ART. V. – *A Hoard of Roman Coins in Kendal Museum.* By D. C. A. SHOTTER.

Read at Cockermouth, July 7th, 1978.

THE hoard here reported contains coins of the Tetrici, Constantine I and his sons, Valens and Gratian; it was "re-discovered" by Mr A. Turner, the Museum Curator, in the Museum cellar, wrapped in a sheet of newspaper, dated 1893. There was neither with it nor in the Museum records any information relating either to the date or the location of its original discovery.

There is no certainty that the hoard came from Kendal, although there is locally a verbal tradition that they may have been located on Fellside. The only other, albeit very tenuous, connection with Kendal is the report in *The Kendal Chronology* (p. 62; 23 July, 1825) of some "curious old coins" being found during building work at The White Hall. There is in this case no indication of the size of the find, or even that the coins concerned were Roman. Apart from this record, and coins found in the neighbourhood of the Roman Fort at Watercrook, only one other coin is reported from Kendal – an Aureus of Marcus Aurelius, found at the Castle (CW1 ix [1888], 178). The remaining possibility is that the coins came from outside Kendal; few hoards have been reported from the area around Kendal, and most of those that have can be eliminated on grounds of contents. Two, however, deserve a passing mention; first a hoard, containing coins from Constantine I to Gratian, was found at Craven Bank, near Giggleswick; it is reported in the *Gentleman's Magazine* (1794), p. 259, and its find-spot has been more recently discussed by F. Villy in *The Bradford Antiquary* viii (1940), 317-8. A second hoard was recovered around 1785 at Castlehead (Upper Allithwaite, near Cartmel), together with numerous other objects, including 95 Northumbrian stycas (W. T. Watkin, *Roman Lancashire* [1883], 215). The details concerning the Roman coins are very sparse, although Watkin says that there were 75 of them, whilst Baines (*History, Directory and Gazetteer of the County Palatine of Lancaster* [1824-5], i, 596) gives no number, but says that three of the coins belonged to Constantine I.

If, as is suggested below, the present collection is not a single hoard, there are circumstantial connections with the Castlehead collection. The present collection contains 92 coins of Constantine I, which is not far in excess of Watkin's number and very close to the number he gives for the stycas; it is not inconceivable that these numbers could have become interchanged. Beyond this, however, we have no ground for further suggestions.

The Coins

The collection consists of the following 106 coins:

Tetricus I (A.D. 271-273)	11 coins
Tetricus II (A.D. 271-273)	1 coin
Constantine I (A.D. 306-337)	92 coins
Valens (A.D. 364-378)	1 coin
Gratian (A.D. 367-383)	1 coin

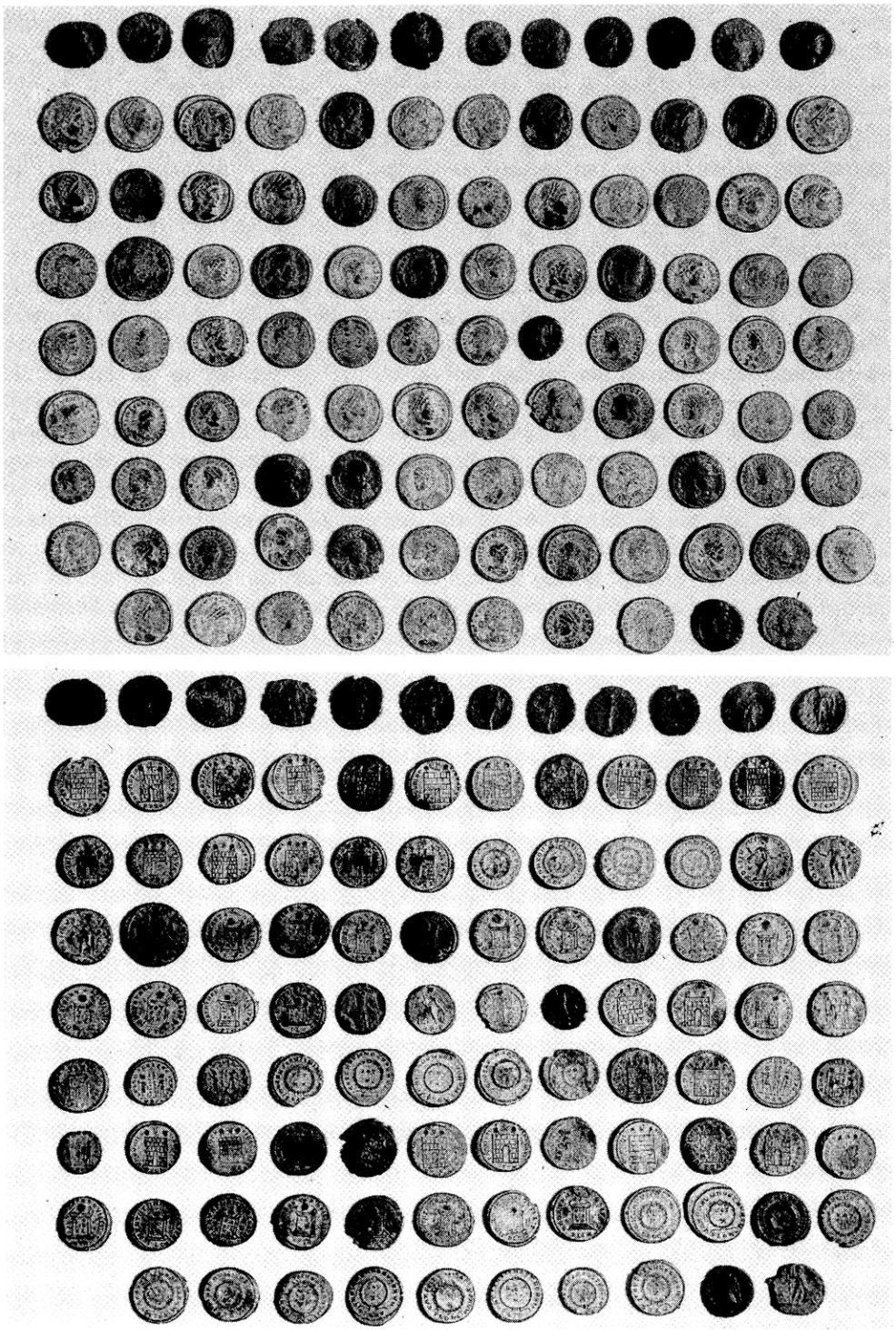

PLATE I. – The Hoard "re-discovered" in Kendal Museum. *Photograph by J. Thompson.*

The condition of the coins suggests that the twelve coins of the Tetrici and the two of Valens and Gratian may not derive from the same source as the 92 of Constantine I, which are all corroded in a very similar manner.

The whole collection is of bronze coins; the twelve of the Tetrici are barbarous imitations of the radiate series of Antoniniani; their standard is very variable, most of the reverses being crudely executed, including one which bears the reverse legend PITAS for PIETAS. The coins of Constantine and his sons are all *Folles*, whilst those of the two later fourth-century emperors, Valens and Gratian, are of the AES III denomination. Apart from a small number of coins which come from the mints of Nicomedia, Aquileia and Rome, the rest derive from Arles, Lyons, Trier and London.

As to date of deposition, if the collection is regarded as a unity, the wear of the two latest coins suggests a date very late in the fourth century, or early in the fifth, the latest coin having been issued in A.D. 375-378. If we separate the two latest coins, the wear of the Constantinian coins might suggest only a short life before deposition: the latest of the Constantinian group belongs to A.D. 333, so that deposition after A.D. 340 would not seem unreasonable. If the hoard came from Kendal, we should remember in the context of military security in the Kendal area in the fourth century A.D., that the most recent evidence suggests that the fort at Watercrook was not garrisoned beyond the late third century A.D. (CW2 lxxvi, 6 ff.).

Coin List

I. *Tetricus I (271-273)*: 11 coins; all are irregular, and bear the emperor's head, radiate, and facing right.

1, 2.	IMP TETRICVS P F AVG LAETITIA AVGG (2.232 gms; 2.617 gms)	(*RIC* V², p. 408, no. 89)
3, 4.	IMP TETRICVS P F AVG SALVS AVG (1.940 gms; 1.828 gms)	(*RIC* V², p. 410, no. 125)
5.	IMP TETRICVS P F AVG HILARITAS AVG (3.093 gms)	(*RIC* V², p. 408, no. 77)
6.	IMP TETRICVS P F AVG PITAS AVG (3.097 gms)	(*RIC* V², p. 409, no. 109)
7.	IMP C TETRICVS P F AVG PIETAS AVG (2.836 gms)	(*RIC* V², p. 409, no. 109)
8.	IMP C TETRICVS P F AVG SPES AVG (2.687 gms)	(*RIC* V², p. 411, no. 130)
9.	IMP TETRICVS P F AVG SPES AVG (2.589 gms)	(cf. *RIC* V², p. 411, no. 130)

10. IMP C TETRICVS P F AVG
VIRTVS AVG
(2.378 gms) (*RIC* V², p. 411, no. 146)

11. IMP C TETRICVS P F AVG
(Reverse illegible)
(1.917 gms)

II. *Tetricus II (271-273)*: 1 coin; irregular, and bears the imperial head, radiate, and facing right.

12. C. PIV ESV TETRICVS CAES
SPES AVGG
(2.180 gms) (*RIC* V², p. 424, no. 270)

III. *Constantine I (306-337)*: all coins are Æ *Follis*

13. IMP CONSTANTINVS P AVG (head, laureate, right)
SOLI INVICTO COMITI A.D. 316-7
Mint: PLN (*RIC* VII, p. 102, no. 88)
(4.342 gms)

14-16. IMP CONSTANTINVS P F AVG (head, laureate, right)
SOLI INVICTO COMITI A.D. 317
Mints: ARLS (2) (*RIC* VII, p. 249, no. 145)
TARL (1)
(3.269 gms; 3.596 gms; 3.649 gms)

17-20. CONSTANTINVS AVG (head, laureate, right)
D N CONSTANTINI MAX AVG VOT XX A.D. 322
Mints: AQP (2) (*RIC* VII, p. 405, no. 104)
Illeg. (2)
(3.063 gms; 3.234 gms; 3.298 gms; 3.403 gms)

21-33. CONSTANTINVS AVG (head, right, laureate or helmeted)
BEATA TRANQVILLITAS VOTIS XX A.D. 322
Mints: PTR (9) (*RIC* VII, p. 197, nos 368 and 371)
STR (4)
(2.160 gms; 2.523 gms; 2.596 gms; 2.615 gms; 2.618 gms;
2.707 gms; 2.825 gms; 2.975 gms; 3.094 gms; 3.295 gms;
3.537 gms; 3.587 gms; 3.611 gms)

34-49. CONSTANTINVS AVG (head, laureate, right)
PROVIDENTIAE AVGG A.D. 324-5
Mints: STR (1) (*RIC* VII, p. 205, no. 449)
PLON (2) (*RIC* VII, p. 116, no. 293)
SMNA (2) (*RIC* VII, p. 615, no. 90)
PTRE (10)
STRE (1)
(2.779 gms; 2.863 gms; 2.890 gms; 2.948 gms; 2.973 gms;
2.980 gms; 2.997 gms; 3.112 gms; 3.145 gms; 3.263 gms;
3.329 gms; 3.439 gms; 3.463 gms; 3.511 gms; 3.644 gms;
3.863 gms)

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50-51. CONSTANTINVS AVG (head, right, laureate or diademed)
VIRTVS AVGG — A.D. 325-6
Mints: SCONST (1) — (*RIC* VII, p. 265, no. 291)
ARLS (1) — (*RIC* VII, p. 268, no. 314)
(2.093 gms; 2.911 gms)

52-55. CONSTANTINOPOLIS (head, helmeted, left)
Victory — A.D. 333
Mints: TRP (2) — (*RIC* VII, p. 218, no. 554)
PTR (1)
Illeg. (1)
(1.707 gms; 2.347 gms; 2.375 gms; 2.386 gms)

IV. *Constantine I for Constantius*: all coins are Æ *Follis*

56. FLA CONSTANTIVS NOB C (head, laureate, right)
PROVIDENTIAE CAESS — A.D. 324-5
Mint: PLON (1) — (*RIC* VII, p. 116, no. 297)
(3.645 gms)

57-60. FL IVL CONSTANTIVS NOB C (head, laureate, left)
PROVIDENTIAE CAESS — A.D. 324-6
Mints: PTR (3) — (*RIC* VII, p. 205, no. 456)
PARL (1) — (*RIC* VII, p. 265, no. 290)
(2.686 gms; 2.946 gms; 3.043 gms; 3.187 gms)

61-62. FL IVL CONSTANTIVS NOB C (head, laureate, right)
GLORIA EXERCITVS — A.D. 330
Mints: TRP (1) — (*RIC* VII, p. 214, no. 521)
ARLP (1) — (*RIC* VII, p. 270, no. 342)
(2.460 gms; 2.518 gms)

V. *Constantine I for Crispus*: all coins are Æ *Follis*

63. CRISPVS NOB CAES (head, laureate, right)
D N CONSTANTINI MAX AVG VOT XX — A.D. 321
Mint: P*A (1) — (not in *RIC* VII)
(1.946 gms)

64-67. IVL CRISPVS NOB C (head, laureate, right)
CAESARVM NOSTRORVM VOT X — A.D. 323-4
Mints: PTR (4) — (*RIC* VII, p. 202. no. 431)
(2.537 gms; 2.578 gms; 2.970 gms; 3.316 gms)

VI. *Constantine I for Constantine Junior*: all coins are Æ *Follis*

68-74. CONSTANTINVS IVN NOB C (head, laureate, right or left)
BEATA TRANQVILLITAS VOTIS XX — A.D. 321-3
Mints: PLG (5) — (*RIC* VII, p. 133, nos 180 and 184)
PLON (1) — (*RIC* VII, p. 114, no. 282)
PTR (1) — (*RIC* VII, p. 192, no. 328)
STR (1)
(2.827 gms; 2.917 gms; 2.964 gms; 3.088 gms; 3.138 gms; 3.224 gms; 3.255 gms)

75-76. CONSTANTINVS IVN N C (head, laureate, right or radiate left)
BEATA TRANQVILLITAS VOTIS XX A.D. 322-3
Mints: PLG (1) (*RIC* VII, p. 133, no. 188)
PLON (1) (*RIC* VII, p. 113, no. 255)
(3.055 gms; 3.659 gms)

77-88. CONSTANTINVS IVN NOB C (head, laureate, right or left)
CAESARVM NOSTRORVM VOT X A.D. 323-4
Mints: STR (4) (*RIC* VII, p. 202, no. 433)
PTR (2)
PLON (3) (*RIC* VII, p. 115, no. 292)
PLGG (3) (*RIC* VII, p. 135, nos 211 and 218)
(2.321 gms; 2.424 gms; 2.847 gms; 2.907 gms; 3.009 gms; 3.058 gms; 3.118 gms; 3.154 gms; 3.203 gms; 3.238 gms; 3.421 gms; 3.421 gms)

89-99. CONSTANTINVS IVN NOB C (head, laureate, right or left)
PROVIDENTIAE CAESS A.D. 324-5
Mints: PTR (3) (*RIC* VII, p. 205, nos 454 and 455)
PTRE (3)
STR (4)
STRE (1)
(2.171 gms; 2.546 gms; 2.908 gms; 2.945 gms; 2.990 gms; 3.072 gms; 3.257 gms; 3.407 gms; 3.536 gms; 3.554 gms; 3.561 gms)

100-101. CONSTANTINVS IVN NOB C (head, laureate, left)
VIRTVS CAESS A.D. 325-6
Mints: ARLT (2) (*RIC* VII, p. 265, no. 295)
(2.864 gms; 2.950 gms)

102-104. CONSTANTINVS IVN NOB C (head, laureate, right)
GLORIA EXERCITVS A.D. 330-1
Mints: TRP (1) (*RIC* VII, p. 214, no. 520)
TRS (1)
PLG (1) (*RIC* VII, p. 138, no. 238)
(1.727 gms; 2.173 gms; 2.287 gms)

VII. *Gratian (367-383)*

105. Æ S III
D N GRATIANVS AVGG AVG (head, diademed, right)
GLORIA NOVI SAECVLI A.D. 367-375
Mint: Illeg. (1) (*RIC* IX, p. 66 no. 15)
(2.121 gms)

VIII. *Valens (364-378)*

106. Æ S III
D N VALENS P F AVG (head, diademed, right)
SECVRITAS REIPVBLICAE A.D. 375-378
Mint: RQVARTA (1) (*RIC* IX, p. 122, no. 28)
(2.250 gms)

References

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Vol. IX (H. Mattingly, C. H. V. Sutherland, R. A. G. Carson and J. W. Pearce)

Acknowledgements

I should like to acknowledge the assistance of Miss M. E. Burkett, Miss C. I. Fell, Mr T. Clare, Mr J. Anstee, Mr J. Marsh and Mr A. Turner in matters relating to the establishment of information concerning the circumstances of the discovery of the hoard.