

I.

ABERDEEN TREASURE TROVE. BY GEORGE SIM, F.S.A. SCOT.,
CURATOR OF COINS.

Towards the end of May last year, during the building operations carried on by Messrs King & Company, printers, Aberdeen, it became necessary to make an excavation in the roadway of their court for the purpose of admitting light to a vault, when the foreman superintendent of the work felt his pick strike against a hard substance which emitted a metallic sound. This proved to be a brass or bronze pot, which on being lifted was found to have a hole in the side of it from which fell a quantity of small silver coins. The pot was found to contain upwards of 12,000 coins, many of them adhering together and much oxidised, but the great bulk of them were legible.

The pot is of the ordinary form of the brass culinary pots, with three feet, and triangularly shaped ears for suspension by a semicircular iron handle with loops at the ends. It closely resembles the pot found in 1887 on the estate of Montraive, in the parish of Kennoway, in Fife, which is now in the Museum. The Montraive pot contained a hoard of upwards of 9600 coins, a detailed list of which I have already given in the *Proceedings*, vol. xiv. p. 466.

Through the praiseworthy and energetic measures adopted by Her Majesty's Remembrancer, the pot and coins were at once secured by the Procurator-Fiscal at Aberdeen and forwarded to Exchequer; and the Remembrancer having asked me to examine and report upon the find, I lost no time in complying with his request.

I found the whole of the coins to consist of pennies or sterlings, and mostly of the English Edwards I., II., and III. I did not deem it desirable to separate the Edwards into their respective reigns, which would have occupied a very long time, but contented myself by merely stating the number of coins belonging to each Mint. There was not one (so far as I noticed) reading EDWARDVS in full, in the find. The varieties are numerous, and on the whole the coins are well preserved.

The following is the result of my examination :—

ENGLISH.

Edwards I., II., and III.—	
Berwick,	204
Bristol,	275
Bury St Edmunds,	408
Canterbury,	3134
Chester,	21
Durham,	1118
Exeter,	15
Kingston (Hull),	16
Lincoln,	106
London,	5930
Newcastle,	152
York,	272
Robert de Hadeleie, Moneyer,	20
Dublin (3 without triangle),	45
Waterford (2 without triangle),	21
Edward III., deniers of Aquitaine,	4

SCOTTISH.

Alexander III.,	112
Robert Bruce,	8
John Baliol (3 of St Andrews and 8 Rex Scotorum),	11
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	131

FOREIGN STERLINGS.

Robert III. de Bethune, Count of Flanders, struck at Alost, 1305-1322,	12
Do., struck at Ghent,	1
Arnold, Count of Loos, 1280-1323,	3
Ferri IV. of Lorraine, 1312-1328,	2
Edward, Count of Bar,	3
John, Count of Luxemburg, as king of Bohemia and Poland, 1311-1346,	7
Gaucher II. de Chatillan, 1314-1329, struck at Yoe,	55
John d'Avesnes, Count of Hainault and Holland, 1280-1304, struck at Mons,	7
Gauleran II. de Luxemburg, Lord of Ligny, 1304-1353,	8
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	98
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Carry forward,	11,970

	Brought forward,	11,970
Louis IV., Count of Flanders, 1314-1347, struck at Aix la Chapelle,	5	
Gui de Dampierre, Marquis of Namur, Count of Flanders, 1280-1305,	3	
William d'Avesnes, Bishop of Cambrai, 1202-1295,	1	
John III., Duke of Brabant, 1312-1355,	6	
Not yet deciphered, some of which are illegible,	27	
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Corroded and illegible,		204
Fragments of, about		20
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		12,236

I append a summarised abstract of the list of the different varieties of the coins found in the Montraive hoard for the purpose of comparison :—

ENGLISH.

Edward I. Sterlings,	6342
Edward II. Sterlings,	1799
Edward III. Sterlings (including a few Groats),	534
Forgeries of English and Irish Sterlings,	197
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	8872

SCOTTISH.

William the Lion,	1
Alexander III.,	242
John Baliol,	29
Robert Bruce,	12
David II.,	170
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Foreign Sterlings,	454
	292
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	9618