

## LONG CROSS COINS OF DURHAM

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IT is now twenty years since the story of the Long-Cross coinage first appeared in the *British Numismatic Journal*.<sup>1</sup> A glance at the tables in it shows, in most cases, almost complete lists of moneyers throughout the various classes. It is curious, therefore, to find that the lists of Durham coins should show so many "not known" empty spaces. Durham was one of the four principal mints of the Long-Cross period, and one would have expected wellnigh complete lists, as are found at the other three mints—London, Canterbury, and Bury St. Edmunds. Time has, however, helped by the discovery of several coins to fill the places waiting for them.

The new coins which have been found are:

	<i>Obv.</i>	<i>Rev.</i>	
1.	HENRICVS REX . III without sceptre.	PHI/LIP/OID/VRH	Class III b ( <i>Hunt- erian Collection</i> ).
2.	HENRICVS REX III with sceptre.	RIC/ARD/OID/VME	Class Vc/V d mule ( <i>L. A. Lawrence</i> ).
3.	" "	WIL/LEM/OID/VR[-	Class V g or h ( <i>L. A. Lawrence</i> ).
4.	" "	ROB/ERT/OID/VRH	Class VII ( <i>L. A. Lawrence</i> ).

Durham, like Bury St. Edmunds, was a "one-moneyer" mint. No. 4 is a coin of the Edwardian type with bushy side locks; it agrees in style and type with **RENARD** and **PHILIP** of London and with **IOH'S** and **IOOE** of Bury St. Edmunds, and can be dated to 1278-9. I got the coin in time for it to be mentioned by Dr. Brooke in his *English Coins*.

No. 3 fills a vacancy at the end of class V.

No. 2 fills another vacancy. The reverse, it will be noted, spells the mint name **DVME**, not **DVRH**, and the **N**'s are reversed (**M**). Now classes V d and V e are the only two to show a reversed **M**. The two classes only differ on the obverse where V e has a pearled crown. It may be remembered also that in V d and V e the name of Canterbury reads **RAN** and that of Bury St. Edmunds **BERI**. The strange

<sup>1</sup> L. A. Lawrence, "The Long-Cross Coinage of Henry III and Edward I". *Brit. Num. Journ.*, vol. ix, pp. 145-80; vol. x, pp. 71-94; vol. xi, pp. 101-19.

spelling, therefore, of Durham on the new coin links it with the other mints in this class.

No. 1, reading **PHILIP ON DVRH** is the only known representative of class III at Durham, and the only Durham coin without a sceptre. After the death of Bishop Richard Poor there were troubles between the king and the monks over the election of a successor. Mr. Wells, in his most useful article, "Notes on the Long-Cross Coinage"<sup>1</sup> tells the story. It was not until the election of Nicholas de Farnham in 1241 that the breach was healed. Bishop Nicholas resigned the see in January 1247 and was succeeded by Bishop Walter of Kirkham. Mr. Wells has found an order for a die for "N.", Bishop of Durham, dated Michaelmas Term 34-5 Henry III (= 1250). He points out that the date being 1250, the die could not have been for a coin of class III, as the coins without the sceptre are shown to have been put out of issue in 1249. He adds that presumably the "N" is a clerical error for "W" (Walter). The order was certainly not for the new coin unless the order itself has been wrongly dated, as the "N" suggests.

It is unfortunate that we have not the lists and dates of appointment of the moneyers at Durham. The list, as we can now reconstruct it from the coins, is as follows:

Class III b	<b>PHILIP</b>
„ Va	<b>RICARD</b>
„ Vb	„
„ Vc	„
„ Vc-d mule	„
„ Vg	<b>ROGER</b>
„ Vg or h	<b>WILLEM</b>
„ VI	<b>ROBERT</b>
„ VII	<b>ROBERT</b>

<sup>1</sup> W. C. Wells, "Notes on the Long-Cross Coinage", *Brit. Num. Journ.*, vol. xxii, pp. 101-2.