

that whiche lyythe not in me to helpe. Your Maisterschips letter willyth me to seale his yndenture. I sealyd it the third dai after myen enstallation: which endentur his own counceill had newlye dyvysid befor my commyng. Therfor I humblye desyr your good Maisterschip to be mie good Maister as you have tofore tyme ben and to consider myen extreame and intolerable charges. Christus Jesu have your god Maisterschip in his tuition with muche encrease of helthe and honour.

“bye your prest

(Addressed)

“JOHN Abbot of Leycester.”

“To the most wurschipfull and  
mie singular good Maister Maister  
Crumwell deliver this.”

The above is of the year 1533 or 4. R. Pexall is said in *Dugdale* to have been Abbot in 1533, and the writer of the above, John Bouchier, gave the deed of surrender to the King 11th August, 1534. He was living in 1584.

ON A RECENT FIND OF ROMAN COINS IN LEICESTERSHIRE, by the Rev. Assheton Pownall, F.S.A., Rector of South Kilworth, and Member of the London Numismatic Society.

A QUANTITY of old coins like those before us, which are remarkable neither for intrinsic value nor beauty of workmanship, must derive interest for our minds, if at all, from another source than beautiful work or intrinsic value. A quantity of fossil shells might interest us more, if we had it not in our power to connect the coins with man, to regard them as man's handiwork in a certain period of the world, and also to draw out from them something which illustrates man's history. This, in my opinion, is that which gives the great charm to coin-collecting. Coin-collecting may become mere “magpie-ism,” or, it may rise to importance as a study of the past; but as an intellectual employment it takes rank highest when it leads us to consider what different countries have been, as places for men to dwell in, when occupied by those who had to climb the ladder of life before ourselves. The numismatist who shuts himself out from this view of his coins may be a successful collector, he may possess indescribable rarities, but the richest gratification arising from his coins will be for others, and not for himself. If

“The proper study of mankind, is man,”

and coins can help us to understand him, how great must be their use! It is with thoughts of this kind, I would have you look at the hoard of Roman coins recently found at Lutterworth, in this county, which are exhibited in our temporary Museum. I should like to impart to the minds of those who listen to this paper the

colouring which my own has received through an examination of them; because, though not rare, not valuable, for dealers to buy and sell, and therefrom get gain, I am inclined to believe they have the higher value we have mentioned, which will secure for them more than a cursory glance as you pass the place in the Museum where they lie.

There is reason to suppose that more than these were discovered, but for reasons best known to the finder only 254 have come under examination. For sixteen hundred years have they been lying buried in our English soil, and the period which produced them was one which also produced events of weighty consequence to the power of Rome, since, with few exceptions, they may be thrown into two groups, viz., those which belong to the reign of the Emperor Gallienus, and those which belong to one of the most illustrious of his successors. Readers of Gibbon will not forget the shadows which fell on Roman greatness during the reign of Gallienus, or their removal by the timely rising up, consecutively, of such men as Claudius Gothicus;—men whose firmness both of hand and temper did indeed rule the day, and separate the light from the darkness in times of peril for the Republic. We have in this hoard, therefore, examples of the imperial money, both in a disastrous and a prosperous time of Roman history, so that they give us illustrations of that light and shade which constitutes the true picture of all human affairs. To set this picture before you must be my business now, and in doing so it will be seen that I have been leaning on the *Augustan History*\* as my chief authority. Before treating of those coins which were issued in the unhappy reign of Gallienus, one piece of the Emperor Volusian must be spoken of first, as it is the earliest of the whole number. Associated in the empire with his father, in the year 252, he still occupied a subordinate position, and as he seems to have possessed no qualities which particularly separated him from ordinary men, when he was killed by his own soldiers, his death only made room for one who was in all respects his superior, even in misfortune, I mean the Emperor Valerian. Yet, Valerian, good citizen as he was, lacked the qualifications needed by high estate in troublous times; and he comes before us an instance of one whose good qualities were mistaken for great ones, by his fellow citizens. *Prudens senator, Amicus bonorum, inimicus tyrannorum, hostis criminum hostis vitiorum. Hunc Censorem accépimus.*† This might be the unanimous voice of the Senate, when the office of Censor was to be revived; but the stuff out of which an energetic Temptor could come, they failed to see was wanting. Had disorder been simply the result of the vice of his day, and a constitutional king its sole requirement, his hand would have been strong enough to repress

\* *Historiæ Augustæ Scriptores Sex.* Biponti. MDCCCLXXXVII.

† Trebellii Pollionis, *Valerianus*, *Aug. Hist.*, Vol. II. p. 77.

the first; while the last he was well adapted to become by his temperament, his experience, and sagacity. His failure as a military leader, when he led the forces of the empire against Persia, actually shook the power of Rome to its centre. That Sapor, the Persian King, should hold as a captive an Emperor of Rome, that Rome should be unequal to his rescue, was a humiliation it had not seen since the defeat and death of Crassus. It may be somewhat uncertain by what means his capture was effected, but no uncertainty rests upon the fact that in captivity he closed his life, after enduring at the hands of his captors the vilest and most cruel degradation. It is said that after death his body was flayed, and the skin stuffed with straw, exhibited as a trophy in a Persian temple; but before death, the aged Valerian, kneeling down at the feet of Sapor, for Sapor to use as a 'horse block,\* was "a better proof of who had conquered than all the pictures Romans could paint." It forms an extraordinary incident in Roman annals; yet not less extraordinary does it seem to us, that it was an incident absolutely unknown in Persian history, except through Roman historians; so completely can knowledge in a nation die of an event, which, one might have supposed, double-tongued tradition would assuredly have enshrined. Of the money of Valerian this hoard presents us with three examples; the reverse of one is peculiar enough to deserve your notice. It represents the god Vulcan at his forge, and bears an inscription, DEO VOLKANO; this mode of spelling has suggested the idea that it is the production of a colonial mint.†

The catastrophe which displaced the father, unfortunately brought into the front rank his son, who had now been joint Emperor with Valerian for about seven years; and when Gallienus was left to rule alone, Rome paid dearly for the partnership. His unfitness for such an exalted station may be best described in the epigrammatic sentences of Gibbon. "In every art that he attempted, his lively genius enabled him to succeed, and as his genius was destitute of judgment, he attempted every art except the important ones of war and government. He was a master of several curious but useless sciences,—a ready orator, an elegant poet, a skilful gardener, an excellent cook, and most contemptible prince. When great emergencies of state required his presence and attention, he was engaged in conversation with Plotinus the philosopher, or wasting his time in trifling, or licentious pleasures; preparing his initiation to the Greek mysteries, or soliciting a place in the areopagus of Athens."‡ *Nec aliter rempublicam reget, quam cum pueri fingunt per ludibria potestates,*§ is the scornful remark of Trebellius Pollio; but by no means the only one.

\* *Fragmenta Vitæ Valerianorum.* A.H., Vol. II. p. 258.

† Admiral Smyth's *Descriptive Catalogue of a Cabinet of Roman Imperial Large Brass Medals.* Bedford, 1834, p. 294.

‡ Gibbon—*Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, Vol. I., pp. 354, 355.

§ Gallieni Duo—*Augustan History*, Vol. II., p. 85.

The incessant invasion of the empire, the rending away of entire provinces, the disorders in Sicily—events which involved the sack of Athens, and the destruction of the Temple of Diana at Ephesus, a building made famous by the hand of the sculptor Praxiteles—these were enough, without the ineffable disgrace of Valerian's captivity, to fill men's minds with gloom; and, with one exception, so they did for eight dismal years. Gallienus himself, was that exception. If Nero fiddled while Rome was burning, Gallienus could crack a joke about the disruption of the empire. "He cared no more for the loss of a province than for the loss of an old cloak." When tidings were brought him that Egypt was cut off—"Well," says he, "cannot we get on without the fine linens of Egypt?" When Gaul was lost to the empire, he only laughed and said, "Is not the republic safe without Gallic tunics?"\* Not, however, that Gallienus thought little of dress, or of those circumstances which commend life to the luxurious. Powdering his hair with gold leaf, he was usually seen in the city, decked with golden ornaments and gems. At his daily feasts, despising glass, he drank from golden goblets only; constant only to variety, he varied his wines, and he never tasted one twice at the same meal.† The contempt in which the Emperor's life and character were held was unmistakeable, but there were veins of humour and flashes of good nature occasionally playing through his manner, which obtained for him a certain popularity. Imperial wit made the thoughtless laugh, and his freaks of good-nature pleased others; while he had the art to secure the good will of the populace by frequent largesses—*congiariis populum mollivit*. On one occasion, at a bull fight, the "matador," through sheer awkwardness in the use of the lance, failed to strike the animal, big as he was; and failed ten times. Whereupon the Emperor sends him a chaplet, much to the surprise of every one; and on being asked for what reason he had rewarded so stupid a fellow, said dryly, "*Taurum toties non ferire difficile est*"—(*To miss the bull so often is difficult*). Another time a jeweller, who had been detected in selling to the Empress Salonina glass imitations of precious stones, for his roguery, was condemned to the lions. The culprit is accordingly led out to death, when out of the lion's den absurdly strutted a cock; and the tricky negotiator is dismissed with the contemptuous gibe—"Imposturam fecit, et passus est"—(*He cheated, and has been cheated.*)‡

This would have been all very well had the situation of the Republic been less serious. It amused people however, and, like the thin wire, drew the danger out of many a threatening cloud.

Now, of this Roman Emperor's money, the coins before you afford thirty-six examples; in addition, there is one of his wife, the

\* "*Gallieni Duo*—*Augustan History*, Vol. II., page 87.

† *Augustan History*, Vol. II., page 96.

‡ *Augustan History*, Vol. II., page 92.

Empress, which presents us with her portrait; and another of their son, Saloninus.

As I pretend to do no more in this Paper than sketch the men and the events set before us by this find of coins, many facts in the reign of Gallienus are of necessity passed over in the narrative; but it remains for me to speak of those which do receive illustrations from his coins. Among the thirty-six attributed to him, it is remarkable that you find among them no less than six-and-twenty varieties; and, in looking over these, one can hardly fail to notice how frequently occur upon them the "effigies" of the *Dii Majores*, with legends corresponding. "To Apollo our Protector," "to Diana," "to Jove," "to Mars," "to Juno," and even "to Vulcan," are the reverses of some of them inscribed. While on the coins of this period, struck by rivals of Gallienus (about whom I shall speak presently), you find also Minerva, Neptune, Hercules, together with impersonations less important, "Salus," and the like. Now there was good reason for all this, because the time was a time (speaking in a special sense) of a great religious revival. Pestilence was "a-foot," and had long been busy among the people. Rapine and oppression had begotten scarcity, and scarcity in turn begat disease. Many towns had been depopulated; in Rome itself thousands had died;\* and from Rome to Alexandria fear was everywhere falling on the hearts of men.

Gibbon, who quotes the letters of Dionysius, Bishop of Alexandria, shews, by a calculation founded on the number of applicants at the public distributions of corn, at two different periods, that one-half of Alexandria had perished.† It was this wide-sweeping plague which had led to the persecution of the Christians under Valerian, by which Rome was now frightened into being more religious; and of its aroused religious feeling these coins stand before us in evidence. All the gods of the Pantheon seem to have been invoked. In addition to the "effigies" of the gods themselves, is to be noted the repeated occurrence on the coins of the figures of those animals which were consecrated to the gods. It is not by chance that the "centaur" appears on those coins which bear the name of Apollo; or the goat on those of Jupiter: it is Amalthea, his wet nurse:—

"Stat quoque capra simul. Nymphæ pavisce feruntur  
Cretides; infanti lac dedit illa Jovi."

The stag sacred to Diana (a goddess who first appeared on coins at this time, in consequence of the plague, because she also, like

\* "Pax igitur Deūm quæsitâ, inspectis Sibyllæ libris, factumque Jovi Salutari ut præceptum fuerat, sacrificium. Nam et pestilentia tanta exstiterat, vel Romæ, vel in Achaicis urbibus, ut uno die quinque millia hominum pari morbo perirent."—*Aug. Hist.*, Vol. II., page 86.

† *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, Vol. I., p. 365.

Apollo, was held to be a doctor),\* was placed there by the order of Gallienus in recognition of the tutelary deities; and in return for which piety, he, unworthy as he was, won for himself, from the flattery of those about him, the title of *Conservator pietatis*.

That rending asunder of the empire by which whole provinces were detached, of which mention has been made, also receives illustration from these coins. Egypt, Illyria, Spain, and Gaul, as well as much of the East, fell away under the rule of men, whose ability and strength of character had fitted them to lead in stormy times. Of such rivals, history recognizes nineteen; true, because Italy remained faithful to Gallienus, in the estimation of history, he remained Emperor, even while unable to hold the provinces against successful upstarts. Usually they were men of obscure birth; but obscure birth, in the difficult passages of a nation's life, is no bar to a man's progress, if he has that to give which people want. These upstarts in the provinces were not contemptible, though they held precariously the power they had grasped, for, when they fell, they involved half a province in their fall. They had their use also, like posts driven into the shifting sand to protect a sea wall from the tidal wave, *assertores Romani nominis exstiterunt*;†—the outworks of the empire were safe in their hands, though held for themselves, and not for Gallienus.

Now Gaul, which never could endure an effeminate and frivolous Prince, raised up in turn six of its soldiers to the imperial purple; and of these six, five find representatives in this hoard of coins; indeed the greater part of it belongs to them. First of all there was Postumus; as a Roman general he had enjoyed the confidence of both Valerian and Gallienus; indeed by the last the care of his son had been entrusted to Postumus. A mere accident, an unwise slight put upon their leader, caused the soldiers to assassinate Saloninus, and proclaim Postumus their Emperor. For seven years he withstood the forces of his former master, and ruled the Gaulish nations with wisdom. At length his subjects, led by one Lollianus, slew him: vexed by the very goodness of his reforms, and being themselves too fond of change. His thirty-seven coins in this hoard are remarkably well preserved, and (for the period) well executed. Victorinus avenged his death. He had been associated with Postumus in the holding of quasi-imperial power, when Postumus found Gallienus pressing him hard; and now, having put Lollianus to death, he reigned over the Gauls alone. Successful as a general against the German tribes, he was equally successful in his rule, and but for one act of unbridled licence would have left a fair name to posterity.‡ His coins are the most numerous of all in this particular find, and are generally very

\* Admiral Smyth's *Large Brass Medals*, p 286.

† *Triginta Tyranni*. Trebellius Pollio De Lolliano. *A. H.*, p. 105, Vol. II.

‡ Trebellius Pollio De Mario. *Aug. Hist.*, Vol. II., p. 108.

common. On the death of these men, an armourer, *gladiatorum armorumque artifex*, named Marius, was elected to reign in their stead, but his election seems to have been little better than an act of caprice. One day washed up to the highest place, he was seen to reign the next, and then on the third day the tide ebbed, and down he went as quickly, paying for his seventy hours of popularity with his life. A fellow who had worked with him at the same forge took it, and took it with a sword made by the hand of the mushroom Emperor—*hic est gladius, quem ipse fecisti*, was the man's disdainful word as he struck the blow.\* The coins of Marius are naturally very rare, and this find may be counted rich in possessing one. It represents him with a sort of blacksmith look, but gives the idea of even more than ordinary blacksmith strength,—a fact we find recorded in the *Augustan History*. This unhappy episode in king-making probably led the Gallic legions on the next occasion to invest with the purple one who could lay claim to gentle birth. Tetricus, the object of their choice, was of senatorial rank; and, excepting Piso, (a nobleman who rose up in Thessaly), was the only usurper who enjoyed this distinction. On his being proclaimed Augustus, the son of Tetricus was at the same time saluted Cæsar.† These two princes maintained their respective places at the head of Gaulish peoples for some years. Having survived Gallienus and his successor, at last they submitted to the forces of the Emperor Aurelian, glad at heart to do so, wearied to death as they were by the unmannerly violence of their so-called subjects;‡ and Aurelian was politic enough to build “the bridge of gold” for their retreat from a position which they had learned to dislike. Thus discrowned, and received at Rome as his friends, he treated them with kindness, and even heaped upon them honours. We learn from Trebellius Pollio that his own grandfather had been on terms of intimacy with the younger Tetricus; and in the days when he wrote his history, the beautiful house between two groves, which the Tetrici had occupied on the Cœlian hill, was still standing. Here, he tells us, they had received the Emperor as their guest; and on its walls a painting was still to be seen, in which Aurelian was depicted bestowing civic and senatorial dignities on those from whom he had himself received a sceptre.§ We have but four coins of Tetricus (father and son) in this hoard, though usually they are common enough; but common as they are, these four deserve our notice, because Roman history has not, in its pages, so many of these pleasant passages that we can afford to lose sight of one; and the account I have to give of the usurpers, in those dark days of

\* Trebellius Pollio *De Victorino*. *Aug. Hist.*, Vol. II., p. 106.

† This title was equivalent to that of Prince of Wales among us.

‡ “Versus denique illius fertur, quem statim ad Aurelianum scripserat; eripe me his, invicti, malis.” *Pollio de Tetrico Seniore*. *Augustan History*, Vol. II., p. 126.

§ Trebellius Pollio *De Tetricis*. *Augustan History*, Vol. II., p. 126, 127.

Gallienus, is somewhat relieved of its gloom by this glance at the wise and humane conduct of Aurelian. I fear Gallienus would have dealt with Tetricus otherwise. The letter is still extant which he wrote to Celer Varianus, when Ingenuus, a commander in Pannonia, who had been chosen Emperor by the Mœsian legions, was defeated and killed. Its savagery demands the death of many more than those who had appeared in arms. Old and young of the male sex must be destroyed, if this can be done without damaging the reputation of Gallienus. "Whoso has thought against me, must be killed; whoso has spoken against me, must be killed. Mind, Ingenuus was made an Emperor. Tear, kill, hew in pieces. Art thou able to understand my mind, and to be angry with my anger, who, with my own hand have written these things?"\*

At length his own time came. Human nature is often wonderfully tolerant of evil in the great; its discontent finds an outlet in a subdued growling of the voice, when riddance of the wrong-doer might be had on terms which among the lawless would be thought easy. For eight years after Valerian's disappearance from power was Gallienus endured. The patience of men was, however, worn down to the quick; for, while others were seriously occupied with the grave condition of the State, he was enquiring about his dinner, and his pleasures;† or, perhaps at the best discoursing with Plotinus regarding a fancy of his own, for realizing in a ruined city of Campania the ideal scheme of Plato's republic! But at length the end came. Aureolus, the Roman general in Illyria, having been forced by the troops under his command to assume the purple, appeared in force in Italy itself. This was in the year 268. The army of Gallienus went out to meet him. Aureolus, worsted in the fight, drew back to Milan. On the night of March 20th, Martianus and Cecropius, two of the Emperor's men—people of consequence—who had been for some time plotting, now caused a false report of the unexpected approach of Aureolus to be conveyed to Gallienus. Gathering together some of his troops, he put himself at their head, for he had it in him to be brave at times, and then it was, in the confusion of the alarm, and in the darkness of the night, he was struck down—as some said—by the sword of Cecropius the Dalmatian.‡ So he passed away from this world; and if one act of wisdom at the last, as he lay bleeding his life away, could atone for so many that were not wise, his sending the imperial insignia to Claudius might have saved his fame.

This Claudius, surnamed "Gothicus," had long been held in

\* "Occidendus est, quicunque male voluit: occidendus est quicunque male dixit contra me. . . . Ingenuus factus est Imperator. Lacera, occide, concide: animum meum intelligere potes, mea mente irascere, qui hæc manu meâ scripsi." Trebellius Pollio de *Ingenuo*. *Augustan History*, Vol. II., p. 109.

† "Ecquid habemus in prandio? Ecquæ voluptates paratæ sunt? et qualis cras erit cœna? quales Circenes?" "Gallieni Duo."—*Augustan History*, Vol. II., p. 89.

‡ "Gallieni Duo."—*Augustan History*, Vol. II., p. 94.





soon found occupation for all his energy, strength, and skill in beating back a horde of Goths who again were over-running the Empire, in numbers that appeared overwhelming. At Naïssus, a city of Dardania, he succeeded in routing them, and in a manner so decided, as deservedly to obtain the epithet which hereafter for ever was to be associated with his name. The letter which Claudius "Gothicus" wrote to the Senate at the opening of the campaign, affords a view of the estimate he himself had formed of the risk he was about to encounter.

"Conscript Fathers, listen to those who are fighting. 320,000 armed barbarians have invaded Roman soil. These, if I shall beat, do you in turn reward the deserving. If I shall not beat them;—be mindful that I am fighting after a Gallienus. The whole Republic is weary. We shall be fighting after a Valerian, after Ingenuus, . . . . after a thousand others, who out of contempt for Gallienus as a prince, have deserted the Republic. Neither shields, nor broad swords, nor javelins, are left to us. Gaul and Spain—the strength of the Republic—Tetricus occupies; and all our archers (it is a disgrace to say it) Zenobia has. What we shall have done—this is great enough."\*

Let it be remembered that the "*poeticus stilus*," as Pollio calls it, was much the fashion of the day, and thus discounted, the letter reads even like the modest despatch of an earnest man, who was bent on doing his best under trying circumstances.† That which he wrote to Junius Broccus, announcing his splendid victory, I must acknowledge reminds me less of the simplicity of Julius Cæsar's style; but a victory which swept his enemy clean away was perhaps some excuse for elated expressions. There was nothing figurative in the fact.

The coins of Claudius Gothicus in this hoard number thirty-three, among which I find sixteen different reverses. Let me briefly draw attention to some of them. On the death of Gallienus, as now representing legitimate power, Claudius Gothicus set himself to chastise Aureolus, the Illyrian peace-breaker. At a point about thirteen miles from Bergamo, where there is a bridge over the Adda, a battle took place between their respective armies, and Aureolus was defeated and slain. This bridge, when Trebellius Pollio wrote, was called *Pons Aureoli*; and an existing Italian village still contains within its name of *Pontirolo* an unsuspected memorial of the defeated general. It is probable that the coin in this hoard which bears the legend *MARS VLTOR* was struck to commemorate the success of Claudius in avenging his predecessor's death.

Others read thus, *FIDES MILITVM* and *FIDES EXERCIT*. *Fides*, was the impersonation of good faith; and to place her effigy on the coins, with this inscription, was to remind a fickle soldiery, as often

\* "*Divus Claudius*." *Augustan History*, Vol. II. p. 143.

† "*Divus Claudius*." *Augustan History*, p. 144, Vol. II.

as they fingered the money, of the oath by which they had solemnly bound themselves to be faithful to the Emperor. Four more of the coins have the words PAX AVG [VSTI] on the reverse; what is more likely than that these were struck on the happy termination of the Gothic inroad, when a real sense of security was restored to the panic-struck city? The reign of Claudius was so short, and the events in it so conspicuous, that these ascriptions are not mere guess-work. Belonging to the same incident are the coins which read "FELICITAS AVG," and LAETITIA AVG; public happiness and gaiety were the obvious results of peace, and to ascribe to Claudius Augustus these results was but giving him his due. Again, ANNONA AVG, (for Annona Augusti) is a legend inscribed on three more. The "Annona" was the quantity of corn required each year for the consumption of the people. It was the business of the Emperor to take care this amount was provided by supplies from Alexandria and elsewhere; and when it was provided, there was policy in issuing money bearing an inscription which was a pledge to the public that plenty had been secured. Then, lastly, there is one coin more of this Emperor about which I desire to speak; it bears the single word "CONSECRATIO." This was struck Anno Domini 270, the year in which Claudius died. Smitten by the plague, at Sirmium, he succumbed to the attack, and according to popular belief, left the earth to take his seat among the immortal gods.\* Thenceforward he was known as *Divus Claudius*; and the eagle, with outstretched wings, figured on coins of the "consecration type," was an image of the living eagle, which at the obsequies of the Emperor, being let loose from the summit of his funeral pyre, in the opinion of the people, conveyed the illustrious spirit of the departed from earth to heaven.

Of the seven remaining coins much need not be said. They were struck in the name of Quintillus, a brother of the deified Claudius, who had most unwisely allowed himself to be proclaimed Augustus, when he learned that Claudius had been taken *ad Deos, atque ad sidera*. Pollio says that it had been so much the wish of Claudius to have his brother associated with him in the empire, that he even consulted the oracle about it;† and he expresses his own opinion of the high merit of Quintillus, by saying that the sovereignty would have been bestowed on him, by the judgment of all, even had he not been brother of the well-beloved Claudius. A short reign of seventeen days closed his career. Shewing himself strict in rule towards a soldiery,‡ who were ever more apt to look for bribes than blows from a new master, he was quickly set aside,

\* "Affectus morbo mortales reliquit, et familiare virtutibus suis petiit cælum." *Divus Claudius*. *Augustan History*, Vol. II., p. 147.

† "Divus Claudius." *Augustan History*, Vol. II. p. 145.

‡ Quod se gravem et serium contra milites ostenderat. *Augustan History*, p. 147, Vol. II.

when it was found that Aurelian had secured more largely the popular suffrage. Whether he put an end to his own life, or was killed by others, seems uncertain; I believe both statements have been made.

His coins are more often found in France than England. With us they are not common. They are distinguished from those of Claudius only by name, and on an occasion like this, require from us no special notice.

These, then, are the facts handed down to us by history, relating to the persons in whose names these coins were issued, facts which, in my opinion, clothe them with much archæological interest.

The true numismatist must be an archæologist; and archæology is no mere blind worship of something *because it is old*. The Roman mile-stone in the town museum belongs to the period which we have had under review; it is a far greater curiosity than the coins; but it is less interesting, because it just wants the connection with

“ The medal, faithful to its charge of fame,  
Through climes and ages bears each form and name.  
In one short view subjected to our eye,  
Gods, emperors, heroes, sages, beauties lie.”

some historical incident or personage which the coins possess: History without coins would be rather like a copy of the *Illustrated London News* with most of the illustrations cut out.

And if our survey of mankind in that portion of the third century to which we have been drawn be not altogether pleasing, let us not become hard in judging it. Recollect, the circumstances of life are the mould in which human life is shaped. That which Lady Mary Wortley Montagu wrote, after her travels, “ *I have been all over the world, and found only men and women,*” we must say, if we are candid, whether we look at the actors in the third century or the nineteenth. Just as Leicestershire, when these coins were buried, was a very different district from the Leicestershire which our agriculture, our architecture and science have put their stamp on; and yet the geological formation remains identically the same; so human nature in a Claudius and Gallienus is the same ingredient we recognize in ourselves, with one thing wanting only--the elevating influence of a true Religion.

COINS FOUND AT LUTTERWORTH SOMETIME IN THE SUMMER OF 1869.

	EMPERORS.	USURPERS IN GAUL.	NUMBER.
I.	VIBIVS VOLVSIVS.		1
II.	VALERIANVS.		3
III.	GALLIENVS.		36
4.	" SALONINA (wife of Gallienus).		1
5.	" SALONINVS (son of Gallienus).		1
6.		POSTVMVS.	37
7.		VICTORINVS.	130
8.		MARIVS.	1
9.		TETRICVS, Senr.	1
10.		TETRICVS Junr.	3
XI.	CLAVDIVS GOTHICVS.		33
XII.	QVINTILLVS.		7
			254