

FIND OF COINS AT TYLER'S HILL.

At the end of November, 1888, a bricklayer's lad, named Elbourn, when digging a drain at Tyler's Hill, in the hamlet of Botley and parish of Chesham, broke a small vessel, from which there poured out about 200 gold coins. The vessel was of brown and white earthenware, corked at the top. As he was utterly ignorant of their value, many were taken by children and dispersed among bystanders, and found their way to London dealers. Forty-four were taken by the police for the Treasury. The cottage had been some years ago a farm-house. The coins were found close to the front wall at a depth of about six inches. It would seem that there were none of a later date than Charles I., suggesting that they had been deposited at the time of the Civil War.

It is curious in connection with this find, that in the court rolls in the Manor House, at Latimer, is the following:—

“Latimers, 6 Nov. 1705.—Tokesfield, of Botley, in the Pish. of Chesham, a labourer. He found the pipkin, with the money covered with leade, it might (as it is p^tended) contayne in silver above 100£, but he ownes but about 23£, and p^tends he had more, but lost it out of his frock, the Grandfather, Wm. Barnes, of Botley, confest he thought the money might be 12£.”

Description by H. A. Gruëber, Esq., of the British Museum, of the 44 gold coins found at Tyler's Hill, Nov. 1888:—

ELIZABETH. Half Sovereign (1), rev. leg., *SCVTVM FIDEI*
PROTEGET EAM; m. m. (mint mark), cross crosslet.

JAMES I. Laurels (16), rev. leg., *FACIAM EOS IN GENTEM*
VNAM; obv. type, bust of King laureate; m. m.,
trefoil slipped, fleur-de-lis, cross crosslet, thistle,
rose.

- JAMES I. Sovereigns (15), similar type, but bust wearing crown; m. m., fleur-de-lis, bunch of grapes, tun, trefoil slipped, thistle, key, crescent, cross, rose.
- JAMES I. Half Sovereigns (3), rev. leg., HENRICVS ROSAS REGNA JACOBVS; m. m., castle, cinquefoil, tun.
- JAMES I. Quarter Sovereign (1), same type as previous coin; m. m., cinquefoil.
- JAMES I. Sword and Sceptre Piece, 1602 (1), rev. leg., SALVS POPVLI SVPREMA LEX; m. m., rose.
- CHARLES I. Sovereigns (6), rev. leg., FLORENT CONCORDIA REGNA; m. m., rose, heart, anchor and plumes, portcullis, fleur-de-lis.
- CHARLES I. Crown (1), obv., bust with ruff; rev. leg., CVLTORES SVI DEVS PROTEGIT; m. m., castle.

BRYANT BURGESS.

LATIMER RECTORY,
CHESHAM, *May 3rd*, 1889.