

## I.

ROMAN COINS FOUND IN SCOTLAND. II. BY GEORGE  
MACDONALD, C.B., F.B.A., D.LITT., LL.D., F.S.A. SCOT.

Six years have now elapsed since I endeavoured to bring together all the information I could collect as to the Roman coins that had been found in Scotland.<sup>1</sup> In the interval a certain amount of new material has accumulated, partly through fresh discoveries, partly through the emergence of hitherto unnoticed entries in old records. Nothing that has come to light weakens in any respect the general conclusions which I ventured to draw from the original list. Rather, everything goes to confirm them. At the same time, the additions seem to be sufficiently numerous to justify the compilation of a supplement. This can be most conveniently arranged on the same lines as those laid down for the catalogue itself.<sup>2</sup> It will be observed that in one or two cases the addition is merely an amplification or a correction of particulars formerly given.

## (A) ISOLATED FINDS FROM ROMAN SITES.

(c) *The Antonine Wall.*

MUMRILLS.—In 1921 Mr James Smith sent for my inspection a worn *denarius* of Trajan, which he had picked up shortly before in the field that lies immediately to the west of the site of the Antonine fort; the type of the reverse could not be identified with any confidence. During the cutting of some exploratory trenches in the same field by our Society there have quite recently been found a legionary *denarius* of Mark Antony, a worn 'second brass' probably of Claudius, a 'first brass' of Faustina Senior (Coh.<sup>2</sup>, ii. p. 427, No. 182) in good condition, and a 'second brass' of Hadrian so seriously corroded that nothing could be made out save the Emperor's head.

ROUGH CASTLE.—In June 1920, a small cutting made by myself, a few yards to the north of the fort, produced a quantity of second-century pottery and a worn *denarius* of M. Antony (Coh.<sup>2</sup>, i. p. 41, No. 39).

CHAPEL HILL.—The excavation of the fort at Old Kilpatrick, begun by the Glasgow Archæological Society in 1923, has already yielded *denarii* of Vespasian (Coh.<sup>1</sup>, i. p. 275, No. 36), Domitian (Coh.<sup>2</sup>, i. p. 472, No. 30),<sup>3</sup> Faustina Senior (Coh.<sup>2</sup>, ii. p. 415, No. 34), and Ælius Cæsar

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. lii. pp. 203-76.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 209.

<sup>3</sup> This piece had been halved, and only one half was found.

(Coh.<sup>2</sup>, ii. p. 263, No. 53), as well as a 'first brass' of Trajan (Coh.<sup>2</sup>, ii. p. 52, No. 328), a 'first brass' of Hadrian (Coh.<sup>2</sup>, ii. p. 186, No. 974), and a 'second brass' of the same Emperor (Coh.<sup>2</sup>, ii. p. 175, No. 820).

(d) *Scotland North of the Antonine Wall.*

DEALGINROSS.—In 1755 General Roy saw and surveyed the remains of two entrenchments at Dealginross, near Comrie.<sup>1</sup> They represent a temporary camp and a permanent fort, and the larger one at least is characterised by certain features that suggest a first-century date. When I wrote in 1918, I was unable to associate any coins with the site. Subsequently there was brought to my notice a paper, dated 1786 and entitled "Plan and Description of the Roman Camp at Dalginross, from a Young Gentleman residing in its Neighbourhood," which is preserved among the archives of the Literary and Antiquarian Society of Perth. It contains the statement: "A gold medal was found here, with the impression of *Titus Vespasian* on one side thereof." Further, Mr J. P. Mitchell, Comrie, has shown me a 'second brass' of Domitian (Coh.<sup>2</sup>, i. p. 499, No. 327), which was found about 1905 by a farmer singling turnips within the area of the fort. It had been in good or very good condition when lost, and by a curious coincidence the reverse type was identical with that of the solitary coin recovered at Inchtuthil.<sup>2</sup> Both of these additions are important, the former as increasing the percentage of Flavian or pre-Flavian issues among the Scottish gold-finds,<sup>3</sup> the latter for its bearing on the terminal date of the Agricolan occupation.<sup>4</sup> More doubtful is a *denarius* of Alexander Severus (Coh.<sup>2</sup>, iv. p. 425, No. 236), now in the possession of Major Graham Stirling of Strowan, which is said to have been picked up a generation or so ago at Dealginross between Camp Cottage and the Manse; if this be really the coin found there, it can have nothing to do with the Roman occupation.

(B) *ISOLATED FINDS FROM NATIVE SITES.*

TRAPRAIN LAW.—Excavation on this site was resumed in 1919, after being in abeyance for three seasons owing to the war. Thanks to the thoroughness of the supervision, which has been mainly in the hands of Mr J. E. Cree, the number of additional coins recovered has been large. Details will be found in the Reports which have

<sup>1</sup> *Military Antiquities*, pl. xi. For the date of the survey see *Archæologia*, lxxviii. p. 172.

<sup>2</sup> *Proceedings*, lii. pp. 233 f.

<sup>3</sup> See *ibid.*, pp. 255 ff.

<sup>4</sup> See *Journ. of Roman Studies*, vol. ix. p. 136.

annually appeared in the *Proceedings*. Here it must suffice to say that, apart from 4 or 5 late *Æ* which were so worn and corroded as to be unidentifiable, the 1919-23 list includes *Æ* of Nero, *Æ* of Titus, *Æ* of Domitian (2), *Æ* of Nerva, *Æ* of Trajan, *Æ* of Hadrian (1 certain, 1 probable), *Æ* and *Æ* of Pius, *Æ* and *Æ* of Faustina Senior, *Æ* of Gallienus (2), *Æ* probably of Victorinus, *Æ* probably of Tetricus, *Æ* of Probus, *Æ* of Carausius (4), *Æ* of Allectus, *Æ* of Galerius Maximianus, *Æ* of Constantine the Great, *Æ* with head of Constantinopolis, *Æ* of Constantius II., *Æ* of Magnentius, *Æ* of Valens (1 certain, 1 probable), *Æ* of Valentinian II., *Æ* of Valentinian II. or Theodosius I., *Æ* of Honorius (1 certain, 1 probable), and possibly *Æ* of Arcadius. There was also a billon coin of Alexandria in such poor condition that nothing was discernible save the faint outline of the imperial head on the obverse; its general appearance indicated a date later than A.D. 250. It will be observed that the composition of the list confirms the previously suggested explanation of the presence of Roman coins in the hill-settlement: they seem to have formed the regular currency of the inhabitants. The long gap between Faustina and Gallienus will be noted. In the 1914-5 list there was nothing between Pius and Constantine the Great.

DALRY (Ayrshire).—Mr John Smith kindly sent for my inspection four Roman *denarii* which he found at Aitnock Fort, Dalry. They were of Vespasian (Coh.<sup>2</sup>, i. p. 371, No. 45), Hadrian (Coh.<sup>2</sup>, ii. p. 229, No. 1481), and Pius (Coh.<sup>2</sup>, ii. p. 295, No. 226, and p. 299, Nos. 286 ff.).

NORTH UIST.—A 'second brass' of Constantius II. with FEL TE[MP REPARATIO] came to light in an earth-house in North Uist during excavations carried out by the late Dr Erskine Beveridge. It was 3 feet below the surface.

(D) ISOLATED FINDS WITH NO RECORDED ASSOCIATIONS.

ANCRUM (Roxburghshire).—I have seen a *denarius* of Geta (Coh.<sup>2</sup>, iv. p. 273, No. 183) which was found on the Fairmington Farm in a field through which the Roman road (Dere Street) runs. It is in very good condition, and is now in the possession of the Rev. J. R. Gillies, U.F. Manse, Ancrum.

GULLANE (East Lothian).—In 1921 I was shown a billon coin of Alexandria which had been dug up in a garden at Gullane. It had been struck in the second year of Diocletian's reign, and had the familiar type of Dikaiosyne on the reverse. It may have been one of the many Alexandrian coins that found their way to this country during and after the Great War.

HADDINGTON.—In 1920 a ploughman turned up in a field near Haddington a 'second brass' of Constantine the Great (Coh.<sup>2</sup>, vii. p. 253, No. 215).

DUDDINGSTON (Midlothian).—Among the MSS. of our Society (1780-1) is a letter from Sir James Dick of Prestonfield to the Earl of Buchan, in which mention is made of a coin of Tacitus found in mud dredged up from Duddingston Loch.

EDINBURGH.—A 'second brass' of Augustus (Coh.<sup>2</sup>, i. p. 139, No. 516), which had been in fair condition when lost, was picked up a number of years ago by John Marshall, 9 Saughtonhall Drive, Murrayfield, when excavations were going on at Moray House, Canongate. It was embedded in a ball of clay, and was not discovered until some time afterwards when the ball of clay was accidentally broken.

WHITHORN (Wigtownshire).—In 1922 Sergeant Duncan, Police Office, Whithorn, found in his garden a 'brass' of Julia Domna struck at Stobi (Macedonia). The reverse type is a figure of Victory to l. This, like the Gullane coin, may be a recent importation.

KIRKCUDBRIGHT.—Mr I. A. Richmond tells me that there is in the Museum at Kirkcudbright a *denarius* of Vespasian, which is entered in the register as "found in the Burgh Roods of Kirkcudbright." It had been in circulation for a considerable time before it was lost.

ANNAN (Dumfriesshire).—Mr J. Murray, The Academy, Annan, sent for my inspection a 'second brass' of Hadrian (Coh.<sup>2</sup>, ii. p. 118, No. 166), which was recently dug up in a garden in Butts Street, Annan.

GLASGOW.—According to the *Montrose, Arbroath, and Brechin Review* of 11th November 1814, "a few days ago a Roman coin in a high state of preservation was found in Canon Lane, Glasgow." The metal is not stated, from which it may perhaps be inferred that the coin was a *denarius*, rather than an *aureus*. To judge from the description (which can hardly be quite accurate), it was probably Coh.<sup>2</sup>, i. p. 504, No. 397.

PARTICK.—I have now found my notes regarding the coin of which I spoke<sup>1</sup> as having been dug up here. It was not a Titus, but a Vespasian. The reverse was identical with Coh.<sup>2</sup>, i. p. 416, No. 620, but the obverse inscription, so far as legible, pointed to A.D. 72 or 73, rather than to 71.

CRIEFF.—In 1921 Mr Thomas May, F.S.A., presented to the National Museum a 'second brass' of Faustina Senior (Coh.<sup>2</sup>, ii. p. 420, No. 80), which had been found in Mitchell Street, Crieff, "alongside an old drove-road."

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. lii. p. 244.

PERTH.—Mr Ritchie of the Perth Museum has shown me a 'first brass' of Hadrian (Coh.<sup>2</sup>, ii. p. 192, No. 1042), dug up about 1919 in a garden at Fechny near Perth.

ABERDEEN.—The *Aberdeen Evening Express* of 7th February 1923 records the finding of two Roman coins—*Æ* of Constantine the Great and *Æ* of Constans—in Windmill Brae, Aberdeen, about 1890.

INVERURIE (Aberdeenshire).—Mr Graham Callander tells me that the gold coin of Vespasian, to which I referred in my original list,<sup>1</sup> was not found at Inverurie itself, as stated in *Proc.*, vol. xxix., but at Port Elphinstone, the village which lies on the south side of the Don, just over the bridge from Inverurie. It was dug up in the garden of a cottage called Ardennan. It passed into the collection of Sir John Evans, on whose death it was presented by his son, now Sir Arthur Evans, to Sir W. M. Ramsay for the University of Aberdeen.

(A) *HOARDS OF SILVER.*

(b) *South-Western Scotland.*

BRACO (Lanarkshire).—Six *denarii* from the Braco hoard of 1842<sup>2</sup> were sent for my inspection in May 1921 by Mr S. N. Miller. They belonged to the son of the farmer on whose farm the find had been made. One was of Titus (Coh.<sup>2</sup>, i. p. 455, No. 323), two of Trajan (Coh.<sup>2</sup>, i. p. 41, No. 214, and p. 60, No. 403), two of Pius (Coh.<sup>2</sup>, ii. p. 287, No. 158, and p. 326, No. 571), and one of Verus (Coh.<sup>2</sup>, iii. p. 183, No. 126). Marks on the first of these indicated that the hoard had been buried in a bag of coarse cloth. Along with them there was sent a *denarius* of Gratian (Coh.<sup>2</sup>, viii. p. 127, No. 13), which may have been found in Scotland but had obviously no connection with the rest.

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings*, vol. lii. p. 247.

<sup>2</sup> See *Proceedings*, vol. lii. p. 261.