

#### IV.

##### NOTE ON A SMALL HOARD OF GOLD COINS FOUND RECENTLY IN GLASGOW. BY GEORGE MACDONALD, M.A., CURATOR OF COINS.


On 18th October 1902, a small hoard of gold coins was discovered by some workmen who were engaged in preparing the ground for a new building which is being erected at the corner of High Street and Duke Street, Glasgow, for the Glasgow Improvement Trust. The foundations of former tenements had to be dug out, and it was in the course of these operations that the hoard came to light. The coins are said to have been lying loose in the earth, but their condition shows that they must have been protected originally,—in all probability by a bag or purse. The exact number of pieces found is not quite certain. There would appear to have been eighteen or nineteen. The labourers who made the discovery lost no time in disposing of the treasure that luck had sent them. Fortunately, Mr W. U. Muir, the master of works at the building, heard of the matter a day or two later. With his assistance the Crown authorities

were able to recover thirteen gold pieces, which have been forwarded from the Exchequer for examination. Of these thirteen, five are Scottish, while the remainder belong to different countries of south-western Europe. The detailed analysis which follows indicates that the deposit was made in the latter half of the sixteenth century. The five Scottish coins have been retained for the Museum.

## SCOTTISH COINS.

James III. (1460-1488)	
Unicorn [= Burns, p. 153, No. 7] Wt. 57·6.	1
James IV. (1488-1513)	
Unicorn [= Burns, p. 185, No. 1] Wt. 57 . . . . .	1
Unicorn [Unpublished Variety] Wt. 54·3 . . . . .	1
Mary (1542-1558)	
2 Abbey Crowns [= Burns, p. 284, No. 3f.] Wts. 52·7	
and 52·1 . . . . .	2
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The most interesting of the Scottish pieces is the second of the two unicorns of James IV. which, except that it is slightly clipped, is in fine condition, and appears to be unpublished. It belongs to the second issue (*cf.* Burns, p. 189, viii). The inscription on both sides is in Roman letters; the words on the obverse seem to be divided by fleurs-de-lis and by stars of five points; those on the reverse are divided by stars of five points.

*Obv.*  \* IĀCOBVS 4 DEI \* GRĀ \* REX \* SCOTOR VM \*  
*Rev.* \* EXVRGĀT \* DES \* ET \* DISIPENT \* INIMICI \* E \*

On the obverse the points (if any) that precede and follow the 4 have been carried away by the clipping. There is no chain or ring below the unicorn.

## FOREIGN COINS.

Francis I. of France (1515-1547)	
<i>Écu au soleil</i> : two varieties (Wts. 52·7 and 52·5)	2
Joanna and Charles I. of Spain (1516-1555)	
<i>Escudo d'oro</i> : three varieties (Wts. 52, 52, and 50·5)	3
Charles I. of Spain, Naples and Sicily, as Emperor	
Charles V. (1519-1556)	
<i>Dueato d'oro</i> (Wt. 51·2)	1
John III. of Portugal (1521-1557)	
<i>Cruzado</i> (Wt. 53·3)	1
Ottavio Farnese, second Duke of Parma	
<i>Scudo d'oro</i> , dated 1556 (Wt. 50·5)	1
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	8

According to the depositions made to the Crown authorities, three silver coins were found "about the same place," and there have been submitted by the Exchequer for examination three pieces which are alleged to have formed part of the hoard. It is possible that these may have been picked up near the spot, but they can have had no connection with the gold coins. One of them is a sadly defaced sixpence of Victoria. A second is a shilling, probably of George I., so completely worn as to make certain identification impossible. The third is a bronze trade token, with date 1790, modelled on the spade-guinea of George III., and bearing the name of Hockley (of Birmingham?).