

similar to that of the **PAXS** type and reverse **ARGENTEON** in two lines across the field, showing it to have been struck at Argentan in Orne. The evidence of a large and continuous coinage at Rouen in Norman times is conclusive, but our enquiry for the coins has yet to be made. Mr. Hewlett, however, has but followed in the steps of his predecessors, and he is writing from the coins that he knows, and writing well.

*A Find of Coins at Oswestry*, by R. Ll. Kenyon, M.A. An account of the ordinary treasure-trove, *temp.* Charles I., which was buried in an earthenware pot in a field adjoining Brynhafod Lane. It comprised 401 silver and 4 gold pieces, extending from the reign of Henry VIII. to the time of the coinage at Shrewsbury in 1642.

*A Numismatic Question raised by Shakespeare*, by Sir John Evans, K.C.B., is a short but very readable explanation of certain references by Shakespeare to the coinage, such as "seven groats in mill-sixpences and two Edward shovel-boards," *Merry Wives*, I, 1, and "Look where three-farthings goes," *K. John*, I, 1, with quotations of a similar character from other early writers. Shovel-boards, we are told, were the broad five shilling pieces of Edward VI., so called from their use in the old game of that name. Other passages are similarly elucidated.

Under *Miscellanea*, Mr. W. J. Hocking offers the theory that over-struck coins are not re-struck coins at all, but that the apparent effect was caused by the dies being re-used for the succeeding type and the old design not sufficiently obliterated. The suggestion is not new, but the reply is final. As the obverse design had to be engraved on the standard or lower die, and the reverse design on the upper die, it follows that over-struck coins would in that case always bear the impression of the previous obverse type upon the obverse side, and so with the reverse; whereas over-struck coins as often as not bear previous obverse designs on their reverses and *vice versâ*. Moreover, there is a crushed appearance in the nearly obliterated letters and designs.

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