterns and proofs in gold and silver. Very few collections can compete with that of the Rev. J. W. Martin's Saxon, English, Scotch and Irish coins. Mr. Christopher Edmonds has a choice selection of very rare and valuable patterns and proofs. Almost every variety and date of our English milled money may be found in the cabinets of Mr. George Marshall (Birmingham). This gentleman is about giving to the public a grand desideratum, a work which no one has more ability to perform, namely, a list and description of all the known varieties of our milled money from Charles II. to William IV. This publication will be hailed with pleasure by the collectors of those pieces, as previous authors have contented themselves with giving a specimen or two only. One collection alone can compete with Mr. Marshall's, and the proprietor (J. D. Cuff, Esq.) of that collection is anxious to afford the author every information, and lend his valuable aid towards supplying any deficiency that may appear in his own cabinets. Mr. Hawkins and Mr. Haggard in their collections of

medals of and relating to England are unrivalled. The Provost of Eton College (Dr. J. Goodall) has certainly the most extensive assortment of Continental and other foreign coins in the kingdom, as well as some very fine medals. As before stated, Sir George Chetwynd's collection of local and tradesmen's tokens is the most complete in England. The splendid series of Napoleon medals will be found in the highest perfection in the cabinets of Dr. Burney and Joseph Mayer, Esq. of Liverpool. I had almost forgotten to mention the collection of Mr. Loscombe, whose cabinets are rich in fine Greek medals, and noble specimens of Roman medallions.

On the Continent, besides the Imperial cabinet at Vienna, there are in the same city several large and valuable collections of coins. The most extensive of these, and probably of the whole of Austria, is that of the Aulic Counsellor, Welzl of Wellenheim, which comprises coins and medals of all ages and countries. The collection of General de Traux, though not so numerous, and consisting of modern coins only, is highly interesting from its

accurate arrangement with reference to history and chronology; the series of reigns, of battles, sieges, and treaties of peace, having been most carefully attended to by its accomplished possessor. The collection of Dr. Frank is arranged in like manner, but combines also ancient pieces. It is more select, however, than extensive, and is distinguished for exquisite specimens of the coins of the Netherlands. The cabinet of Mr. Isidor Löwenstern, containing modern coins and medals, is remarkable for the scarcity and fine preservation of the pieces, and is particularly rich in those belonging to the French and English series.

The Collectors of Paris must not be forgotten, the chief of whom are the following noblemen and gentlemen, namely, the Duke de Blacas, the faithful servant and minister of the exiled monarch, Charles X. Indeed this distinguished nobleman limits himself to no expense in the completion of his series (Roman); a proof of this may be adduced in the extraordinary prices paid by him at a sale (Mr. Trattle's) which took place a few years

since.* The Duke de Luynes, the Marquis de Lagrange, the Marquis de la Goy, the Count Pourtalès, Baron Baillett, Baron Roger, Mons. Dupré, and Mons. Reuil, are each of them eminently fortunate in possessing fine cabinets of antique coins.

* An Aureus of Albinus brought the very heavy sum £74. Another coin, which should have been kept in this country, was likewise purchased by the duke; the piece alluded to is a gold Allectus, which was knocked down at £70. A proof in each instance of what competition will effect.

A LIST
OF
MEDAL ENGRAVERS.

MEDAL ENGRAVERS.

Having given the names of the collectors of medals, the engravers of them may probably consider they have a claim on our notice. The chief of these is Mr. Wm. Wyon of the Royal Mint. His medals of William IV. and his queen, as well as of the young princess Victoria, for fidelity of portrait and masterly execution, cannot be surpassed. Many of his medals, likewise, of private individuals, are splendid specimens of his art. In his figures he has recently made rapid strides towards perfection. Mons. J. B. Merlen, also of the Mint, has produced some exquisite gems; witness those minute medalets struck in gold, bearing a head of George IV., and which are termed medallic gems. This artist, I understand, engraved some of those splendid reverses on the coins of George IV. and William IV. on which we observe drapery very similar to the Italian coins of Napoleon. Mr.

Pistrucci is not seen to that advantage as an engraver of medals (particularly large ones) which probably as an artist he is entitled to; but as a gem engraver it appears he stands almost unrivalled; indeed, this branch of the profession he followed previously to his coming to England, and to it I should recommend him to return, as I trust we are not un-English enough to prefer the labours of a foreigner, however reputable he may be, to those of a superior artist, and that artist a native. A rumour is afloat that this gentleman is engaged on a medallion commemorative of the battle of Waterloo, by which all previous medals will be eclipsed, and that he has received for the same a large sum on account; still the medal is not completed, although doubtless, for his own credit sake, he will use every exertion to accomplish the work, and fulfil his compact with the nation which has treated him with so much indulgence, and so liberally rewarded him in preference to one of her own children.

I have seen some very good medals which were executed by Mr. Benjamin Wyon, as well as by

Mr. Scipio Clint, a pupil of the late Mr. Milton. A young man of the name of Thos. Pinches, (a nephew of Taylor, of Litchfield Street, Soho) lately imported from that mart of industry and the school of our die-sinkers, Birmingham, will, if I mistake not, be heard of as a first-rate engraver of heads; and if his future works answer the promises of those which he has already executed, nothing can prevent him from attaining to the highest pitch of excellence. As to Mr. Taylor himself, it is unnecessary for me to say any thing further, having already mentioned him as an artist of great talent, both as a medal and seal engraver.

Most of our medals emanate from Birmingham, but they are not generally calculated to surprise by their masterly performance. Still it is but justice to state, that the late gifted Thomas Wyon, and the present family of that name, were originally of that place, as well as the majority of our artists in the die-sinking department.

A D D E N D A.

THE BATTLE OF BARNET,

&c. &c.

King Edward—

“ Thus far our fortune keeps

An upward course,
And we are graced with wreaths of victory.
But in the midst of this bright shining day,
I spy a black, suspicious, threatening cloud,
That will encounter with our glorious sun,
Ere he attain his easeful western bed;
I mean, my lords, those powers, that the Queen
Hath raised in Gallia, have arrived our coast,
And as we hear, march on to fight with us.

Scene—The Field of Battle near Barnet.

Third part of King Henry VIth, Act 5th, Scene 3rd.

ADDENDA.

THE BATTLE OF BARNET,*

&c. &c.

RAPIN, after describing the landing of Edward IV. at Ravenspur, under his father's title, as Duke of York only, and his arrival shortly afterwards in London, on the 11th of April, 1471, gives an account of the battle of Barnet, as follows:—

“Edward had not time to make a long stay at London. Two days after his arrival, he departed to put himself at the head of his army, hearing the Earl of Warwick was advancing to St. Albans. Undoubtedly the earl was extremely embarrassed; he had decamped from Coventry, and marched with great diligence, in expectation that the city of London would keep Edward at least a few days

• Having alluded to this battle in page 83, the following more precise account may be agreeable to some of my readers.

before the walls, and the news of his approach hinder the inhabitants from receiving him; but he saw the metropolis lost, King Henry in prison, and the whole kingdom as it were ready to declare for his enemy. In this extremity there was no other refuge but to fight and vanquish Edward. A victory was the only means of restoring his affairs; but on the other hand, though he had a good army, it was far from being so strong as Edward's, which he had continually increased since his being master of London. In short, after many reflections upon the posture of his affairs, flight being difficult and dishonourable, and the success of battle yet uncertain, he concluded his only way was to venture a battle, and die honourably, if victory declared for his enemy. But withal he resolved so to order it that the Marquis of Montague, his brother, should run the same fortune with him, since it was the event only that could assure him of his fidelity. In this resolution he marched from St. Albans to Barnet,* which is but

* Rapin does not mention Glademoor-heath, but it is thus noticed in Guthrie's History of England:—"And

ten miles from London, where he met Edward, who was likewise advancing to fight there, upon the 14th of April, 1471, being Easter-day. A terrible battle ensued, which decided the fate of the two competitors. Edward had brought Henry with him, not daring to commit him to any one's custody.

“The battle began early in the morning and lasted till noon.* Never, perhaps, had two armies been seen to fight with more bravery and obsti-

they [meaning the troops of Edward] encamped to the north of Barnet, very near the Earl's army, which lay upon a moor called Glademoor-heath, between Barnet and St. Albans.

* In Edward's army, the front was led by Richard Duke of Gloucester. Edward himself, and George Duke of Clarence, commanded the main body; and William Lord Hastings the rear. In the Earl of Warwick's army, the right wing was commanded by John Neville Marquis of Montague, and John de Vere Earl of Oxford; the left by the Earl of Warwick himself, and John Holland Duke of Exeter; and a body of archers, which was in the middle, by Edmund Beaufort Duke of Somerset.—*Hak.* fol. 217.

nacy. Every one considering himself as a rebel in case the enemy was victorious, no favour was expected. The barbarity usually practised in civil wars was well known, and more especially in this, where sundry revolutions in favour of both parties had carried animosity to the highest degree. This probably was the true cause of the continuance of the battle. The Earl of Warwick's troops, though inferior in number, fought desperately, being determined, by the example of their general, either to conquer or die. They had even reason to hope, for some time, that victory was going to declare in their favour. Some squadrons, detached by the Earl of Warwick from the third line, gained so much ground upon their enemies that several posted to London with the news of their defeat. But Edward not losing the presence of mind so necessary to a general on such perilous occasions, ordered a body of reserve to advance, who falling upon the victorious enemy in the flank, put them into extreme disorder. The small number of the Earl of Warwick's troops suffered him not to make a detachment to oppose that body. At the same time the Earl

of Oxford, who had beat back Edward's troops,* considering he had left the line, where he was stationed, too much exposed, wheeled about to return to his post. This precaution, though prudent, occasioned the Earl of Warwick's defeat. The Earl of Oxford's badge upon his arms and colours was a star with streams, and Edward's device was a sun.† A small mist which arose during the battle hindering the Earl of Warwick's troops from discerning the difference, they furiously charged these squadrons as they were returning to their post, and put them to rout before the Earl of Oxford had time to remove their mistake. This bred extreme confusion in the army; some imagining they were betrayed, because they were attacked by their own men, ran away to the enemy. Others seeing them fly that way, thought themselves attacked in the rear, and knew not what

• Hollinshed, p. 1335, says—"The number of King Edward's troops did not exceed nine thousand.

† The gold nobles of Edward IV. have in the centre of their reverses a sun. And on some of his groats we find the same emblem used as a mint mark.

course to take. Meanwhile, Edward, improving this mistake, cut in pieces the troops that were flying towards him. The Earl of Warwick perceiving the disorder, did his utmost to remedy it, but it was to no purpose. At last, willing to animate his troops by his example, he rushed, though on foot, among the thickest of his enemies, where he quickly fell covered with wounds. The Marquis of Montague, his brother, desirous to rescue him, perished in the attempt a few moments after.* Thus ended the battle about noon, by the entire defeat of Warwick's army, ten thousand whereof were slain on the spot.†

* The bodies of the earl and his brother were exposed for three days in St. Paul's Cathedral, after which they were conveyed to Bisham Abbey, Berkshire, and there interred.

† How this account can be reconciled with that given by Hollinshed, I know not, who states that Edward's army consisted of only nine thousand men.

Hall, again, states that there were ten thousand slain on both sides; Fabian has but about fifteen hundred; Stow numbers them at four thousand, and which is correct it is impossible now to say.

“ It is said Edward,* who in all other battles was wont to publish, before the fight, that the common soldiers should be spared, and the officers put to the sword, had ordered now that no quarter should be given. The Earl of Oxford and the Duke of

The bodies of the slain were buried in the field of battle, half a mile from Barnet, where a chapel was afterwards erected to their memory.

* In the year 1789, the body of this prince was discovered. At that time workmen in the employ of Mr. Emblen, builder, were engaged in forming a new vault for the present Royal Family, and having occasion to excavate under St. George's Chapel, Windsor, met by accident with the coffin of Edward IV. Before any of the authorities of the place could reach the spot, the lid was removed, and the body despoiled, one taking a lock of hair, another a bone, &c. A man of the name of John Hall, took the liberty to pocket a heel-bone and a lock of hair. These came into the possession of Mr. John Peckham, of Slough, and upon his decease into mine, more than forty years afterwards; and as they could not then be restored to the place from which they had been taken, they were deposited in the small museum of a gentleman in town (Mr. T. Purland) who will take much pleasure in permitting them to be seen. The bone has the appearance of mahogany, and the hair rather a sandy cast.

Somerset fled into Wales to the Earl of Pembroke, who was levying troops for the Earl of Warwick. The Duke of Exeter was left for dead among the slain, but soon after reviving, he crawled to the next house, whence he found means to be carried to London, where he took sanctuary in Westminster Abbey.

“ Such was the success of this bloody day, and such the end of the famous Earl of Warwick, who since the beginning of the quarrel between the houses of Lancaster and York, had made in England the greatest figure of any subject before him. In a word, he had made and unmade kings as he pleased; nothing more glorious could be said of a private man, if true glory consisted in excess of power.

“ Edward having thus obtained a complete victory, which seemed to secure to him the crown, returned to London, where he was triumphantly received. The king’s first care was to return God thanks for the victory, at St. Paul’s church, after which he ordered the unfortunate Henry to be sent to his old prison.”

Thus terminated the battle of Barnet,* the fatal issue of which again placed a rebellious subject on the throne, and paved the way for the murder of the most virtuous, but certainly one of the weakest princes that ever wore the British diadem, as well as that of his son, Edward Prince of Wales, who after the engagement at Tewkesbury, was murdered in cold blood by the butchering Clarence, the deformed Gloucester, and others.

Adjoining Hadley Green (formerly Glade-moor Heath) stands the parish church, over the western door of which is a small tablet sculptured at the corners, on the dexter side a rose, on the sinister a wing, in the centre the date 1494, in the characters of that day. That the rose would

* In the *Archæologia*, vol. xxi. part 2, is an account of a manuscript on vellum, of the quarto size, divided into four parts, or chapters, and at the head of each is a highly finished miniature. It is preserved in the public library at Ghent. In the first miniature is a representation of the battle; the back ground being seen as open country between two ridges of rock, and on the right a large castellated building, or perhaps a town.

bear any allusion to the Yorkists, and the wing to the opposite party, is not probable, as at this date the two houses were united in the persons of Henry VII. and Elizabeth daughter of Edward IV.

I should be tempted to believe that the bodies of the slain were interred at this spot, it being the same distance from Barnet, viz. half a mile, as the scite on which the chapel was said to have been built; but a circumstance, recently made known to me, militates against this so strongly, that the position is by no means tenable. Whoever visits this church* (and it is well worth visiting) will observe a brass plate fixed against the eastern staircase, to the memory of Philip, the son of

• Here is seen the iron pitch pot, used formerly as a beacon, and which is placed on the top of the tower; it is likewise said to have been used, and probably for the last time, as a signal in the year of the rebellion 1745, when the Londoners were so terribly alarmed at the progress made by the army under the command of the pusillanimous Prince Charles Edward Stuart, (termed the young Pretender). From this tower is a splendid view of the shipping on the Thames, &c.

Walter and Elizabeth Grene. The date of the inscription is, A. D. MCCCCXLII.

This plate, there can be no doubt, had originally been placed over a grave in the church, and as its date is 1442, being twenty-nine years anterior to the battle of Barnet, it precludes the possibility of the church claiming its origin from that event, unless we presume the plate to have been removed from some other place, which is not likely.* There are other very curious monuments in this building worthy of notice, but none apparently of so early a date as this inscription, or even of the time of Edward IV.

Once more reverting to the battle, it is presumed that the range of it extended northward, as before stated, towards St. Albans. That some of the chief nobility who fell in this engagement were there

* In a former note I have stated, that I could discover nothing, either to confirm my belief that Hadley Church was, or was not, built over those who fell at the battle of Barnet. At that period I was not aware of the existence of this plate.

interred, no one will dispute, as a few years since a brass plate which had been placed over one who fell in the contest, and which was sacrilegiously torn from the tomb by some unhallowed hand, came into my possession, and there is no doubt it was disposed of by one of the persons attached to the place, whose duty lay, not in anticipating the ravages of time, by destroying and mutilating those monuments of past ages which are left to us, but in preserving them with fidelity and care. It has subsequently been restored to its original position over the grave, a prey most likely for some future official barbarian, who will consider it his perquisite. Much as these *protectors* of our tombs are to be blamed, and I trust and hope there are but few thus deserving of censure, they are not more to be blamed than others, my own countrymen, who in this one instance, I am ashamed to say, are beneath foreigners, both in tempting those in trust, by giving a reward for their spoliations, and likewise slyly taking small portions as mementos of what they have seen, a finger or a

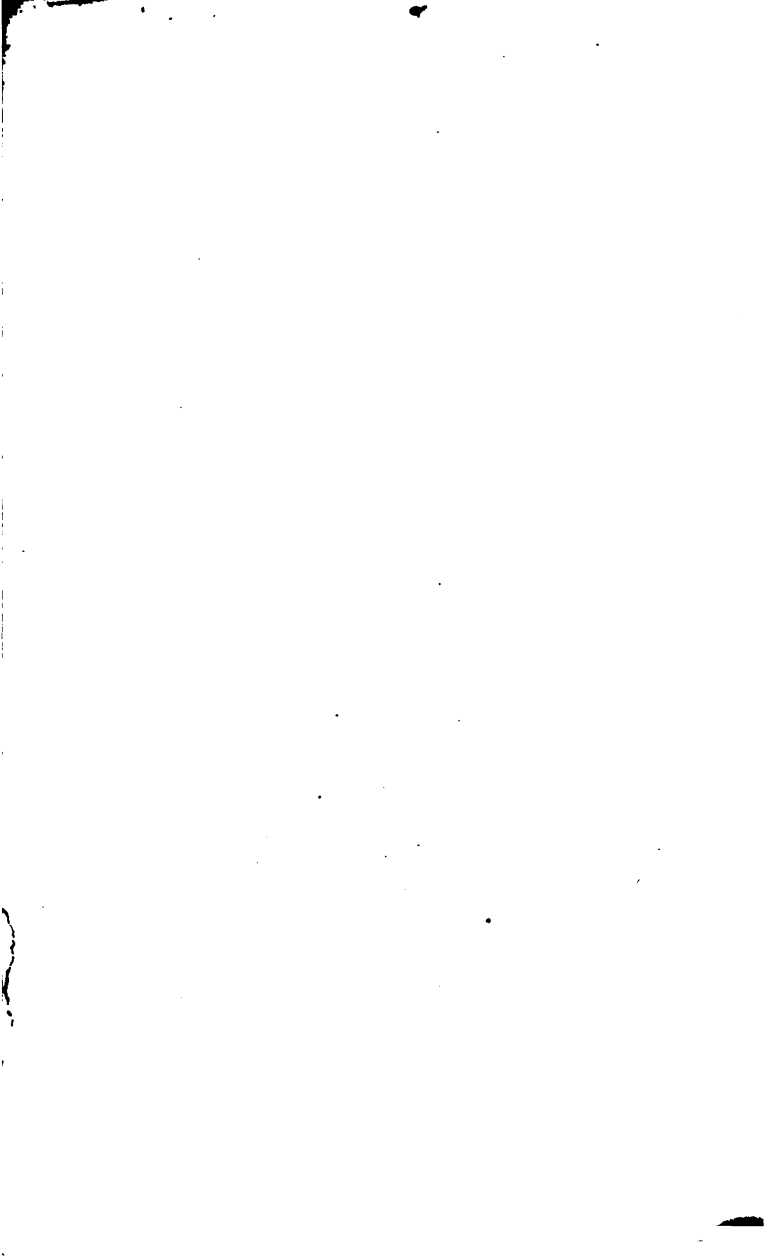
toe of some by-gone beauty,* or celebrated man, which seems a desirable *morceau* to be carried home, put into a drawer, its local interest gone, and become entirely useless, except as a witness—Of what?—of vitiated taste, and a barbarous custom. That it is not the enlightened part of the community, or those who possess a real taste for antiquity, who would so commit themselves, I am

• Observe those splendid statues at Whitchurch Canons, (Edgeware), erected by the princely Chandos, statues which would be ornaments even in Westminster Abbey. Some miscreants have despoiled them of several of the fingers. This beautiful little church (almost unknown to the inhabitants of the metropolis) is well worth their notice. In it is the organ once the property of Handel, and on which, as he was professionally engaged at this church, he regularly played. For the use of this place he composed some of his finest anthems—"The light quirks of music," of the ungrateful Pope, who in his essay satirises his benefactor and friend, then styled the great Duke of Chandos, and who built hard by a splendid palace, which was taken down by one of his successors, after standing about thirty years. On the same scite is the mansion of a lady highly esteemed (the Lady Plumer). The church is contiguous to the village of Edgeware.

aware; but that the untutored should so far forget what they owe to common decency and decorum, or that there should be found persons, either at St. Albans, or any other part of this country, who would lend a hand to such practices, is deeply to be regretted.

THE END.

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AND
ANTIQUES.





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*Do. do. do. Kings.

Greek, copper, do. Cities.

Do. do. do. Kings.

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Roman, gold, Consular.

Do. do. Imperial.

Do. silver, Consular.

Do. do. Imperial.

* The Greek kings are those of Macedon, Syria, Sicily, Caria, Epirus, Pergamus, Cappadocia, Pontus, Mauritania, Judæa, Commagene, &c. &c.—The same may be said of the copper.

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|--------------------------------|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Greek, gold | from | 0 | 15 | 0 | to | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Do. silver | from | 0 | 1 | 0 | to | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Do. copper | from | 0 | 0 | 6 | to | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| Roman, gold | from | 0 | 18 | 0 | to | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Do. silver | from | 0 | 1 | 0 | to | 2 | 12 | 6 |
| Do. large brass | from | 0 | 0 | 6 | to | 2 | 12 | 6 |
| Do. middle do. | from | 0 | 0 | 6 | to | 1 | 11 | 6 |
| Do. small do. | from | 0 | 0 | 3 | to | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| Roman Medallions, in silver .. | from | 0 | 7 | 6 | to | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Do. copper .. | from | 1 | 0 | 0 | to | 10 | 0 | 0 |

* It is proper to mention that many Coins, of extreme rarity in the different classes, cannot be obtained at the prices stated.

| | | £. | s. | d. | | £. | s. | d. |
|--|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Ancient British, gold | from | 0 | 18 | 0 | to | 2 | 12 | 6 |
| Do. do. silver | from | 0 | 2 | 6 | to | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Do. do. copper | from | 0 | 2 | 0 | to | 0 | 7 | 6 |
| Saxon Pennies | from | 0 | 3 | 0 | to | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| English Pennies, from the Con- | | | | | | | | |
| quest to William IV | from | 0 | 0 | 6 | to | 1 | 10 | 0 |
| English, gold | from | 0 | 7 | 6 | to | 15 | 15 | 0 |
| Do. copper | from | 0 | 0 | 6 | to | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| Other Coins and Medals equally low, according to their scarcity, &c. | | | | | | | | |

The above Coins and Medals number from 45,000 to 55,000 pieces. Amongst them will be found some exquisite specimens, in high preservation, of those inimitable artists, T. Simon, Hedlinger, Roettier, the Hammerani, St. Urban, Du Vivier, Croker, Andrieu, W. Wyon, Merlin, &c. &c.

ANTIQUES.

Comprising Egyptian Tablets, Scarabæi, Idols in terra cotta and wood, presumed to have been made upwards of three thousand years; Greek Bronzes: beautiful Greek and Etruscan Vases and Lamps, &c.; Bronze Vessels, Pateras, and Instruments of Sacrifice used by the Ancients, of most elaborate and exquisite workmanship, found in 1829, in the Royal Tombs of the ancient Etruscan Kings, and on the estate of the Prince de Canino (Lucien Bonaparte), in the Ruins of Ancient Vitulonia, from whom they came to the present Possessor. These Articles of Vertu must have been in use from 500 to 800 years before the Birth of Christ. They are well worth the inspection of the Antiquary, the Man of Science, and the Artist, to whose view they are open.

Roman Bronzes, Lacrymatories, Vases, Lamps, Pateras, Rings, and Seals in Bronze; Saxon and early British Antiquities; English and Foreign Monastic and Baronial Seals; Idols from Hindostan, of Vishnu, Budda, &c.; Burmese Idols, with various Antiques illustrative of the different Countries, being their Idols of Worship and Instruments of War.

ERRATA.

Page 5, last line, *for* Dionysus, *read* Dionysius.

17, line 7, *for* Trevers, *read* Treves.

33, line 13, *for* Vitellus, *read* Vitellius.

57, in note, *for* Wilcher, *read* Wilchen.

190, line 19, *for* Reede, *read* Reade.

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Q.S.
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