

## IV.

NOTES ON SCOTTISH COINS: (1) REX SCOTTORUM PENNIES OF DAVID II.; (2) EDINBURGH LIGHT GROATS OF ROBERT III.; (3) SOME JAMES II. GROATS OF THE THIRD VARIETY OF THE FLEUR-DE-LIS GROATS; AND (4) GILBERT KIRKWOOD'S MARK ON A GOLD COIN OF JAMES V. BY C. H. DAKERS, M.C., F.S.A.Scot.

## (1) REX SCOTTORUM PENNIES OF DAVID II.

David II.'s first issue of pennies begins with a well-designed head and large lettering. Of this type I have found only one obverse die and two slightly different reverses, both of which read **REIX SCIO TOR VM +**, while a third has **RCIX** for **REIX** (B 231, 5). This lettering, as Burns remarks, is more akin in style to that on the John Baliol smooth surface pennies than to that on Robert I.'s coins.

The remaining five types of head are a series of caricatures, wizened or negroid in appearance. The lettering is smaller and the Lombardic **ℳ** is used.

Burns places second in the series his fig. 231, presumably because the Ferguslie Collection contained a specimen of this second head muled with the reverse of the first type. It appears to me, however, that it is likely that some of the last five types of head were issued simultaneously, as I have in my collection pennies with the heads as on Burns 234 and 236, also with the Roman **M** reverse from the same die as type one.

There is a variety of the reverse with **ℳ** in which two **T**'s appear in **Scottorum** and the **O** is omitted. Burns does not notice that the omission of a letter has been made necessary by the retention of the cross at the end of the legend. There is only one die of this style.

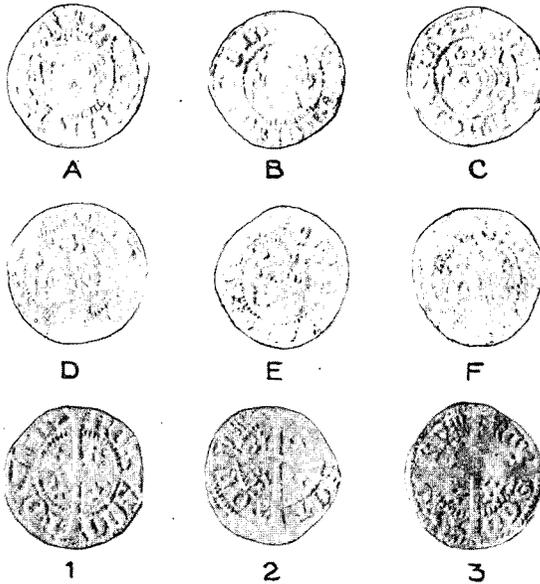
All the remaining reverses read **REIX SCIOTTORVM** without the terminal cross and are from several dies.

I have placed below an analysis of the interchanges of dies on known coins of this issue.

Obverses A	1st head.	Large lettering.		B 229 (one die)
B	2nd „	Small „		B 231 (two dies)
C	3rd „	„ „		B 234 (one die)

Obverses D 4th head. Small lettering. B 236 (several dies)  
 E 5th " " " B 244 ( " " )  
 F 6th " " " B 235 (one die)

I have moved Burns 235 from its place as fourth head to sixth as it has no reverses but No. 3 and only a single obverse die. It would seem to be the last of the series.



Pennies (Sterlings) of David II.

A obverse.	First head.	Large lettering.	1. Reverse of A.	Large lettering.	M.
B "	Second head	} Small lettering.	2. "	SCIT ·· M	Small lettering.
C "	Third head		3. "	SCOTT ·· M.	" "
D "	Fourth head				
E "	Fifth head				
F "	Sixth head				

Reverses No. 1. REX SCIO TOR VM +. Large lettering (three dies)  
 No. 2. REX SCIT TOR VM +. Small lettering (one die)  
 No. 3. REX SCIO TTO RV M. " " (several dies)

A and No. 1.	Burns	229, 1
A " " 2.	"	230, 2
A " " 3.	"	230, 3
B " " 1.	"	231, 4, 5

B	and No. 2.	Author
B	„ „ 3.	Burns 232, 233
C	„ „ 1.	Author
C	„ „ 2.	Burns 234, 9
C	„ „ 3.	„ „ 234, 8
D	„ „ 1.	Author
D	„ „ 3.	Burns 236 ff.
E	„ „ 3.	„ „ 244 ff.
F	„ „ 3.	„ „ 235

The mules of D and No. 2, E and Nos. 1 and 2, are not known to me.

### (2) EDINBURGH LIGHT GROATS OF ROBERT III.

Very little appears to be known of the light issue of groats struck at Edinburgh at the end of the reign of Robert III. Edinburgh mint is generally regarded as a common one, but in fact only four coins of the light issue struck there were known to Burns as against eight Dumbarton groats. Again, in the Catalogue of the National Museum there are two Dumbarton groats but no Edinburgh specimen at all. Of Aberdeen Burns quotes three specimens, and in the National Museum Collection there is one. An explanation of the rareness of these groats may be that the Fortrose hoard contained none and must have been buried before their issue.

The Edinburgh groats are peculiar in that the faces are all put in with the worn-out punches of the "aquiline face" groats, whereas the Dumbarton and Aberdeen coins appear each to have a new head of their own. The issue as a whole is not attractive, as the coins are usually ill-struck and in poor condition.

Burns states (vol. i. p. 324): "The points of the tressure are ornamented with a single pellet instead of by triple pellets or by trefoils." This only holds good in some cases, and there is also a wider range in the number of the arcs in the tressure than the eight or twelve observed by Burns. The number of varieties would, in fact, make it appear that there were subdivisions in the issue.

Burns's fig. 417 illustrates the coin No. 50 in the Ferguslie Collection, but there is no illustration of 50*a*, which has the same obverse (with a pellet-pointed tressure of twelve arcs) with a different reverse. It is stated to be in the Guthrie Lornie Collection. I have a specimen which is probably from the same reverse die which reads:

+ D[NS - | MS + LIBE | R[TOR : | M[ESD[

The next coin (fig. 418) has eight arcs round the bust with single pellets on the points. Burns gives the stops as crosses and saltires. This is not correct according to the coin illustrated, which shows that they are the same as those on the Dumbarton groats (figs. 414-416D). These stops he calls "large fleurs-de-lis formed like slipped trefoils." A more correct description would be a cross or saltire formed of one straight and one curved limb, thus †.

There are in my collection five varieties of the Edinburgh light groats which are, so far as I am aware, unpublished. They are as follows:—

- (1) O. Nine arcs round the bust pellet-pointed.

	+ ROBERTVS † DEI † GRΛCIΛ † REX SCIO †
R.	+ DŪS(?)P † TEICITOR † MS † † LI BEIRΛTO
	VILL            ΛED            IŪBV            RGĥ
	(Weight 30 grains)

- (2) O. Eight arcs round the bust pointed with three pellets.

	+ ROBERTVS † DEI † GRΛCIΛ † REX(?) SCIO
R.	+ DŪS † P † TEICITO R † MS † † LIBERΛ
	VILL            ΛED            IŪBV            RGĥ
	(Weight 28 grains)

Next comes a group with a quatrefoil of four pellets on the breast.

- (3) O. Seven arcs pointed with three pellets not round the bust, quatrefoil on breast.

	ROBERTVS † DEI † GRΛCIΛ † REX SCIO
R.	+ DŪS † P † TEICITOR † M ······ IBERΛT
	VILL            ΛED            IŪB            VRGĥ
	(Weight 28 grains)

- (4) O. Tressure of seven arcs, and part of an arc to the left, not round the bust, pointed with three pellets. Of the pellets in each group two are within the double lines of the tressure. Quatrefoil on breast.

	+ ROBE ····· GRΛCIΛ † REX SCIO
R.	+ DŪS † P TEICITOR † MS † † LI BEIRΛTO
	VILL            ΛED            IŪBV            RGĥ
	(Two specimens, weight 29 and 28½ grains)

(5) O. Nine arcs round the bust, pellet-pointed. Quatrefoil on breast.

+ RO(BEIR)TVS ‡ DEI (I G)RΛ(CIΛ) ‡ REX ‡ SCI  
 R. + D ···· ··EICITOR M S ···· IB(EIR)ΛT  
 VILL ΛEID IΛB VRGh  
 (Weight 24 $\frac{1}{4}$  grains)

There are also two unpublished specimens of this coinage in the collection of Dr James Davidson, who has kindly allowed me to include them in this paper.

The first resembles Burns's fig. 417.

(6) O. Tressure of eleven arcs single pellet-pointed round bust.

+ ROBERTVS DEI GRΛ REX SCIOR  
 R. + D I S P T EICITOR ···· I I B EIRΛTO  
 VILL ΛEID IΛBV RGh  
 (Weight 29 grains)

The second has double pellet stops as on the Dumbarton groats (figs. 412 and 413).

(7) O. Tressure of nine arcs round bust pointed with three pellets as (4) above.

+ ROBERTVS : DEI : GRΛCIΛ : REX SCIO  
 R. + D I S : (P) T EICITO R M S ‡ (L) I B EIRTO  
 VILL ΛEID IΛBV RGh  
 (Weight 27·6 grains)

Several of these coins appear to have been struck on clipped flans of earlier groats.

### (3) SOME JAMES II. GROATS OF THE THIRD VARIETY OF THE FLEUR-DE-LIS GROATS.

Burns illustrates (figs. 496B and 497) two groats of James II. with the sceptre to the King's left, both from the same obverse die. The former is in the British Museum and the latter in the Kermack Ford Collection. He states that he publishes them for the first time and that both so far as known are unique.

I have in my collection four groats from this obverse die each with a different reverse. They are as follows:—

(1) From the same dies both sides as the British Museum specimen with the  $\text{I}\bar{\Lambda}\text{C}\text{I}\text{O}\text{B}\text{V}\text{S}$  inscription on the reverse.

(2) A variety of the reverse on the last, reading:

R. +  $\text{I}\bar{\Lambda}\text{C}\text{I}\text{O}^\circ \text{BVSD}\text{EI}^\circ \text{IGR}\bar{\Lambda}\text{C}\text{I}^\circ \text{I}\bar{\Lambda}\text{R}\text{E}\text{X}^\circ$   
 $\text{VIL}^\circ \text{L}\bar{\Lambda}\text{E}\text{ID} \text{I II B} \text{VRG} \text{✠}$

(3) A variety of Burns's fig. 497, reading:

R.  $\text{D}\text{I}\text{I}\text{S}^\circ (\text{O}\text{P}\text{T}\text{E})\text{C}\text{I}\text{TO} \text{R}\text{M}\text{S}\bar{\text{I}}\text{L} \text{I}\text{B}\text{E}\text{R}\bar{\Lambda}$   
 $\text{VILL} \bar{\Lambda}\text{E}\text{DI} \text{II BV}^\circ \text{R}\text{G}\text{h}^\circ$

(4) From the same dies as Burns's fig. 497, but showing that the correct reading should end  $\text{LIBER}\bar{\Lambda}$ , not  $\text{LIBE}\bar{\Lambda}$ .

Another new variety not in Burns, which has a tressure of eight arcs and sceptre as usual to the King's right, reads:

O. +  $\text{I}\bar{\Lambda}\text{C}\text{I}\text{O}\text{B}\text{V}\text{S} \text{✠} \text{DE}\text{I} \text{✠} \text{GR}\bar{\Lambda}\text{C}\text{I}\bar{\Lambda} \text{R}\text{E}\text{X} \text{S}\text{C}\text{I}\text{O}\text{T}\text{O}$

R. Lis 1st and 3rd quarters and annulet on the centre of the cross.

$\text{✠} \text{D}\text{I}\text{I}\text{S}\text{P} \text{T}\text{E}\text{C}\text{I}\text{O}\text{R}^\circ \text{M}\text{S}\dots\dots \text{E}\text{R}\bar{\Lambda}\text{T}\text{O}\text{R}$   
 $\text{VILL}^\circ \bar{\Lambda}\text{E}\text{DI} \text{II BV}^\circ \text{G}\text{h}^\circ +$

The crown initial mark on the reverse is used only at Stirling (Burns, fig. 503A, B), and the obverse with the large lis stops is from the same die as Burns's fig. 503 of Stirling, so it would appear that on the closing of the Stirling mint (which did not strike groats of the next two varieties) the dies were returned to Edinburgh and used there with an altered reverse. Burns makes no mention of any groat with an annulet on the centre of the reverse cross, but annulets were the "difference" added by James II. to his father's Great Seal.

From the Walters Sale, 1932, came (lot 637) an unpublished groat with the obverse initial mark a large crown. There are nine arcs in the tressure.

O.  $\text{✠} \text{I}\bar{\Lambda}\text{C}\text{I}\text{O}\text{B}\text{V}\text{S} \text{DE}\text{I} \text{GR}\bar{\Lambda}\text{C}\text{I}\bar{\Lambda} \text{R}\text{E}\text{X} \text{S}\text{C}\text{I}\text{O}\text{T}\text{O}\text{R}$

R. Lis 1st and 3rd quarters.

+  $\text{D}\text{I}\text{I}\text{S}^\circ \text{P} \text{T}\text{E}\text{C}\text{I}\text{O}\text{R} \text{M}\text{S}^\circ \text{I}^\circ \text{II} \text{B}\text{E}\text{R}\bar{\Lambda}\text{T}^\circ$   
 $\text{✠} \text{VIL}^\circ \text{L}\bar{\Lambda}\text{E}\text{I}^\circ \text{DI II B} \text{VRG}\text{h}(\text{✠})$

This type was not known to Burns.

Another groat which appears to be unpublished has on the obverse

a very narrow bust which fits into one arc of the tressure of nine arcs. The sceptre is longer than usual and the sidelocks are very small. The inscriptions are:

O. + IACIOBVS ° DEI ° GRΛ ° REX ° SCIORVM ♣ °

R. Lis 1st and 3rd quarters.

+ DH S ° P TACITOR MS + LI BERΛTO  
VILL ΛEDI ° HBV ° RGh (♣) °

All the groats figured by Burns read GRΛCIΛ in full, and whereas the unbarred ll formed of two l's is characteristic of the issue (Burns, p. 63), this coin has the H's barred. Burns figures two demies (figs. 498 and 499) with barred H's, but the plates do not bear out this point and the H's on them are, in fact, unbarred. There is another specimen of this last groat in the collection of Dr James Davidson.

#### (4) GILBERT KIRKWOOD'S MARK ON A GOLD COIN OF JAMES V.

In the *Proceedings of the Society*, 1934-5, p. 11, fig. 2, there is an enlarged reproduction of the marks on the Communion Cup of the Kirk of Dalry, Ayrshire. One of these marks is a peculiarly shaped shield containing the letters G K in monogram. This mark is stated to be that of Gilbert Kirkwood, who was deacon 1623-5.

There is an interesting gold coin in the National Collection which is illustrated by Burns (fig. 725). The coin is a reproduction in gold, probably a cast, of a VILLĀ ° EDINBRVGh × silver groat of James V. Burns says of it: "The supposed pattern Ryal, Lindsay, Pl. xiii., fig. 38, formerly in the Advocates', now in the S.S.A. Collection, is simply an impression in gold of the groat No. 24. The letters G K behind the head—not C K as represented by Lindsay—have been punched in subsequently." He does not, however, tell us to whom these initials belong. On examination of the coin in question it is clear that the stamp is identical with that on the Dalry Cup. Lindsay gives the weight of the coin as 279 grains, but in the Catalogue of the National Collection (fig. 98) it is given as 235 grains. The average weight of the ordinary silver groat is about 41 grains.

It is difficult to explain why this coin was made, unless for use as a pendant, and even more difficult to explain why, having been made, it should be defaced by the mark of Gilbert Kirkwood, who flourished in the next century.