

THE ANCIENT BRITISH COINS OF SUSSEX.

BY ERNEST H. WILLETT, F.S.A.,

Member of the Numismatic Society, and Secretary for Sussex to the Society of Antiquaries of London.

P R E F A C E .

IT is now more than thirty years ago since the late Mr. Dixon, of Worthing,¹ read a paper before this Society, then just formed, on "British Gold Coins found in Sussex," illustrating it by some twelve examples from his own cabinet. This paper was printed in the first volume of our Collections, and is, in fact, the only descriptive account of Sussex British Coins that has hitherto appeared, although occasional notes² on the discovery of single specimens are distributed at wide intervals through the Society's publications.

When the reader looks at the plates accompanying the present paper, he will see that it is from no lack of material that a systematic arrangement and description has hitherto been unattempted; but that, until within the last few years, no large number of coins has fallen into the hands of any one local collector, is sufficient to account for the absence of more attention to the subject.

¹ The substance of that paper was also published in "Dixon's Geology of Sussex." A new edition of this work, edited by Professor Rupert Jones, with the assistance of many eminent scientific men, and bringing the information down to the present day, has just been published by Mr. W. J. Smith, of North Street, Brighton.

² The reference to such discoveries

in the Index volume are three in number—I. 26, 31; v. 206, xxiv, 164. There is also a note on a British coin found at Hastings, in Vol. xi, p. 367, which appears to have escaped the notice of the compiler of the Index; and in Vol. xxvi, p. 270, Mr. F. C. S. Roper has described one found at Polegate, in 1872.

Exceptionally favourable circumstances have induced the writer to make a careful study of this remarkable series of coins, and he trusts that he may now be able to lay before the public a clear and intelligible account of the events illustrated by them in an early chapter of county history.

INTRODUCTION.

From the time of Camden the question concerning the origin of a coinage in Britain has occupied the attention of antiquaries, but although a vast amount of learning has been brought to bear upon the matter, the results of the enquiries have, until recently, with a few exceptions, been more distinguished by originality and eccentricity, than by an impartial consideration, and a logical explanation, of the facts before the writers. Thus it was not till the present century, that the date and origin of our native coinage were known with any degree of certainty.

To show the amount of misapprehension that has existed on the subject, and the perplexed ingenuity that has been applied to it, one instance, a fair sample of many such, will suffice. In 1763 the Rev. Dr. Pettingall communicated a dissertation to the Society of Antiquaries on the inscription TASCIA; when he attempted to show that "tag," or some word similar, signified a prince, from whence TASCIA had its name, as it was inscribed on the tribute money paid by the "tag" of each province to the Roman Emperor; and that from TASCIA "task" is derived, and then again "tax." It is unnecessary to state, that never have the annals of any country shown that an extensive currency has been struck merely to pay taxes to a foreign conqueror.³

Many valuable papers on this particular branch of Numismatics, chiefly contributed by Dr. Birch and Mr. Evans, have appeared in the "Numismatic Chronicle,"

³ The word is a contraction of TASCIO-VANUS, the name of the father of Cunobeline, who ruled over the Caty-

chlani and Trinobantes during the reign of Augustus. (Evans, p. 6.)

since its commencement by Mr. Akerman, in 1834; but the standard work of reference is "Evans's Ancient British Coins,"⁴ published in 1864. All the types of British coins then known, in number about 360, are described and systematically arranged in this exhaustive treatise; which, moreover, contains an epitome of the testimony of ancient authors as to the degree of civilisation and commercial resources prevalent in Britain just before and after the invasion of B.C. 55.

The result of this comparative evidence places the existence of a pre-Roman British coinage beyond any doubt, notwithstanding the supposed direct assertion of Cæsar to the contrary; and it is equally certain, that its origin can be traced back, through Gaul, to the Greek model of the Stater of Philip II. of Macedon. It would occupy too much space here to follow all the arguments by which this assumption is supported (any one anxious to do so, will find full details in Chapter II. of Mr. Evans's work). The following, however, are the main grounds on which the conclusions are based:—

1st. That, owing to the close communication we know⁵ to have existed between Britain and Gaul, it is unlikely that this medium of exchange, one of the first marks of civilisation, should have existed on the other side the Channel, without its convenience having been appreciated and adopted on this.

2nd. Mr. Hawkins has shown,⁶ that not only is the passage in the Commentaries corrupt, where Cæsar, speaking of the Britons, says, "Utuntur aut ære, aut annulis (taleis) ferreis ad certum pondus examinatis pro nummis," but that in many MSS. the words "aut nummo aureo" occur after "ære;" and that thus Cæsar distinctly affirms the existence of a coinage in the island

⁴ Mr. Evans has not only given me permission freely to refer to this important work, but it is to his kindness that I am indebted for the loan of the plates from which the larger portion of the illustrations to this paper are taken. I cannot thank him too often or too publicly for contributing in so high a degree to the success of this compilation for county reference; and, as it would be

impossible to give a clearer or more concise statement of the facts connected with this period of history than is to be found in his work, it will be seen that it has been somewhat extensively quoted in the present essay.

⁵ Cæsar de Bell. Gall. II. 4, IV. 20, V. 12, 14.

⁶ Silver Coins, p. 8.

prior to his arrival. Passages from Strabo (lib. ii, p. 280); Dion Cassius (lib. xl, sect. 3); Tacitus (Vit. Agric. cap. 12); Solinus (cap. xxxi, *sec. alios* xxii); Cicero (Ep. ad. Att. IV., 17); Suetonius (Vit. Jul. Cæs. xxv), and other Roman historians, also tend to confirm it.

3rd. Cæsar imposed a yearly tribute upon the inhabitants—and, at one time, it was regularly paid—though Strabo says it was afterwards commuted for light import and export duties into Gaul. This tax would not have been demanded, if there had been a total ignorance of the use of gold and silver amongst the Tributaries.

4th. We find the earliest British coins to be almost exclusively struck in gold, and founded on a model which can by no reasonable interpretation be supposed to be Roman; which would not be the case, did the origin of the coinage date subsequently to the invasion of 55 B.C., for then, not only should we expect to find the dies drawn from Roman models, but the currency also started in the baser metals as well.⁷

⁷ "In or about the year 356 B.C., Philip acquired the gold mines of Crenides, and worked them, so as to produce an annual revenue of about a quarter of a million sterling. Henceforth the gold stater—the *regale numisma* of Horace—became everywhere diffused, and seems to have been seized upon and copied by the barbarians who came in contact with Greek civilisation."

"In Gaul this was especially the case, and the whole of the gold coinage of that country may be said to consist of imitations, more or less rude and degenerate, of the Macedonian stater."

"Another reason for the adoption of this model is to be found in the probability, that in 279, when Brennus plundered Greece, he carried away a great treasure of these coins, which became current in Gaul." (Evans, p. 24.)

"Philip died in 336 B.C., and therefore we may suppose his coins to have been imitated in Gaul about 300 B.C. The copies of this time would, however, be merely servile (such as the one figured in Plate I. fig 2), and some considerable time must have elapsed for the metamorphosis to the form in which it first appears in England (Plate I., figs. 3 and

4.) A hundred and fifty years have been assigned as a reasonable time for this change, and 150 B.C. fixed upon as the probable time for the introduction of coinage into Britain."

The weight of the earliest British coins confirms this selection of date, since we know that the stater gradually became reduced in weight as it came to be degraded in design by the influence of the barbarian anarchy through which it passed; there being, besides, a strong tendency amongst all nations, civilized as well as barbarian, to debase the currency, for the sake of some small temporary advantage to the governing power." (See Evans, p. 26.)

"The weight of the original Philippus was 133 grains, that of our earliest prototype 120 grains, whilst the coins of the British princes in the Augustan æra had sunk to 84 grains. Supposing this gradual diminution in weight to have been regularly progressive, the standard 120 would have been reached in 226, B.C. but it is probable that it proceeded more rapidly at first than subsequently, and 150 B.C. is about the date to which several circumstances point." (See Evans, p. 31.)

As, therefore, the Britons derived their knowledge of the art of coinage from Gaul, it is but reasonable to expect to find upon their coins an imitation, more or less rude, of the Macedonian Philippos; and the greater or less resemblance to the prototype affords some means of approximately estimating the date, and although it would require some considerable amount of faith to believe, without being shown the connecting links, that the devices on the coins Plate I., Nos. 5, 6, 11 and 12 *e.g.*, were meant to represent the same objects as are figured on Plate I., No. 1, yet such belief becomes possible, when a series is attentively examined, and the progress of the change gradually traced. It will be seen that in "design," as well as in Natural History, the most prominent features become developed and increased, whilst the minor details disappear. This course of design on British coins may be regarded as an interesting illustration of the Darwinian theory of Natural selection, "and the survival of the fittest," and, as such, has already formed the matter of a discourse by Mr. Evans, at the Royal Institution.

The following table shows in what numerical relation the coins found in Sussex, in the several metals, stand to those of the whole of Britain. They form one-fifth of the Inscribed, and one-third of the Un-inscribed, series; and, moreover, we find that whilst out of the 380 types altogether known, not more than half are in gold, of the ninety coins comprising the Sussex list, seventy-two are in this metal.

These facts point to the existence of an earlier and more extensive coinage on the coast than in the interior, and to its being more dissimilar to the Roman currency.

Table showing the proportion of British Coins found in Sussex to those of the whole of England, and in what metals they are severally struck.

<i>Un-inscribed Series.</i>		
	England.	Sussex.
Gold	81	39
Silver	19	2
Bronze	10	1
Tin	9	1
Billon	12	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	131	43

<i>Inscribed Series.</i>		
	England.	Sussex.
Gold	111	33
Silver	75	13
Bronze	63	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	249	47
As above	131	43
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	380	90

It is necessary, however, that we should draw attention to the distinction between "Sussex Coins" and "Coins found in Sussex." The former term comprises those types which were struck in Sussex, and whose area of circulation was principally restricted to the South Eastern District (as defined below), whilst the latter includes many types that are found distributed all over England, and, in fact, frequently in greater abundance in other districts than in our own. The wider range of these types stamps them as belonging, in common, to other tribes than the Atrebates, Regni, and the Belgic states colonized on the south coast, by whom were issued the true Sussex coins. Those figured on Plates II. and III. (except 17 and 18 on Plate III.) are Sussex coins, whilst the two exceptions, and the coins figured on Plate I., belong to the cosmopolitan class.

Whilst, however, we are considering the coins of Sussex, we must not confine ourselves too narrowly to the actual limits of the country of the South Saxons; though we shall find that those coins, which are indigenous to the South Eastern district, have nearly all occurred within the borders of Sussex itself.

Where it is not so, it is stated in the text.

The South Eastern district may be defined as a tract of country extending from Hastings to the Avon, in Hampshire, and bounded longitudinally by the North Downs.

PART I.

The Un-inscribed Series.

General Classification.—Ancient British coins may be roughly arranged in two groups—the *Un-inscribed* and

the *Inscribed* series. This arrangement is also chronological; as has already been shown, the unlettered coins date from about 200 to 150 B.C., whilst the *Inscribed* series commenced soon after the coming of Cæsar, and were continued up to the time of Claudius.

The *Un-inscribed* series is capable of still further division, into—

- 1st.—The “True British Class,” which includes those coins where the design appears unaffected by Roman influence, and which are wholly Gaulish or Celtic in their character.
- 2nd.—The “Romano-Celtic,” of which the members resemble, to a certain degree, the inscribed coins, in design, weight, and specific gravity.

All the coins on Plates I. and II. belong to the first-class, whilst those figured on Plate III., Nos. 1, 2, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 may be referred to the latter. There are some also which appear transitional in character, the special traits of either class not being sufficiently marked to constitute a distinctive feature.⁸

Further Arrangement.—Besides this broad division, dependent upon the Inscription, a more complex one can be formed by grouping the coins together, according to the parts of the country in which they are found. This Geographical classification is more applicable to the *Inscribed* than to the *Un-inscribed* series, for though a certain system seems to govern the distribution of the latter, they are more widely spread and less localized than the former.

The districts into which the country can be conveniently divided for this purpose have been defined by Mr. Evans, as follows :—

- 1.—The *Kentish District*.—Kent and Eastern Surrey.
- 2.—The *South Eastern District*.—Sussex, Hampshire, and Western Surrey.
- 3.—The *Western District*.—Somersetshire, Wilts, Gloucestershire, and part of Oxon and Berks.
- 4.—The *Eastern District*.—Norfolk, Suffolk, and parts of Cambridge and Huntingdon.

⁸ Plate III., figs. 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 are transitional.

- 5.—The *Central District*.—Bucks, Bedfordshire, Herts, Middlesex, Essex, Northampton, and parts of Berks, Cambridge, Huntingdon, and Oxon.
- 6.—The *Yorkshire District*.—Comprising Yorkshire and parts of adjacent counties to the South.

Mr. Evans says—

“There is no doubt that a classification of coins under the names of the various tribes mentioned in history would have been more satisfactory, but it is now almost, if not quite, impossible to ascertain the extent and position of the territories occupied by those tribes at the time the coins were struck.”

Thus we might have called our own county the territory of the Atrebates and Regni, instead of the South Eastern District; Kent, the kingdom of the Cantii; the Eastern District, the country of Boadicea and the Iceni; and the central district, that of the Catyeuchlani and Trinobantes.

“In most instances we should probably have been right in assigning the coins, peculiar to each of the districts mentioned, to the tribes above cited; but when it is considered that the inscribed coinage ranges from the time of the invasion of Julius, until the days of Claudius, it becomes evident that, by alliance, or subjugation, of different tribes, there was probably a considerable alteration in the division of the country under the different reguli of that period. In fact, there are some tribes mentioned by Cæsar, such as the Ancalites and Bibroci, who are not enumerated amongst those who occupied Britain in the time of Ptolemy.”

Under these circumstances, therefore, it is desirable to preserve the accepted classification according to present geographical limits, rather than attempt an arbitrary ethnological division.

The following is a list of the places in Sussex where British coins have been discovered, the types being also given in each instance :—⁹

Alfriston.—Pl. I., figs. 3 and 10; Pl. IV., figs. 3, 4 and 7.

Ashdown Forest.—Pl. II., fig. 16; Pl. III., figs. 9, 11, 15 and 16.

Battle.—Pl. VI., fig. 18.

Bognor.—Pl. II., figs. 8, 13, 14 and 15; Pl. III., fig. 14; Pl. IV., figs. 10, 11, 12 and 15; Pl. V., figs. 7 and 9; Pl. VI., fig. 13.

⁹ As this list is necessarily imperfect, the writer will be obliged by anyone kindly furnishing him with an account of discoveries not referred to therein,

by which means he hopes to complete the record. Such notes may be addressed to E. H. Willett, 5, Montpellier Crescent, Brighton.

- Bracklesham*.—Pl. II., fig. 15; Pl. III., fig. 12.
Bramber Castle.—Pl. IV., fig. 3.
Brighton.—Coin of Dubnovellaunus (*see* Evans Pl. IV., fig. 12).
Cackham.—Pl. I., figs. 7, 8, 9 and 10; Pl. IV., fig. 1.
Chichester.—Pl. I., fig. 12; Pl. II., fig. 8, also a plated coin of Tasciovanus (*see* Evans Pl. VI., fig. 11).
Dyke.—Pl. III., fig. 18.
Eastbourne.—Pl. I., fig. 9; Pl. II., fig. 15; Pl. III., fig. 17.
East Wittering.—Pl. IV., figs. 3 and 5; Pl. V., fig. 5.
Goodwood.—Pl. I., fig. 6.
Hastings.—Pl. I., fig. 5.
Heene.—Pl. I., fig. 9.
Holmbush.—Pl. I., fig. 9.
Kithurst Down.—Pl. I., fig. 3.
Lancing Down.—Pl. III., fig. 16; Pl. IV., fig. 8; Pl. VI., figs. 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11 and 12.
Pagham.—Pl. I., fig. 9; Pl. II., fig. 15; (Dixon's "Sussex," 1st edit., p. 36); Pl. V., fig. 1.
Pevensay.—Pl. III., fig. 5.
Polegate.—Pl. I., fig. 4.
Poling.—Pl. I., fig. 10.
Seaford.—Pl. I., fig. 3.
Selsea.—Pl. I., figs. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12; Pl. II., figs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14; Pl. III., figs. 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 10 and 13; Pl. IV., figs. 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18; Pl. V., figs. 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14; Pl. VI., figs. 13, 14 and 15.
Shipley.—Pl. I., fig. 10.
Shoreham.—Pl. V., fig. 1.
Steyning.—Pl. IV., fig. 3; Pl. V., fig. 4.
Tarring.—Pl. I., figs. 5 and 10.
Warbleton.—Pl. V., fig. 4.
Wiston.—Pl. I., fig. 9.
Worthing.—Pl. I., fig. 10.

Of these "*trouvailles*" the most important are—the Selsea, Bognor, Battle, and Alfriston "finds," and the discoveries in Ashdown Forest and on Lancing Downs.

The Bognor and Alfriston coins were exhibited by Mr. C. Roach Smith to the Numismatic Society, in November, 1842. (*See* "Proceedings and Collectanea Antiqua," Vol. I.). The former consisted of fourteen specimens, one of each of the types Plate II., figs. 8 and 13, four of Plate II., fig. 14, three of Plate II., fig. 12, and one of each of Plate IV., figs. 9, 14 and 15; whilst the latter comprised one of each of the types Plate I., fig. 10, Plate IV., figs. 3, 4 and 7.

There are no facts on record as to the particulars of the finds on Lancing Downs and in Ashdown Forest, except as to the description of the coins themselves. The former consisted of about a dozen small silver coins of Verica, and three brass or copper coins of Gaulish or Un-inscribed British origin. The latter comprised specimens in gold of the type, Pl. II., fig. 16, Pl. III., figs. 9 and 11; in silver, of the type in plate III., figs. 15 and 16. They are noticed in the *Num. Chron.*, Vol. ii., p. 231.

The hoard found at Battle consisted of a large number of coins of the Iceni, of the types, Evans, Pl. XV., fig. 2, and Pl. XVI., figs. 7 and 8. It is somewhat remarkable that they should have occurred so far from their original home; as the Iceni, of whom the famous Boadicea was at one time Queen, were located in the Eastern counties. Plate VI., fig. 18 (Evans, Pl. XV., fig. 2), is an example of the type. The discovery is alluded to in the *Num. Chron.*, Vol. i., p. 89.

History of the Selsea Find.

During the last few years a large number of British gold coins have been found on the coast, in the neighbourhood of Selsea, and as they were nearly all secured by the father of the writer, he has had an opportunity, almost unparalleled, of examining a series, that, for interest and importance in its historical bearing, has perhaps never before been approached by any one find of coins of this description.

Nearly 300 coins were found at various times, and the list includes as many as 20 new types, besides a great number that were before thought to be unique.

The discovery is a curious and important one, and deserves a short digression to recount its history.

Owing to a peculiar wave-action on the coast of West Sussex, coins and other heavy objects which had been buried in land long since encroached upon by the sea, are sorted and washed ashore, and distributed at various levels on the littoral, according to their size, weight, and specific gravity, and these coins have been

found at certain states of the tide, and under particular conditions of wind and weather, deposited on the sea coast. Most of them are of small size, and this circumstance is probably owing to the sorting agency before referred to, as it is likely that the larger ones, from their greater weight, have been deposited elsewhere.

Besides a quantity of metal of all ages, including shot and sixpences of the Victorian æra, that had been sorted according to their specific gravity by this wave-action, a number of small pieces of gold, varying in weight from 1 to 100 grains, have been found with the coins. They are of such shapes, sizes, and character, that it seems very probable they are the remnants of a quantity of the precious metal amassed for the purposes of an executive mint, and there seems nothing inconsistent with the idea that such of them as the links and beaten plates of gold hereafter described, were "manubiæ," or "vectigalia" of the Gallo-Roman period, at which epoch they had formed parts of personal ornaments.

The fragments consist of—

- 1.—A bar of yellow gold, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, weighing 104 grains.
- 2.—Another, shorter ; weight, 42 grains.
- 3.—Two more, twisted in a similar manner to the British torques.
- 4.—Various pieces of wire ; some plain, some plaited, some twisted, varying in thickness from that of finest silk to coarse string. Some of the more delicate pieces resemble the wire used in the surface ornamentation of Scandinavian jewellery.
- 5.—Thin plates of gold ; one is pierced with microscopic holes for attachment to a textile fabric.
- 6.—Flattened ingots of a baser metal. These have the appearance of having been cast after alloy with bronze or copper. (Mr. A. W. Franks, F.R.S., has discovered some runic characters on one of these ingots, and it seems probable that it formed part of a ring.)
- 7.—Flattened links, ribbed transversely.
- 8.—Hollow annular objects. The largest, which appears to be plated over bronze, is similar to the Irish, so-called, ring money. (A specimen of this ring money is figured by Mr. Dixon as from Bracklesham bay. Its weight was 104 grains—singularly enough the exact weight of the bar of gold first referred to.)
- 9.—A chain of exquisite workmanship, formed by an alternation of double and single links, and attached to a star rosette, resulting in a point in which is a minute patch of niello.
- 10.—A very small rosette.

- 11.—A boat-like object, with gadrooned edge, much battered; a link is attached to either end; apparently it served as a setting to a stone now gone.
- 12.—A round flat disc of gold, apparently an unstruck coin.

Although some of these objects may belong to a later date (for instance, the chain, and some of the pieces of wire, which may possibly be of a Saxon age), yet I think there are reasonable grounds for presuming that the majority are of the same antiquity as the coins. The bars of gold are, as before observed, twisted in like manner to the Celtic torques, and this style of ornament is of great antiquity, and was not, so far as I am aware, continued after the third century of our era, if indeed it was produced at so late a date.

The round flat disc, weighing 23 grains, and having the rather high specific gravity of 15·25, affords additional support to the possible Mint theory, as it is, to all appearance, an unstruck coin, and bears evidence of having been hammered after casting. It is of the same colour and specific gravity as most of the flattened ingots, and its weight is about that of the coins of the Un-inscribed series.

Four of these ingots contain approximately the correct amount of metal for the small coins, and seem to have been cut in lengths. Two of them, weighing respectively 14 and 16 grains, are sufficiently near the value of the coins to have been ready for use.

Professor Church, of Cirencester, has kindly made some careful observations and experiments on the coins and gold work, with a view to seeing how far the analysis of the Inscribed and Un-inscribed series corresponds, and how both of these agree with the bullion gold; this was done to ascertain whether, as was to be expected, the Romans introduced into Britain the custom of debasing the currency, along with the other advantages of civilization that they inculcated into the unsophisticated barbarian mind.

The results of Mr. Church's examination, which are given below, will show that the gold of which the jewellery is composed is much less alloyed than that which

gives value to the coins. The former contains a fair proportion of both the precious metals, whilst copper is found to be an important ingredient in the latter. The ingot analyzed (D) seems to have much silver in it, and gives an analysis which is not easy to explain; but it is very evident that the moneyers of Tincommius¹⁰ were troubled by no scruples in debasing the currency, as in the coins of this Prince the copper is increased from 10 or 12 per cent. to between 30 and 40. A great improvement is seen in the analysis of a coin of Verica, but this, being a single instance, cannot be regarded as typical of the character of his money.

ANALYSES OF GOLD WORK AND COINS MADE BY PROFESSOR
CHURCH, M.A., F.C.S.

	A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	F.	G.	H.	I.
					Uninscribed Coins.		Inscribed Coins.		
	Twisted Bar.	Twisted Bar.	Plain Bar.	Ingot.	Evans Pl. E. 12.	Evans Pl. E. 1 & 2	Evans Pl. II. 4	Evans Pl. II. 5	Evans Pl. II. 12
Gold	90·73	66·82	73·8	44·	57·3	51·75	47·37	48·55	75·2
Silver	8·39	22·39	14·3	50·5	16·4	34·6	12·91	13·56	7·6
Tin .....	...	...	none	none	2·4	...	trace	1·15	...
Copper ...	·88	10·79	11·9	5·5	23·9	13·65	39·72	36·74	17·2
	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0
Actual Sp. Gr. }	18·05	14·83	...	...	13·23	13·07	10·88	10·64	12·6
Calculated Sp. Gr. }	18·06	14·76	...	...	...	...	12·31	...	...

* Mean of analyses of three pieces of metal.

¹⁰ It would have been unsatisfactory not to have given all the analyses together, though, properly, those referring

to the inscribed series should have been reserved till Part II. of our paper.

Mr. Church says :—

NOTE 1.—An alloy having very nearly the composition of G or H above might be made by taking one volume or bulk of native argenti-ferous gold of S. G. 16·5 and one volume or bulk of copper or Roman bronze. Such an alloy might analyse—

Gold . . .	50 per cent.
Silver . . .	15 ,,
Copper . . .	35 ,,

NOTE 2.—The above specific gravities, so far as regards the coins, are curiously low ; they are all much under the calculated figures for such alloys. G, for instance, gave 10·88 instead of 12·31. Another specimen of the Medusa type gave 10·6. On the other hand, the experimental and theoretical specific gravity of the bars A and B agree almost perfectly. I attribute the difference partly to the presence of oxides, &c., on the surface and in the pits and hollows of the coins ; partly to the existence of internal cavities. My copper determinations are probably a trifle too high, in consequence of their having been determined by difference, when, in reality, a part of the difference ought to have been set down as sulphur, oxygen, chlorine, &c.

NOTE 3.—The tin in coins E and H was discovered by accident. I do not feel that these estimates are more than approximate. I think there was a trace of tin in G, and this metal may possibly have been overlooked in my former determinations of E and I. If bronze had been used in alloying the gold, 2 or 3 per cent. of tin would have been thus introduced.

LISTS OF THE SELSEA FIND.

LIST I.

UN-INScribed.

SERIES A.—TRUE-BRITISH.

Type.	Wt.	Sp. Gr.	No.	Types.	Total.
Evans, Plate B, fig. 9	78.90	13.5	5		
" " B, fig. 10			3		
" " B, fig. 7	103	16	1		
" " B, fig. 6	96	13.2	1		
" " B, fig. 8	94	14	2		
" " D, fig. 7	76	11.3	1		
" " F, fig. 1	89	10	1		
" " B, fig. 14, or E, fig. 2 ...	20	14	25	7	14
" " B, fig. 15	15	12	2		
" " E, fig. 3	11-20	13	6		
*Num. Chron., Plate I, fig. 4.....	13	12	1		
" " " fig. 6.....	16	12	1		
" " " fig. 1, 2 A and 2 B	20	13.5	6		
" " " fig. 3.....	18	14.5	1		
Evans, Plate D, fig. 4	22.4	14	1		
" " E, fig. 10	21	15	7		
Varieties of this type	22	15	7		
One unintelligible variety of E, 10	21	15	1		
Concave varieties ¹	18	13	3		
One small plain disc	16		1		
Num. Chron., Plate I, fig. 8 ²	12.5	11	1		
" " " fig. 8 ²	13	10	1		
" " " fig. 7 ²	15.5	13	2		
" " " fig. 5 ²	12		1		
				17	66
SERIES B.—ROMANO-CELTIC.					
Evans, E, 6, Num. Chron. Plate I, fig. 10	15	11.5	11		
Num. Chron. Plate I, fig. 11	14.5	12	18		
Evans, Pl. E, 12 ³	15.5	11.5	26		
Num. Chron. Plate II, fig. 14 ³	15	11.0	3		
				4	58
				28	138

¹ Coins with no device upon them, but very hollow in shape.² Are transitional in character.³ These two might be classed with the inscribed coins.* The number of the *Num. Chron.* referred to here is N.S. Vol. xvii.—The plates 1 and 2 (of *Num. Chron.*) refer to the *British* coins there described.

INSCRIBED.

COMMIVS?

Type.	Wt.	Sp. Gr.	No.	Types.	Total.
Evans, Plate I., fig. 10			1	1	1
TINCOMMIVS.					
Num. Chron. Plate II., fig. 1.....	14·5	11	13		
" " " II., fig. 2.....	15	11	9		
Evans, Plate II., fig. 2	16	11·5	14		
" " " II., fig. 6	16	12	3		
Num. Chron., Plate II., fig. 3.....	15·5	11·5	29		
" " " II., fig. 4.....	15	12·0	10		
" " " II., fig. 5.....	16	11·5	14		
" " " II., fig. 6.....	15	12	1		
				8	93
Evans, Plate II., fig. 12	82	12·5	3		
				1	3
				9	96
VERICA.					
Evans, Plate II., fig. 10.....	80	11·5	1		
" " " II., fig. 12	16	11	9	1	1
" " " III., figs. 1 and 2			9		
Num. Chron., Plate II., fig. 7.....	14	12	1		
" " " II., fig. 8.....	10	12	1		
" " " II., fig. 9.....	16	11·4	2		
" " " II., fig. 10	16	12·5	2		
" " " II., fig. 11	16	10	2		
" " " II., fig. 12	15·5	11·5	1		
				8	27
				9	28
EPPILIVS.					
Num. Chron., Plate II., fig. 13	16	11	2		
				1	2
				20	127

LIST II.

(SUMMARY OF LIST I.)

UN-INSCRIBED.

	Types.	Number.	Types.	Number.
Series A.—"British" (large)	7	14		
" " " " (small)	17	66		
Series B.—"Romano-Celtic"	4	58		
			28	138

INSCRIBED.

	Types.	Number.	Types.	Number.
COMMIUS (large)	1	1	1	1
TINCOMMIUS (large)	1	3		
TINCOMMIUS (small)	8	93	9	96
VERICA (large)	1	1		
VERICA (small)	8	27	9	28
EPPILLUS (small)	1	2	1	2
			20	127
As above			28	138
Total			48	265

It was intended to confine the first part of this paper entirely to the Un-inscribed Series, but as the names of the British Princes Verica and Tincommius have unavoidably crept into the Introduction, it is necessary to explain that these Reguli, together with their brother Eppillus, are supposed to have been the sons of one Comius, or Commius, an ambassador sent over by Cæsar from Gaul to exhort the inhabitants to tender him their allegiance, and that the territory over which they ruled is formed in a great part by modern Sussex.

It is proposed, in a subsequent volume of the Collections, to give an account of the coinage of these three brothers, and to recount what history has to say on the eventful, but somewhat chequered, career of their illustrious father.

In the present part we must confine ourselves to a descriptive catalogue of the

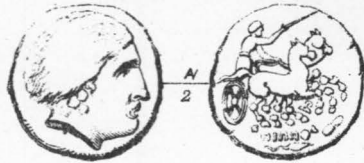
Un-inscribed Series.

A brief explanation of some of the terms and observations used in the following catalogue may be necessary to enable those, who have not made coins a special study, to understand the technical description of the plates.

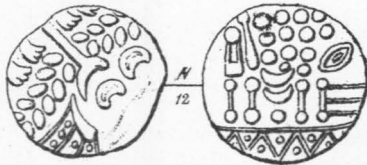
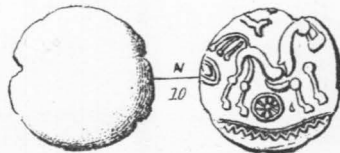
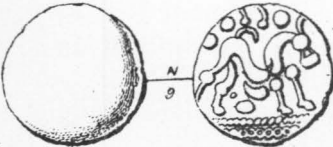
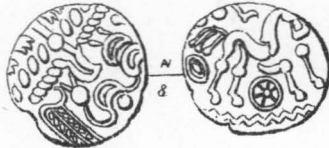
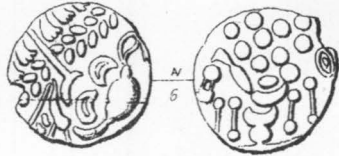
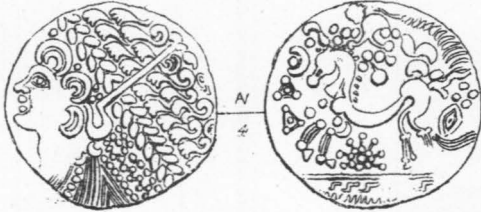
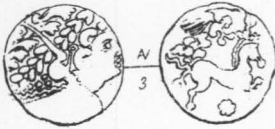
The contractions *A.* *Æ.* *Æ.* *Æ.* over the lines joining the obverses to the reverses signify the metal in which the coin is struck, and are abbreviations for the Latin words Aurum (Gold), Argentum (Silver), Aes

GREEK MODEL

GAULISH IMITATION



BRITISH DERIVATIVES (SUSSEX).



(Brass), Stannum (Tin), whilst the letter B. denotes that the metal occurs in Billon, an ancient alloy of tin, copper, and silver. The terms, ring ornament, decorated ring ornament, rosette and pellet, ornamented pellet, star of pellets, have been adopted at Mr. Evans' suggestion for forms of decoration peculiar to this class of coins, and can be better understood, when they occur in the text, by reference to the plates, than by an attempt to describe them at length.

DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE.

PLATE I.—FIG. 1.

Later Greek Art, circ. B.C. 350.

N 133 grains.

OBV.—Laureate bust of Apollo to the right.

REV.—Charioteer in a biga (under the horse's body, a helmet); below the exergual¹¹ line, ΦΙΑΠΠΙΟΥ.

PLATE I.—FIG. 2.

OBV. & REV.—Similar to preceding, but ruder in execution; on the reverse, beneath the body of the horse, a triquetra (or three-legged figure).

Although this coin is said to have been found in Surrey, it is undoubtedly Gaulish: no specimen of British minting approaches so near to the original model in design and treatment.

Its occurrence in England, and its acquisition by my father, are most opportune for the purpose of this paper, as it is an excellent illustration of the transition which took place from the Greek masterpiece to the barbaric derivatives. It will be seen that the general features of design are preserved intact, but the hand of the com-

¹¹ The exergue is the small space beneath the base line of a subject engraved on a coin, and in which the inscription is sometimes placed; it is

derived from the Greek ἐξ out, and ἐργον work; literally, "out of the field or design."

paratively unskilled workman is very evident on the provincial copy.

The first elements of disintegration, so to speak, are apparent, and dots, produced by the stroke of a punch, and in a manner irregularly distributed, replace the accurate and carefully disposed lines with which the dexterous Greek has drawn the horses of the biga. The whole design is loose and careless, and wanting in expression of that firm, self-restraining precision, by which the hand of the artist obeys the eye, as surely as the well-trained war horse obeys the slightest movement of the hand of its rider.

We may consider that the first four coins on Plate I. reflect the relative states of civilization in the 2nd and 3rd centuries B.C. of Greece, Southern Gaul, and Britain. The latter, far removed from the civilizing centre, is as yet affected but vaguely, and only in a secondary degree, by the all-pervading influence of the artistic Greek; while Gaul, from her proximity, and in fact containing Hellenic colonies within herself, is more visibly and thoroughly seasoned by the leaven of classical tradition.

The Gaulish coins do not, however, supply all the links in the chain connecting the Greek Stater with the British prototypes, and there is no doubt that both series were greatly modified in accordance with the religious traditions of the people and the national mythology; and as the Gauls are thought to have regarded Britain as the birthplace of their religion, and were accustomed to send their priests there to be educated in Druidism, it is likely that this factor was in wider operation on this side the Channel than on the other.

Certainly the drapery, or gorget on the neck, and the band with pendant hooks, are peculiarities only found on British modifications of the original.

“The regular arrangement of the hair may have been made to suit the engraver’s convenience, but more probably this carefully dressed hair is one of the attributes of Apollo Belinus. Among the Gauls the length of their hair first gave rise to the name of Gallia Comata for one

of the divisions of their country; while among many northern nations length of hair was a characteristic distinction of royal birth." (Evans, p. 48.)

The type of the reverse is also rather a reminiscence, than a direct imitation, of that of the Philippus. The chariot of the biga has nearly disappeared, or is at best represented by an ill-formed wheel; while the charioteer has become merged in a winged Victory, probably derived from a Sicilian source, on the coins of which country it is of frequent occurrence.

The two horses of the biga are combined into one, but the legs are bifid, in remembrance of its former duality.

"Did there exist a drawing of the renowned Sleipnir, the eight-legged horse of the Edda,¹² which excelled all horses ever possessed by gods or men, it would probably present an appearance somewhat similar." (Evans, p. 49).

The exergual line is still preserved, but the inscription beneath it is only represented by a succession of meaningless ornaments.

Many of the objects occurring in the field may have had an especial signification—religious, civil, or otherwise—but the adjuncts met with in the numerous degradations of the design may be more safely assigned to the laziness and incompetence of the engraver, than to his ignorance of what the objects he was copying were originally assigned to represent. (Evans.)

PLATE I.—FIG. 3.

Evans Pl. A, fig. 3.

N weight 22-27 grains.

OBV.—Beardless bust to the right, similar, except in position and size, to that figured No. 4.

(As the design is there more fully displayed, it is described in that example.)

¹² On a Danish bracteate found at Scania, in Sweden, and figured in Waring's "Ceramic Art in Remote Ages," there is a representation of a warrior worshipping before a horse.

This horse has been supposed by some to have been intended for Sleipnir. It is not unlike the present example.

REV.—Horse galloping to the right ; above, a winged Victory ; pellets and rosettes in the field.

This type is not confined to Sussex, but has occurred in Kent, and also as far west as Cornwall. It is figured in Ruding, Pl. i., 21, and in Borlase's Natural History of Cornwall, Pl. xxix., 8. Specimens have been found on Kithurst Down, at Alfriston, and at Seaford.

Coins with the head turned in the same direction as the model, as in this instance, are rarer than those on which it is turned to the left (Pl. I., fig. 4). The reversal is probably due to the engraver having copied the design on to the die without considering the change which would be produced by an impression.

PLATE I.—FIG. 4.

Evans, Pl. A, fig. 4.

N weight 120 grains.

OBV.—Beardless bust to the left, the face projecting far beyond the neck, which is covered with drapery, or possibly by a gorget, ornamented with plain and beaded lines. The front hair is represented by solid crescents, and the back hair is arranged in symmetrical tiers ; across the head is a wreath formed of ovate billets, their points downwards ; at right angles to this is a plain band, extending round the back of the head, and terminating in a hook over the ear.

REV.—Disjointed horse to the left, the legs represented by double lines ; the joints of the hind legs are trefoiled ; above, a Victory, pellets, and crescents ; below, a radiated rosette, over the exergal line, and beneath it a meaningless inscription ; in front, triangles of pellets ; behind, an oval wheel.

The coin found at Polegate, in 1872, and described by Mr. F. C. S. Roper, is the only instance of this type occurring in Sussex, though it has been found at Godalming in Surrey, and Barnden, near Tunbridge Wells, in Kent, two other localities in the South-Eastern District. It is common in Kent and Essex. Specimens have also been found in Northern France.

PLATE I.—FIG. 5.

*Evans Pl. B., fig. 5.**N* weight about 93 grains.

OBV.—Portions of laureate bust to the right, only one row of the back locks showing; the bandlet across the wreath is very prominent, the three open crescents, representing the front hair arranged nearly in a straight line; the face, a mere elongated protuberance; the billets, composing the wreaths, point upwards and outwards.

REV.—A curiously shaped object, intended for a horse, to the right; four bars terminated at either end by pellets constitute the legs; whilst the body, neck, and head are formed respectively by an oval protuberance, a curved line, and an oval pellet, joined to a circular one by a retracted line; above, in the field, are numerous pellets; below, an elongated solid crescent pointing upwards, and a pellet with four twisted arms issuing from it, and arranged like a fylfot cross; in front are three parallel horizontal bars joined to an upright, and over them is a beaked ellipse enclosing a pellet. The exergue is generally ornamented with a zig-zag pattern.

The only instance of this type being found in Sussex is the coin originally figured by Mr. Dixon from Tarring, unless the one found at Hastings, in 1857, and described by Mr. Ross, ix. S.A.C., p. 367, was of this sort. It is impossible, however, to recognise the type by the description there given, for though "clearly British," it is certainly not "of the period immediately succeeding Cæsar's invasion," nor "rudely imitating the Roman coins which exhibit a horse and chariot on one side and the Emperor's head on the other."

PLATE I.—FIG. 6.

*Evans Pl. B., fig. 6.**N* about 96 grains.

OBV.—Nearly similar to No. 5; the billets of the wreath, however, point down instead of upwards; and the topmost open crescent is merged into a loop attached to the facial protuberance; rather more of the gorget is visible.

REV.—Disintegrated horse to the left; pellets, crescents, and bars in the field; behind, the elliptical wheel.

Found at Goodwood, in 1850, and at Selsea in 1875.

Both this and No. 5 have a range beyond the South-Eastern District. They occur in Cornwall, Dorset, and the South-Western counties, as well as in Oxfordshire.

PLATE I.—FIG. 7.

Evans Pl. B. fig. 7.

N about 100 grains.

OBV.—Portions of laureate bust to the right, in the same dismembered condition as on the two preceding coins; the facial bulge occasionally showing the contour of the cheek, and sometimes approaching a profile; the billets are more rectangular in form, and point, as on No. 6, downwards.

REV.—Conventional British horse to the right; above, a solid crescent, pellets, and objects like meteors; in front, an open ellipse; below, a pellet.

Found at Selsea and Cackham, also not uncommonly in Kent, Essex, Suffolk, and Bedfordshire.

PLATE I.—FIG. 8.

Evans Pl. B., fig. 9.

N general weight about 90 grains.

OBV.—Portions of laureate bust to the right, without any visible signs of the face; the open crescents representing the front hair are connected by a curved line, giving to the whole a serpentine form; this similarity is increased by a beaked pellet, which terminates the figure.

REV.—Horse with tripartite tail and detached legs to the right; behind, an oval wheel; below, a circular wheel; the exergual line is zig-zagged and curved.

The original of the oval wheel, on this and other coins of this class, is doubtless the perspective aspect of the wheel of the chariot on the Greek coin.

One of the commonest of the large Un-inscribed coins. Found at Selsea and at Cackham.

The great find at Whaddon Chase of nearly 2,000 gold coins contained a number of this type. It has also occurred in Berks, Kent, Surrey, and Oxfordshire.

PLATE I.—FIG. 9.

Evans Pl. B., fig. 8. Ruding Pl. I., figs. 3 and 4.

N usual weight about 90 grains.

OBV.—Plain and convex.

REV.—Disjointed tailless horse to the right; pellets, crescents, and curved lines in the field; the exergue is ornamented with corded line and network chain.

The obverse of these coins has in all cases been struck from dies having a concave recess with a flat rim round it. There is no doubt that the engraver of the dies must have copied a coin, which had once had the laureate bust upon its convex surface, but which had become obliterated from wear; the raised band that occasionally runs across the obverse is a faint reminiscence of the wreath that forms so conspicuous a feature on the generality of coins of this class. (Evans, p. 63.)

Sussex specimens from Selsea, Eastbourne, Heene, and Wiston.

Range.—Kent, Surrey, Dorchester, Essex, Norfolk, and South Lincolnshire.

PLATE I.—FIG. 10.

Evans Pl. B., fig. 10.

N usual weight 90 grains.

OBV.—Plain and convex.

REV.—Horse and accessories similarly displayed to that on fig. 8.

Found at Worthing, Tarring, and Selsea, in Sussex. Also at Whaddon Chase, in Buckinghamshire, in Berks, Oxon, Middlesex, and Kent.

PLATE I.—FIG. 11.

Evans Pl. D. fig. 7.

N usual weight 82-83 grains.

OBV.—Cruciform ornament, formed by sets of five wreathed, beaded, or plain lines, at right angles to each other, with open crescents, back to back in the centre, and two pellets joined by a bar be-

tween them. In the angles are such portions of the wide-spread bust, as the locks of the back hair ornamentation on the neck.

REV.—Horse galloping to the right; above, a star with seven curved arms terminating in pellets; below, a wheel; in front, a rosette; before the horse's head, an elliptical ring ornament, scarcely visible in this instance; in the field, various pellets, or sometimes annulets and small crescents.

On this coin the remains of the laureate bust have become cruciform; the lanceolate objects, which were originally intended to represent the back hair, are now placed in the angles of the cross; whilst the open crescents from the front hair appear back to back, only separated by a line (also the remnant of the hook as seen on No. 5), and the whole being no longer an attempt at a head, but forming a conventional design.

First discovered at Womersh, near Guildford; since at other places in Surrey, and at Selsea in Sussex.

PLATE I.—FIG. 12.

Evans Pl. F., fig. 1 (though there in silver).

N weight 80 grains.

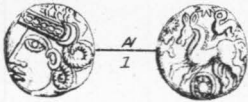
OBV.—Portions of laureate bust very similar to No. 5.

REV.—Attempt to represent a horse, being a combination of figs. 5 and 6 (which see). The exergual ornamentation is very prominent. The gate and ellipse are prominent features.

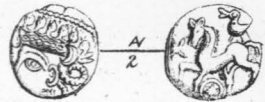
Of very base gold; found near Chichester. This is a common type in the western counties—Dorset, Hants, Somerset and Wilts—though it is generally found in silver.

The degree of coarseness in the execution of the horse (!) on the reverse is almost incredible. In fact, were it not for other coins, such as No. 6, which supply the intermediate links, it would be impossible to recognise any animal whatever in the assemblage of lumps and lines with which the field is covered.

It is probable from the great difference in weight in different specimens of this class (40-96 grains), that the type was in circulation for a considerable time.



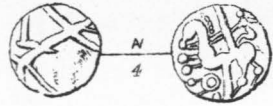
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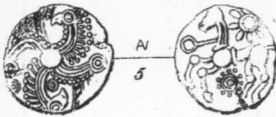
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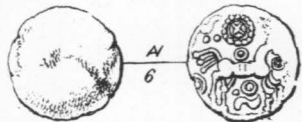
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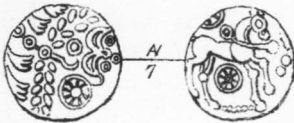
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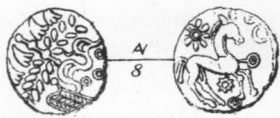
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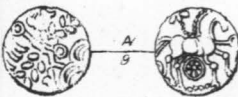
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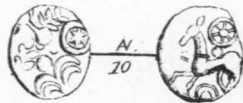
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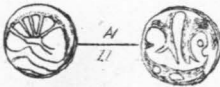
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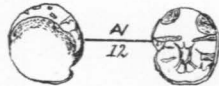
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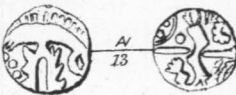
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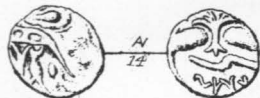
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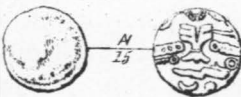
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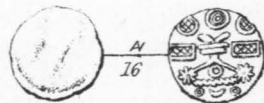
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A/14



A/15



A/16

PLATE II.—FIGS. 1 AND 2.

Num. Chron., N.S. Vol. xvii., Pl. IX., figs. 1, 2^a, 2^b.

N Usual weight about 20 grains, specific gravity 13·5.

OBV.—Beardless bust to the left, the temples bound by a network fillet, terminated at its lower extremity by an inwardly placed open crescent; over this is a row of club-shaped spikelets; behind the ear are two twisted spirals and remnants of conventional hair.

REV.—Barbarous horse to the left; in front a swastika; below, a wheel; above, portions of a rosette and a wingless bird with open beak; on some specimens the beak is wanting.

Both this coin and the next have been but recently discovered, and are important additions to the Sussex series. The head on the obverse may have been intended for Apollo, but the links are as yet wanting, connecting it with the Greek example.

Many details in the treatment of the design suggest its direct imitation of a Gaulish piece, if not actually engraved by a foreign artist.

In company with fig. 3, it exhibits a marked similarity to the coins in Evans, Pl. G., figs. 1 and 2, which have also had a Gaulish source assigned to them by some authorities, the parallel being most closely approached in the case of the reverses.

A metamorphosis has come over the charioteer, and he has become a bird sailing over the back of the horse; in one instance he has lost his beak, and in this form occurs as a meaningless retracted object in Plate III., fig. 6.

Had we any monumental evidence of Phœnician occupation or intercourse with the southern coast, by the occurrence of their coins I should be inclined to believe it possible that they had served as a model for this type; first, because it is difficult to assign it any place in the Philippic derivative chain, and secondly because there is a resemblance between it and the coins of the Carthaginian colony of Sex (Almunecar), in Spain, on which the head of Hercules occurs. The same network fillet

binds the temples in each case, and the spiral twisted arrangement of the hair is common to both.

A certain similarity is also to be traced between this head and that on the silver coin of Dubnovellaunus, (Evans, Pl. IV, fig. 11), the resemblance being in the fillet ornamentation of the forehead.

The type has only been found at Selsea.

PLATE II.—FIG. 3.


Num. Chron., N. S. Vol. xvii., Pl. ix., fig. 3.

N Weight 18 grains, specific gravity 14.5.

OBV.—Two corded lines across the field terminated at either end by a ring ornament; between them, two wheels; in the spandrels, formed by the lines and wheels, are six pellets placed so as to make a rectangle. In chief and in base, a ring ornament flanked by two pellets; on either side of the corded lines, masses of conventional hair, and on the dexter side a beaded line.

REV.—Horse with disjointed limbs, to the left; below, a bird at rest; above, a wheel; in front the swastika, plain and ornamental pellets *semées* in the field.

This coin was also found at Selsea.

The occurrence of the swastika cross  upon these two last specimens is very interesting. It is its first appearance on British coins, unless the crab-like object below the horse in Plate I., fig. 5, be also intended for the sign. A Celtic shield, however, in the British Museum, is covered with the symbol.

The emblem is of great antiquity, and almost of world-wide recurrence, and is to be met with on buildings and personal decorations of most of the civilized nations, and at all epochs.

As a symbol of the oldest Vedic faith, it was regarded as the progenitor of heat, and light, and life. By the swift revolution of its axle, called the pramanthra (whence Prometheus), the sacrificial spark was generated.¹³

Thus symbolical, it is equally suited to, and has been

¹³ Max Müller. Hibbert Lectures, 1878.

used by, the worshippers of Christ, Apollo, Mithras, Budda, Isis and Woden.

It is not found in connection with Babylonian or Assyrian remains, and it is scarce in connection with Egyptian mythology. But on early Buddhist temples, Indo-Scythian, Lycian, and Parthian coins; on Archaic Greek urns, Roman pavements and Etruscan jewellery; amongst the frescoes in the Christian catacombs; on the coins of Gnosus, Corinth and Syracuse; on Scandinavian bracteates, and amongst Danish Runes, we find this mystic emblem constantly cropping up.

Its meaning has never been definitely explained, but many circumstances point to its having stood for a signification of the sun, and an attribute of the god Apollo. As such, it is easy to account for its appearance here.

Its origin seems to have been the Greek *tau*, or the Etruscan, Coptic, or Phœnician equivalent for this letter. It appears on Pali inscriptions in India, and stands for the letter G amongst Northern Runes. It is no doubt more frequently met with in connection with sea-coast than inland towns, and has been supposed by some to have been a symbol for water, and thus may have been emblematic of purity amongst Scandinavian nations, an essentially ocean-loving race.

It is intimately connected with the triquetra or three-legged figure, the Trinacria of Sicily, and the badge of the Isle of Man. When occurring amongst Northern nations, either in the triple or quadruple form, it is generally regarded as intended for Thor's hammer, and thus is symbolic of the son of Woden.

This hammer, it will be remembered, had the especial property of returning to the god when thrown by him, and is the prototype of the modern savage boomerang. The use of the boomerang was, according to Bonomi, known to the Egyptians and Assyrians, and was not improbably an instrument of war amongst Northern as well as Southern savages. The resemblance between the weapon and the separate arms of this figure requires no demonstration.

The bird, too, is of a rare occurrence on Un-inscribed

coins; its meaning cannot be divined with certainty, but a connection with the Danish Raven may be hinted at; a bird very similar is figured on the Scanian bracteate before referred to.

PLATE II.—FIG. 4.

Evans Pl. D., fig. 4.

N weight about 26 grains.

OBV.—A number of raised lines and spikes crossing the field in various directions.

REV.—Horse prancing to the left; above, from its haunches, a pole is erected at an angle, and inclining forwards, on which a figure is squatting, and apparently holding the reins attached to the horse's head. Below the horse is another pole, and a lyre-like object.

This coin is from Selsea. The type is scarce, and confined to the Southern coast and adjacent counties. The places of its discovery besides are, in the Thames near Kingston (*Arch. Assoc. Journal*, vi., p. 447), in London, near Reigate, at Godalming, and at the celebrated Karn Bré in Cornwall.

From their occurrence, indifferently, on both sides the Channel, these coins are considered by French authorities to belong to the maritime Belgæ. They afford numismatic evidence of the accuracy of Cæsar's account of the colonization of the South coast of Britain by the Belgæ, and of the intercourse maintained between the cognate tribes of Britain and the Continent (see *Evans*, p. 85).

The posture of the figure upon the horse is, in this type, remarkable, somewhat resembling a monkey on a stick. The lyre-like object beneath the legs of the horse does not occur on any other British coin, though frequent on the billon coins from the Channel Islands and on the Gaulish series. It may possibly be intended for the *cithara* of Apollo.

PLATE II.—FIG. 5.

*Evans Pl. E., fig. 4.**N* weight about 17 grains.

OBV.—A cruciform ornament, consisting of four arms, curved and fringed, issuing from a plate in the centre; two of the arms terminate in eagles' heads; the other two, in ring ornaments; in two opposite angles are detached ring ornaments.

REV.—Horse prancing to the left; above, a star; below, a rosette; in front, an annulet joined to the horse by a bar.

The localities where the two specimens extant of this type were discovered are not known. The reverse, however, connects them with our series;—compare it with the reverse of fig. 8. There is a faint resemblance to the swastika in the design of the obverse.

PLATE II.—FIG. 6.

*Evans, Pl. B., fig. 15.**N* weight 18 grains.

OBV.—Plain and convex.

REV.—Three-tailed horse to the right; above, a beaded circle enclosing a pellet with a cross upon it; below, an annulet and a retracted figure; behind, part of the elliptical wheel; ring ornaments and pellets in the field.

Another example, of whose resting-place there are no records. It resembles the following type.

PLATE II.—FIG. 7.

*Evans Pl. E., fig. 1.**N* usual weight 18-20 grains.

OBV.—Portions of the wide-spread bust; the open crescents representing the front hair conjoined, and before them three ornamented pellets; the head bandlet is also decorated with similar pellets; the neck-gorget is replaced by a wheel.

REV.—A horse walking to the right; above and below, a wheel; there is an ornamental pellet at both ends of the reins which cross his neck; two pellets in front, and a beaded exergual line.

PLATE II.—FIG. 8.

*Evans Pl. E., fig. 2.**N* usual weight about 20 grains.

OBV.—Nearly similar to the coin last described, but with the gorget instead of the wheel on the neck.

REV.—Horse with tri-partite tail to the right; in front, a ring ornament is joined to his chest by a bar; above, a star of oval pellets; below, an ornament resembling a cog-wheel, and a ring ornamented; in the field, annulets, &c.

These two types may well be considered together, their only points of difference being the wheel on both sides of No. 7, whilst it is absent altogether in No. 8, being replaced, in the position beneath the horse, by a cog-wheel ornament; the type with the wheels is the scarcer of the two.

They are among the commonest of the Sussex series, and have been found principally in the vicinity of Chichester and Bognor. The type is amongst those originally figured by Dixon, and has since been engraved in the Arch. Journal (Vol. viii., p. 112), in the Num. Chron. (Vol. vii., pl. 4, 10), in the Proceedings of the Num. Soc., and in Smith's *Collectanea Antiqua*, the specimens all coming from the aforementioned district. Another was found at Farley Heath, in Surrey, and one near Andover, in Hants.

PLATE II.—FIG. 9.

*Evans Pl. E., fig. 3.**N* weight 20-21 grains.

OBV.—Portions of laureate bust to the right.

REV.—Similar to No. 8, with the exception of a wheel below the horse, instead of the cog-wheel ornament; also a beaded exergual line.

This type of coin, as well as the two last, varies considerably in module; some being thin and widely spread, others compact and thicker.

PLATE II.—FIG. 10.

Num. Chron., Vol. xvii., Pl. IX., fig. 4.

N weight 13 grains; sp. gr. 12.

OBV.—Portions of laureated bust to the right; a wheel intermixed with the face.

REV.—Horse to the left; above, a wheel; below, a ring ornament.

A single specimen of this type has been discovered at Selsea.

PLATE II.—FIGS. 11 AND 12.

N weight 20 grains.

These two coins belong to the commonest class, but to one, that is somewhat difficult to describe in the same definite manner as in the foregoing instances. An idea of its general appearance may be gathered from the examples here figured, which are typical specimens, though it is rare to find any two alike. They are nearly related to the four coins that follow, but these latter are more definite and constant in design. Their general weight is from 20-22 grains, as, notwithstanding their small size, they are much more solid, in proportion to the circumference, than most small British coins. It would be unwise to attempt any explanation of the design, as it was probably evolved from the inner consciousness of some native artist, and retains no signs of the original model visible to the eye of a nineteenth century collector.

If it had a signification, moral, religious, or civil, and is not, as I more than half suspect, a few meaningless lines, copied from a worn coin, arranged in an indiscriminate manner, its tradition has not been handed down to the present generation, but remains one of those mysteries for ever sealed up in the records of the past.

The type is most frequent on the coast near Bognor.

PLATE II.—FIG. 13.

*Evans Pl. E., fig. 8.**N* usual weight about 20 grains.

OBV.—A curved figure, somewhat resembling the back of a fish, with vertebrae prominently protruding from the upper part; beneath it, and proceeding from it, is an object shaped like a tuning-fork, the outside of which is notched into steps; in the field, pellets, &c.

REV.—A crooked object traversing the field perpendicularly; from its upper part two branch-like excrescences issue pendant; from its base issue some wavy lines like rootlets; a narrow bar crosses the field horizontally, being divided in half by the upright object; towards the lower part, in the left hand corner, is a bent and notched bar; in the right hand corner, three pellets divided by a curved line enclosing two of them.

Found in Ashdown Forest, and on the Selsea peninsula.

PLATE II.—FIG. 14.

*Evans Pl. E., fig. 10.**N* usual weight about 20 grains.

OBV.—Similar in some respects to the last; the fish-like object is, however, indented, and has not the row of spikelets; the device is very indefinite.

REV.—The general character of the design is similar to No. 13, but arranged in a more orderly manner; below the tree is a bent bar, and beneath that, some figures, possibly Runes, or letters of an unknown language.

Found at Bognor and Selsea; also at Karn Bré, in Cornwall, at Portsmouth, and near Romsey, and in Normandy.

PLATE II.—FIG. 15.

*Evans Pl. E., fig. 11.**N* weight about 20 grains.

OBV.—Plain and convex, with some irregularity of surface.

REV.—In general features the same as No. 14, but the bars proceeding from the sides are stamped, and resemble the fillet binding the forehead of Nos. 1 and 2 on this plate; there is a rosette above the three annulets and lines in the field; and in the base, a crescent and a pellet.

Found at Bognor, Bracklesham and Eastbourne; also near Maidstone and Margate, in Oxfordshire, and on the coast of Normandy. There are several in the Museum at Boulogne.

These last six types are intimately connected, and have given rise to much speculation as to the meaning of their devices; some antiquaries have fancied that the crooked object was intended for the sacred knife with which the Druids cut the mistletoe, but so fanciful a theory is untenable. They occur in some numbers on the coast of France, but are not so numerous there as on this side of the Channel.

Mr. Evans regards them as the model from which the Medusa type of Tincommius (to be described in a future number of these Collections), was derived, saying that the resemblance to a jovial face in No. 14 is very strong; but it requires a considerable amount of trained aptitude to see the connection.

PLATE II.—FIG. 16.

Evans Pl. D., fig. 11.

A usual weight 20 grains.

OBV.—Plain and convex.

REV.—A triangle; the base, a corded line terminated at either extremity by a star; the sides, plain bars; the apex, a peculiar arrangement of blocks, two being laid flat, the one upon the other—and two set upon end at an angle of about 45; inside the figure, an annulet; below it, a crescent between two annulets; on either side the blocks, a rectangle enclosing trellis work; above, three annulets, the centre one enclosing a smaller one, the other two trellis work.

This coin has been found on Farley Heath, and was amongst those discovered at Wonersh—both localities being in Surrey. It has not, so far as can be ascertained, been found in Sussex, but its relation to the foregoing specimens is too obvious not to include it in our list.

PLATE III.—FIG. 1.

Num. Chron., N.S., Vol. xvii., Pl. ix., fig. 5.

N weight 12 grains.

OBV.—Band composed of a corded, between two plain, lines across the field; in front, a star and a rosette; behind, lanceolate figures (locks of hair), and two pellets joined by a bar.

REV.—Disjointed horse, embossed with ring ornaments, to the left; two radiated plates and three ornamented pellets, in the field.

This coin may be called “transitional.” Its colour and specific gravity, and partly its character, resemble that of the Inscribed coins, whilst in some things it bears a likeness to Plate II., fig. 10, and those of Evans, Pl. E, 2 and 3.

PLATE III.—FIG. 2.

Num. Chron., N.S., Vol. xvii., Pl. ix., fig. 9.

N weight $12\frac{1}{2}$ grains, sp. gr. 11.

OBV.—Plain, with two raised bands across the field.

REV.—Barbarous horse to the right; in front, a rosette; above, a plate with beaded edge.

But single specimens of this and the last type have been discovered; both near Selsea.

PLATE III.—FIG. 3.

Evans, Pl. D., fig. 10.

N 21 grains.

OBV.—Plain and convex, but with a slightly-raised band across the field.

REV.—Horse galloping to the right; above and below, two annulets connected by an open crescent. In the field, an annulet and pellets.

This type properly belongs to Surrey, having been discovered near Wonersh, and on Farley Heath. The resemblance to the “Sussex breed” in the horse serves to justify its being included in our series.

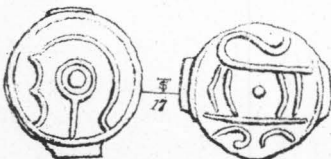
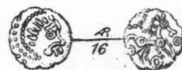
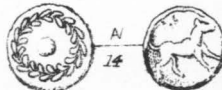
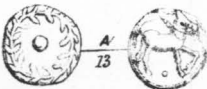
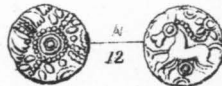
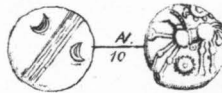
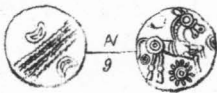
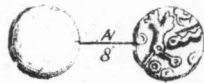
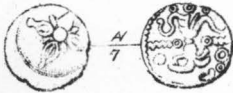
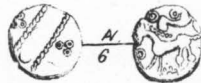
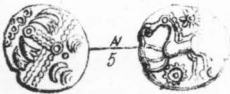
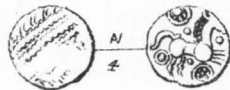
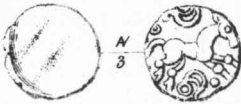
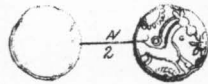
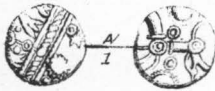


PLATE III.—FIG. 4.

Evans, Pl. D., fig. 9.

N 10 grains.

OBV.—A wreath and traces of the hair of the laureated bust.

REV.—Horse galloping to the right; above and below, a wheel; behind, an ornamented pellet; several pellets in the field.

Another of the Surrey coins closely allied to the Sussex series.

PLATE III.—FIG. 5.

Num. Chron., N.S., Vol. xvii., Pl. ix., fig. 6.

N weight 16 grains, sp. gr. 12.

OBV.—Voided cross, composed of two parallel beaded lines intersecting two others at right angles; at their point of contact they enclose a ring ornament; a ring ornament also terminates that limb which is perfectly displayed; in two angles are locks of hair, and in front two open crescents; behind the whole, a line of ring ornaments.

REV.—Barbarous horse with a beaded mane to the left; below, a mullet; above, a rosette.

Found at Selsea.

Remarks upon the cruciform arrangement of the wreath will be found under the description of fig. 12.

PLATE III.—FIG. 6.

Num. Chron., N.S., Vol. xvii., Pl. ix., fig. 11.

N weight 12 to 15 grains, sp. gr. 12.

OBV.—Two corded lines across the field; between them, two ornamented pellets; on either side the bars, three annulets braced.

REV.—Barbarous horse with beaded mane to the left; below, a rosette; above, an ogee-curved figure; pellets in the field.

One of the commonest types in the Selsea find. It has been already suggested that the bent figure above the horse was copied from the beakless bird on the reverse of Plate II., fig. 1.

PLATE III.—FIG. 7.

Evans, Pl. D., fig. 12.

N 19 grains.

OBV.—A raised circular boss, with a neatly-arranged four-leaved flower upon it.

REV.—A strange figure somewhat resembling an octopus; a beaded bar ending in an annulet proceeding from both sides of the field towards the contracted part of the figure; annulets and pellets in the field.

It is highly improbable that this figure was intended by the artist to represent the cephalopod, with which we are so familiar; but it is just possible that a coin of either Tarentum, Croton, or Posidonia, upon which it is a not uncommon symbol, may have found its way into Britain or Gaul, and served as an object of imitation.

The connection of the figure with that on the reverse of the next type, as well as those on the reverses of Plate II., figs. 13, 14, 15, 16, is very obvious, and it is more reasonable to regard it as derived from the Philippus, the connecting links being as yet undiscovered.

The place of finding of this coin is not recorded, but its *provenance* must have been somewhere on the border line between Surrey and Sussex.

PLATE III.—FIG. 8.

Num. Chron., N.S., Vol. xvii., Pl., ix., fig. 8.

N weight 13 grains, sp. gr. 10.

OBV.—A raised band across the field; on it, two ornamented pellets.

REV.—A strange figure, consisting of an ornamented pellet, from which issue three arms at equal distances, the upper arm expanding laterally, fan-shaped; the lower limbs are plain bars terminated by small annulets; on either side a wavy fillet runs out of the field; above, to the right, two annulets braced.

Found at Selsea. Compare this and the last coin with those on Plate II., figs. 13, 14, 15, 16.

PLATE III.—FIG. 9.

*Evans Pl. E., fig. 5.**N* weight 16-18 grains.

OBV.—A triple beaded wreath between two open crescents back to back.

REV.—Horse to the right; his hind quarters formed by a ring ornament; above, in front, and behind, ornamented pellets; below, a decorated ring ornament; the near foreleg of the horse, bifid; the mane, lyre-like.

This coin was found in Ashdown Forest, together with Nos. 11, 15, and 16.

PLATE III.—FIG. 10.

*Num. Chron., N.S., Vol. xvii., Pl. ix., fig. 7.**N* weight $15\frac{1}{2}$ grains, sp. gr. 13.

OBV.—A triple wreath across the field, between two open crescents placed outwardly.

REV.—Horse with tripartite tail to the left; above, a rosette; below a raised ornamented plate; in front, a plate joined to the horse by a bar.

From Selsea; very similar to the last. The horse is, however, reversed in position.

PLATE III.—FIG. 11.

*Evans Pl. E., fig. 8.**N* weight 20 grains.

OBV.—Plain; the central portion convex.

REV.—Horse to the left, with a ring ornament on his shoulder; above, two sides of a rectangle formed by beaded lines and two ring ornaments; below, a trellised compartment.

From the find in Ashdown Forest; an ancient forgery (*i.e.*, a brass coin plated with gold) of the same type was found with it.

The trellis-work rectangle is a peculiarity of this type; compare it with Plate II., fig. 16.

PLATE III.—FIG. 12.

Evans Pl. D., fig. 14.

N 15 grains.

OBV.—A ring ornament surrounded by a circle of pellets, on either side of which appears the wreath, with a central line of pellets, crossed by two corded lines. In two of the angles of this cross are the lanceolate figures representing the back hair; in the other two the open crescents, representing the front hair of the wide-spread bust of the prototype.

REV.—Horse to the left with beaded mane; above, a star; below, a ring ornament; annulets in the field.

Found at Bracklesham; figured in Dixon's "Geology of Sussex."

It will be seen that the wreath that originally crossed the head of Apollo, being the most prominent feature in the design, is still preserved here, as in No. 5, arranged in the form of a cross. In the two following types and in several Gaulish coins, it assumes a circular shape.

PLATE III.—FIG. 13.

Num. Chron., N.S. Vol. xvii., Pl. ix., fig. 10.

N weight 15 grains, sp. gr. 11.5.

OBV.—A circular wreath enclosing a raised pellet.

REV.—Horse tripping to the right; above, a bar crossing the field obliquely; another pendant from it; below, a small pellet.

PLATE III.—FIG. 14.

Evans Pl. E., fig. 6.

N 16 grains.

OBV.—A circular wreath with a large pellet in the centre.

REV.—An animal resembling a dog or wolf to the right; possibly a star, above.

This type is only a modification of the last. The difference is probably owing to the defective state of preservation of the example from which this engraving

was taken. What appears to be a dog may, on an unworn coin, have been intended for a horse. Found at Selsea, Bognor, and Wittering.

PLATE III.—FIG. 15.

Evans Pl. F., fig. 11.

Æ 17-19 grains.

OBV.—A helmeted head to the right, the side of the helmet ribbed. Occasionally there is a circle of pellets or a rosette on the neck.

REV.—Horse to the right, his shoulder and haunches formed by ring ornaments; below, a wheel; above, a rudely formed bucranium.

Five of these coins were found in Ashdown Forest, together with two of No. 12, and some gold coins before described; others have been found at Pevensey, and at Farley Heath, in Surrey. Their weight, about 18 grains, agrees with that of the gold coins with which they were found; therefore some well-defined proportion, such as 10, 12, or 20, to 1 must have existed between the relative values of gold and silver.

PLATE III.—FIG. 16.

Evans Pl. F., fig. 12.

Æ 3½ to 4 grains.

OBV. & REV.—Very similar to the preceding, but less in size.

These are the smallest of the British coins; their weight shows them to have been intended for quarters of the last type.

The existence of such small coins would seem to imply a considerable degree of civilization amongst those for whom they were struck. The types and character of the gold coins found with them justify our assigning them to a late period in the issue of the Un-inscribed Series.

This type was found on Lancing Downs with Inscribed coins of Verica and Tincommius, and in Ashdown Forest, as before stated.

Un-inscribed British coins in silver are far less numerous than those in gold, and present but few varieties of type. It is probable that they belong, almost without exception, to quite the latter stage of British coinage, and that many of them are but little anterior in date to the invasion of Claudius.¹⁴ It is of course impossible to determine what proportionate value they bore to gold, but their occurrence together shows that they had a simultaneous currency.

PLATE III.—FIG. 17.

Evans Pl., H., fig. 1.

Ⓕ weight 20 grains.

OBV.—A rude representation of a helmeted head.

REV.—A few bars and lines, their meaning being uncertain. It has been suggested that the design is intended for a butting bull. It might also be mistaken for a hurdle.

Found near Eastbourne.

Mr. Evans says, in reference to the tin coinage of Britain :—

“The materials for writing an account of the ancient British tin coinage, or rather of an alloy in which that metal preponderates, are extremely scanty, there being no record of more than two or three discoveries of such coins in this country.

“We might have expected to have found many of the earliest British coins composed of tin, as that metal was one of the first articles of commerce between Britain and more civilized nations; yet it does not appear that tin in the shape of coins was ever current in that part of Britain where it was produced, inasmuch as coins of this metal are found most frequently in Kent, and only in one or two instances along the coast as far as Dorsetshire.

“Coins of this class have always been cast, not struck, and frequently exhibit impressions of the grain from the wooden mould on their surface.”

They seem to have been cast in strings or chains, and then cut off, apparently with a chisel, and not with shears.

¹⁴ Evans, p. 99, 100.

“Their degeneracy in type points to no great antiquity in the series, but their small intrinsic value is a further argument in favour of a considerable degree of civilization amongst the people among whom they circulated, implying the necessity of small change for daily transactions.”

PLATE III.—FIG. 18.

Evans Pl. F., fig. 4.

Æ weight 90 grains.

OBV.—A head in profile to the right, the hair, face, nose, and eyes being formed by an extraordinary assemblage of curves.

REV.—A horse to the right similarly drawn; below, a boar.

This coin is one of a class belonging to and found very frequently in the Channel Islands. They resemble the Gaulish series more than the British, though they are not unfrequently found in England. The present example was discovered near the Dyke, and is of bronze. The metal which the larger number are composed of is billon, an alloy of silver, copper, and tin; their weight is usually about 95 grains.

(To be continued.)