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VOL. 6

OCTOBER-DECEMBER

No. 5

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**BEAUTIFUL MODERN COINS.**

*By* C. J. V. WEAVER (now deceased).

I.

Before the Great War of 1914-1918 a remarkable revival of art began to appear upon the coins of Europe and America. This artistic impulse was pronounced and so steady in its advance that we may now realise that these years have ushered in a numismatic renaissance and a new era in the modern field of metallic art.

The new coinages that sprang up all over Europe as a necessary result of the war added enormously to the forward movement, and this advance is now being creditably maintained by an increasing number of countries in Europe and America. Before the period referred to, many fine examples of artistic beauty had appeared upon coins of modern times from about 1820 onwards, but their occurrence was mostly isolated and spasmodic, and did not represent a general advance in numismatic art. However, their beauty is of such a high order that they have become monuments to the genius of their creators and glorious forerunners of the new order representing, one might say, the sublime apex of modern achievement. In witness of their splendid isolation we see side by side with their issue, mediocre and very often ugly productions whose glaring errors and crudity leave the student lost in wonder at the contrast. Therefore, it can readily be perceived that no description of the great advance in art upon modern coinage can be adequate or complete that does not deal severally with these great examples.

For the purpose of this paper I propose to describe the coins principally in chronological order. An early prototype of these modern specimens appearing in and around the 'twenties of last century is the magnificent design of St. George and the Dragon which occupied the reverse of the English silver coins, and which was executed by the Italian artist Benedetto Pistrucci. This great artist was brought from Italy and established at the English mint by the Government of George III, and was in 1828 the Chief

Medallist. He designed the gold and silver coinages of George III and George IV bearing the dates from 1817 to 1822. Pistrucci was born at Rome in 1784 and died near Windsor in 1855.

The design of St. George and the Dragon first appeared in 1817. Of perfect beauty and inspired by the Greek ideal this wonderful work has long held the admiration of the world. It was wisely revived as a reverse type upon the gold sovereign and half-sovereign and the silver crown in 1871 and, in the case of the gold, has been continued down to the present time.

Pistrucci's beautiful design naturally appears at its best on the large silver crown. In its first appearance on the crowns of George III the design is surrounded by the ribbon and motto of the Order of the Garter. Upon the obverse of the crown of George III the laureated head of the monarch appears looking to the right. The ill-favoured features are treated in a masterly manner by the great artist. The inscription around reads GEORGIUS III D.G. BRITANNIARUM REX F.D. Below is the date. Immediately below the truncation and spaced to cover its length is the name of the artist in exceedingly minute letters in relief PISTRUCCI. Upon the reverse appears the marvellous work of Pistrucci the design of St. George and the Dragon. The whole is encircled by the ribbon of the Order of the Garter upon which appears the legend HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE. In an exergue beneath the type appears in the same minute letters, as on the obverse, and similarly spaced to cover its length the name of the artist PISTRUCCI.

Upon the obverse of the first issue of the currency crowns of George IV the features of the King are the subject of a magnificent work. The laureated head looks to the left. The laurel wreath encircling the head is in itself a work of great beauty. Around is the inscription GEORGIUS IIII D:G: BRITANNIAR: REX F.D. Beneath the truncation in the right-hand corner are the artist's initials B.P.

The reverse bears the superb design of St. George and the Dragon enlarged to fill the field of the coin thereby enormously increasing its beauty. The Order of the Garter is omitted in order to allow this fine improvement in the type. In the exergue is the date which on the specimen before me is 1821. In the extreme right of the exergue are the minute initials B.P. These two pieces comprise the first of those immortal works of genius in the modern numismatic field that rise like lofty mountain peaks in the plain of mediocre productions by which they are surrounded.

A few years later, in the reign of Queen Victoria, a brilliant masterpiece, a veritable flame of artistic inspiration arose. In 1847 William Wyon produced his marvellous work, the Gothic Crown. The arresting loveliness of this magnificent achievement is the constant wonder and delight of numismatists and lovers of art. It has been described as the most beautiful of modern British coins. This description fails to convey the splendour of

its design, or to express its illimitable glory. Both the obverse and reverse of this superb coin are of transcendent beauty.

The obverse bears a portrait of the young queen looking to the left and wearing an open four-arched Imperial Crown. The bust of the Queen fills the entire diameter of the coin. A plait of hair circles the ear, and is caught up at the back of the head. Very delicate and beautiful lace work ornamented with pearls and jewels cover the shoulders and bosom, and upon the visible portion of the robe appears roses, thistles and shamrocks in lozenges. The exquisite beauty of the type is increased by the handsome lettering of the inscription which is executed in raised old English characters and reads VICTORIA DEI GRATIA BRITANNIAR REG. F.D. Underneath the truncation of the bust on the extreme right appear the small incuse letters W.W., the initials of the artist William Wyon.

Upon the reverse within an inner circle appears four crowned shields cruciform, the crowns occupying the space between the inner and outer circles. The shields bear the arms of Great Britain and Ireland. Two display the English, one the Scottish, and one the Irish arms. The whole within a tressure of eight arches with trefoiled cusps. A delicate tracery forms the groundwork. In the centre of the field in the space formed by the bases of the shields is the Star of the Order of the Garter, and the legend HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE and in the angles between the shields, a rose, a thistle, a rose and a shamrock respectively.

The inscription executed in the same beautiful lettering that decorates the obverse reads TUEATUR UNITA DEUS (May God guard these united, i.e., Kingdoms) ANNO DOM. M.D. CCCXLVII. Both obverse and reverse inscriptions are adorned with a trefoil beading over the lettering. The letters W.W., the initials of the artist, appear in small incuse form at the sides of the Crown on the first shield bearing the English arms.

Of this magnificent reverse it may be said that it is a fitting companion to the supremely beautiful obverse. Upon the edge of the coin in the lettering above described appears in raised letters ANNO REGNI UNDECIMO (in the eleventh year of the reign).

There are several varieties of the Gothic crown, the best known being those with an inscribed edge, and those having a plain edge. The latter is of greater rarity. Others occur with or without roses on the dress, etc. It seems almost incredible that this wonderful coin was not allowed to pass into circulation there to become a delight to the people, a glory to the nation, and a standard of artistic beauty in the currency of the world. Owing, it is said, to petty abuses in the administration of the Mint it was never put into circulation, and exists only as a pattern piece. Many pieces were struck, however, and occupy honoured places in the cabinets of the world's numismatists and collectors of art treasures.

The brilliant artist engraver, William Wyon, was born in 1795 and died in 1851. He was Medallist and Chief Engraver of the Royal Mint, London, and was one of a long line of famous engravers deriving from a comparatively modern ancestor in Germany. His fine work is expressed on many denominations of the early coinage of Queen Victoria, a very beautiful example being the obverse of the silver rupee of the East India Company of the first issue of the reign. Upon this coin is depicted a young head full of feminine grace and beauty. The head is bare except that the hair is filleted with two bands of ribbon, and is caught up in a bunch at the back in the style of the period.

The artist's initials, W.W., appear in small incuse letters on the truncation of the neck. Variations of this type appear on the English gold, silver and copper but they do not express the beauty and feminine charm that enrich the young Queen on the obverse of this rupee. The later issues of the rupee whereon the head of the Queen appears crowned are mediocre by comparison.

A little earlier, a rather handsome coin appeared of a somewhat unusual type. This was a silver dollar or peso of eight reales of the Republic of Central America. In 1821 Central America became independent of Spain and formed the Confederated Republica del Centro de America, composed of Guatemala, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, San Salvador and Honduras. This Republic lasted until 1839 when it was dissolved and the five component countries became entirely autonomous. The obverse of the abovementioned dollar displays within an inner circle a range of five mountains, symbolising probably, the five component countries of the Confederation. Above the mountains the field is entirely filled with the brilliant and powerful rays radiating from a rising sun which shows about a third of its bulk in the angle between the left slope of the foremost mountains and the corresponding section of the inner circle. The face of the sun is humanised, a favourite treatment appearing on many of the numerous and popular sun types of the coins of the South American Republics. A wide space between the inner circle and the rim carries the inscription executed in large and well formed letters: REPUBLICA DEL CENTRO DE AMERICA and the date which on the specimen before me is 1824. Both type and inscription stand out in strong relief. This is without doubt a fine, bold and handsome obverse.

Upon the reverse there appears within an inner circle a large and flourishing tree of abundant foliage rising from a plain of which but a small portion is visible. On either side of the trunk of the tree from left to right respectively are placed the characters 8 and R. This is the mark of value, eight reales constituting the peso or dollar. The inscription in the same wide spaced style as the obverse and in the same fine large lettering reads LIBRE CRESCA FECUNDO. N.G. (the mint mark of the Mint at Leon in Nicaragua) M.10Ds20Gs, the latter being ten

decimos twenty granos, the nine-tenths fine silver standard maintained by practically the whole of the South American Republic and even exceeded by some to the extent of issuing dollars of absolutely pure silver.

The edge of the coin bears alternate squares and circles, a device freely used upon the edge of the early Spanish American and South American dollars. This is truly a coin of beauty, a fine and handsome piece that has an assured place in the category of the world's beautiful modern coins.

A coin bearing an obverse type of considerable beauty is the bronze centavo of Venezuela issued round about the period of 1840. The obverse bears the bust to right of a beautiful girl wearing the Republican cap of liberty. The hair is unbound and flows from the confines of the cap in curling waves upon her shoulders and the small visible part of her dress. The modelling is in commendably large type. Around, REPUBLICA DE VENEZUELA and upon the cap, in relief, LIBERTAD. The reverse is conventional bearing within a well designed wreath of laurel in three lines 1/CENTAVO/1852.

Around the period of 1850 a brilliant numismatic triumph was achieved by the great French engraver Eugène André Oudiné and appeared upon the obverse of all denominations of the coinage of the Second French Republic from 1848 to 1851, and subsequently for a time upon some of the issues of the Third Republic. This design which is seen at its best on the large silver five franc piece is a classic Greek female head of great beauty, a modern masterpiece magnificently wrought. It has been variously described as representing the French Republic, Liberty and the Goddess Ceres and probably symbolises all three.

Looking to the left the head which fills the obverse field carries a large wreath of cereals and flowers from whence is probably derived the suggested divine representation. The hair is bound by a broad ribbon, a loose end of which drops pendent behind the ear to the truncation of the neck. The hair is bound into a plaited bunch at the back of the head in the Greek style. Below is the heavy bow of ribbon by which the wreath is tied. A string of pearls encircles the neck. In the field immediately above the head and fitting the space between the top of the head and the rim of the coin formed by the apex of the wreath, is a large six-pointed star. The inscription in large block letters reads REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE. A fillet upon the forehead bears the word CONCOR and beneath the truncation appears in minute relief E.A. OUDINE F., the signature of the artist. This beautiful obverse reveals the artist's inspiration from the classic Greek, that divine Parnassus whose slopes all lovers of beauty desire to climb.

The reverse is of normal conventional design continued from previous coinages bearing the value and the date within a wreath 5 FRANCS 1851. Between the wreath and the rim on the upper

half of the reverse appears in block letters the legend of the Republic LIBERTE EGALITE FRATERNITE. The edge of the coin carries in raised letters the inscription DIEU PROTEGE LA FRANCE and three stars, also in relief.

(To be continued.)

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## EARLY NEW ZEALAND CURRENCY.

By ALLAN SUTHERLAND.

(Read before Canterbury Branch at Canterbury Museum, 4/11/52.)

A chain of pure gold and silver coins of several nations gives us enduring links with the early history of New Zealand. Some tattered and faded currency debentures and "shin-plasters," or privately-issued currency-notes, signed by some of the makers of New Zealand, and now treasured in Museums, give us links with a currency experiment that brought the downfall of a Governor.

The first chapter of our numismatic history covers the hard-currency era, when gold and silver coins of Great Britain, then nominally the official currency, were supplemented by gold and silver coins of various nations brought to New Zealand in the pockets of whale-men and traders. This polyglot money of necessity was given official sanction by successive Governments until 1849 when devaluation of the foreign coins drove them out, and sufficient British coins became available to make them the sole metallic medium of exchange.

The second chapter, with which this paper deals, commences with the appointment of Robert FitzRoy on 7 April, 1843, as Governor of New Zealand, and Commander-in-Chief. His other titles were Vice-Admiral and Captain, R.N. At the age of 14 he entered the navy and he was a lieutenant at the age of 19. He was descended from King Charles II. He visited Bay of Islands in 1835 with Darwin in the *Beagle*, and spent ten days with missionaries there. Therefore, when he arrived in Auckland on 23 December, 1843, the New Zealand scene was not unfamiliar to him. But he was in for a shock. The Colonial Treasurer's *raupo* office contained insufficient money to pay the troops and officials, and there was a floating debt of £24,000. He tried to raise money locally, without success, and thereupon he increased customs duties which, incidentally affected the value of plug-tobacco, then almost a currency of the Maori. He imposed a tax on fire-arms which made smuggling profitable.

Before the advent of British sovereignty in 1840 the New Zealand Company had brought English settlers to New Zealand to occupy large tracts of land it had obtained by barter from the Maoris in the southern areas. By the time FitzRoy had arrived more settlers had been brought out, and although the Company



*Illustrated by courtesy of Alexander Turnbull Library.*

Governor FitzRoy, 1843-45.

had brought specie with it with which to carry on trade, much of this money was drained from the country in payment for imports. Survey work, and the construction of new roads to open up the country, had to be curtailed, and in Auckland public works were stopped through a shortage of money. Trade began to languish.

Europeans occupied a few coastal fringes only, and armed bands of Maoris roamed the country, mainly under Hone Heke in the Bay of Islands area, and Te Rauparaha in the Wellington district.

Whaling was in full swing, and the ships of many nations rode at anchor at Bay of Islands, Kapiti Island, Kaikoura, Akaroa, and at about twenty other shore whaling stations, mainly on the east coast.

At Auckland FitzRoy had a nominated Legislative Council to assist him. Alexander Shepherd was the Colonial Treasurer, and his Colonial Secretary was a particularly able man, Andrew Sinclair. Appeals to the Homeland for more money were unsuccessful; they produced only despatches on the theory of sound money. Whitehall scribes had little appreciation of the conditions in New Zealand, and of the power of the hatchet and musket in the hands of the Maori.

The previous Governor, Hobson, had been instructed by Lord John Russell that he was not to raise money in aid of Colonial revenues by way of loan, or by the issue of paper currency of any description, without previous consent. Nevertheless, Hobson was forced to draw bills in advance on the British Treasury, and Administrator Shortland did likewise.

Even in Wellington in 1843 specie could not be demanded for a New Zealand note. Bank notes on Sydney were discounted 2½ per cent, and a like percentage was charged for sovereigns, when available.

This was the background to the situation that confronted FitzRoy and his few Councillors when they met in Auckland in April, 1844, to consider an ordinance authorising the issue of Government debentures to the value of £15,000 as inconvertible paper currency. They passed the ordinance in the hope that this money would revitalise trade, and help to maintain Government institutions. The issue of Government paper money, unbacked by gold, was welcomed in Auckland, but there was an outcry in Wellington. In those days gold was the shadow of any paper currency, and although the fabulous quantity of gold had not yet been discovered or dug in New Zealand, FitzRoy and his Councillors had sufficient faith in New Zealand to pledge its future to secure a firm foothold for the settlers who were endeavouring to make a living on the fringes of this cannibal country.

FitzRoy had inherited a feud between the whites in Auckland and in Wellington. The previous Governor, Hobson, had dealt unkindly with Wakefield's short-lived "English Republic" in Wellington which had hardly begun to function before the Treaty of Waitangi was signed at the Bay of Islands, and British sovereignty was declared over the whole of New Zealand. The tearing down of the New Zealand Company's flag at Wellington, and the somewhat repressive assertion of sovereignty there was still in the minds of Wellingtonians.

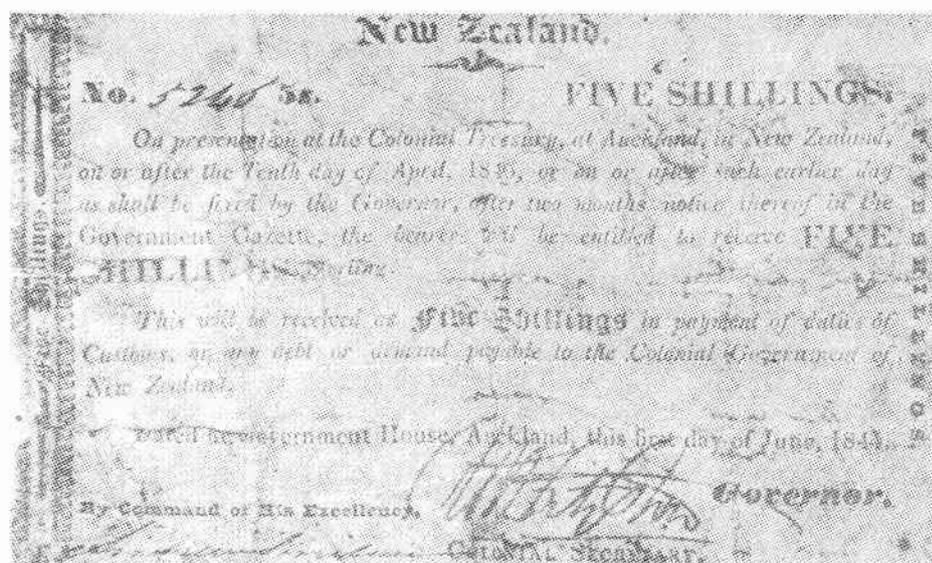
It was no wonder that any action of the Governor in Auckland was viewed with suspicion by the remote Wellingtonians, who shared little in decisions but who were compelled to comply with Government Ordinances which often reached them long after they had become law.

Wakefield had brought to Wellington a representative of the Union Bank of Australia, and that Bank was happy to issue bank notes signed by its Manager John Smith. No doubt that Bank Manager, and certainly the Editor of the *New Zealand Spectator and Cook's Strait Guardian*, decided that FitzRoy's action in issuing inconvertible paper money from Auckland was not good enough. Where was the backing in gold? The settlers at Wellington and at Nelson combined to stop the further issue of unbacked paper currency. The fact that hostile Maoris lurked in the vicinity of Kororareka and of Auckland, and that the defending soldiers had to be paid, was of less import to the citizens of distant Wellington who feared more the inflationary raid on their pockets. The fact that a paramount Chief at Bay of Islands, in his canoe, intercepted ships entering the harbour and collected a port tax, and encouraged others to resist authority, had little significance in Wellington. Funny Money had to be fought, and the Wellingtonians entered the fight with a will. With sturdy independence the Editor of the *Spectator* published statements that would make a modern Editor blush—and that is no mean feat.

At various times FitzRoy had experimented with land sales taxes, and he had continued a tax of £20 on *raupo* houses; he had imposed a "window tax" on householders according to the number of windows in the house, also a room tax for every room over three in private houses.

At Government House, Auckland, Governor FitzRoy and Andrew Sinclair, Colonial Secretary, signed thousands of debentures. The five shillings debentures, issued on 1 June, 1844, stated that they could be redeemed after 10 April, 1846, or earlier as decreed by the Governor, and the notes stated:—

"This will be received as five shillings in payment of duties of Customs, or any debt or demand payable to the Colonial Government of New Zealand."



Illustrated by courtesy of Alexander Turnbull Library.

FitzRoy Debenture for five shillings.

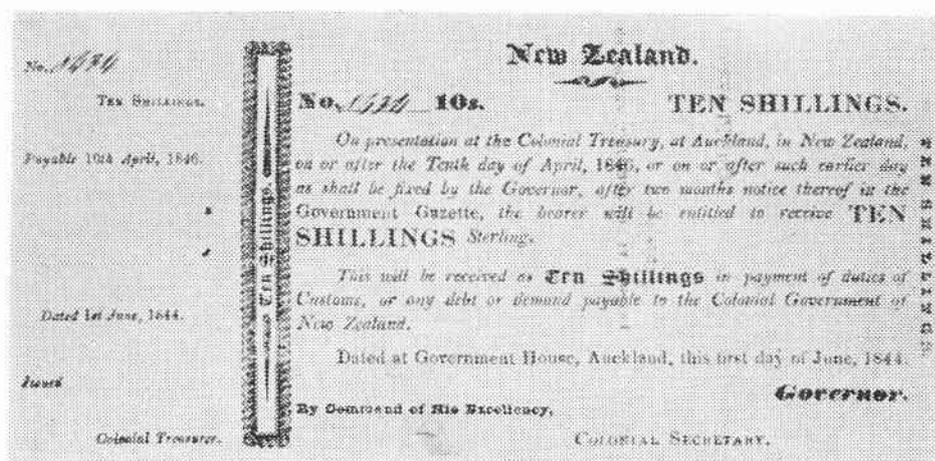
The re-enactment of customs laws was described in Wellington as "an effort to raise revenue sufficient to maintain the official vampires that are sucking the last drop of blood from the unfortunate settlers of this impoverished and ruined Colony." (*Spectator*, May 3, 1845). At that time the rivalry was between the "down-trodden" Wellington people and the people in control in the Auckland capital; and incidentally when the capital was transferred to Wellington that rivalry flared up in the reverse and Wellington people were the target. Later when the abolition of the provinces was proposed, the *Otago Daily Times*, 13 June, 1876, declared that New Zealand would rue the day "that Centralism rules supreme," that Otago was being bled sufficiently without being further drained of its land fund and endowments, etc. That rivalry, particularly between Auckland and Wellington, continues to this day.

To return to FitzRoy, the motion of 1844 to authorise the issue of inconvertible paper currency had been passed by a Council of six or seven, with only one dissentient, and yet FitzRoy was given all of the blame. He had able advisers. This was not a dictatorial act as many alleged; it was an act of necessity. It should be remembered that shortly before FitzRoy arrived in New Zealand the Wairau massacre had taken place; several white men, including Colonel William Wakefield, were murdered by Maoris. FitzRoy condoned these overt actions of the Maoris responsible, and this annoyed the settlers. In addition he affronted young Jerningham Wakefield at a levee in Wellington, because of some published criticism of FitzRoy, and this added to the resentment of the southern settlers. Events in the north were boiling up. In 1844 the flagstaff had been cut down by Hone Heke's men. FitzRoy made a speech to the Northern Maoris in which he demanded that a certain number of guns be delivered up as an atonement. Several chiefs immediately laid about twenty guns and many tomahawks at his feet. Hone Heke sent a letter of apology to FitzRoy stating that he was thinking of giving up his "rude conduct towards the Europeans," and that he would erect another pole. He concluded:—

"The pole that was cut down belonged to me, I made it for the native flag, and it was never paid for by the Europeans."

And so Heke was in for his chop, and the flagstaff was destined to be chopped down several times after that. He would have accepted debentures but none were offered. In 1845 Kororareka (Russell)\* was sacked by Heke, and the flagstaff was again cut down; it was under the shadow of such set-backs that the opposition to FitzRoy was built up. A strong move was set in motion to have Governor FitzRoy recalled. One of his traducers wrote a 500 page memorandum to the British Government complaining of the state of affairs in New Zealand.

\* It was not Kororareka that was sacked, as history books tell us, it was Russell, for that was the new official name, although it was not then in common use.



*In Alexander Turnbull Library.*

### Unsigned FitzRoy Debenture for ten shillings.

FitzRoy contended that a liberal interpretation of his instructions enabled him to issue debentures as currency, but his instructions were clear. He might have gained more sympathy if he had declared more clearly at the outset that he was forced to disobey directives.

One Ordinance authorised the issue of 5s. and 2s. Government debentures as inconvertible paper currency, but apparently no 2s. debentures were issued.

The steam-roller tactics of FitzRoy's opponents, and the "white-anting" letters to the Homeland had their effect. Although he was supported by the Home authorities in his attitude in condoning the perpetrators of the Wairau affray he was not forgiven for his paper-currency ordinances. He was recalled on 30 April, 1845, after occupying the office for 16 months only. Although the reasons for his recall were ascribed to "defects in circumspection, firmness, and punctuality," the issue of paper currency in defiance of instructions appears to have been the main complaint, and yet this is one field where he and his advisers faced realities. It is doubtful whether any other Governor could have acted differently. In his general administrative work, however, some of his decisions were hasty and ill-conceived, and his alleged too-sympathetic attitude towards the Maoris, who were then largely uncivilised, was resented by many settlers who had suffered at the hands of the Maoris. He sailed from New Zealand on 10 January, 1846.

On 3 May, 1845, the *Spectator* published a despatch declaring that Government debentures were not to be legal tender as from 30 April, 1845, the date of FitzRoy's recall.

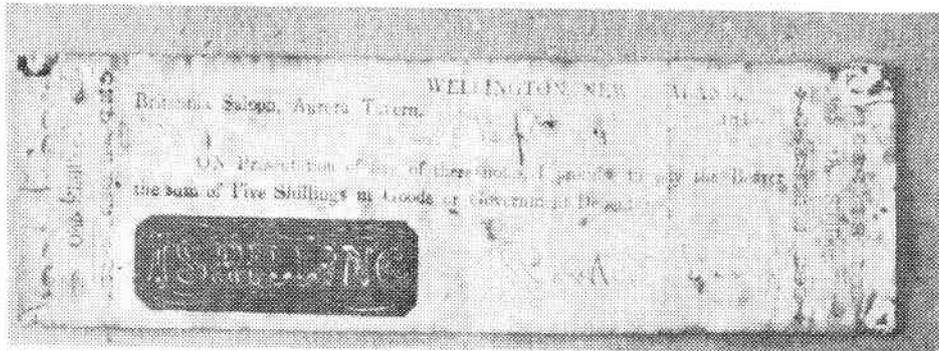
The value of debentures held in Wellington on 5 July, 1845, was estimated at £28,315, as follows: £100 debentures (16); £50 (100); £5 (2,619); £1 (5,282); 10s. (4,244); and 5s. (4,864).

The total New Zealand issue was then estimated at £40,000 to £50,000, although the original Ordinance, subsequently disallowed, provided for £15,000 only.

#### PRIVATE PAPER NOTES.

Because of a shortage of coins, private traders were forced to issue signed currency notes, in denominations of threepence, sixpence, and one shilling, redeemable in 5s. Government debentures. There were no half-crown notes issued, presumably because there were sufficient half-crowns or half-dollars in circulation. The florin was not then a British issue. These supplementary private paper notes were issued in Auckland, Taranaki, Wellington and Nelson, and the specimens extant are all dated 1845. It was a short issue, and a merry one.

In the Old Colonists' Museum, Auckland, Mr. John Barr showed me the Auckland collection of these currency notes which were mostly of Wellington issue. It would be interesting to know how they found their way to Auckland. Did they arrive in the pockets of whale-men, bluejackets or red-coats, or of the flotsam traders and seamen whose only contact between Auckland and Wellington was then by sea?



*In Old Colonists' Museum, Auckland.*

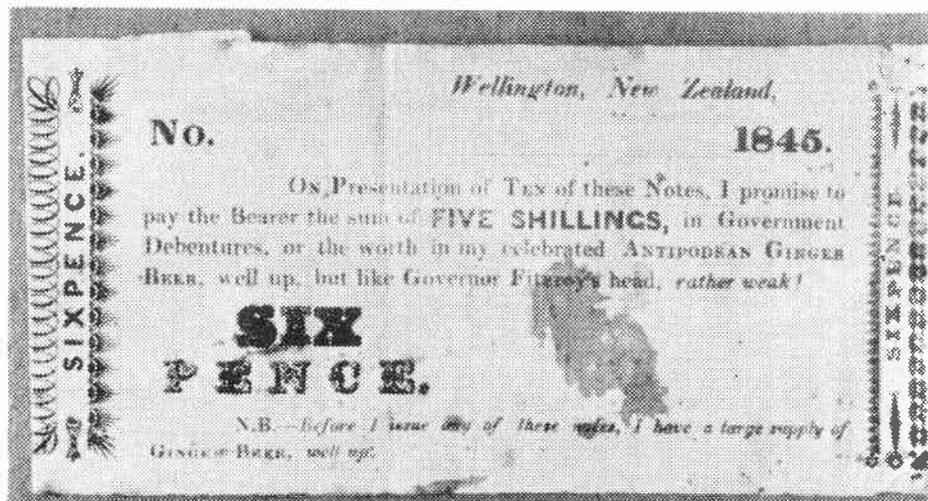
Private currency note for one shilling issued by Britannia Saloon and Aurora Tavern, Wellington.

The first private paper note I will show was issued from Britannia Saloon, Aurora Tavern, Wellington, five months after the Government debentures, with which it was redeemable, were declared illegal tender. According to Ward this Tavern stood approximately on the site of the present Britannia Hotel, Willis Street. Here a public protest meeting was held to condemn the FitzRoy debentures. A leading article in the *Wellington Spectator* of 5 July, 1845, referred to the "impudent attempt to obtain money under false pretences." James Taine, however, in the same issue, defended private paper currency. A month previously the *Spectator* of 14 June, had reprinted an inspired article from the *Morning Chronicle* describing FitzRoy as being "very like an idiot."

The Tavern note is signed by Rowland Davis who, at thirty years of age, with his wife and three children arrived by the *Aurora*, a barque of 550 tons, in 1840. The Britannia Saloon, Aurora Tavern, appears to have been a sort of Town Hall at which notable meetings were held. Rowe signed a community letter, 11 July, 1843, offering sympathy "to the inhabitants of the settlement of Nelson in New Munster in the severe calamity which had befallen the Colony by the horrible massacre at Wairoa." (Wairau). Apparently next door to the Tavern in 1844 there was an Aurora Theatre which, according to Ward (p. 102) was illuminated by gas extracted from whale oil donated by whale-men.

On 18 May, 1846, a meeting was held at the Tavern for the purpose of planning the defence of the settlement, following native troubles at the Hutt. On 30 September, 1848, a meeting was held there for the purpose of collecting money for a monument to the memory of Colonel Wakefield. On 1 December, 1848, a meeting was held in the Britannia Saloon to receive an address of sympathy from the inhabitants of Auckland following the heavy earthquake in Wellington on 16, 17, 19, and 24 October, 1848. Some reports indicate that the Britannia Saloon and Aurora Tavern were in the same building, but the report on the sympathy meeting following the earthquake gives the address of the Saloon as Lambton Quay. The present Britannia Hotel site, next to the *Evening Post* building, was then on the Beach. Davis arranged a great "Reform Banquet" at "The Theatre" on 3 March, 1849, to agitate for "Representative Institutions." Dr. Dorset was in the chair, and the "health of all gentlemen who declined seats in the nominee Council" was drunk. Would many refuse a similar offer today?

So much for the great Tavern. Another currency note was issued by the Antipodean Ginger Beer Company which en faced the note with an insult to the Governor: It stated that its ginger beer was "well up, but like Governor FitzRoy's head, rather weak."



*In Old Colonists' Museum, Auckland.*

Private paper note for sixpence containing insulting reference to the Governor.

In those days a noggin of rum was a man's drink, and modern cocktails were not heard of. Even on 1 May, 1847, the Custom House, Wellington, reported that in bond at that date were:—

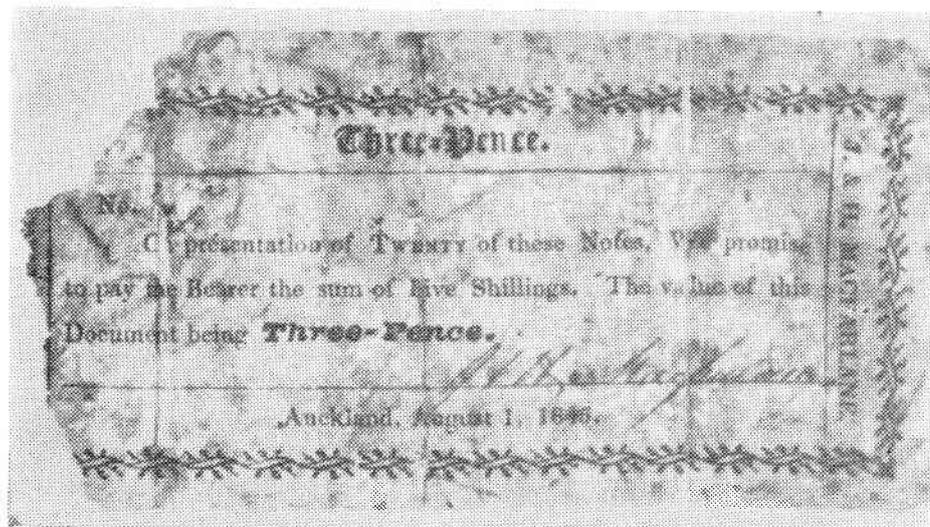
1,023 gals. Brandy  
895 gals. Gin  
46 gals. Whisky  
7,178 gals. Rum

Some years earlier rum was a currency medium in New South Wales.

James Smith, of Lambton Quay, who issued a shilling note, was a shipping agent and auctioneer. On 22 July, 1845, J. B. Williams, United States Consul, Auckland, advertised that James Smith & Co. were his Wellington agents. At his auction rooms on the Beach Smith sold whole cargoes of ships, principally from America. Kegs of tobacco, calico, silk shawls, black satin vests, and "canvass, plaid and moleskin trowsers," ladies' stays, castor oil and sealing wax were included.

He was a buyer of "native cleaned flax." Ninety-four fat wethers ex a Nelson ship were advertised for sale on Lambton Quay in 1845, and one can imagine the interest such a scene would invoke there today. At first the terms of sale were in "Government Debentures" but later "Terms at sale" was advertised. Presumably those who showed the colour of gold and hard currency would get preference in the auction room.

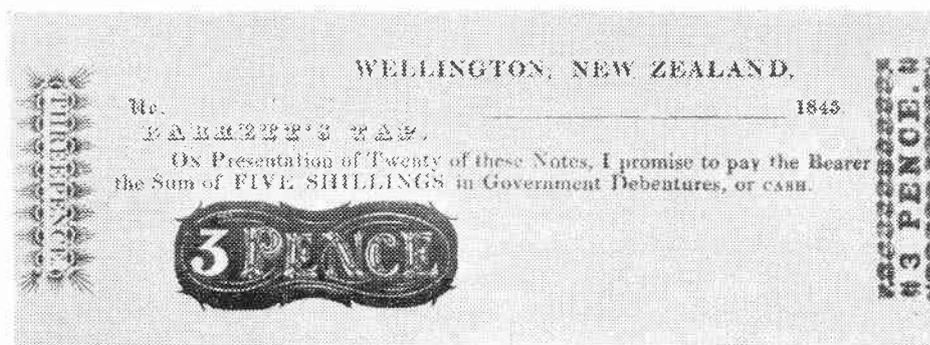
There were three James Smiths in Wellington about this time. One arrived in 1840 in the whaleship *David*. In the *N.Z. Gazette* for 18 April, 1840, there was published a declaration of intention to inhabit the New Zealand Land Company's first and principal settlement and an agreement on the part of the men to "submit to be mustered and drilled" and to comply with regulations. A James Smith was then shown as a District Constable. A James Smith (40) and Amy (32) with five children arrived in *The Lady Nugent* in March, 1841. It is difficult to determine which James Smith issued the note. A James Smith signed the letter of sympathy to the Nelson residents on the occasion of the Wairau Affray. On March, 1856, a farewell dinner was given to a James Smith at the Commercial Hotel on the occasion of his departure to England.



*In Old Colonists' Museum, Auckland.*

Private note for threepence issued by Macfarlane.

With some uncertainty I would attribute this note to J. S. Macfarlane, 1818-80, who was associated with the Commissariat Department, New South Wales, and who later purchased a schooner, and entered the Auckland-Sydney trade. In 1844 he settled in Auckland and in 1849 he visited California, and on his return was associated with Captain G. E. Read, the so-called "King" of Poverty Bay, in trading to that centre. Read himself, in the 'sixties, issued £1 and £5 notes. According to Dr. Scholefield, *Dictionary of New Zealand Biography*, Macfarlane was a director of the Bank of New Zealand and of the Fiji Banking Co. He represented Waitemata in Parliament from 1876 to 1879.



*In Alexander Turnbull Library.*

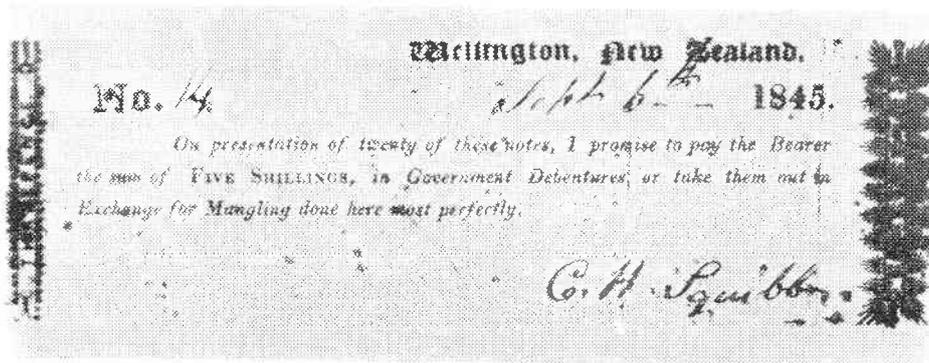
Note for threepence issued from Barrett's Tap, Wellington.

A threepenny currency note issued from Barrett's Tap, Wellington, 1845, gives us a link with the founder, tubby Dicky Barrett, whaler, trader, and noted interpreter who assisted Wakefield in his early barter dealings with the Maori. Barrett's Reef, at entrance to Wellington Harbour, perpetuates his name. Barrett's Hotel was first established opposite the present site of the Government Printing Office, where Hotel Cecil later stood. It was opened on 24 October, 1840, and for a time was the centre of social activities. It was at Barrett's Hotel that FitzRoy held a levee at which he publicly affronted young Jerningham Wakefield, and at which Maori chiefs attended, wearing ceremonial cloaks, ear-drops, and feathers in their hair. It was here, too, that the Wellington Provincial Council met for a time, and that the Colonial Bank of Issue had offices.

Barrett was associated with the hotel for two years only. He returned to Moturoa in 1844 to live with his Maori wife, so that the note was issued after he left.

Barrett's Hotel was wrecked in the 1855 earthquake, and another Barrett's was established at the foot of Plimmer's Steps to the Beach, and the name is carried on to this day.

Barrett distinguished himself in inter-tribal fights at Moturoa Pa, port of New Plymouth. His lonely grave can be seen in a horse-paddock at Moturoa, not far from where the pa once stood. Incidentally Jerningham Wakefield, whose name illumines early New Zealand history, particularly that of Wanganui, was buried in Canterbury. He died in obscurity at Ashburton.

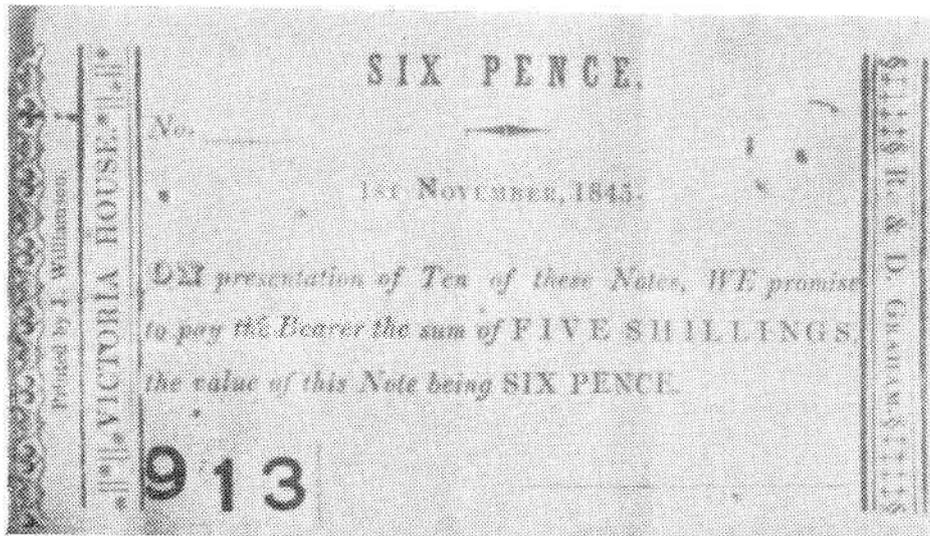


On 6 September, 1845, C. H. Squibb, Wellington, issued a three-penny note "redeemable in Government debentures or take them out in exchange for mangling done here most perfectly."

In 1845, in Taranaki, Edward Dorset issued 5s. notes; £1 and 1s. notes were issued in Taranaki redeemable "in Government debentures or specie here or at Medical Hall, Wellington."

George Young apparently proclaimed his calling as a whaler when he issued a shilling note depicting, on the left side of the note a whale, and on the tail of the note he showed his name.

John Williamson (1815-75) who printed many of the Auckland notes arrived there in 1841 and worked as a printer. In 1853 he was on the Provincial Council, and was later Superintendent of the Province being succeeded by Robert Graham who also issued currency notes.



The above note was issued by R. & D. Graham. Robert Graham, 1820-85, was born in Glasgow, and arrived in Auckland in the *Jane Gifford* in 1842. He chartered a cutter, *Black Hawk*, and left for Kororarereka where he met his brother and started a business with him as R. & D. Graham. Later he opened a store at Auckland. In 1850 he dissolved the partnership, purchased and developed Motutapu Island, and the hot springs area at Waiwera. He entered Parliament in 1855 and remained for varying periods until 1869. He was in the wreck of the *White Swan* in 1862 en route to Wellington carrying the

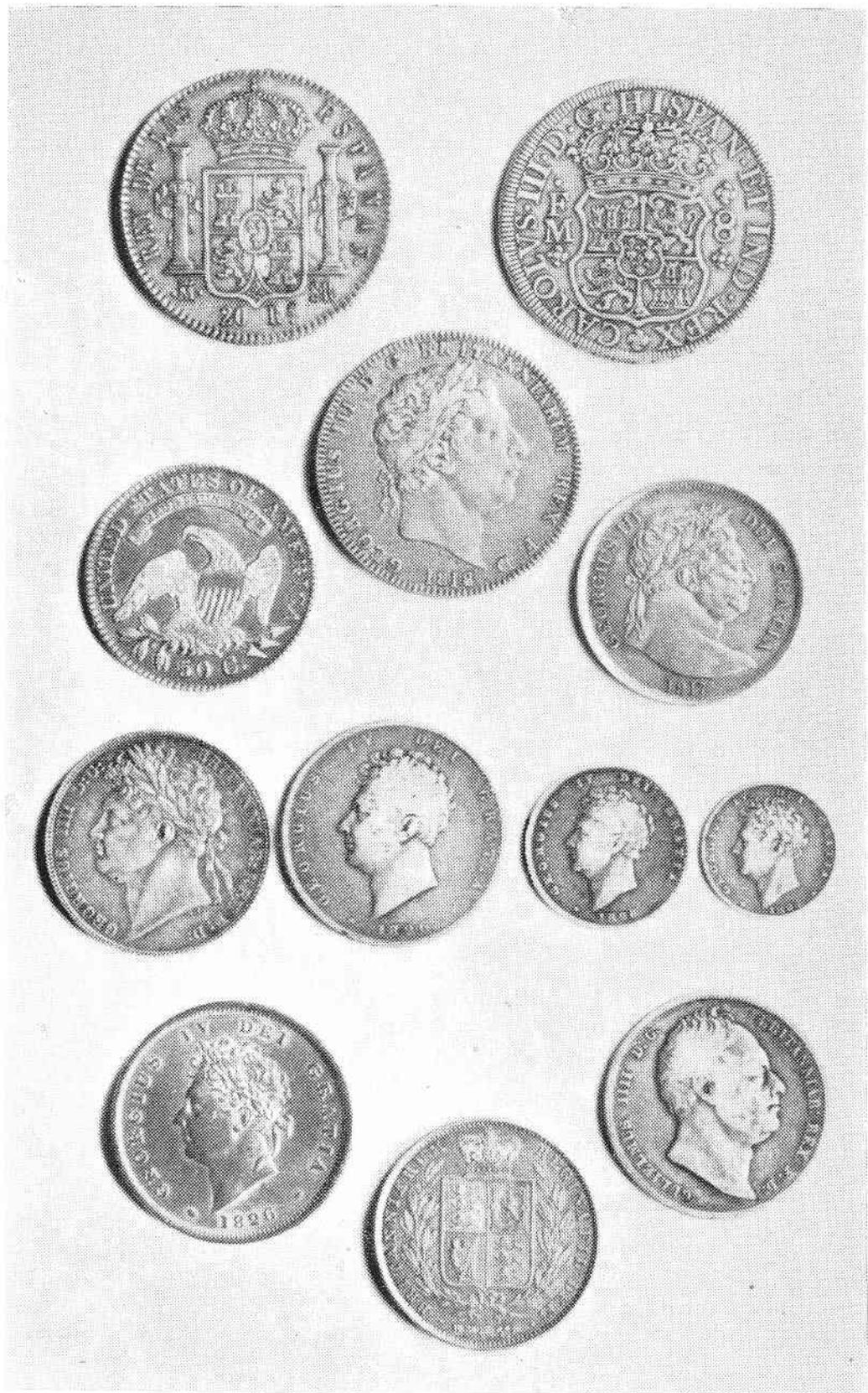


PLATE 1.  
 FOREIGN AND BRITISH COINS USED IN NEW ZEALAND  
 UNTIL 1849.

*From top:* Spanish pieces of eight (2); British crown piece; American half-dollar; half-crowns; shilling; sixpence, and bottom left is a penny. From the Dale Collection, Christchurch.



PLATE 2.

FOREIGN AND BRITISH COINS USED IN NEW ZEALAND  
UNTIL 1849.

Top six coins are of gold, the largest being a doubloon (onza of Colombia, 1796); next are silver 5 franc piece of France; rupees of East India Co. and one and half rupees, native style. Dale Collection.

files of the Government prior to the shift of the seat of Government. For years after this wreck filing clerks in Wellington adopted a stock excuse when they could not find a file—"It went down in the *White Swan*." Graham was wrecked again, on the Taranaki coast on the way back to Auckland, but he saved £6,000 of gold dust from the wreck. In 1862 he was Superintendent of Auckland Province. He acquired a large area at the Thames Goldfield, and laid out Grahams-town. He also laid out an estate at Ellerslie which later became the property of the Auckland Jockey Club. In 1878 he settled a Maori feud at Maketu, and in gratitude the Arawa tribe gave him a large block of land at Taupo, including the hot springs at Wairakei which he was developing when he died on 26 May, 1885 (Scholefield).

In Nelson Museum is a currency note for one penny issued by R. Langdon, of Wellington, on 15 October, 1845.

Perforated printed I.O.U., about the size of a large postage-stamp, were also used at this time.

The whaling firm of Enderby issued currency notes, but these circulated among whalers mainly who redeemed them in home ports.

In the 'fifties, and outside the period covered in this paper, Johnny Jones, the noted whaler of Waikouaiti, issued well-engraved currency notes which resembled bank notes.

#### HISTORY REPEATING ITSELF.

During his term of office FitzRoy was faced with a smouldering war in the North which, in part, was economic in its origin. With the British flag came taxes and customs duties. The Bay of Islands was no longer a free port, and fewer whaling vessels anchored there. To chief Hone Heke this meant fewer opportunities for trade, shortage of blankets, muskets, tobacco and money. Heke saw in the flag a visible symbol of frustration, and it was only three months after FitzRoy arrived that the flagstaff was chopped down for the first time. Subsequently, customs duties were increased, then abolished and New Zealand became a free trade country for a time.

Te Rauparaha, whose dark deeds at Akaroa in association with the captain of a whaling vessel were still fresh in the memory of his fellows, was regarded with suspicion, and his connection with the Wairau Affray was deplored. He was merely conforming to Maori custom in claiming the Wairau Plains by right of prior conquest. Jerningham Wakefield was mourning the loss of his uncle at Wairau, and it was in this atmosphere of tension that FitzRoy tried to placate rival claims, and maintain British institutions with an empty treasury.

By sheer necessity FitzRoy and his able councillors were forced to experiment with the issue of paper currency unbacked by gold. For over a year he ran the country mainly on paper currency, and currency problems were only part of his troubles. In some respects his methods were before their time. Our generation has seen the fall of precious metal money and the substitution of inconvertible paper currency. What would FitzRoy think were it possible for him to see the national edifice that has been erected from bracken and bush by the application of hard work and the general use of inconvertible paper currency?

## BACKDROP OF CANTERBURY SCENE.

The back-drop of the Canterbury scene during FitzRoy's term of office was one of primitive peace. The Deans were at Riccarton, practically the only settled Europeans inland, the *kianga* at Kaiapohia was still a Maori trading centre, although its character as a storehouse of greenstone, or the native bank of the South Island, had passed, following the plundering raids of Te Rauparaha; at Kaikoura upwards of 100 whalers operated shore whaling stations, and other smaller whaling stations flourished at Akaroa, and at Timaru.

At Akaroa the French tongue was commonplace, and values in francs were the order of the day. The trek of immigrants over the Bridle Track from Lyttelton had yet to take place, the Canterbury settlement of Wakefield was still a vision.

European New Zealand comprised the main settlements of Auckland, Wanganui, Wellington and Nelson, and some small subsidiary settlements. Few then imagined that for a time the South Island would become the wealthiest and most populous part of New Zealand, following the discovery of gold, and that Christchurch would later become the second city in the land, if Wellington and Hutt are to be taken separately.

Political parties had not evolved, other than a groping towards centralist and provincialist groups, the centralists being entrenched in Auckland; the pull of geographical convenience and a deep harbour at Wellington, was yet to make itself felt. The South Island was regarded as a left over area. Climate drew the whites to the North Island, just as it had drawn the Maoris. We can ponder over the possible turn of events, had the South Island been settled first.

When FitzRoy returned to England he was given some minor posts which he occupied with credit. Exactly twenty years to the day after he was recalled as Governor of New Zealand, he terminated his life.

## GOVERNOR GREY.

FitzRoy's successor was George Grey, who was proclaimed Governor on 16 November, 1845. Grey borrowed hard money from the Treasury of South Australia, and this bridged a gap. He took a strong stand with the Imperial authorities, and ultimately secured grants to enable him to maintain British institutions in New Zealand. Grey was the first of four Governors to come to New Zealand after serving as Governor of South Australia.

When I was writing my *Numismatic History of New Zealand* I made a world-wide search for the missing Blue Books of New Zealand for the years 1845 and 1846, and was unable to locate them in the Public Records Office, London, or in Australia, South Africa or New Zealand. I was delighted, therefore, when I

was able to see in the Alexander Turnbull Library a draft copy that has turned up since, covering the year 1845. It appears to be the only copy extant. The 1846 Blue Book is still missing. These Blue Books summarise currency changes in the 'forties.

I do not think the copy in Turnbull Library is an original. The penmanship is not in keeping with the copper-plate writing of the Blue Books I had seen in London, and amendments in pencil and in ink suggest that it is, perhaps, a first draft, or office copy. Even the cover bears an inscription in gold lettering "New South Wales" and an earlier date. It could have been an extra copy supplied to that Government, perhaps in line with an earlier practice when New Zealand was under the jurisdiction of the New South Wales Government.

This draft Blue Book fills in one of the gaps in my record. The relevant entries are as follows:—

#### COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

1845

"Auckland. Rate of exchange on England at 30 days sight has ranged from par to 5 per cent discount.

#### COINS.

"Gold, silver and copper coins of the British Realm.

Foreign Gold	Doubloon	.....	.....	.....	£3	4	0
Foreign Silver	Dollar, Spanish and Republican	.....	.....	.....	@	4	0
	Franc	.....	.....	.....	@		9
	Rupee	.....	.....	.....	@	2	0

Note: The foreign coins in circulation are supposed not to exceed in amount the value of £2,000 [there is an amendment here to £1,000] and are chiefly to be found in the northern part of the Colony." p. 205.

#### AMOUNT OF COIN IN CIRCULATION.

"Estimated at from £20,000 to £25,000 sterling for the whole of the settlements in New Zealand." p. 206.

#### AMOUNT OF PAPER CURRENCY IN CIRCULATION.

"£50,000 sterling, including debentures of the local Government." p. 207.

"Accounts kept in British currency." p. 208.

Other items appropriate to this paper, taken from the 1845 Blue Book are:—

"Raupo House Tax. A tax of £20 on all owners of buildings constructed of *raupo*, *nikau*, *toe toe* . . ." Under Ordinance 17, session 2, 3 March, 1842.

That was before FitzRoy became Governor, so that the room and window taxes he imposed may have stemmed from this.

That Blue Book gives the population of Banks Peninsula as: whites 139 males and 62 females; Maoris 239 males and 215 females.

The *N.Z. Spectator and Cook's Strait Guardian* on 29 May, 1847, refers to the discounting of dollars, and states that American dollars and French 5-franc pieces almost threaten the exclusion of current coin of the realm, that they had been refused by the bank, and that in Wellington the value was 4s. or 12½ per cent above the rating in neighbouring colonies. The Auckland merchants resolved that after 6 April the rating would be at 3s. 6d, and that other coins would be revalued in the same proportion. On 2 June, 1847, this paper stated that the Wellington merchants had followed suit.

A draft of a Paper Currency Bill to establish a Colonial Bank of Issue was published in the *N.Z. Spectator and Cook's Strait Guardian* on 1 September, 1847. The Bill provided that private paper money was prohibited, also promissory notes less than 20s. (Clause 28.) Clause 10 stated:—

“ Every note of the said Bank shall be expressed to be payable in pounds sterling and in cash . . . gold and silver coin of the realm . . . and such foreign silver coin as shall from time to time be approved by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, and at the rate or value to be fixed by them; Provided always that the description of such foreign silver coin of the rate or value thereof, so to be fixed as aforesaid, shall first be published by proclamation in the New Zealand Government Gazette, by the Governor for the time being, under the authority of the said Commissioners.”

The draft of this Bill was brought from Auckland to Wellington by sailing vessel, and it was kept secret there until about a fortnight after the vessel had sailed for Auckland, the object apparently being to give Auckland sponsors a “ fair ” start in getting on with the legislation before Wellington people could whip up too much opposition.

In a Memorial of Remonstrance addressed to Governor Grey several citizens declared that the existing currency was on a sound basis, and that should the Bill become law they would “ use what legitimate means may be afforded them to prevent its being carried into operation.”

As to Clause 10 they objected to foreign silver coin being made legal tender at a value to be fixed, as this might cause a large importation of these coins from adjacent Colonies where they do not pass current. As the Branches of the Union Bank of Australia at Wellington and Nelson, and the Officer of the Commissariat Department would not take these coins for the purchase of bills or deposits such coins “ would, of course, become less valuable.” *N.Z.S. and C.S.G.*, September 11th, 1847.

In a leading article the Editor stated that the fears of a large importation of foreign silver coins did not appear to be well founded, and that the refusal by the Bank would discourage their introduction. The Editor added “. . . as they can always be exchanged for Government paper, the effect would be to force the dollars on the Government, and relieve the holders of them from inconvenience.”

A writer in the same issue stated: "Now, is it not notorious that dollars at the present moment have a value which has been settled, not by general consent, but by a power arbitrarily applied?"

On 28 June, 1848, storekeepers and persons in business complained of the shortage of small change. "Sixpences are abundant, more so than the occasions of business require, but threepenny and fourpenny pieces, and copper change are so scarce as to occasion inconvenience to those engaged in the retail trade."

On 3 June, 1850, the Colonial Bank of Issue opened in Auckland and Wellington, with the sole right of issuing notes, and Earl Grey laid it down that the notes were to be the shadow of gold, hence this tight little return:—

Notes in circulation on 1 January, 1851:—

£5 and upwards .....	£855
Under £5 .....	£3,046
	<hr/>
TOTAL NOTES .....	£3,901
	<hr/> <hr/>

Total amount of coin held by the same office on the same day:—

Gold .....	£55
Silver .....	£3,846
	<hr/>
TOTAL HARD CURRENCY .....	£3,901
	<hr/> <hr/>

The population was then about 26,000. Let us glimpse at the parallel position 100 years on, with a population of upwards of 2,000,000:—

New Zealand coins received from Mint to 31 March, 1951 .....	£7,253,280
Gold reserve to end of June, 1951, nominal value .....	£5,156,819
Total note issue to end of June, 1951 .....	£59,803,597
	<hr/>
	£62,213,696
	<hr/> <hr/>

The shadow of precious metal has almost disappeared.

When I was asked to prepare a paper for a Canterbury audience I tried to break new ground by visiting the Archives Department in the attic of the General Assembly Library, and there I was shown, among other things, the Blue Book Returns, the originals of which I had seen in London, and a stack of parchment deeds, some the size of a small table-cloth, beautifully hand-written, and bearing signatures of notable figures in our history, and also scroll tattoo marks of paramount chiefs who had sold land and islands to Captain Herd, to the New Zealand Company, and to the Government. The Indian-ink appeared to be as clear as on the day it was used. When two sheets of parchment were needed for one document they were usually tied at the bottom with a tape, and the tapes were sealed. You can picture

me straddling the corners of some of these documents as they lay in a big folder on the floor, trying to find some original leads on Canterbury subjects. But these documents were of an earlier period. When I confided my wishes to Miss Cocks the Archivist, and repeated the oft-stated remark: "I should like to find something interesting; history can be so dull," she replied, "Can it?", and the challenging tone of her remark made me think that she was in the right place.

I hope that this small effort to vitalise a short period in our history, and to illumine a few links in the chain of our numismatic history has helped to support the Archivist's challenging remark.

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### NEW ZEALAND CROWN PIECE.

The Government has announced that a New Zealand crown piece, in cupro-nickel, will be issued to mark the Coronation and the coming Royal visit. Selected artists will be invited to submit designs, but any member of the public may also submit designs, which are to be in the hands of the Secretary to the Treasury, Wellington, on 15 January, 1953. A small Committee will be set up to select the most suitable design.

At the request of the Society proof specimen sets of New Zealand coins from the crown piece to the half-penny will be issued in cases at £1 a set, and orders for same, with the cash, must be in the hands of the Secretary to the Treasury, P.O. Box 5010, Lambton Quay P.O., Wellington, by 31 March 1953. *This applies to orders previously placed with the Society.* The sets should be available for distribution at the end of 1953.

The Government is to be commended for issuing a crown piece to mark a notable occasion, and it is hoped that an attractive design can be obtained to grace this noble coin.

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### FIVE MINUTES WITH SHAKESPEARE.

*By* W. E. CURRAN.

(Concluded from p. 123 of previous issue.)

The advice of Polonius to young Laertes in the 1st Act, III Scene of "Hamlet," would obviously have not appealed to our rotund rascal, "Neither a borrower nor a lender be."

We turn now to "testers," the testoon of Henry VIII, particularly when depreciated, and subsequently a slang term for 6d. The testoon was first applied to a 1/- of Henry VII, and it was the first English coin with a true portrait. In 1543 it was equal to 12 pence, but gradually became debased to as low as 4½d. It was recalled in 1548. These testers find mention in the

"Merry Wives," "Two Gentlemen of Verona" and "Twelfth Night." The gold angel is referred to in the "Comedy of Errors," "Macbeth" and "The Merchant of Venice." The gold noble we find in "Richard II" and "Henry IV." The groat in "Richard II," "Henry IV" and "Henry V." Whilst the crown finds place in no less than nine of Shakespeare's plays.

As an example of the extraordinary manner in which our author mixed monies, times and places, I give you "Cymbeline." Now this was the name used by Shakespeare to identify Cunobelinus, King of ancient Britain, during whose reign, Christ was born. Cunobelinus had his money struck at his capital of Camulodunum, the Colchester of today. But Shakespeare makes Cunobelinus pay tribute to Rome in the modern terms of £3,000 yearly, and again in "Hamlet" the Prince wagers the words of the Ghost for £1,000.

And lastly, but by no means exhausting the Shakespearean exchequer, let us mention "thalers," modified to "dollars," and so my final quotation is from "Macbeth": "Nor would we deign him burial of his men, till he disbursed 10,000 dollars for our general use."

And now, till another time perhaps, we say good-night to Shakespeare, with his mixed metaphors, mints and monies, monarchs and men, melancholy and mirth.

\* \* \* \*

The following letter has been received by Professor H. A. Murray, President of the Society, inviting him to attend the International Numismatic Congress to be held in Paris in July:—

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HISTORICAL SCIENCES

Dear Sir and Colleague,

The date of the International Numismatic Congress has been fixed for the week from the 6th to the 11th July, 1953. We hope that you will be eager to share in this Congress by communications and by active collaboration with its organized Committee. You will shortly receive the programme of this Congress, but we ask you now to be good enough to accept the position of national delegate of the International Numismatic Commission.

This position will consist in particular in centralising the requests of participants of your country at the Congress in the matter of proposed communications, in advising certain members on the choice and opportunity for these communications; finally to share actively in the International Association in the publication of the volume of minutes, the printing of which will be undertaken after the end of the Congress.

I should be grateful if you would be good enough to let me have your reply as soon as possible in order that your share may be announced in the first circular.

Hoping that you will be good enough to give us your participation, I beg you, sir and colleague, to accept the assurance of my devoted regards.

INTERNATIONAL NUMISMATIC COMMISSION.

JEAN LAFAURIE.

Any member wishing to submit material should send it to the Hon. Secretary, Box 23, Wellington, as soon as possible. New Zealand subjects should be the main consideration.

### WHAT FIRST INTERESTED ME IN NUMISMATICS?

This question was the subject of a discussion at a recent meeting of The Royal New Zealand Numismatic Society (Auckland Branch). Mr. G. Geary explained how a one-cent piece of the United States of America, caused him to become a numismatist. He said:—

“When I was quite a young lad, my father who was a smoker of dark Havelock tobacco, which was sold in a solid cake, or plug, was cutting strips of tobacco from the plug, when his pocket-knife struck something hard. Upon cutting out the object it proved to be a small copper coin; a one-cent piece. Considering it had been subjected to great pressure, it was still in fairly good condition, bearing on one side an Indian head, surrounded by the words ‘United States of America,’ with the date (1882) below the head. On the reverse and upset there is a wreath encircling the coin, surmounted by a shield, bearing the Stars and Stripes emblem, with the words ‘ONE CENT,’ in the centre. The coin shows pressure marks, and is slightly out of shape, as a result, and the marks of my father’s knife can also be seen. When this incident happened, many years ago, I asked my father if I could have this coin, and he replied that he would keep it in a small collection he had, and that when he died, his coin collection was to be given to me.

“In the following years, whenever I came into possession of a foreign or interesting coin, I would give it to Father.

“Eventually, in 1934, Father passed away, and the collection became mine. Although comparatively small, it is quite good, and it is my most cherished possession.

“Perhaps, even as a child, I was a numismatist at heart, but it is only recently that I joined the Society, and I find the study of numismatics both interesting and enlightening.”

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### MEDALS FROM A LOLLY SHOP.

*By* BERNARD TEAGUE.

I have recently been going through my small collection of New Zealand medals. Two of them take my mind back approximately forty years, for I have had both for that length of time. Near our school was a lolly shop. No, we didn’t call lolly shops “tuck shops” in those days. Nor did we say “sweets,” always “lollies.” I clearly remember the first time I heard the word “sweets.” Two brothers from England were managing a milk delivery round and one day I was riding in the low-backed milk-float with one of them when he said, speaking in his Yorkshire dialect, “Would you like a sweet;” I did not know what he meant until he pulled a bag of lollies out of his pocket and offered me one.

At our lolly shop all sorts of confections were retailed at one a penny, or two a penny and some at four a penny. Although a school-boy’s mouth and appetite is still the same today, a humble penny has shrunk in value until today it is not of much use on its own in a tuck shop. Perhaps the most fascinating thing that the humble penny would buy forty years ago was the “lucky packet.” This was a small coloured paper packet which when purchased and broken open contained about twenty tiny pink lollies and some small article that would

please a child. Sometimes the article would be a tiny mirror, a whistle or squeaker, a small charm, a wire ring with a glass bead, or one of a number of other small novelties. Occasionally a lucky packet would also contain a small brass medal. Two of these are beside me as I write, the only two specimens that I have although I am sure there were other varieties. The lucky packets were packed in England by Barratt & Co., and I think these were the only lucky packets made. The medals contained on the obverse a double globe with "British Empire" below. In two lines above and two lines below the globes are the words, "Barratt & Co.'s Sweets Are Pure." The reverse of one of my two present medals is dated 1897 with the inscription "In commemoration of H.M. Diamond Jubilee." In the centre is shown an "old" draped head of Queen Victoria wearing a crown that is much too small, a similar head and crown to that on the 1887 Jubilee coins which caused such criticism when they were issued.

My other specimen has the same obverse but the reverse shows a large crown with "Coronation" above and "1911" below. Inset in the crown are small busts of King George and Queen Mary facing one another. Both of these medals have a raised holed lip for stringing, and are of the same size, larger than a sixpence but smaller than a shilling. I would like more facts concerning the issue of these medals. My two specimens cover a period of fourteen years but I think a wider period would be probably covered by the complete issue, with a number of other varieties. I am pretty certain that it was the 1914-18 war that saw the end of Lucky Packets in New Zealand. Although I was by that time past school age I cannot remember any such packets after the war.

## NOTES OF MEETINGS.

### WELLINGTON.

**Minutes of the 157th General Meeting of The Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand (Inc.) held in The Alexander Turnbull Library, on Monday, 29th September, 1952.**

**Present:** Professor H. A. Murray (in the Chair), Mrs. Kalfas, Mrs. Inkersell, Capt. Stagg, Messrs. Hornblow, Chetwynd, Tether, Sutherland, Martin, Freeman and eight guests from the Classical Society and the Friends of the Turnbull Library. Apologies were received from Dr. Stout, Mr. Sutton and Mr. and Mrs. Berry.

#### **New Members Elected:—**

Mr. R. F. S. Simmonds, 18 Victoria Ave., Remuera (Life Member).

Mr. D. W. R. Hasler, 7 Grants Road, Christchurch.

#### **Publications Received:—**

*Journal of the Numismatic Association of Victoria.* Sept., 1952 (Vol. 7, No. 3).

*Numismatic Literature* No. 20.

*Journal of the Numismatic Society of India.* June and December, 1951 (Vol. 13, Parts 1 and 2).

*Munzen und Medaillen.* List No. 115.

*Mark M. Salton-Schlessinger.* List No. 17.

**General:** The payment of Branch subsidies was deferred.

**Address:** Mrs. Kalfas gave a very interesting address on the Tondo Composition in Classical Art, illustrating her talk with numerous slides. A vote of thanks by Mr. Sutherland was carried unanimously.

The Meeting then terminated with supper.

**Minutes of the 158th General Meeting of The Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand (Inc.) held in The Alexander Turnbull Library, on Monday, 3rd November, 1952.**

**Present:** Professor H. A. Murray (in the Chair), Mrs. Inkersell, Messrs. Hornblow, Freeman, Tether, de Rouffignac, Stagg, Chetwynd, Tandy, Matthews, Leask and Horwood. Apologies were received from Mr. and Mrs. Berry.

**Minutes:** The Minutes of the 157th General Meeting were read and confirmed.

**Council Meeting:** The Minutes of a Council Meeting held on the 20th October were read. Comments are awaited from the Auckland and Christchurch Branches and from Council Members not present at the Meeting regarding the Constitution of the Council.

**Publications Received:—**

*Fifth Annual Report of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Numismatic Society.*

*Journal of the Numismatic Association of Victoria.* October.

*Spink's Numismatic Circular.* August-September.

*Munzen und Medaillen.* List No. 116.

**New Members:** The following were duly elected:—

Dr. Charles Fleming, Geological Survey Dept., Wellington.

Mr. David M. Richmond, 157 Church Street, New Haven, Conn., U.S.A.

**General.** Messrs. Hornblow and Tether reported on their interview with the Treasury regarding proof coins. It was decided that members should make their own arrangements regarding proof sets of the new coinage other than the New Zealand issues.

A letter from Professor Simonetta referring to the translation of his paper was received.

**Paper:** Mr. Freeman read a further interesting part of the late M. C. J. Weaver's paper on "Beautiful Modern Coins."

The Meeting then terminated with supper.

**Minutes of the 159th General Meeting of The Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand (Inc.) held in The Alexander Turnbull Library on Monday, 24th November, 1952.**

**Present:** Professor H. A. Murray (in the Chair), Mr. and Mrs. Hornblow, Mrs. Inkersell, Mr. and Mrs. Berry, Mr. and Mrs. Cairns and Messrs. Stagg, Martin, Freeman, Tether, de Rouffignac, Tandy and Horwood. Apologies were received from Sir James Elliott and Messrs. Shennan, Harper, Fell, Leask and Sherwood.

**Accounts:** The following accounts were passed for payment:—

Thos. Avery & Sons Ltd.—£53 2s 3d (Journal).

Alexander Turnbull Library—£1 4s 0d (Journal).

Mr. Horwood—£5 5s 0d (Cabinet).

**Publications Received:—**

A copy of *The Story of English Coinage*, kindly donated by the author, Mr. Peter Seaby.

*Spink & Son Numismatic Circular.* October, 1952.

**New Members Elected:—**

Mr. P. R. Olorenshaw, 58 Birdwood Ave., Beckenham, Christchurch.

Mr. J. R. Simonsen, P.O. Box 186, Blenheim.

**Correspondence:** The following letters were received.—

Mr. S. R. McCallum who kindly donated £2 2s 0d to the funds of the Society.

Mr. S. V. Hagley, President of the Numismatic Society of South Australia, conveying greetings to the Society.

Professor J. George, Charleroi, asking for further information about the Society.

**Papers:** Mr. Freeman read an interesting paper by Mr. B. Teague on "Treasure Trove—An Interesting Find on the East Coast." Mr. Horwood followed this with reading an extract from a magazine on "The Marie Theresa Thaler."

**General:** A vote of thanks was expressed to Mrs. Hornblow for her kind assistance with the supper throughout the year.

Capt. Staggs exhibited an interesting collection of miniature medals. The Gilbertson Collection was also exhibited together with other items in the Society's Collection, including a display of books from the Society's Library.

The Meeting then terminated with supper.

**Council Meeting:** A Council Meeting was held on 8th December, at which papers for 1953 were discussed. Next General Meeting will be held in February, 1953.

**CANTERBURY.****The 28th Meeting of the Canterbury Branch held at The Canterbury Museum, Christchurch, on 4th September, 1952.**

**Present (15):** Miss M. K. Steven (in the Chair), Miss S. A. Lange, Messrs. J. Caffin, L. J. Dale, D. Hasler, H. T. Hunt, L. Morel, B. M. McCormack, W. Salter, P. Watts-Rule, Masters W. Mottram and B. Middleton and three guests.

**Welcome:** Two new members—Mr. D. Hasler and Master Bruce Middleton.

**Publications Received:** Two Glendinning Catalogues of Roman and English coins with prices realized at auction, from Sir John Hanham, Bt., Dorset, through Mr. A. Sutherland.

**Service Medals:** A letter was received from the Minister of Defence re application made for service medals. This was left in the hands of the Secretary, the Hon. Numismatist for the Museum, Mr. L. J. Dale, and the Director of the Museum to write further.

**Nine Coins and Medals:** Mr. P. Watts-Rule, of Timaru, in his fluent and interesting style spoke on nine interesting coins and medals, and displayed examples of each. Among these were coinage of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem of Malta, Lusitania medal, Captain Cook medal and N.Z. pattern penny, Korean coins, Czechoslovakian coins and medals. He then spoke on the coinage proposed for Elizabeth II of England and displayed many coins and medals bearing Queen's heads. A set of plaster medallions of Roman Emperors and a tray of Roman coins were also discussed and were placed on display.

The evening concluded with a numismatic quiz—something quite novel for our Branch and it proved very popular—some of the junior members showing their talent.

Members then were guests of Miss Steven at her home for supper. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Rule for his fine evening's entertainment and members hoped they would have the pleasure of his company again next year. A further vote of thanks was passed to Miss Steven for her gracious hospitality and keen interest in the Canterbury Branch.

**The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Canterbury Branch was held at the Canterbury Museum, Rolleston Avenue, Christchurch, on Tuesday, 4th November, 1952.**

**Present** (18 members and 2 visitors): Miss M. K. Steven in the Chair. An apology for non attendance was received from Mr. P. Watts-Rule, Timaru, and a welcome was extended to Mr. Allan Sutherland, founder of the Society.

**New Members Elected:** Michael Andress and Peter Olorenshaw.

**Secretary-Treasurer's Annual Report and Financial Statement** were read and confirmed.

A report on the financial results of the publication *They Made Their Own Money*, was presented and it was decided that the sum of £86 17s 0d be transferred to the General Account, and that the Publishing Account be closed. A formal motion was passed thanking members concerned with the publication of the book for their fine effort in producing a work with which they may well feel proud to be associated.

**Election of Officers:** Chairman: Miss M. K. Steven; Vice-Chairmen: Mr. L. J. Dale, Miss S. A. Lange; Secretary-Treasurer: Mr. W. Salter (145 Caledonian Road, St. Albans, Christchurch, N.1.); Librarian: Mr. J. Caffin; Auditor: Mr. J. Logie; Council Representative: Miss M. K. Steven (Chairman); General Committee: Chairman, 2 Vice-Chairmen, Secretary, Messrs. J. Sutherland, J. T. Hunt and D. Hasler; P.O. Account Trustee: Mr. W. Salter (Secretary-Treasurer).

A motion of thanks was passed to Miss Shirley Lange, Past Secretary, for her services to the Canterbury Branch of the R.N.S.N.Z.

**Correspondence:** Letter from headquarters re proposed change in Council membership, as sent by Auckland, resulted in the following motion being passed: "That the Canterbury Branch recommend that the present arrangement be continued, and that we note with satisfaction the improved contact and consultation now assured by the Council and Wellington members."

**Business:** (1) The next meeting date and subject be left to the Committee to arrange.

It was decided to write to the Council asking that it contact the A.N.A. re slides and literature for use by our Canterbury Branch, and possibly for the general use of the Society in New Zealand.

(2) A donation of £20 was made to the Museum Building Fund in appreciation of the co-operation of the Director, Dr. Roger Duff, and the availability of the Museum for our meeting centre.

Dr. Duff expressed his gratitude.

(3) Decided that £2 2s 0d be given as a token of thanks to the past Secretary, Miss S. A. Lange, in appreciation of her work for the Canterbury Branch.

Mr. Allan Sutherland, of Wellington, read a paper on "Early New Zealand Currency," illustrating it with photographs of rare FitzRoy debentures and private paper notes; also with a tray of "Blue Book" coins from the Dale Collection. On the motion of Mr. Dale, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Sutherland.

After the meeting members were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. Logie, 21 Andover Street.

#### AUCKLAND BRANCH ACTIVITIES.

General Meetings of the Branch have been held on 3rd September, 1st October, 6th November and 3rd December, at which Mr. J. P. Roberts presided.

**General Business:** The Branch has lost the services of its very able Hon. Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. D. C. Price, who has been transferred to the Helensville High School. Mr. Price is to be congratulated on this further advancement in his career. His resignation as Hon. Secretary-Treasurer was accepted with regret, and on the motion of Mr. Sellars, seconded by Mr. Price, Mr. E. J. Morris, 31 Spring St., Onehunga, was elected as the new Hon. Secretary-Treasurer.

Resolutions passed at the various Meetings include the decision to purchase and have engraved small silver shields for the front of the Chairman's table-plaque to bear the names of Chairmen and terms of office. For this purpose the base of the plaque was enlarged and for having this done a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Roberts.

Instead of holding an annual dinner at an hotel as in previous years, Mr. and Mrs. Asher Robinson invited members and their wives to their home for the December meeting, which was followed by a most enjoyable cocktail-tea and social evening. A very happy evening was spent by all, and on behalf of the large gathering Mr. Roberts thanked the Vice-Chairman Mr. Robinson and Mrs. Robinson for their great kindness in extending hospitality to all members.

**Papers:** Only one paper has been read at the last four meetings, and this was on "Copper Tokens of the 18th Century, England," by Mr. E. J. Morris.

At the other meetings general discussions on matters numismatic have been held by members. At the November meeting Mr. D. Atkinson exhibited a very fine series of Japanese Orders and medals.

Mr. J. P. Roberts, Branch Chairman, presided at each meeting which, except for the December meeting, was held in the Studio of Mr. Mickle, to whom votes of thanks have been accorded.

Discussions on Branch representation on the Council have been carried towards a satisfactory conclusion, subject to an exchange of views with the Canterbury Branch.

In general the activities of the Branch are continuing unabated. We have had an average of fifteen members present at each meeting.

The first meeting in 1953 will be held in the studio of Mr. Mickle on the first Wednesday in March.—E.J.M.

\* \* \* \*

The Hon. Editor (Mr. Allan Sutherland) has been a patient in the Auckland Public Hospital for over a month, following a heart attack. He is now at home making a good recovery. This explanation is given so that correspondents will understand the reason for delay in replying to letters.

## MEMBERS' EXCHANGE.

Will buy or exchange N.Z. tokens or medals. Will exchange Australian tokens for N.Z.—Bernard Teague, 112 Marine Parade, Wairoa, Hawkes Bay.

Tokens, medallions, discount tokens and medals of New Zealand wanted to buy or exchange.—H. Robinson, 203 Gillies Avenue, Epsom, Auckland.

M. A. Jamieson, 10 Tuhimata Street, St. Heliers, Auckland, N.Z., wishes to purchase a New South Wales "Holey Dollar" (five shillings), overstruck on Spanish Carolus III, or Ferdinand VII. 8 reales coins; also the smaller portion (18-20 mm. diameter) known as "Dump" (fifteen pence); also penny token No. 299 (Andrews' number) dated 1862, issued by W. W. Jamieson & Co., Warnambool, Victoria.

Allan Sutherland, 2 Sylvan Avenue, Milford, Auckland, N.Z., wishes to exchange or buy N.Z. tokens: Coombes S. 113b (A. 78); Gourlay S. 120 (A. 150); Hall tokens; Hobday 123a (A. 250); Levy 128e (A. 196); Pratt 140c (A. 446); Reece 141c (A. 450); Union Bakery 144a (A. 589) in good condition only.

William B. Peck, 38 Greenridge Avenue, White Plains, New York, U.S.A., would like to correspond with members having similar collections: British Colonial coins, past and present, Australasian tokens, South Africa proof sets, Canadian sets, Australian pence and half-pence by date. Will buy, sell or trade.

## SOUTH AFRICA &amp; SOUTHERN RHODESIA

Both countries will mint a silver Crown in 1953. South Africa—with Queen Elizabeth II and the Springbok. Southern Rhodesia—a Rhodes Commemorative Crown, depicting Queen Elizabeth II and Cecil Rhodes.

I will exchange as many of both these pieces as you send me, Crown (any country) for Crown, provided your Crowns are **Very Fine** or **Better**. Mine will all be uncirculated;

or I will Sell as follows:—

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The £1 and 10/- only, in leatherette case £10 10s 0d.

Silver and Copper coins only £2 0s 0d.

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My reference—Barclay's Bank, Fish Hoek, Cape, South Africa.

**G. W. MORRIS**

47, Kommetje Road. Fish Hoek. Cape.

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## CORONATION YEAR COINAGE OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

We expect to have specimens available later this year as listed below. Numismatists requiring these should record their order with us, subject to confirmation when we advise price, etc., when the specimens arrive.

### NEW ZEALAND

- (1) Complete proof specimen set of 8 pieces, crown to halfpenny in special case as issued by the Mint.
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### GREAT BRITAIN

- (1) Complete proof set in case, crown to farthing.
- (2) Complete sets of ordinary uncirculated coins, crown to farthing.
- (3) Selected crowns only in special plastic holder.

### BOOKS

*Numismatic History of N.Z.* (Allan Sutherland, 1940). Blue cloth bound volume of six parts dealing with barter and early coinages of N.Z., Medals, Tokens, Paper Money and all true N.Z. coinages. £4/12/6 (post paid).

*They Made Their Own Money.* New book published by Canterbury Branch of the R.N.S.N.Z., dealing with the Canterbury merchants who issued trade tokens (1857-1881). Full story of great interest to all New Zealand Token Collectors. Well produced and fully illustrated, issue limited to 500 numbered copies. 12/6 per copy. (Posted 12/10.)

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