


## SOME FURTHER NOTES ON THE SILVER COINS OF JAMES I.

By LIEUT.-COLONEL H. W. MORRIESON, late R.A., F.S.A.

HE preceding paper by Mr. Henry Symonds, which includes the reports of the Trial of the Pyx during the reign of James I., gives me the opportunity of bringing my monograph on "The Silver Coins of James I.," read before this Society just five years ago, viz., on June 26th, 1907,<sup>1</sup> down to date.

Mr. Symonds tells us what coins were minted, whereas my object is to show what are known. Since the date of my paper, various coins not mentioned in it have been discovered, and doubtless, in course of time, those still unknown, which I have marked with the letter P in the table annexed, will eventually be found.

I will take each denomination in turn.

### CROWNS.

There is nothing new in this denomination, except the addition of the mint-marks coronet and rose 1621.

### HALF-CROWNS.

I wrote in 1907 that I doubted whether any half-crowns were coined during the second period, but that if they were, they would be exactly similar to the crowns. Mr. Symonds proves that they were coined with the mint-marks lys, rose, escallop, grapes, and coronet. One of these has been discovered by Mr. L. A. Lawrence, namely, that with the mint-mark lys, which corresponds, as I had ventured to

<sup>1</sup> *British Numismatic Journal*, vol. iv, pp. 165-78.

prophesy, exactly with the crown. I referred to one with the mint-mark rose there illustrated as Plate I, Fig. 8, which has the proper obverse for the second period, but with the reverse of the third period with the bird-headed harp, and which I placed accordingly in the latter category. Since then a half-crown with mint-mark rose and all the proper attributes of the third period has come into my possession; this, with the knowledge gained by the information Mr. Symonds gives us, and the evidence of Mr. Lawrence's half-crown, shows that my attribution was correct. The question now arises, was that obverse die of Plate I, Fig. 7, an old die of the mint-mark rose of 1605-6? This I am unable to answer beyond stating that it might be, because it has FRAN in the legend. While on this subject I may mention that I have a half-crown of the third period, with the mint-mark thistle struck over the rose on the obverse, and the die appears to be the same as that just referred to. It was in the collection of the late Sir John Evans, and was attributed by him to the year 1604, whereas it really belongs to the year 1621.

## SHILLINGS.

*Fourth Bust.*—I have a shilling with mint-mark bell over coronet on the obverse. This is very curious, as the fifth bust came into use in the duration of the coronet, 1607-9, while the bell was not used until May, 1610, which presents the very rare case of the use of an obsolete die.

*Fifth Bust.*—The new examples include mullet over bell—HIB: mullet—HIB: tower—HIB: and ton—HIB. Mr. Symonds now adds book and plain cross.

## SIXPENCES.

*Fourth Bust.*—I did not mention the different readings on the obverse, so I will do so now:—

Mint-mark rose, 1605—HIB; 1606—HIB. Escallop, 1606—HIB, HI; 1607—HI. Grapes, 1607—HI: . Coronet, 1607—HIB: ; 1608—HIB, HI: ; Mr. H. A. Parsons has an example with the 9 of 1609 over the 8 of 1608. Key, 1609—HI: ; [16]10 over [16]09 HI: . Bell over

key, [16]10 over [16]09 HI :. Bell, 1610, obverse mullet, reverse bell, 1610—HI :. Mullet, 1611—HI :. Tower, 1612; Mr. S. Spink has told me that his firm had once a specimen with this mark and date. Trefoil, 1613—MAG : BRI : HI and MA : BRI : HI :. Cinquefoil, 1614—MA : BRIT : FRAN : HI ; 1615—Ton, 1615—MA : BRI : FRAN or FRA, HI. Mr. Symonds adds book—1618; and plain cross—1619.

*Sixth Bust.*—Rose, 1621—HIB; a specimen with the bird-headed harp reads SEPRAT on the reverse. Thistle over rose on the obverse, 1621—HIB. Thistle, 1621—HIB, HI; 1622—HIB, HI; 1623—HIB, HI; JACOB' MAG : HI : [162]4 over [162]3—JACOB' MAG HIB; 1624—MA, or MAG, HI; JACOB' MAG HI.

Trefoil 1624—MA FRA HI; with a small shield, MAG : BR : HI.

The spur rowel, 1620, has now to be added, and doubtless there are several other variations in the legends than those mentioned above.

#### HALF-GROATS.

*Second Period.*—First variety, with large crown. Mint-mark escallop on the obverse only and one with mint-mark coronet reads SPNA.

Second variety, with small crown. To this must be added the mint-mark bell.

*Third Period.*—There is also one with mint-mark spur rowel and pellets between the words on the reverse, and one without a mint-mark.

#### PENNIES.

*Second Period.*—I have become possessed of pennies representing the following mint-marks:—grapes, bell over key, and mullet with reverse legends on both sides. Mr. Symonds adds ton and book.

In the third paragraph of the second period the mint-mark spur rowel must be added. I must, moreover, state that I have come across pennies with mint-mark thistle, but from their appearance I have always considered them Scottish shillings.

*Third Period.*—I have now a penny as described above with mint-mark spur rowel on the reverse only, also pennies with obverse lys and

reverse two pellets, and with obverse three pellets and reverse lys. The existence of this spur-rowel penny, taken in conjunction with the knowledge that pennies and half-pennies were included in the Trial of the Pyx with the mint-marks thistle and trefoil, would appear to contradict my conclusions as to their not having been struck with a mint-mark.

Considering the quantity of pennies that must have been struck at that time and the abundance of those bearing no mint-mark, together with the fact that I have not seen nor heard of any which I can attribute to those two mint-marks, I still continue to think the marks were intentionally omitted.

#### HALF-PENNIES.

*Second Period.*—The following mint-marks must now be added :—grapes, key, tower, trefoil, ton, and plain cross.

*Third Period.*—There were included in Trial of the Pyx half-pennies with the mint-marks rose, thistle, lys; and trefoil.

#### SUMMARY.

In the study of the coins of James I. the principal point that has been discovered is the actual existence of half-crowns of the second period which, by the by, correspond in sequence with the half-groats bearing the large crown.

TABLE OF THE MINT-MARKS OF JAMES I.

Mint-marks.	Dates.	Description.	Cr.	$\frac{1}{2}$ Cr.	Shill.	6d.	2d.	1d.	$\frac{1}{2}$ d.
	<i>First Period, 1603-4.</i>								
Thistle ...	May 21st	1603	1st Bust	X	X	X	X	X	X
			2nd Bust			X	X		
Lys' ...	May 22nd	1604	"	X	B	X	X	X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>
			"			X	X		
	<i>Second Period, 1604-1619</i>								
Thistle ? ...		1604	See note 7	N		N			
Lys ...		1604	3rd Bust	X	X	X	X	X <sup>2</sup>	X <sup>2</sup>
"		1605	"			X	X		
Rose ...	June 20th	1605	"	X	P	X	X	X	X
"		1605	4th Bust			X	X		
"		1606	"			X	X		
Escallop ...	July 10th	1606	"	X	P	X	X	X	M
"		1607	"			X	X		
Grapes ...	June 30th	1607	"	X	P	X	X	X	P
Coronet ...	Nov. 11th	1607	"			X	X	X	X
"		1608	5th Bust, shillings only	P	P	X	X	X <sup>5</sup>	
"		1609	4th "			X	X <sup>6</sup>		
Key ...	May 17th	1609	4th and 5th Busts <sup>8</sup>			X	X	X	P
"		1610	"			X <sup>3</sup>			
Bell ...	May 11th	1610	"			X	X	X	M
Mullet ...	May 9th	1611	"			X	X	X	X
Tower ...	May 22nd	1612	"			X	S	X	P
Trefoil ...	April 28th	1613	"			X	X	X	P
Cinquefoil ...	October 20th	1613	"			X	X	X	M
"		1614	"				X		
"		1615	"				B		
Ton ...	May 17th	1615	"			X	X	X	P
Book ...	Nov. 15th	1616	See note 9			H	P	X	P
Crescent ...	August 23rd	1617	"						
Plain cross ...	May 15th	1618	See note 9			H	P	X	H
Saltire cross ...	June 9th	1619	"						
No mint-mark									X
	<i>Third Period, 1619-1624.</i>								
Spur rowel ...	August 20th	1619	See note 10			H	P	X	X
Rose ...	June 23rd	1620	"	P	X				
"		1621	6th Bust			X	X	X	P
Thistle ...	June 8th	1621	"	X	X	X	X	X	P
"			" plume on reverse	X	X	X			
"		1622	"			X			
"		1623	"			X			
Lys ...	July 3rd	1623	"	X	X	X	X	X <sup>4</sup>	X <sup>4</sup>
"			" plume on reverse	X	X	X			
"		1624	"			X			
Trefoil ...	June 27th	1624	"	X	X	X	X	X	P
"			" plume on reverse	X	X	X			
No mint-mark								X	X <sup>4</sup>

B=In British Museum.  
Montagu Sale Catalogue.  
the Trial of the Pyx.

H=Mentioned in *Hawkins*.  
N=Mentioned in the *Numismatic Chronicle*.  
S=In Mr. Francis's collection.

M=On the authority of the  
P=Included in  
X=In the Author's collection.

<sup>1</sup> First bust. <sup>2</sup> Without bust. <sup>3</sup> [16]10 over [16]09. <sup>4</sup> Some are without the inner circle.  
<sup>5</sup> small crown. <sup>6</sup> [160]9 over [160]8. <sup>7</sup> Probably no coins were struck bearing this mint-mark.  
<sup>8</sup> 4th bust on sixpences; 5th bust on shillings. <sup>9</sup> Doubtless similar to the preceding issues.  
<sup>10</sup> Probably 6th bust.

