

Early British Coins found in Berkshire and in the Silchester District.

(Supplement to paper published in *B.A.ŷ.*, XLII (1938), Pt. I,
pp. 75-91).

By W. A. SEABY.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

Since the publication last year of an Inventory of the early British coins found in Berkshire and around Silchester, a number of additions have been brought to the writer's notice. Thanks are due to the following for their kindness in supplying casts of coins, details of new finds and in some cases for pointing out omissions and corrections in the previous list:—Messrs. J. Allan, S. Casson, J. S. Eyton, W. E. Harris, E. T. Leeds, S. Piggott, A. Rhodes, C. H. V. Sutherland, F. M. Underhill; Colonel J. P. B. Karslake and Mrs. A. Cotton. The writer is specially indebted to Mr. Derek Allen of the British Museum for his generous help and valuable suggestions; he is also indebted to his nephew, Peter Seaby, for re-checking references previously cited, and for noting several important omissions.

CORRIGENDA AND ADDENDA: NOTES.

Page 78, bottom line: (Pl. I, 1) should read, (Pl. II, 1); to bottom footnote, add: pp. 160-164.

Page 79, twenty-sixth line: delete sentence starting, "Another coin of Eppillus, etc. . . ."

INVENTORY (New additions to Inventory of coins follow in a separate list).

Page 81, 1. (Pl. III, No. 7).

2. (Pl. III, No. 5).

Page 82, 4a. (Pl. III, No. 12).

4b. 83.8 grains. Found while ploughing in a field at Marcham, near Abingdon, 1900. Illustrated in *Brit. Num. Journ.* I (1904), p. 62. Article by Bernard Roth.

4c. 81.5 grains. Found in field at Steventon, 1899. Illustrated in *Brit. Num. Journ.* I (1904), p. 61.

4d. Found at Abingdon, 1907. Illustrated in *Brit. Num. Journ.* IV (1907), p. 372.

5a. (Pl. III, No. 14). Formerly in the possession of E. G. Bullock of Eaton Manor, Abingdon. Found 1872. Purchased by the Ashmolean Museum, May, 1883. Delete: (possibly 5b below).

- 5b. Delete : (see 5a above). *Arch. Journ.* XXIII should read, *Arch. Journ.* XXXIII (1876).
- Page 83, 7a. (Pl. III, No. 8).
7b. (Pl. III, No. 13).
7d. The description of this coin should now read :
AV *Cunobelinus*. 83½ grains. *Obv.* CA MV. Ear of bearded corn. *Rev.* CVNO. Pony r., palm branch, pellet above and before horse's head, ring below ; exergual line. *Proc. Num. Soc.* 18th Oct. 1894, p. 3 ; *V.C.H.*, I, p. 196 ; Peake, p. 241. Wantage, 1894. British Museum. Ev. XXII, 5 var.
8. (Pl. III, No. 2). The cross in place of chin is not visible on this specimen.
- Page 84, 9a. There is only one pellet instead of three beneath the palm branch. Found in 1873.
10a. (Pl. III, No. 10).
10b. (Pl. III, No. 9). Found in 1872.
10c. (Pl. III, No. 3). This should read ECEN but the inscription is off flan.
10d. (Pl. III, No. 4). Delete : cf. XVI, 13 & 11, 12. Add : F. 14.
10e. Delete : (Addedomaros). (*Davies Sale Cat.*, lot 35).
- Page 85, 10g. (Pl. III, No. 6). Reference to Evans should read I.2 instead of I.1.
10i. (A letter from Mr. E. T. Leeds in the British Museum states that this coin was found at Watlington, Oxfordshire, and not Wallingford). It was bought by Montague from the Davies Sale and by Evans from the Montague Sale. Now in the British Museum.
10k. (Pl. III, No. 15). Reference to Evans should read IX.14 instead of IX.13. (*Davies Sale Cat.*, lot 34).
10l. 13½ grains. *Proc. Num. Soc.*, 21 Jan. 1892. (*Davies Sale Cat.*, lot 24). Found at Brightwell.
10m. Add : *Obv.* Head in helmet l. *Rev.* KAA. Horse l., wheel below.
- Page 86, 11a. (*Davies Sale Cat.*, lot 24).
12. Delete : (or 98.4 ?). Found in 1862 by a girl gleaning in field near Lark Wood, south of Perborough camp, one mile west of Hampstead Norris (formerly Luke Lousley collection).
- Page 87, 14. Delete : Unpublished. Add : *Berks. Arch. Journal*, XLI, No. 1 (1937), p. 35.
15. Delete the second "Remic" in description.

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- Page 88, 21a. Delete : *Num. Journ.* II, p. 194.
21b. Add the reference : *Ev.* p. 67.
24. Cast only in British Museum. M.B. should read M.8. (*Burstal Sale Cat.*, lot 7; ? *Davies Sale Cat.*, lot 32).
Page 89, 25. (Pl. III, No. 11).
28. Two engraved illustrations on pp. 145-6 in Hearne's edition of Leland's *Itinerary*, edited in 1744, leave no doubt that this coin is a diobol of the Macedonian king, Amyntas III (389-383 B.C.). The entry must therefore be deleted from the Inventory.
Page 90, S.9. should read *Cunobelinus*.
S.12. Add : *Obv.* Male head r., with hair in bun behind. *Rev.* GERMANVS INDVTILLI.L. Boar charging l. (This type copies Lugdunum issues of Augustus).
Page 91, SS.1 For *rev.* description read : Bear devouring a snake.

ADDITIONS TO INVENTORY : BERKSHIRE

Ref. No.	Metal	General Description, Publications, etc.	Date and Find Spot.	Collection.	Ev.
29.	N. 85.7 grains	<i>Addedomaros. Obv.</i> and <i>rev.</i> similar to No. 1, but only the letter D can be easily read. <i>Brit. Num. Journ.</i> I (1904), p. 63 (Illustrated).	Marcham, 1903.	? (Roth Coll).	XIV.6
30.	N.	<i>Cunobelinus. Obv.</i> CA MV. Ear of bearded corn, pellets either side. <i>Rev.</i> CVNO. Pony r., palm above. <i>Ev.</i> p. 558 (<i>Burstal Sale Cat.</i> , lot 21).	Near Abingdon, 1885.	? Cast only in B.M. (<i>Burstal</i> Coll.)	IX.4
31.	N.	<i>Cunobelinus. Obv.</i> Similar type to No. 30 but no pellets. <i>Rev.</i> Pellets above and below palm branch.	Cherbury Camp, near Charney.	Abingdon Public Museum.	IX.8 var.
32.	N.	<i>Uninscribed. ? type. Arch. Journ.</i> XXXIII (1876), p. 389	Wantage.	? (E. C. Davey Coll.).	?

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<i>Ref. No.</i>	<i>Metal</i>	<i>General Description Publications, etc.</i>	<i>Date and Find Spot.</i>	<i>Collection.</i>	<i>Ev.</i>
33.	<i>N.</i>	<i>Uninscribed.</i> British "Remic" type. <i>Obv.</i> Pattern derived from stylised head. See Nos. 19b and 21a. (<i>Davies Sale Cat.</i> , lot 22).	Wittenham.	? (W. R. Davies Coll.).	B.9
34.	<i>N.</i>	<i>Uninscribed.</i> British "Remic" type. <i>Obv.</i> (plain and convex) See Nos. 19a and 21b. (<i>Davies Sale Cat.</i> , lot 22).	Slade End, Wallingford.	? (W. R. Davies Coll.).	B.10
35.	<i>N.</i>	<i>Uninscribed.</i> "Morinic" type. <i>Obv.</i> (plain and convex). See Nos. 17, 20a and 23a.	Wallingford (F. Snow's gravel pit).	Stanley Casson Coll.	B.8 var.
36.	<i>N.</i>	<i>Uninscribed.</i> Type common in Sussex. <i>Obv.</i> Pattern from stylised head. <i>Rev.</i> Horse, l., ornaments above and below. (<i>Burstal Sale Cat.</i> , lot 8).	Berkshire, possibly Wallingford.	? (Davies & Burstal Colls.).	L.9
37.	<i>N.</i>	<i>Gaulish</i> (?). <i>Obv.</i> (E monogram). <i>Rev.</i> Horse to l., ring ornaments above and below. (<i>Burstal Sale Cat.</i> , lot 16).	Berkshire, possibly Wallingford.	? (Davies & Burstal Colls.).	XIX.12
38.	Billon (Pl. III or No. I). <i>Æ</i>	<i>Gaulish.</i> (Viromandui). <i>Obv.</i> Stylised head r. <i>Rev.</i> Stylised horse l. De la Tour, No. 8577 (Found where the Fair Mile ends about fifty years ago. Acquired by the British Museum, 1938).	Lowborough Hill, Aston Upthorpe.	British Mus.	—
39.	<i>N.</i> 83.3 grains	<i>Uninscribed.</i> British "Remic" type. <i>Obv.</i> (design from head) <i>Rev.</i> Three-tailed horse r., wheel below, etc. (According to the late Dr. G. C. Brooke, this coin is from a unique die).	Benyon's Woods near Silchester, Mortimer W. End.	J. Seymour Eyton Coll.	B.9 var.

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S.13.	<i>Æ.</i>	<i>Cunobelinus.</i> <i>Obv.</i> (CVNO) BELI (NOS). Head r. <i>Rev.</i> (TASCHIOVANII). Boar r. (To be published in report of the excavations).	Found by Mrs. A. Cotton, during excavations on the N. Wall, Silchester, 1938.	XII.2
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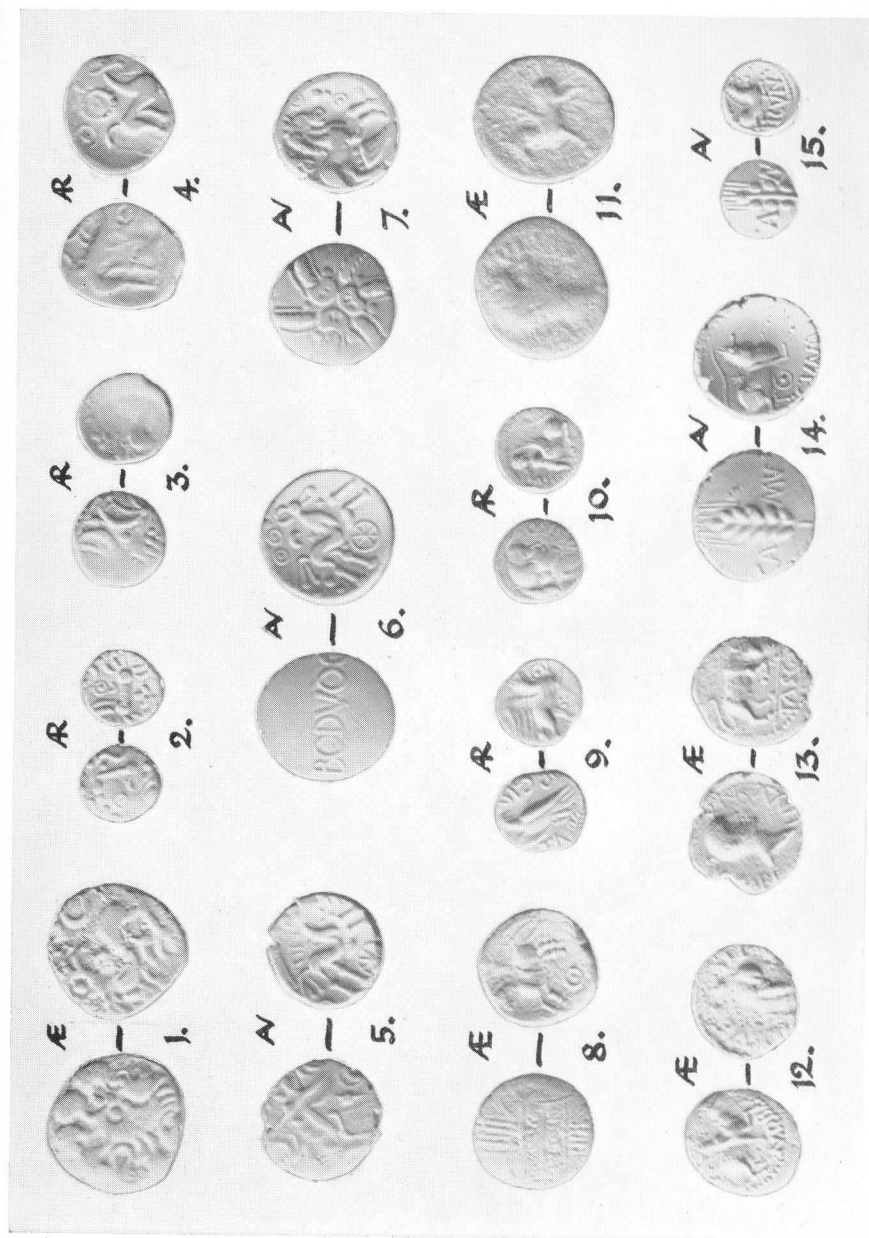


PLATE III. EARLY BRITISH COINS FROM BERKSHIRE

DESCRIPTION OF PLATE III.

<i>Fig. No.</i>	<i>Metal</i>	<i>Coin Type, Description, etc.</i>	<i>Evans</i>	<i>Find Spot</i>	<i>Inv. Ref. No.</i>
1.	Æ	<i>Gaulish.</i> (Viromandui). De la Tour, 8577.	—	Lowborough Hill.	38.
2.	Æ	<i>Uninscribed.</i> (Nunney hoard type).	F.6.	Near Let- combe Regis.	8.
3.	Æ	<i>Icenic.</i> (ECEN type).	XV.3 or 10.	Near Wallingford.	10c.
4.	Æ	<i>Icenic.</i> (S. Ferriby hoard, Roth type II).	F.14.	Near Wallingford.	10d.
5.	Æ	<i>Tincommius.</i> (Commus type).	I.12.	Faringdon.	2.
6.	Æ	<i>Dobunic.</i> (BODVOC type).	I.2.	Wallingford.	10g.
7.	Æ	<i>Addedomaros.</i> Six curved wreaths ; pony r.	XIV.5.	Hinksey Hill.	1.
8.	Æ	<i>Tasciovanus.</i> (TASCIO RICOIN type).	XX.12.	Near Wantage.	7a.
9.	Æ	<i>Tasciovanus.</i> Eagle l. ; griffin r.	VI.7.	Wallingford.	10b.
10.	Æ	<i>Cunobelinus.</i> Winged bust r. ; winged sphinx l.	X.9.	Near Wallingford.	10a.
11.	Æ	<i>Tasciovanus.</i> Head r. ; Pegasus l.	VI.8.	(Berkshire).	25.
12.	Æ	<i>Cunobelinus.</i> Horseman r. ; armed figure l.	XII.3.	Abingdon.	4a.
13.	Æ	<i>Cunobelinus.</i> Head r. ; bull butting r.	XII.5.	Near Wantage.	7b.
14.	Æ	<i>Cunobelinus.</i> Ear of corn ; horse r.	IX.7.	Hanney.	5a.
15.	Æ	<i>Cunobelinus.</i> Quarter stater.	IX.14.	Wallingford.	10k.

CLASSIFIED GROUPING OF INVENTORY.

		No. of specimens
Strays through Belgic invasion from, and trade with, Gaul.	Tin Coins (20b, S.4)	2
	"Morinic" types <i>A</i> (17, 20a, 23a, 35)	4
	Gaulish Tribes etc. : Viromandui <i>Æ</i> (38)	1
	Lingones (?) <i>Æ</i> (SS.1)	1
	K A A <i>Æ</i> (10m.)	1
	GERMANVS	
	INDVTILLI.L. <i>Æ</i> (S.12)	1
	VE (?) <i>A</i> (37)	1 (?)
Central Area.	Whaddon Chase type (Cassivellaunus ?) <i>A</i> 27(?)	+ (?)
	Midland counties types (?) <i>Æ</i> (S.5, S.6)	2 (?)
Catuvellaunian & Trinobantian Kingdoms.	Tasciovanus <i>A</i> (4b)	1
	<i>Æ</i> (10b)	1
	<i>Æ</i> (7a, 25)	2
	Cunobelinus <i>A</i> (4c, 5a, 5b, 7c, 7d, 9a, 10k, 13, 30, 31) + 26 (?)	10 +
	<i>Æ</i> (10a, 22)	2
	<i>Æ</i> (including forgeries) (3, 4a, 4d, 7b, 10l, S.7, S.8, S.9, S.13)	9
	Epaticcus <i>Æ</i> (S.10)	1
	Addedomaros <i>A</i> (1, 29)	2
Southern Area.	British "Remic" type (plain obv.) <i>A</i> (19a, 34.) + 21b (?)	2 +
	British "Remic" type (design on obv.) <i>A</i> (12, 19b, 21a, 33, 39)	5
Atrebatian Kingdom.	Commus <i>A</i> (15, 16)	2
	<i>Æ</i> (S.1) but perhaps Western counties type	1 (?)
	Tincommius <i>A</i> (2, 14)	2
	Eppillus <i>Æ</i> (10h) + <i>A</i> 10i (?)	1 +
	Verica <i>A</i> (10j)	1
	<i>Æ</i> (6)	1
S.E., S.W. and W. areas.	South-eastern counties—miscellaneous Sussex types <i>A</i> (10f, 24, 36)	3
	South-western counties—Hengistbury Head type <i>Æ</i> (S.2, S.3, SS.4)	3
	Western counties—Nunney hoard type <i>Æ</i> (8)	1
	Antedrigus <i>Æ</i> (10e)	1
	Bodvoc <i>A</i> (10g)	1
E. & N. areas & Icenic Kingdom.	Eastern and Northern counties—miscellaneous types <i>A</i> and <i>Æ</i> (11a, SS.2) + SS.3 (?)	2 +
	Icenic types <i>Æ</i> (10c and 10d)	2
?	Unidentified <i>A</i> (18, 32)	2
	<i>Æ</i> (S.11)	1
Total		72 +

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS.

With the revision of the Inventory and the classified grouping of the Berkshire finds several interesting facts appear.

More coins of the period have been found in and around Wallingford than in any other part of the county. The statement made by Mr. Leeds that Wallingford shows few traces of activity earlier than the Saxon period¹ seems contrary to the evidence. The formidable list of stone and bronze implements given by Mr. Peake² shows that during these prehistoric times Wallingford must at least have been visited frequently, while the barrel urn and pottery fragments (in Reading Museum) indicate that in the late Bronze Age there was some kind of cemetery here.

Recently, while examining the collections, housed in Wallingford Borough Museum (now closed) and in the Castle Museum, the writer noticed fragments of pottery which undoubtedly date from the 1st century; it is certain that if careful search were made, much more would come to light. Unhappily, since the days of J. K. Hedges and W. R. Davies, when archæology was a less exact science than it is now, Wallingford has possessed neither archæologist nor museum, worthy of the name, capable of taking over the work of collecting and recording, in which these two antiquarians were engaged. In consequence much has been lost or overlooked during the last thirty years, which might have shed new light on the prehistory of this interesting town.

Whatever may have been the size and importance of the prehistoric settlement at Wallingford, it is certain that from early times advantage was taken of this natural fording place. Judging by the coin finds, both ford and settlement played a considerable part in the trade, and perhaps in the warfare, between the southern and northern Belgic tribes.

From Silchester and its neighbourhood some twenty coins have been unearthed, but of these only two are of gold, those from within the ramparts being all of bronze, plated bronze or silver. What gold existed has been so carefully hidden as to escape the spade of the excavator; more probably it was confiscated by the Roman legions!

Gold coins of Cunobeline have been found in Cherbury Camp, Charney and Caesar's Camp, Easthampstead. These earthworks, on comparatively low ground rising little above the surrounding country, may both have been constructed in the Belgic period. Near Perborough Camp, Segsbury Camp and Lowbury Hill fort, typical downland settlements of the early Iron Age, other coins have come to light.

Grouping of coins into districts and kingdoms shows that approximately 14% are of direct Gaulish origin, while 64% belong

¹ *Berks. Arch. Journ.* XLII, Pt. 2 (1938), p. 93.

² *The Archaeology of Berkshire* (1931), pp. 237-8.

to the Belgic areas, north and south of the Thames. For the rest, 18% are from outlying districts, south, east and west, and from the north Midlands; the remaining 4% are still unclassified.

Various Gaulish types, together with the so-called "Morinic" type, from north-west Gaul and widely distributed over south-east Britain, are represented by eight or nine coins. Some were probably brought over to this country by invaders from Belgic Gaul in the early or mid 1st century B.C., the rest may have arrived in the course of trade.¹ British "Remic" coins, resulting from the second Belgic invasion, have chiefly been found in the Thames Valley between Maidenhead and Wittenham; one, however, was picked up in the woods just north-west of Silchester (39). The find spots of the comparatively rare coins of Commius and his three sons are scattered over the area. As might be expected, finds of the Catuvellaunian coinage have mostly taken place in the northern part of the county, but of the later coinage, one piece of Epaticcus and several of Cunobeline have been found at Silchester and other places in the extreme south, showing well the extent of the latter's kingdom. Coins belonging to surrounding and northern districts, in small but surprisingly equal numbers, may be accounted strays, the result of trade intercourse. The gold British Atrebatie type (see Pl. I, No. 12) is so far conspicuous by its absence in Berkshire; three only of the debased copper (Hengistbury Head) types have been noted, all found at Silchester.

In comparison with those of neighbouring counties the Berkshire coin list is short. Perhaps the reason is that no hoards have as yet been recovered. The only "drenched" area, if so it can be called, is in the Wallingford district. When a census has been taken of all the early coins from South Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire, it should be possible to trace with a greater degree of accuracy the limits to which the influence of the Belgic tribal territories extended in this district. Also it may be possible to demonstrate more fully the suppression of one kingdom by another before and after the turn of the Christian era. But this can only be accomplished by taking into account, besides the numismatic evidence, the distribution of pot types, defensive earthworks, settlements and other cultural features.²

The importance of recording finds in this and adjoining counties cannot be too strongly urged. Finders and those who have knowledge of archaeological discoveries are earnestly requested to report to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. M. Underhill, for his annual publication of antiquarian finds.

¹ "The Belgae of Gaul and Britain," *Arch. Journ.* LXXXVII (1930), pp. 244-5.

² e.g. a gold Atrebatie stater in the W. R. Davies Sale, 1893, lot 21, marked "Gorm's Dyke" (Grim's Dyke running up from Mongewell to Nuffield, Oxon) supports ceramic and other evidence for dating this earthwork to the Belgic period, rather than to an early Saxon period as suggested by Michael W. Hughes in *Antiquity* V (1931), p. 291 *et seq.*