

NUMERICAL VIEW OF THE COINS.

READ 4TH FEBRUARY, 1878.

EMPEROR.	GOLD.	SILVER.	1ST BRASS.	2ND BRASS.	TOTAL.
MARC ANTONY	3	...	...	3
AUGUSTUS	2	1	3
M. AGRIPPA	1	1
TIBERIUS	1	1
DRUSUS	1	1
GERMANICUS	2	2
CLAUDIUS	2	18	20
NERO ...	1	1	...	50	52
GALBA	6	...	6
OTHO	1	...	...	1
VESPASIAN	6	65	476	550 ¹
TITUS	3			
JULIA TITI	1	1
DOMITIAN	8	139	338	485
NERVA	1	43	38	82
TRAJAN	13	980	779	1,772
HADRIAN	8	1,404	918	2,330
SABINA ...	1	1	58	41	101
L. AELIUS	16	14	30
ANTONINUS PIUS ...	1	12	910	891	2,141
Do. Britannia type	327	
FAUSTINA I.	6	275	407	688
M. AURELIUS	8	345	314	667
FAUSTINA II.	12	259	395	666
L. VERUS	1	56	24	81
LUCILLA	2	74	13	89
COMMODUS	5	189	13	207
CRISPINA	1	36	2	39
DIDIUS JULIANUS	1	...	1
DIDIA CLARA	1	...	...	1
CLODIUS ALBINUS	2	...	...	2
SEPT. SEVERUS	22	20	...	42
JULIA DOMNA ...	1	17	4	...	22
Carried forward	10,087

¹ Owing to the corroded state of most of the pieces, and the resemblance between the coins of Vespasian and Titus, it has not been found practicable to give them separately.

NUMERICAL VIEW OF THE COINS.—CONTINUED.

EMPEROR.	SILVER.	1ST BRASS.	2ND BRASS.	3RD BRASS.	TOTAL.
Brought forward...	...	...	...	...	10,087
CARACALLA ...	10	3	...	...	13
PLAUTILLA ...	2	...	...	...	2
GETA ...	1	...	...	...	1
ELAGABALUS ...	3	...	...	...	3
JULIA PAULA...	1	...	...	...	1
AQUILIA SEVERA	1	...	...	...	1
JULIA SOAEMIAS	1	...	...	...	1
JULIA MAESA	2	...	...	...	2
SEV. ALEXANDER	4	4	...	2	10
JULIA MAMAEA	6	1	1	...	8
MAXIMINUS I.	...	1	...	...	1
MAXIMUS ...	...	1	...	...	1
GORDIANUS PIUS	2	1	1	...	4
PHILIPPUS I....	2	2	...	...	4
PHILIPPUS II.	1	...	1	...	2
ETRUSCILLA ...	1	...	...	...	1
TREBONIANUS GALLUS	1	...	...	...	1
VALERIAN ...	2	...	...	1	3
GALLIENUS ...	3	...	...	80	83
SALONINA ...	2	...	...	2	4
CLAUDIUS GOTHICUS...	...	...	...	72	72
QUINTILLUS ...	...	...	...	8	8
AURELIAN ...	...	...	...	10	10
POSTUMUS ...	5	1	...	29	35
VICTORINUS ...	...	...	...	71	71
MARIUS ...	...	...	...	1	1
The TETRICI...	...	...	...	81	81
TACITUS ...	...	...	...	15	15
PROBUS ...	...	...	...	19	19
CARINUS ...	...	...	...	1	1
DIOCLETIAN ...	...	...	18	...	18
MAXIMIAN ...	...	...	39	7	46
CARAUSIUS ...	...	...	...	25	25
ALLECTUS ...	...	...	...	16	16
CONSTANTIUS	...	...	18	12	27
HELENA ..	...	...	...	11	11
THEODORA ...	...	...	...	1	1
SEVERUS II....	...	...	2	...	2
MAXIMINUS II.	...	...	2	7	9
MAXENTIUS ...	...	...	2	...	2
Carried forward ...	...	...	...	...	10,703

NUMERICAL VIEW OF THE COINS.—CONTINUED.

EMPEROR.	SILVER.	1ST BRASS.	2ND BRASS.	3RD BRASS.	TOTAL.
Brought forward	10,703
LICINIUS	1	14	15
CONSTANTINE	3	197	200
FAUSTA	3	3
CRISPUS	21	21
CONSTANTINE II.	66	66
CONSTANS	25	25
MAGNENTIUS	30	30
DECENTIUS	3	3
CONSTANTIUS II.	12	12
CONSTANTINE FAMILY ¹	230
URBS ROMA	67
CONSTANTINOPOLIS	62
VALENTINIAN	1	1
VALENS	6
GRATIAN	15
Small Brass, illegible	27
Illegible—chiefly 1st and 2nd Brass, about GREEK of NEAPOLIS, much worn ...	} ...	} ...	} ...	} ...	2,000
	} ...	} ...	} ...	} 1	1
Total	13,487

The prevailing state of this large accumulation of coins is decisive evidence of long circulation as a medium of traffic. By far the larger number is identified from the outlines only of portraits and reverses; and more than two thousand have been laid on one side as not to be identified, so detrited are they from the wear and tear of commerce. The latest in point of date are not exempt from this peculiar general condition. This fact must weigh materially in forming a verdict on the cause of the deposit of the coins; on the time when they were deposited; and also in considering whether they were thrown into the fountain from time to time as votive offerings; or whether they were hastily buried in mass for concealment. To the former supposition the unusually large number is not favourable. On the contrary, so lavish an investment for the favours of a local divinity who, as other

¹ In consequence of the corroded state of most of these coins it has been found impracticable to assign many to the proper individuals.

altars testify, did not monopolise the worship of the garrisons of Procolitia, is beyond all reasonable belief in the extent of the wealth or the piety of the neighbourhood. That coins were offered at shrines is well known ; and those discovered at the sources of the Seine, given to the *Dea Sequana*, are an interesting example. But they do not support a votive offering theory applied to the coins in the fountain of the *Dea Coventina*.

The money offerings to *Sequana* had been carefully placed in a small earthen vessel, inclosed in a large urn, upon the neck of which was an inscription testifying that it had been the gift of one Rufus. These coins, 836 in number, range from Augustus to Magnus Maximus ; and they were mostly in a perfect state of preservation, indicating that they had been deposited at different epochs and by different individuals, who appear to have selected the freshest and least worn coins. It is probable they had been preserved in the temple until the period when danger was at hand ; and that then one of the priests placed them in the vase, which he buried. It will be seen that the circumstances under which the two deposits are presented to our criticism are widely different. Deposited in the large urn, and surrounding the small one, were 120 *ex votos* cut from thin plates of bronze and silver ; and scattered amongst the ruins of the temple were a great number of objects of marble, stone, bronze, and terra cotta, the offerings, doubtless, of persons who had benefitted by a resort to the shrine of the nymph, and which had originally been hung up in her temple.¹

Whatever may have been the exact positions of the coins in the fountain, they do not indicate a careful and gradual deposit ; but on the contrary, a sudden and hurried concealment. The altars especially confirm this conclusion. They were intended for the eye, not for burial ; but, as at Axelodunum, the altars when some great disaster was imminent, were carefully buried ; so at Procolitia, those in or around the temple of Coventina, were taken to what was properly considered a place of safety ; but while their guardians found for them a secure sanctuary, they never returned to reclaim their treasure or to record their last vows.

The time when the coins were entrusted to the fountain could not have been before the latter part of the reign of Gratian ; and it may

¹ Rapport sur les Découvertes Archéologiques faites aux Sources de la Seine, par M. Henri Bandot. Dijon and Paris, 4to. 1845.

have been somewhat, but probably not much, later. The rebellion of Magnus Maximus and the withdrawal of many of the garrisons from Britain may be suggested. The *castra* on the line of the Wall must, at this period, have been left in an almost defenceless state; and although Britain and Gaul, by the defeat of Maximus, were recovered to the Empire, the military hold of the long line of fortresses of the Wall, must have been relaxed; and probably never after effectually resisted the attacks of the Picts and Scots.

Accepting this theory, that some panic was the cause of the concealment of the coins in mass, we may look upon the treasure as a fair representation of the money circulating at Procolitia at the close of the reign of Gratian. It is very obvious that in the times of Trajan, Hadrian, and the Antonines, an enormous amount of the larger copper coinage was sent into Britain, as well as into the other provinces; for it is everywhere found in abundance, and prevailing over similar coinages in subsequent reigns. In the reign of Severus, silver predominated; and the imperial mint not only issued good silver, but also vast quantities of debased metal. In earlier times plated denarii were sent to the provinces; but from Nero to Severus the practice seems to have been abolished. In the reign of Gordian the Third, and subsequently, a larger kind of silver coinage was struck. This also is of inferior metal, degenerating into billon, or a metal merely washed with silver. In the time of Constantine small copper coins of all sizes were issued by the imperial mints in the provinces; and these coins formed much of the currency to the fall of the western empire. The earlier coinages circulated simultaneously; and must have been used commercially for centuries, accepted probably by weight only. In the fall of the Roman Empire the coinage bears a corresponding decline until it at last becomes extinguished in what are called, and not improperly, the dark ages.

REVERSES.

The rarer reverses only are given; and most of these are so detrited from circulation as only to be recognized from familiarity with the types.

CLAUDIUS.—Ob Cives Servatos, S.C.

VESPASIAN AND TITUS.—Judæa Capta.—Titles: an elephant.

DOMITIAN.—Victory crowning the Emperor.

NERVA.—A palm tree ; the “Fisci Judaici” type.—Two mules unyoked ; “Vehiculatione Italiae Remissa.”

TRAJAN.—Via Trajana.—Trophies.—A recumbent female (Tellus) extending her hand to a large globe at her feet.—Emperor on horseback.—Victory crowning the Emperor.—Arabia Adquisita.—Dacia Capta.—A temple.—A bridge.—The Emperor standing upon a pediment ; on either side two small eagles.

HADRIAN.—Britannia (in middle brass).—Adventus Aug.—Adventui Aug. Bithyniae.—Adventui Aug. Italiae.—Others of the Adventus type.—Adlocutio.—Disciplina.—Varieties of the Galley type.—Temple of twelve columns.—Restitutori types.—Emperor on horseback.—Neptune.—Dacia.—A river god.—Hispania.

LUCIUS AELIUS.—Pannonia. A personification of the Province, standing.

ANTONINUS PIUS.—Britannia.—Rex Armenis Datus.—Rex Parthis Datus.—Victory upon a globe (“Britannia” type).—Opi Aug.—Recumbent river god.—Aurelius Caesar.—Munificentia Aug.—Wolf and Twins.—Adventus.—Temple.—Bono Eventui.—Genio Senatus.—Emperor in Quadriga.—Junoni Sispitæ.—Liberalitas Aug.—Concordiæ ; four figures.—Primi Decennales.—Divo Pio, Consecratio.—Æd. Divi Aug. Rest. ; a temple.

FAUSTINA THE ELDER.—Veneri Augustæ.—Cybele.—Consecratio.

MARCUS AURELIUS.—Primi Decennales.—Juventas.—Consecratio.

FAUSTINA THE YOUNGER.—Temporum Felicit. ; a woman with six infants.—Fecunditas ; with four infants.—Saeculi Felicitas ; two children in a light ornamented bed.—Moon and seven stars.—Sideribus Recepta.—Consecratio.

LUCIUS VERUS.—Liberalitas Augg.—Concordia Augg.—Consecratio.

COMMODUS.—Vict. Brit.—Serapidi Conservat. Aug.—Hercules by a Trophy.—Lib. Aug. IIII. The Emperor on an estrade and four figures.

CLODIUS ALBINUS.—Cos. II. Æsculapius.

SEVERUS.—Victoriæ Parthicæ.—Cereri Frug.

JULIA DOMNA.—The Empress before four standards, as Mater Castorum.

CARACALLA.—Vota Suscepta X.—..... a galley.—Vota Publica.—Profectio Aug.

ELAGABULUS.—Sacerd. Dei Solis Elagab.

AQUILIA SEVERA.—Concordia.

JULIA MAMAEA.—Pietas Augusta.—Juno Conservatrix.

PHILIPPUS.—Æternitas; an elephant.

POSTUMUS.—Restit. Galliarum.—Serapidi Comiti Aug.

Of the remainder it may be sufficient to remark that the coins of Carausius and Allectus, all of common types, have for mint marks M.L. and C. (believed to be struck at Londinium and Camulodunum); and that the mint mark P.LON. occurs in coins of Crispus and the younger Constantine, the chief places of mintage being represented by the letters PTR., Treves; PLC., Lyons; and CONST., Arles.

C. ROACH SMITH.