

## SCOTTISH COIN NOTES.

## 1. COINS FROM THE LOCKETT COLLECTION. (PL. XXVIII, 3).

The late R. C. Lockett formed the finest modern private collection of Scottish coins, in addition to his almost fabulous English and Greek coins. Part of this Scottish collection, notable for fine condition as well as rarities, was auctioned in June 1957, and the National Museum of Antiquities was fortunate to secure 272 coins. Less than half the cost was met by the Museum's funds owing to the generosity of the Pilgrim Trust and of the Lockett Trustees.

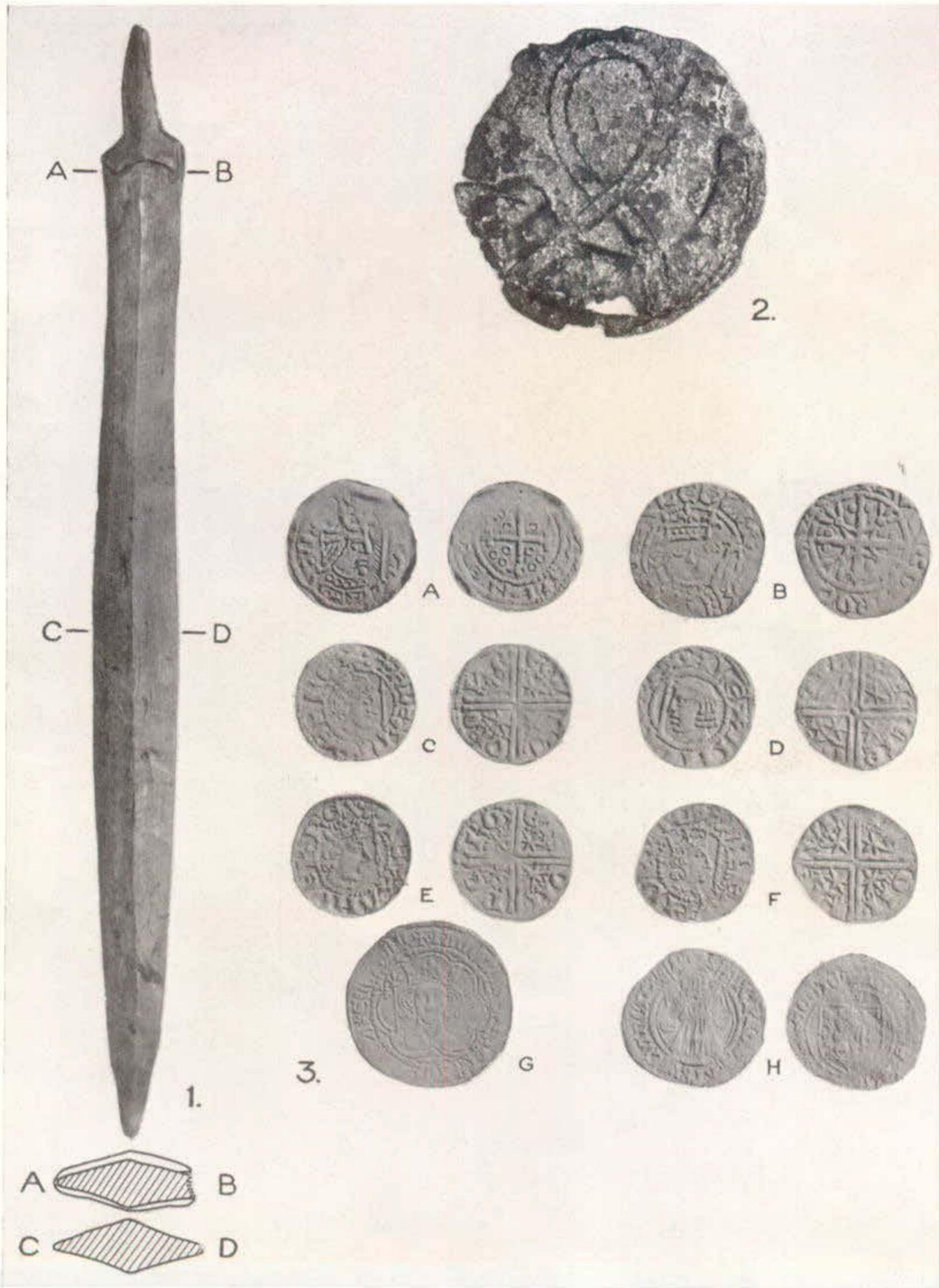
The *Pilgrim Trust's* grant was expended on (i) some outstanding silver coins and (ii) in acquiring 8 gold coins, as follows:

- (i) David I sterling, Edinburgh, moneyer Erebald; Burns p. 23, ex Cuff Collection.  
 David I sterling, Carlisle, moneyer Erembald, unique type; *Brit. Num. J.* 1910. 50-1.  
 Henry Earl of Northumberland sterling, Carlisle, moneyer (WIL)EL; *Num. Chron.* II<sup>4</sup> (1902) 26-33, also *Brit. Num. J.* (1916), 33. Cf. Burns fig. 26a.  
 Malcolm IV sterling, Roxburgh, moneyer Hugo; the finest surviving coin of this reign, Burns fig. 22a.  
 James VI Two-Merk piece, 1578 (very rare date).
- (ii) Robert III heavy lion, variety of Burns 4 as in BM (Burns p. 346).  
 Robert III light demy, variety of Burns fig. 406b.  
 James I demy, variety of Burns 15-18.  
 James II half lion, a small crown above the obv. shield.  
 James V unicorn, countermarked variety of Burns 4.  
 James V crown, variety of Burns 1, with 8's on both sides.  
 James V crown, variety of Burns 8.  
 James VI half sword and sceptre piece, 1603 (very rare date).

The *Lockett Trustees* gift comprised 20 coins:

- David I sterlings; 2 Berwick (B., fig. 1 var. and fig. 21b), and Roxburgh (as B., fig. 6a).  
 Alexander II sterling, Roxburgh (B., fig. 72a var.).  
 Alexander III sterlings; 3 Kinghorn and Berwick.  
 David II halfpenny (I in 2nd and 4th quarters) and farthing (B., fig. 249a).  
 Robert III groat, Dunbarton (B., fig. 414 var.).  
 James I penny, Inverness (B., 8 var.).  
 James II groat Edinburgh (B., 3a var.), half groat Edinburgh (B., 3/2) and penny Roxburgh (ex Cochran-Patrick coll.).  
 James IV 2 groats Edinburgh (B., la var. and non-numeral unpublished) and penny (B., la var.).  
 James V quarter bawbee.  
 Charles I pattern half-merk by Briot (Rich. 11 var.).

While some of the Lockett collection's outstanding 12th- and 13th-century coins are included in these two lists, it was notable also for its runs of coins of those centuries, to which a substantial part of the Museum's purchases of less individual value belong. In all 40 coins of David I to Alexander II were acquired (compared with about 250 already in the National Collection) and 100 double-cross sterlings of Alexander III (compared with about 150). The greater part of this very important accession of Alexander III's earlier coinage (c. 1250-80) is due to Mr Lockett having had first choice of the Scottish coins from the huge hoard of British and foreign sterlings found in Brussels in 1908. Detailed study of the hoard will make much clearer the complex functioning of what was the largest number of mints that ever worked in Scotland at one period.<sup>1</sup> Of the remaining 111 later coins purchased by the Museum a few may be specified; Alexander III halfpenny; Robert III penny and halfpenny of Perth; James I early groat of Edinburgh; James IV groats of Edinburgh, 4 very rare varieties; James VI five shillings 1600; Charles II half-merk 1666; William and Mary copper bawbees 1691 and 1693; Anne one shilling 1709 E.



1. Wooden sword from Orkney (c 1/5).  
 2. Armorial disc from Corstorphine (1/1).  
 3. Coins from Lockett Collection:  
 A. David I (Carlisle, Erembald).  
 B. Malcolm IV (Roxburgh, Hugo).  
 C.-F. Alexander III Glasgow (two), Berwick and Kinghorn).  
 G. James I, early groat.  
 H. James II, half-lion.

## 2. SCOTTISH COIN HOARDS, 1958.

Following the four hoards of coins reported in 1955 and published in the *Proceedings*,<sup>2</sup> only one, that from Glenluce Sands (James II-IV) is known from 1956,<sup>3</sup> and none from 1957. These two finds cover 1958, and we are much indebted to all concerned with making and reporting these discoveries for rendering this record possible.

(i) *Sandaig, Glenelg, Inverness-shire* (Mary Tudor—Frederic Ulric of Brunswick)

On 25th February 1958 Allan McDiarmid and Alvin Faulkner employed as foresters on Lord Dulverton's Glenelg estate, came across a small hoard of coins. The find was reported by the Factor to the police, and through the Procurator Fiscal in Skye the coins along with relevant information were forwarded to the Exchequer in Edinburgh. Small fragments of the container were also sent, and have been kindly identified by Dr A. S. Clarke at the Royal Scottish Museum as pieces of a horn, species not ascertainable. The site of the find is given as near Sandaig and the Nat. Grid ref. 18/774150: it therefore looks down the Sound of Sleat from a height of about 250 ft.

The 25 coins are, with one exception, English and are well, often very, worn. As listed below they range in date from 1553-54 to 1605-06. The largest, however, a Brunswick thaler is fresh though unfortunately in part corroded so that the reading of the date is uncertain: it appears to be 1621. The rather larger hoard found at Ardmaddy, Argyll,<sup>4</sup> is similar in composition and date range, except that the Glenelg hoarder included no Scottish coins and made an addition to his capital after an interval of perhaps 10 years.

After examination the coins were all returned to the Glenelg Estate Office.

<sup>1</sup> See I. H. Stewart, *Brit. Num. J.*, 1958-60, 91-7.

<sup>2</sup> *P.S.A.S.*, 1955-6, 107-17; for "Stirling turners" see also *Brit. Num. J.*, 1958-60, 129-53.

<sup>3</sup> Below p. 201; *Medieval Archaeology and Num. Chron.* forthcoming.

<sup>4</sup> *P.S.A.S.*, cit. 112-13.

*English.*

|                  |  |       |
|------------------|--|-------|
| MARY TUDOR.      | Groats: (1553-54)  | 5     |
| MARY & PHILIP.   | Groat: (1554-48)   | 1     |
| ELIZABETH TUDOR. | Shilling: martlet (1558-61) (MEV' and HI',<br>beaded inner circles)  | 1     |
|                  | Groats: 1 cross-crosslet, 1 lis (1558-61)  | 2     |
|                  | Sixpences, hammered: Pheon, 1562, 1564; Lion,<br>1566, 1567; Coronet, 1568; Ermine, 1572 two,<br>1573; Eglantine, 1573; π, 1584; Crescent,<br>1587; Hand, 1590; Z, 1602. | 13    |
| JAMES I.         | Shillings: 1st issue (2nd bust), Thistle 1603-4  | 1     |
|                  | 2nd issue (4th bust), Rose 1605-6  | 1     |
|                  |  | <hr/> |
|                  |  | 24    |

*German: Brunswick.*

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| Frederic Ulric, Duke of Brunswick and Luneberg (1613-34).         |  |   |
| Dollar: <i>Obv.</i> Shield of Arms. <i>Rev.</i> Wild man standing |  |   |
| * DEO * ET * PATRIAE * ANNO * 16(?21)                             |  | 1 |

(ii) *Mossend Farm, Beith, Ayrshire* (Mary Stuart-James VI).

While a field in the parish of Beith was being ploughed, 250 yds. SW. from Mains of Giffen, a small hoard was turned up on 7th March 1958. The ground slopes down towards the Lugton Water (Nat. Grid ref. 26/377505). The coins had been placed in the bronze container of a small nest of weights, diameter 1.5 ins., and were noticed by Alexander Wilson who passed them to the tractor driver A. McK. Raeside. Through the latter they were reported to the Glasgow Museum and then to the local police, by whom the above particulars were ascertained, transmitted by the Procurator Fiscal, Kilmarnock.

Of the 19 coins, all Scottish, most are half- and quarter-merks of James VI, 1572-74, little or not at all worn—though this is not immediately apparent because of bad striking. Later coins of the same issue (1575-80) were issued in smaller quantities, and the other issues prior to 1591 are rare so the hoard might have been formed up to that date: but because of lack of wear it is likely that the coins were hidden in the later '70s.

Twelve of the coins (starred in the list) have been retained for the Museum as die varieties, and seven returned to the finders, by the Q. and L.T.R. The container was also kept; its lid is missing.

|       |                       |           |                                      |        |
|-------|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|--------|
| MARY. | Billon "Nonsunts"     | 1558      | B. No. 3.                            | 1      |
|       | (12d.)                | 1559      | B. No. 8.                            | 4      |
|       |                       | do.       | B. No. 8 var. (SCOTD with 0<br>over) | 1*     |
|       | Silver One-third Ryal | 1565 var. | 5 pellets on crown.                  | 1*     |
|       |                       |           |                                      | <hr/>  |
|       |                       |           |                                      | 7 (2*) |

|              |            |      |   |                 |
|--------------|------------|------|---|-----------------|
| JAMES VI.    | Half-Merk. | 1572 | B. No. 2.   | 1               |
|              |            | 1573 | B. No. 4.   | 1*              |
|              |            | do.  | B. No. 5.   | 1*              |
|              |            | 1574 | B. No. 6.   | 1*              |
|              |            | do.  | B. No. 6 var. (5 pellets on crown <sup>1</sup> )    | 1*              |
| Quarter-Merk |            | 1572 | B. No. 1 (one with arch of crown differently drawn) | 4 (3*)          |
|              |            | do.  | B. No. 1 var. no stops after SCOTORVM or DNE        | 1*              |
|              |            | 1573 | B. No. 2.   | 1*              |
|              |            | do.  | B. No. 2 var. (no obv. stops <sup>1</sup> )         | 1*              |
|              |            |      |   | <u>12 (10*)</u> |

### 3. THE RECENT GROWTH OF THE MUSEUM'S COIN AND MEDAL CABINET.

The purchase for the Museum in 1957 of over 270 numismatic items at each of two sales makes a general survey of such accessions appropriate.

1. *Medals*. In 1945 the museum's collection of British medals numbered about 450. Many were rare, but there were many unnecessary gaps in the historical series, and the private medals listed in R. W. Cochran-Patrick's *Catalogue of the Medals of Scotland* (1884) were not well represented. From the sales in 1949 (many 17-18th century) and 1957 (19th century) over 400 medals have been acquired from the Cochran-Patrick collection. Gifts and purchases from other sources have added another 158. The rate of growth will now slow down considerably, though 20th century medals, and 19th-20th-century medals commemorating Scots, are still not satisfactorily represented. Military medals are not included in these figures as they are now primarily the concern of the Scottish United Services Museum.

2. The *Scottish trade tokens* of late 18th- early 19th-century date numbered 179 in 1945, many in poor condition. Since then 216 additions and replacements, acquired mostly by purchase, have filled more than half the gaps except in the largely unobtainable lead series and in the expensive countermarked dollar series. Even of these there are now fairly good representative groups, 13 dollars having been bought in 1950 and 51 lead tokens in 1956. In 1958, 81 additional tokens were bought, including 2 of lead. (The Museum's collection of English trade tokens is on indefinite loan to the Royal Scottish Museum).

3. *Coins*. Unlike medals and tokens, of which the number of varieties is more or less finite, variations of coins, both medieval and 16th-18th century, are apparently endless, and the National Museum of Antiquities' standard collection of Scottish coins becomes more and more detailed as numismatics become more specialised, and more interested in die varieties. Gifts and ordinary purchases (including Roman finds and coins current in Scotland) numbered 39 and 113 respectively during 1946-56. Then came the Lockett coins recorded above. "Treasure Trove" provided the bulk of the additions, however, varying greatly from year to year; by year of finding we have 1939-49—1; 1950—305 (Anglo-Saxon); 1951—12 + 18; 1952—3; 1954—33 + 1; 1955—204 + 123 + 19 + 4 + 3; 1956—80;

<sup>1</sup> Cf. *P.S.A.S.* (1950-1), 158-9.

1957—nil; 1958—12. The merged Antiquaries-Advocates collection (printed catalogue 1901 by A. B. Richardson) has the additions grafted into it, while the Coats of Ferguslie Collection (on which Burns' work was based) is kept separate.

4. *Communion Tokens* also come under numismatics. The collection in 1939 was extensive (nearly 2400) but patchy. Through the interest of Mr R. Kerr it has been greatly added to by various gifts, some very large, totalling 1416 tokens to 1951 or about two-thirds of the known gaps. Since then growth has naturally been slow—about 25, including better specimens. Two unknown gaps have been filled since these notes were written.

R. B. K. STEVENSON.