

## IV.

TWO HOARDS OF SILVER COINS FOUND AT BRIDGE OF DON,  
ABERDEEN, AND AT DUNBLANE, PERTSHIRE. BY  
ROBERT KERR, M.A., F.S.A.SCOT., CURATOR OF COINS.

On 20th November 1937, a workman named Robert Livingston, of Newton of Dunecht, while engaged in digging for the foundations of a new house to form part of a housing scheme on the north side of the River Don, near Bridge of Don, Aberdeen, struck with his pick an earthenware vessel containing a hoard of silver coins. Over the vessel had been laid cobbled paving, above which had accumulated 3 feet of dark soil. About 14 feet north of the paving traces of a hearth were found, with quantities of peat-ash. The vessel was a small handled jug of red clay, green-glazed on the exterior, with a pinched foot-rim. Unfortunately the jug was smashed by the workman's pick, but the number of fragments preserved and sent to the National Museum was sufficient to indicate its shape and height (about 6 inches). Of the hoard which it contained, 197 coins were collected by Dr W. Douglas Simpson, of the University of Aberdeen, who had been notified of the discovery by a work-mate of the finder, and were remitted by him to the National Museum for examination. The coins, along with the fragments of the jug which had contained them, were purchased for preservation in the Museum.

The hoard consists entirely of groats. Only five coins are Scottish, the remainder being English. A low proportion of Scottish coins to English is usual in hoards of this kind.

The following is a summary of the hoard:—

## SCOTTISH GROATS.

David II.	Edinburgh.	Burns, fig. 281	.	.	.	1
"	"	" "	302	.	.	2
Robert II.	"	" "	309	.	.	1
James I.	"	" "	428	.	.	1
						— 5

## ENGLISH GROATS.

## EDWARD III.

<i>London Mint</i>	.	.	.	.	.	31
Uncertain Edward III./Richard II.	.	.	.	.	.	5
<i>York Mint</i>	.	.	.	.	.	4
						— 40

HENRY V.	
<i>London Mint</i> . . . . .	20
	— 20
HENRY VI.	
<i>London Mint.</i>	
Annulet Issue . . . . .	9
Rosette-Mascle Issue . . . . .	1
Leaf-Pellet Issue . . . . .	1
Cross-Pellet Issue . . . . .	2
<i>Calais Mint.</i>	
Annulet Issue . . . . .	77
Annulet-Trefoil Issue . . . . .	2
Annulet-Rosette Issue . . . . .	2
Rosette-Mascle Issue . . . . .	22
Rosette-Mascle Issue (?) . . . . .	1
Pinecone Mascle Issue . . . . .	9
	— 126
EDWARD IV.	
<i>London Mint.</i>	
Heavy Coinage of 1461-64 . . . . .	3
Light Coinage of 1464-70 . . . . .	3
	— 6
	<hr style="width: 10%; margin: 0 auto;"/> 197 <hr style="width: 10%; margin: 0 auto;"/>

Nearly all the coins, not excepting the latest in date, are clipped. The earlier coins are badly worn. The Scottish specimens are all clipped, and in very poor condition.

The date of issue of the latest coin in the hoard is about 1466. As this specimen is clipped, and shows signs of considerable wear, it seems justifiable to suppose that the hoard was deposited a year or two later. Comparable hoards have been found at Stamford (*Num. Chron.*, 1911, p. 153), Guisborough (*Num. Chron.*, 1896, p. 72), and New Cumnock (*Num. Chron.*, 1882, p. 354).

I am much indebted to Mr Derek Allen of the Department of Coins and Medals, British Museum, for assistance in the description of the hoard.

#### HOARD OF SILVER COINS FOUND AT DUNBLANE.

On 8th December 1937, Mr Andrew Fleming, of Barbush Farm, near Dunblane, while working along with an employee amongst the sand in the

quarry on his farm, found nine small silver coins. On the 24th of the same month, eighty-three further coins were found at a distance of a few feet from the first find-spot. Examination of the coins makes it clear that the two groups belonged to one hoard.

On Barbush Farm there are several high knolls, composed almost entirely of clean sand. The largest of these knolls, about 150 yards in length and 80 feet high, lies east and west, and affords a commanding view to north and south. The old north-south route passed close to the east end of this knoll. The coins were found near the highest point of the knoll, at a depth of 4 or 5 feet. No trace of any receptacle was discovered.

Mr Fleming noticed that the sand at the spot where the coins were found was not so pure as the sand round about; it appeared to be mixed with surface soil, and this sand-soil mixture followed what he thought was the line of a trench running from north-east to south-west. Two flat stones, foreign to this part of the farm, each about 18 inches square and 3 inches thick, were found a few feet apart at what seemed to Mr Fleming to be the bottom of the trench.

The hoard, which was sent to the National Museum for examination, was found to be composed entirely of silver pennies. Only two were Scottish (Alexander III.). The great majority (86) were English coins of Edward I. and Edward II. Three were Irish, of Edward I.; and there was one Anglo-Gallic coin of Edward II. None of the coins were suitable for retention for the National Collection. The hoard was probably buried soon after the year 1324.

The detailed inventory of the coins is as follows:—

## SCOTTISH.

## ALEXANDER III.

Burns, fig. 167 . . . . .	1
„ „ 178 . . . . .	1
	— 2

## ENGLISH.

## EDWARD I.-II.

Bristol . . . . .	3
Bury St Edmunds . . . . .	5
Canterbury . . . . .	22
Durham . . . . .	11
Kingston . . . . .	1
Lincoln . . . . .	1
London . . . . .	33
Forgeries . . . . .	2

Newcastle . . . . .	2	
York, Royal . . . . .	3	
Berwick . . . . .	3	
		— 86

## IRISH.

## EDWARD I.

Dublin . . . . .	2	
Waterford: London-Waterford mule, perhaps a forgery	1	
		— 3

## ANGLO-GALLIC.

Edward II. . . . .	1	
		— 1
		—
		92
		—

The hoard contains no rare coins which are genuine. The three forgeries are, however, of interest.

I am indebted to Mr Derek Allen, of the Department of Coins and Medals, British Museum, for valuable assistance in the identification of the coins.

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MONDAY, 9th January 1939.

THE HON. LORD ST VIGEANS, LL.D., Vice-President,  
in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken, the following were elected Fellows: Mrs Ellen R. Ferris; Robert D. Gray; William McIntosh; Captain William Mackay; Lieut.-Colonel George Ramsay Maitland of Burnside; Robert B. K. Stevenson, M.A.; John Philip Stewart, M.D., F.R.C.S.Ed.; John L. Weir, M.A.

Donations to the Museum and Library, as per lists at end of volume, were intimated and thanks voted to the Donors.

Purchases for the Library, as per list at end of volume, were announced.

The following Communications were read:—