

A Hoard of Roman Coins from Shrivenham.

By LT.-COL. W. HAWLEY and H. DE S. SHORTT.

THE site from which these coins were recovered is that of a Romano-British homestead on the west side of, and partly in, Little Wellington Wood, near Watchfield on the Beckett Estate. An excavation was made here in 1903 and of the collection of coins from it, some were presented to the British Museum by Lord Barrington of Beckett, and the remainder are in my possession.

Those now to be discussed were found in an area of two or three feet square, and may have been contained in some receptacle which has left no trace. Near these, in a well, was discovered a broken pot containing some coins of Carausius. These had been struck with the effigy of Diocletian, by whom Carausius had been deputed as governor of Britain. Another collection of six were recovered from a spring in the sand at the same site and in front of the building. Five of these belong to Postumus and Victorinus (three at least to Postumus) and one is a late coin of the House of Constantine. Also from this site, but exactly from where is uncertain, came four coins of the House of Constantine with GLORIA EXERCITUS, R. Soldiers and one Standard, and one of Valentinian II, VICTORIA AVGGG. Single Victory. References to this excavation are given in Peake's *Archæology of Berkshire*, p. 242.

W. HAWLEY.

Description of Coins.

Of these radiate coins the first 15 belong to Postumus (259-268) and the last to Victorinus (268-270).

R.I.C. = Mattingly and Sydenham, *Roman Imperial Coinage*.

1. R.I.C. 54. A.D. 260. R. P.M.TR.P.COS.II P.P.
Large coin. Early Portrait, nose slightly prominent and pointed beard. Lyons.
2. R.I.C. 58. R. FELICITAS AVG. Large coin, but nose and beard more prominent. Lyons.
3. R.I.C. 58. Similar.
4. R.I.C. 58. Similar but smaller and style more like Cologne.
5. R.I.C. 64. PL. XIII. 6. R. HERC. DEVSON-
IENSI. Large coin. Portrait similar to No. 1, but nose straight. Patches of plating remain. Lyons.

6. R.I.C. 67. R. HERC. PACIFERO. Portrait a cross between Nos. 1 and 2. Large coin in whitish metal. Lyons.
7. R.I.C. 80. R. PROVIDENTIA AVG. Large coin. Portrait like No. 6. Lyons.
8. prob. R.I.C. 89. Coin broken behind head. [IMP.C.PO]. STVMVS P.F.AVG. Well-marked stops on upper line. Earliest portrait with regular features and smooth hair and beard. R. [VICTORIA] AVG. The captive may have appeared on the broken edge of the coin. Otherwise this may be R.I.C. 90 without captive and without cuirass on the bust, which is indistinct. Largish, but thin coin. Lyons.
9. R.I.C. 89. Similar but larger and thicker coin with more developed portrait, similar to No. 5. Lyons.
10. R.I.C. 311. R. IOVI VICTORI. Small coin with fully developed portrait; hair curly, nose almost upturned, beard prominent but square underneath. Cologne.
11. R.I.C. 311. Similar but some of the legend not struck up.
12. R.I.C. 315. R. MONETA AVG. Nose pointed but less snubbed. Larger coin about the size of No. 4. Cologne.
- 13, 14. R.I.C. 318. R. PAX AVG. P|. Nose and beard prominent. Small coin. Cologne. Another almost exactly similar.
15. R.I.C. 325. R. SAECVLI FELICITAS. Portrait similar to No. 10. Small but thick coin.

All the obverse inscriptions, with the possible exception of No. 8, read IMP.C.POSTVMVS P.F.AVG. and with the same possible exception, all the busts are radiate, draped and cuirassed right.

Judging chiefly from the portrait, I would place the Postumus coins chronologically in the following order:

8. 5. 9. 1. 6. 7. 2. 3. 4. 12. 13. 14. 10. 11.

16. Victorinus. R.I.C. 122. SALVS AVG. Cologne.

These coins are now in the Salisbury Museum through the kind offices of Colonel Hawley.

H. DE S. SHORTT.