

XI.

NOTICE OF RECENT DISCOVERIES OF COINS IN SCOTLAND. BY
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GIFFNOCH TREASURE TROVE.

In the spring of 1879 a hoard was discovered at Giffnoch, near Glasgow, consisting of coins, brooches, &c., but which, through mismanagement and concealment, got distributed and sold, the brooches having gone to Ireland. The following is a list of the coins so far as recovered by Exchequer, viz. :—

English pennies of Edwards I., II., and III. of the following mints :—

| | |
|--|-------|
| London, | 212 |
| Canterbury, | 127 |
| Durham, | 42 |
| St. Edmunds, | 27 |
| Bristol, | 14 |
| Berwick, | 6 |
| York, | 7 |
| Newcastle, | 8 |
| Lincoln, | 2 |
| Kingston (Hull), | 2 |
| Chester, | 1 |
| Robert de Hadeleie, | 2 |
| Dublin, | 2 |
| Waterford, | 2 |
| Broken (penny), | 1 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 455 |
| Scottish pennies of Alexander III., | 3 |
| Foreign sterlings, | 8 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 466 |

There were also forwarded to Exchequer a piece of ring and four pieces of jar in which the hoard had been concealed.

WICK TREASURE TROVE.

Towards the end of May, or beginning of June 1881, while several workmen were engaged in excavating the foundations of an old house in Wick they came upon a small hoard of gold coins, together with two silver coins, which had been enclosed in a receptacle of some kind, but which had quite disappeared. The coins were distributed among the various workmen, but after considerable trouble taken by the procurator-fiscal, the coins enumerated in the following list were recovered and forwarded to Exchequer :—

Gold.

| | | |
|-----------|--|----|
| French. | Louis XI., Ecus, | 2 |
| | Charles VIII., Ecus, | 3 |
| | Philip, Duke of Burgundy, Lion, | 1 |
| Scottish. | Robert III., half St. Andrew, | 1 |
| | James I., Lions, | 10 |
| | James II., Lion, | 1 |
| | „ St. Andrews, | 4 |
| English. | Henry VI., nobles, | 5 |
| | „ half noble, | 1 |
| | Edward IV., nobles, | 2 |
| | | 30 |

Silver.

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|----|
| Scottish. | James II., Edinburgh groats, | 2 |
| | | 32 |

NORTH BERWICK TREASURE TROVE.

Early in December 1882, while workmen were engaged in excavating in a street in North Berwick, they came upon sixty-three silver coins, which were found to consist of two pennies of Alexander III. of Scotland, and the remainder of English pennies of Edwards I., II., and III., of the

following mints, viz.:—London, Canterbury, Berwick, York, St. Edmundsbury, Bristol, Durham, and Waterford. The coins were forwarded to Exchequer, and afterwards returned to the finders.

MONTRAIVE TREASURE TROVE.

On 10th May 1877, on the estate of Montraive, the property of Allan Gilmour, Esq., in the parish of Kennoway in Fife, while some workmen were employed in opening drains in a wet part of a field known as the "Well Park," John Philp came on a hard object about 10 inches below the surface, which, upon being dug up, turned out to be a metal pot $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, and $29\frac{1}{2}$ inches in circumference, having three feet and two side loops, and containing a large quantity of silver coins. The pot and contents were transmitted to the Queen's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer in Exchequer, who lost no time in sending them to the Museum for examination.

My friend Mr Edward Burns, F.S.A. Scot. (than whom I know no one more qualified), at my request, kindly undertook the laborious task of minutely examining this very important hoard, and he has now prepared an elaborate and exhaustive list of the coins, accompanied by most interesting observations, making known the discoveries he has been able to make from the comparison of so many specimens, such an opportunity for doing so never having previously presented itself. This valuable paper, accompanied by autotype plates, will in due time appear in the *Archæologia Scotica*, vol. v. ; but as this publication does not find its way into the hands of every member of the Society, I have thought that meantime an abridged list of the coins found might prove interesting to the Society. I have therefore drawn up (making use of Mr Burns' paper for the purpose) the following list. Of the coins 6647 were returned to Exchequer on 12th July 1880, the remainder and the pot having been presented by the Remembrancer to the Museum.

ENGLISH COINS.

Short cross Sterlings with name of Henry, both struck at
 Canterbury, 2

Edward I. Sterlings—

Coins reading EDW. and consisting of a great many
 varieties, struck at the following Mints :—

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----|-----|-------|-------|
| London, | ... | ... | ... | 1,966 | |
| Canterbury, | ... | ... | ... | 566 | |
| Bristol, | ... | ... | ... | 215 | |
| York, | ... | ... | ... | 192 | |
| Durham, | ... | ... | ... | 169 | |
| Newcastle, | ... | ... | ... | 85 | |
| St. Edmundsbury, | ... | ... | ... | 22 | |
| Do. | Robert de Hadeleie, | ... | ... | 19 | |
| | | | | <hr/> | 41 |
| Kingston-upon-Hull, | ... | ... | ... | 17 | |
| Exeter, | ... | ... | ... | 15 | |
| Chester, | ... | ... | ... | 10 | |
| | | | | <hr/> | 3,276 |

Coins reading EDWR., EDWAR., EDWA., and EDWARD.

Struck at the following Mints, and presenting many
 varieties :—

| | | | | | |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|-------|
| London, | ... | ... | ... | 1,731 | |
| Canterbury, | ... | ... | ... | 947 | |
| Durham, | ... | ... | ... | 293 | |
| St. Edmundsbury, | ... | ... | ... | 72 | |
| Newcastle, | ... | ... | ... | 21 | |
| | | | | <hr/> | 3,064 |
| | | | | <hr/> | 6,342 |

Edward II. Sterlings—

Coins reading EDWA. and EDWAR., struck at the follow-
 ing Mints, and consisting of many varieties :—

| | | | | | |
|------------------|-----|-----|----------------|-------|-------|
| London, | ... | ... | ... | 675 | |
| Canterbury, | ... | ... | ... | 693 | |
| Durham, | ... | ... | ... | 231 | |
| St. Edmundsbury, | ... | ... | ... | 198 | |
| York, | ... | ... | ... | 2 | |
| | | | | <hr/> | 1,799 |
| | | | Carry forward, | | <hr/> |
| | | | | | 8,141 |

| | | |
|---|----------------------|-------------|
| | Brought forward, | 8,141 |
| Edward III. Sterlings— | | |
| Coins reading EDW., EDWA., EDWAR, and EDWARDVS, struck at the following Mints, and presenting many varieties :— | | |
| London, | 97 | |
| Canterbury, | 4 | |
| Durham, | 66 | |
| York, | 13 | |
| | <hr/> | 180 |
| | | 8,321 |
| Edward III — | | |
| Half groats of London reading EDWARDVS, ... | 4 | |
| Groats of London reading EDWARD, ... | 35 | |
| Groats of York, do. ... | 4 | |
| | <hr/> | 43 |
| Sterlings struck at Berwick Mint, ... | | 170 |
| 6 of these are imitations. | | |
| Sterlings of Aquitaine, ... | | 8 |
| Irish Sterlings of the following Mints :— | | |
| Dublin, | 100 | |
| Waterford, | 33 | |
| | <hr/> | 133 |
| There are no Cork Sterlings in the hoard. | | <hr/> 354 |
| | Total English Coins, | <hr/> 8,675 |

FOREIGN STERLINGS.

| | | |
|--|----------------|----------|
| Dukes of Brabant— | | |
| John I., A.D. 1261–1294, | 3 | |
| John II., A.D. 1294–1312, | 2 | |
| John III., A.D. 1312–1355, | 1 | |
| | <hr/> | 6 |
| Bishops of Cambray— | | |
| William d'Avesnes, 1292–1295, | 3 | |
| Guy de Colmieu, 1296 or 1297–1306, | 2 | |
| Chapter of Cambray— | | |
| “ Moneta Capitali ” | 1 | |
| Struck during a vacancy of the See either before or after Guy de Colmieu. | <hr/> | 6 |
| | Carry forward, | <hr/> 12 |

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| | Brought forward, 256 |
| Duke of Lorraine— | |
| Ferri IV., 1312–1323, | 4 |
| Bishops of Toul { | |
| John d'Arziliere, 1309–1321, | |
| Amadeus, 1321–1331, | |
| Obverse "Ec. Moneta Nostra," | 6 |
| Bishop Thomas de Bourlemart, 1330–1353, | 5 |
| | 11 |
| Archbishop of Cologne, coins struck at Bonn— | |
| Henry II., 1304–1331, | 3 |
| Archbishop of Treves— | |
| Baldwin de Luxembourg, 1307–1354, | 1 |
| Emperor of Germany— | |
| Louis I., of Bavaria, 1314–1347, | 11 |
| Lord of Schoneck— | |
| Hartard, 1316–1350, | 6 |
| | 6 |
| Total Foreign Sterlings, | 292 |

FORGERIES OF ENGLISH AND IRISH STERLINGS.

Edward I. and II., professing to be struck at the following

Mints, &c.:—

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| London, many varieties, | 152 |
| Canterbury, do. | 24 |
| Bristol, | 3 |
| Durham, | 6 |
| York, | 1 |
| Waterford, | 1 |
| Alost, | 1 |
| Civitas, vte : ROP. Waterford? | 1 |
| Signum Crucis, | 1 |
| | 190 |
| | 482 |

IRISH FORGERIES.

Coins professing to be struck at the following Mints:—

| | |
|-------------------|-----|
| Dublin, | 6 |
| Waterford, | 1 |
| | 7 |
| | 489 |

SCOTTISH COINS.

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| William the Lion penny or Sterling, only one Coin in the hoard, | 1 |
| Alexander III., Sterlings— | |
| All the Sterlings in this find are of the latest or single cross coinage, but present a great many varieties, | 242 |
| John Baliol Sterlings— | |
| Varieties reverse REX SCOTORVM, | 22 |
| Do. of St. Andrews Mint, | 7 |
| | <hr/> 29 |
| Robert Bruce, Sterlings, varied, | 12 |
| David II.,— | |
| Sterlings 1st Coinage, | 18 |
| Groats 2nd Coinage, | |
| Edinburgh Mint, many varieties, | 124 |
| Aberdeen Mint varied, | 3 |
| Half groats of Edinburgh, do. | 7 |
| Half groat of Aberdeen, | 1 |
| Pennies of Edinburgh varied, | 14 |
| Do. of Aberdeen do. | 3 |
| | <hr/> 170 |
| | <hr/> 454 |
| Total of Scottish Coins, | <hr/> <hr/> 454 |

ABSTRACT.

| | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Scottish, | 454 |
| English, | 8675 |
| Foreign Sterlings, | 486 |
| | <hr/> |
| TOTAL, | 9,615 |

Besides a good many smaller coins still adhering to the inside of the pot in which the hoard was found.

NEW CUMNOCK TREASURE TROVE.

Towards the end of March 1882, while Peter Murdoch, shepherd at Over-Black Craigs, New Cumnock, in Ayrshire, was going his rounds in the lonely Glen Afton, and while passing over steep and rocky ground

near the margin of the stream he heard something tinkle beneath his feet. Looking round he saw what seemed to be gold glittering through the grass, which, upon closer inspection proved to be a large collection of gold and silver coins. They were all closely packed together, and lay on the rock, the upper edges of the coins only appearing above the short grass. The rock had at one time been deeply covered with earth, but had been laid nearly bare by the rains of centuries. The shepherd secured at once 141 silver coins and 40 of gold. Having shortly after revisited the spot to make a further search he found one additional gold coin, and one silver. The following is a list of the whole, which were at once forwarded to Exchequer :—

The gold coins are all of James I., II., or III. of Scotland, and consist of—

| | | | |
|--|-----|-------------|-----------|
| St Andrews, presenting many varieties, ... | ... | ... | 18 |
| Lions—many varieties, ... | ... | ... | 21 |
| Half Lions, ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| | | Total Gold, | <u>41</u> |

Silver.

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|---------------|------------|
| <i>Scottish—</i> | | | |
| Robert III., Edinburgh groats, ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| <i>English—</i> | | | |
| Edward III., London groats, ... | ... | ... | 10 |
| Do., do. half groats, ... | ... | ... | 10 |
| Henry V., London groats, ... | ... | ... | 11 |
| Do., do. half groats, ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Do., Calais groats, ... | ... | ... | 22 |
| Do., do. half groats, ... | ... | ... | 18 |
| Henry V. or VI., Calais groats, ... | ... | ... | 16 |
| Henry VI., London groats, ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Do., Calais groats, ... | ... | ... | 28 |
| Do., do. half groats, ... | ... | ... | 10 |
| Henry, forgery of a London groat, ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Edward IV., London heavy groat, ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| | | Total Silver, | <u>142</u> |

Of these coins the curators have selected thirty-five gold and seventy-one silver coins for the Museum.