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Proceedings of
THE ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

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OBJECTS

The objects of the Society are: To encourage the study of the science of numismatics and kindred historical subjects by the holding of meetings for the reading of papers and the exhibition of specimens; by the issuing of reports or publications relating to such meetings; by assisting members and students in the study and acquirement of numismatic specimens—coins, medals, tokens, seals, paper money, native currencies and kindred objects; by cultivating fraternal relations among numismatists in New Zealand and abroad; by fostering the interest of youth in these subjects; by encouraging research into the currencies and related history of New Zealand and the Islands of the Pacific, particularly Polynesia; by striking commemorative and other medals from time to time; by co-operating with the Government of New Zealand in the selection of suitable designs for coins and medals; by disseminating numismatic and kindred knowledge; by developing public interest in the fascinating and educational pursuit of numismatics, and generally by representing numismatic and kindred interests as a Dominion organisation.

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NO. 1

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND
OCTOBER-DECEMBER, 1948.

MR. AND MRS. MATTINGLY IN NEW ZEALAND.

Wellington members were privileged to hear a lecture by Mr. Harold Mattingly who, with Mrs. Mattingly, arrived in New Zealand by air in November.

Mr. Mattingly's work at the British Museum, and his published works on Roman coins, have earned for him world renown in the field of numismatic and classical research.

Wellington members who met the visitors were charmed with their friendly manner which forged for them more links in their long chain of friends.

While with their daughter, Mrs. Lenk, of George Street, Blenheim, both visitors intend to be busily engaged writing more books—Mr. Mattingly on numismatics, and Mrs. Mattingly on her travel impressions.

Their proposed itinerary in New Zealand is as follows:

March

- Tues. 1—Blenheim-Westport. Dept. 8.30 a.m. Buller Hotel.
Wed. 2—Westport-Greymouth. Arr. 12.30 p.m. Albion Hotel.
Thur. 3—Grey-Hokitika. Dept. 8.45 a.m., arr. 9.45 a.m. Westland H.
Fri. 4—Hokitika-Franz Josef Glacier. Dept. 10 a.m., arr. 3 p.m.
Sat. 5—At Franz Josef.
Sun. 6—Franz Josef-Hokitika-Greymouth. Arr. 4.30 p.m. Albion Hotel.
Mon. 7—At Greymouth.
Tues. 8—Greymouth-Christchurch. Dept. 10 a.m., arr. 5 p.m. (Christchurch, address c/o Mrs. Bennett, 56 Armagh Street.)
Wed. 23—Ch'ch.-Timaru. Dept. 8.35 a.m., arr. 11.25 a.m. Grosvenor H.
Thur. 24—Timaru-Dunedin. Dept. 11.35 a.m., arr. 4.18 p.m. Grand H.
Mon. 28—Dunedin-Cromwell-Queenstown. Arr. 6 p.m. Mountaineer H.
Tues. 29—Queenstown-Mount Cook. Arr. 6.15 p.m. Hermitage.
Wed. 30—Mount Cook-Christchurch, Arr. 4 p.m.

April

- Fri. 1—Christchurch-Blenheim. Dept. 8.30 a.m. by car, arr. 4.30 p.m.
Tues. 19—Blenheim-Picton-Wellington. Arr. 5.30 p.m.
Thur. 28—Wellington-Auckland. Dept. 3 p.m.
Fri. 29—Arrive Auckland 7 a.m. Station Hotel.

May

- Wed. 4—Auck.-Tauranga. Dept. 7.30 a.m., arr. 12.30 p.m. Commercial H.
Thur. 5—Tauranga-Rotorua. Dept. 8.30 a.m., arr. 11 a.m. Waiwera H.
Sun. 8—Rotorua-Taupo. 1.30-3.30 p.m. Lake Hotel.
Mon. 9—At Taupo.
Tues. 10—Taupo-Wellington. Dept. 1 p.m. by car, arr. Wgtn. 10.25 p.m.
Wed. 11—Wellington-Picton-Blenheim. Dept. 2.15 p.m.

Further lectures are planned in Christchurch, Dunedin, Wellington and Auckland.

THE TWELVE CAESARS

By HAROLD MATTINGLY,
M.A., F.B.A., F.S.A., F.R.N.S.

AN approach to history through the study of coins was the theme of a brief illustrated address delivered by Mr. Harold Mattingly at the November meeting of the Society in Wellington. He took as his subject "The Twelve Caesars," and with a number of lantern slides he illustrated the various phases of Roman life at that time.

It would not be possible to write much history from modern coins, Mr. Mattingly said, though even today we could not help expressing ourselves, to some extent, through the designs on our coins. At the time of the Roman Empire opportunity was taken, with coin designs, to speak of what was happening. Coins were used to express policy, and for propaganda.

The Romans did not have our modern means of publicity, and so the rulers did not disdain to use coins for that purpose. Although there had been other media of expression—a daily paper, and a sort of *Hansard*—these had left little trace, but on the other hand, small copper coins had been left in great numbers, and it was possible to construct records from them.

Roman coinage was used by the Roman Emperors to make facts known to the public, and to suggest how they were to be regarded. It was to the people of Rome, in particular, that they spoke, for this public opinion of Rome was a vital factor in the success of any Government. The account the coins give is, of course, one-sided: but it gives us a chance of reconsidering historical verdicts. The ancient world did not necessarily see things as we see them today. The verdict of the ancient world on Tiberius, for instance, was certainly not that generally held today. Tacitus is convicted of distortion of fact.

The illustrations, drawn from the first century of the Empire, covered peace and war, the successions, the consecration of the deified Emperors, and other themes.

MR. J. W. HEENAN.

AFTER a long life in the service of the State, Mr. J. W. Heenan has retired from the position of Under-Secretary of the Internal Affairs Department. His multifarious duties brought him into touch with all local bodies, sporting bodies,

learned and cultural societies, literary organisations, and one-hundred-and-one other activities which form part of the internal work of an organised community. Contacts between all these organisations and the Government are "channelled" through the Department, and Mr. Heenan, with his ability, geniality and tact has smoothed out many difficulties of successive Governments, and saved many a Minister of the Crown a "headache." "Joe" as he is known to his intimates, will be missed by Mayors, Chairmen of local bodies, and scores of representatives of the various organisations with whom he came into contact.

The Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand, in common with scores of other organisations, has consulted Mr. Heenan on many occasions, and at all times he has shown a ready desire to assist in any national numismatic proposal, whether to commemorate an historic event, or to assist in recording in permanent form the results of research into phases of New Zealand and Pacific history. He has taken a keen interest in medallic art, and his advice has been of value in selecting appropriate designs for the commemorative coins and medals issued from time to time. Mr. Heenan has rendered a service that will not be forgotten by the Society, and we would be less than grateful if we did not record our appreciation. His great work to the community generally has enhanced his stature, and also the status of the post he is now relinquishing. We join with hundreds of well-wishers in wishing him, and his wife, good health and happiness in the future. His successor, Mr. A. G. Harper, has already shown sympathetic interest in our affairs, and the Assistant Under-Secretary is Mr. F. B. Stephens, both of whom we wish every success in the important offices they have assumed.

NEW ZEALAND CROWN PIECE, 1949.

THE first public intimation that New Zealand was to have a crown piece to commemorate the projected Royal visit in 1949 was a cabled Press statement, following the postponement of the tour, that New Zealand High Commissioner in London did not know what to do with 200,000 crown pieces that had already been minted for New Zealand. However, representatives of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand had been in close touch with the Government for some months previously regarding the proposal to issue the crown piece, and they knew that, following the precedent

of similar commemorative pieces issued in other parts of the Commonwealth, the design did not mention the Royal visit. There was a fear that the crown pieces would be melted down, and accordingly an appeal was made to the Government not to do this, but to bring the coins to New Zealand and distribute them. It was well known that 300,000 similar crown pieces issued in South Africa swiftly disappeared into collections and were soon sold at a premium, and that a further issue was made in the following year to meet the demand. It was stated that if the New Zealand crown pieces could be freely exported from New Zealand the Government would reap a rich reward in dollars and sterling. Advantage was taken of the presence in Wellington of Mr. Harold Mattingly, the British Museum authority, and Mr. L. J. Dale, President of the Christchurch Branch, who, with the President, Mr. Allan Sutherland, waited on Mr. B. C. Ashwin, Secretary to the Treasury, and appealed to him to save the crown of New Zealand. Subsequently, members were pleased to read that the Rt. Hon. Mr. Nash, Minister of Finance, had announced that the crown pieces would be brought to New Zealand and circulated. The Government deserves credit firstly in deciding to issue the coin, and secondly in deciding that the coins should not be melted down. It was fortunate that the design was of a general nature. Posterity will thank those responsible for saving the crown from the melting pot, and Government revenues will certainly benefit. Already, requests for specimens have arrived from nearly every country overseas, and efforts are being made to secure special privileges for members as to supplies and an easing of export restrictions.

NEW ZEALAND COINS, TOKENS AND MEDALS.

THE Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand in conjunction with the Librarian of the Alexander Turnbull Library, has decided to build up a collection of New Zealand copper currency penny and half-penny tokens, and New Zealand coins and medals. It is understood that the late Alexander Turnbull left a first-class collection of tokens which were not specially mentioned in his will, with the result that they were sent with other effects to London, where the collection was broken up and sold. He left some valuable numismatic works which are included in the Turnbull Collection. Members have offered to donate duplicates

from their collections and in this way it is hoped to build up a collection covering not only New Zealand, but Polynesia generally. One interesting specimen donated was a square piece of iron suitably stamped to commemorate the official peace day in New Zealand in June, 1919. These so-called "peace medals" were struck by a blacksmith on a lorry in Geraldine, and thrown while red hot to the celebrating crowd. Gifts of New Zealand specimens should be sent to the Librarian, Turnbull Library, Wellington. It is understood that the Christchurch Branch is also building up a collection for the Canterbury Museum.

AUCKLAND BRANCH FORMED.

An Auckland Branch of the Society was formed on 23rd February, 1949. The meeting was convened by Mr. A. Robinson to whom tributes were paid for his work in organising the Branch. Mr. J. C. Entrican was elected Chairman, and Mr. T. W. Attwood, Vice-Chairman. Mr. E. W. Robson was elected Secretary-Treasurer. The Dominion President, Mr. Allan Sutherland congratulated Auckland members in forming a branch so that members could meet regularly and enlarge their interests in the educational and cultural pursuit of numismatics, apart from the enjoyable social contacts made. He paid a tribute to Mr. J. C. Entrican who had donated his large collection to the Auckland Memorial Museum, and who, at 85 years of age, was as keenly interested in the subject as he was in his youth. Mr. Sutherland referred to recent numismatic developments, and particularly to the forthcoming issue of the crown piece, and the change in the Royal title on the 1948 coins now in circulation.

Minutes of the inaugural meeting are reported elsewhere.

LOST CITY OF DUNWICH

By ERIC HORWOOD.

(Paper read before 119th Meeting of Society.)

THE subject of my paper this evening is the lost city of Dunwich which has been brought back to my mind by recent events, the flooding and reclamation of Walcheron Island, and an allied subject of topical interest—soil erosion.

Dunwich used to lie on the extreme eastern bulge of England, the Suffolk coastline, about four miles south of Southwold. Its story illustrates all too clearly how places, even of great importance in their day, can disappear completely and be forgotten, leaving only their coinage as a memorial of their existence.

Dunwich first comes to our notice in Roman times when it was presumed to have been the terminus for one of six great roads whose junction was Caister, at that time a flourishing seaport with a belt of forest on the sandunes between the town and sea. The ecclesiastic See of Dunwich was recorded by the Venerable Bede who stated that Honorius, Archbishop of Canterbury consecrated Felix the Bergundian first bishop of the Angels there in A.D. 630.

That the strong sea currents at this point had early begun to make inroads on the land is clear from Doomesday Book which states that "Edric de Lesefelde held Dunwich in the time of King Edward for one manor, and now Robert Malet holds it, then there were two ploughlands, now one, the sea hath washed away the other, then twelve Bordars now two, and twenty-four freemen each with forty acres who pay custom to this manor, and then one hundred and twenty burgesses, now 236." The sea was not a serious menace yet, unlike the sudden disaster further south to the isle of Lomea in 1099 when the island was engulfed and became the dreaded and treacherous Goodwin sands.

The city was at the height of its prosperity during the reign of Henry II, and records show that there were fifty-two churches, monasteries, hospitals and other major ecclesiastical buildings there. In pre-Norman times a mine was situated there but no proof exists of one at any later date.

Richard I fined the city 1,060 marks for supplying his enemies with corn, as compared with fines of 15 marks for Oxford, 200 for Ipswich and 200 for Yarmouth, thus giving the relative importance of these neighbouring towns. In marked contrast a charter of liberties was granted by King John in 1199 for payment of 300 marks, 10 falcon, 5 gir-falcons. During the reign of Henry III encroachment by the sea began to occupy the thoughts of the inhabitants to a greater extent, and a fence was built in an effort to repel these undermining attacks, but with no success.

Dunwich declined in importance during the time of Edward I but Gardner in his *History* quotes 11 ships of war, 16 fair ships, 20 barks, and 24 smaller boats for the town. Edward II in 1325 was approached by the burgesses

who prayed him to have the town taken into the King's hand, and a guardian appointed. Early in the reign of Edward III the greatest disaster of all overtook the town, when the sea washed away the harbour and about 400 houses. The newly-established port of Blythborough finally robbed the town of its trade. From this time onwards Dunwich gradually disappeared, and by the time of Elizabeth its greatness was gone. In 1677 the sea reached the market place, while by the middle of the 18th century the sea had finally claimed all.

During my boyhood I spent much time in this area and visited the present-day village near the low undermined cliffs upon the edge of which stood the last remaining ruined monastery which formerly belonged to the Grey Friars, and recent news states that this too has fallen into the sea. Many local stories were told, particularly of how on a calm day fisher-folk out in their boats could hear, on the swell, the toll of bells from the steeples of the churches in the submerged city, although this is highly improbable.

Of small relics washed up by the tide, and dug up in the shingle, are coins ranging from Roman to medieval times but principally silver pennies dating from William I to Henry III, and an unusual feature is that many of these (running into several hundreds) were cut into halves and quarters. They are not of Dunwich mint, which did not exist after the Norman conquest. (See plate 13.)

LUNDY ISLAND AND ITS COINAGE

By ALAN G. BARKER.

(Paper read before Canterbury Branch.)

LUNDY, 1,000 acre island situated in the Bristol Channel twelve miles from Hartland Point, on the Devon coast, is the strangest and least known of the islands of Britain. Earliest records show that the Vikings who crossed the Atlantic in their dragon ships took a liking to the island, and named it "Lunde" or "Puffin Island," because of the number of puffins, peculiar seabirds, that inhabited the island. The first book on Lundy was written in Icelandic, and others were written in Latin and Welsh. These languages were in use on the island long before the King's English was employed. King Stephen gave Lundy Island to the Montmorency family. The English and Irish branches of this family were called De Marisco. The first, Sir Jordan

de Marisco, came to Lundy about the year 1150, and his family ruled the island for approximately 135 years. These dates cannot be certain as the records were sent to London, and were destroyed in the Great Fire of 1666. Sir Jordan fell out with King Henry the Second who wanted to give the island to the Knights Templars. King Richard the Lionheart was too busy crusading in the Holy Land to be bothered with Lundy, but King John, who was reigning in his absence, tried to disinherit the Marisco's, and finally told them to get out.

During this period in English history so much violence took place that the Lords of the land had to make their home fortresses. Lundy was no exception, and its fortress ranked high in comparison with those of the mainland. It had a massive tower, deep ditches, a drawbridge, a wall nine feet thick surrounding it, and a precipice on one side, over which undesired people could be thrown to the rocks below. For a moat it had eleven miles of sea, and stone throwing machines provided the fortification. So strong was the defence of the island that when King John told them to get out, the De Marisco's replied "come and get us." But about fifty years later the De Marisco's went too far and took part in the plot to murder Henry the Third. The plot failed, and Henry was avenged by declaring the island forfeit to the Crown. For nearly forty years the aggressive tendencies of the islanders were held in check by Royal governors.

During the reign of Edward the First, Lundy was restored to Royal favour. In 1326 Edward the Second tried to escape the wrath of his rebellious barons by fleeing there, but was driven ashore, by a gale, on to the Welsh coast, and died in the dungeons of Berkeley Castle.

The next Governor of Lundy was Thomas Bushell, a Devon silverminer. He was appointed to the position by Charles the First. He re-fortified the old castle and then turned to plundering passing ships. When Bushell passed on there came another notorious character, Thomas Benson, who rented the island for £60 a year. Benson contracted to transport convicts to Maryland. The contract stipulated that he should convey the convicts overseas, and this he did by taking them to Lundy where they were forced to labour on the construction works of the island. Stone walls built by the convicts still quarter the island. Thomas Benson then took to smuggling and became the most notorious of his kind in the west country. He went as far as to fire on all ships approaching the island without dip-

ping their colours. He finally hatched a plot to land a cargo at dead of night, then to scuttle the ship and collect insurance. When his escapade was discovered he fled to Portugal. He was said to have hidden his treasure in a cave below the castle.

In 1625 Turkish corsairs stormed the island under the nose of Britain and took off some of the inhabitants, and during Queen Anne's reign French marauders captured it and turned it into their headquarters for privateering.

About 1700, a Dutch party came ashore for supplies and milk for their sick captain, or so they said. After staying in the cove a few days the crew announced the death of the captain, with the request to bury him ashore. After the service in the church, the seamen asked to be left alone with their dead captain. The islanders did as requested, and a few moments later, the whole ship's company emerged from the church, armed to the teeth and headed by the "dead" captain, they killed or made prisoners their hosts, and carried off most of the cattle. The "coffin" had been full of arms.

Lundy's history varied between sovereign rights and piratical wrongs until 1836 when the island became known as the "Kingdom of Heaven" after its owner, the Reverend Hudson Heaven. The cleric made many improvements. He built a substantial twelve-roomed house at Mill Combe which commanded a beautiful view. In this house resides the island's present owner, Mr. Martin Coles Harman, who bought Lundy in 1925. Mr. Harman is the only "King" outside of Royalty in the British Isles, and owes his allegiance to King George. Because of feudal charters, the overlord has strange rights and privileges. He can deny anyone the right to land or to fish a certain distance off shore. He issues his own stamps, does not levy any taxes, and can land goods free of customs. Besides being the overlord he possesses some of the finest granite in the world, used in early Victorian days in the construction of the Victorian Embankment along the Thames.

Mr. Harman worked his way up from an office boy to the control of companies worth £14,000,000. In 1930 Mr. Harman was charged under the Coinage Act of 1870 for issuing illegal coins known as puffins and half-puffins. He lost his appeal, and was fined £5, and 15 guineas costs.

A Lundy directory would contain the names of eleven people, six being lighthouse keepers, and the rest farmers. The largest number of people living on the island at any period was about fifty. There were three lighthouses, but

one is now a wireless station. There is only one store. Rabbits are in abundance.

During excavations, the skeletons of giants were dug up, one being 8 feet 2 inches long. These are believed to be the first inhabitants of the island. The island is now a bird sanctuary, and 145 different species of birds have been known to either breed on or visit the island. The abundant breeding birds on the island are blackbacked gulls, puffins, guillemots, kittiwakes, razorbills, shags, cormorants, shearwaters, and oyster catchers. Before the war approximately 40,000 pairs of birds were breeding on Lundy. Japanese deer, wild ponies and goats are also found on the island. Lundy can be toured in four hours. There are no police, lawyers, or doctors.

During its very chequered career Lundy has had two issues of coins, both of which are surrounded by circumstances which lend them more than usual interest. In the time of Charles the First in 1642, Parliament had declared open war on the King, and for some years Thomas Bushell who was in charge of the branch mint at Aberystwith, had to move his coining equipment first to Shrewsbury, then to Oxford, and again to Bristol. After the capture of Bristol by Parliament in September, 1645, Bushell, who was also Governor of Lundy Island used this island as a depot, and he is believed to have set up his mint equipment there; probably at the old Marisco castle, which he is known to have had put in repair at this time. The coins struck at Lundy were the half-crown, shilling, six-pence, and groat of 1645 and 1646, of the same type as those struck at Bristol, and have the letters A and B as privy mark or in the field. These also exist with an additional half-groat dated 1646, without the letter A or B. The general design of these coins for the half-crown shows the King on horse-back facing left, crown very flat, sword leaning forward. The reverse has in the field the legend RELIG. PROT. LEG. ANG. LIBER. PAR. and the date 1645 or 1646. The legend in full reads "Religio Protestantium Leges Angliae, Libertas Parliamenti," and these coins are usually called "Declaration type." This was the King's "Declaration," made to the Privy Council at Wellington in Shropshire on 19th September, 1642, when he stated that he would "preserve the Protestant religion, the known laws of the lands and the just privileges and freedom of Parliament." Both obverse and reverse of the coins have the usual legends around. The smaller denominations have a similar legend, further abbreviated, and a bust only of the King, instead of the mounted figure.

The other issue of coins took place in 1929 when Martin Coles Harman announced that he had become "King" of Lundy, which had become a Sovereign State! He then proceeded to issue bronze coins bearing his own head, in denominations called one puffin and half-puffin, corresponding to penny and half-penny. The whole puffin bird is shown on the one puffin coin, and a "bust" only of the bird on the half-puffin. Coins are edge lettered LUNDY LIGHTS AND LEADS.

The mint of these coins is not known to me. For this illegal issue, contrary to British law, Harman was prosecuted, as noted above, and after the dismissal of his appeal, Lundy's second numismatic venture was ended.

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PARTHIAN AND THEIR COINS

By A. QUINNELL.

(Read before Society, 1st November, 1948.)

ADMITTING that I am really an Historian in the mantle of a Numismatist, I have always been impressed with the rather undue importance paid by most collectors to the Greek issues. While acknowledging the "world" indebtedness to the original designs, and to the methods of the earliest peoples and to the successors of the Macedonian, Alexander the Great, then to the Roman issues, and later, possibly, as we are of English, Scottish and Irish descent, to the English—not forgetting the comparatively minor Scottish and Irish, I consider Greek issues receive undue attention.

Other great Empires have arisen, and in due time decayed and passed away, even as (melancholy thought) the British Commonwealth . . . must.

It is probable that in some two thousand years, numismatists and museums will be very jealous and proud of their collections of New Zealand coins—some of which are in our pockets today—but we shall long have been "Dust unto dust, and under dust to lie . . ." even as the Parthians have been for centuries, for they lived, loved, hated, sorrowed and rejoiced . . . even as you and I . . . fighting, drinking, paying their taxes . . . writing as human beings do.

Possibly many will have heard the generally misquoted "parting shot" which should be quoted as "Parthian shot." I am unaware of the author of the term, but whoever he was, he knew of the Parthians' deadly accuracy with the bow, their wonderful ability to use their bows when "retreating" at full gallop on their horses which was an extremely unorthodox method of warfare, and which brought frightful ruin on many of their foes, including many Roman Legions in their many wars with Parthia.

I am of the opinion that many who collect coins, have little knowledge of the life and "times" of the peoples whose rulers issued the money, and are content to study the cataloguing of the inscriptions, designs, metals, without even wishing to know the characters and achievements of the nations, the Emperors, Empresses, Kings, Queens, and the others whose appearances are depicted thereon. One would understand that the "portrait" in general resembled them, and recorded their robes, etc., of State, that is, of course, when the "portrait coins" began to be issued.

As to the Parthians, their origin is a matter of dispute, but that they were of the great Turianian race is generally accepted; the Old Testament does not mention them, nor the Zondavsta; in the great rock inscription of Darius they are mentioned as "Parthva" or "Parthwa"; later they are serving Xerxes against Greece, fighting at Issus and Arbela. Later, Alexander easily overcame them, and they did not give any trouble. They were a tribe surrounded by Arians . . . Persia had fallen, one can quite understand their submission.

They are described as having the usual Turianian characteristics; covetous, grasping, aggressive, generally successful in wars, better defenders (in the field) than attackers, lacking prolonged dash and persistency, born to the saddle, restless, always seeking trouble. They never really had any architectural pretensions, their nomad nature persisting, living on the meat of the chase, not great talkers, but deep thinkers; and they practised polygamy, and punished unfaithfulness with great severity. Only the great nobles were free, manumission was impossible, the rest of the tribe were slaves and, of course, the peoples and others they conquered were also slaves.

In build they had large fleshy bodies, soft large paunches, loosely knit joints, scanty hair, and were weak,

languid, anaemic and unmuscular. Despite this they had the inherent ability to govern; in proof they held together for some four centuries a very mixed group of widely differing tribes: the Greeks, left behind from Alexander's Empire, in the cities; and among many others, Semitic tribes. When the Empire fell, it was as great in its extent as when it reached from the Euphrates to the Pamir uplands, to the valley of the Indus, to the Oxus River and the Caspian Sea, in the north, part of Armenia, and down to the Persian Gulf, covering an area of 800,000 square miles. They were in contact with Rome, in Syria and Armenia, to the north of the Oxus, with the wild Scythic tribes. With both Rome and Scythia they had many and prolonged wars.

COINAGE.

They have left behind them many hundreds of types, some with a certain amount of merit, but in most cases very poor imitations of the Greek ideas. As Greek was very well known throughout the Empire, the inscriptions and "personal attributes" of Kings were in Greek, later some bore Semitic legends, and, as the inevitable decadence set in, the coins as is usual, reflected it. After Gotarzes the inscriptions are often misspelt, and illegible. They were certainly "portrait" coins.

No coins of the "first King" Arsaces exist, though his successors took his name, and the whole dynasty is named after him. He seems to have been little more than a successful "robber-chieftain" and "reigned" from B.C. 250-248.

Tiridates I, the second Parthian king, was the brother of the "founder" and succeeded in 248 B.C. The coins show him as having strongly marked features, no hair, a cap or helmet on his head, lappets on each side reach his shoulders, pearls of large size around the forehead and above his ears. Reverse, a man seated on a stool, a bow is held, the string uppermost, may be either the King in war uniform, or a representation of a Parthian god. He reigned thirty-seven years. The coins follow the Seleucid pattern; firstly he is merely "Arsaces," then as King Arsaces and his memory was held in divine honour.

Some authorities say that Tiridates was actually the first King of Parthia and that the (original) Arsaces really existed, as he appears deified on his brother's drachmae. Arsaces the Second, B.C. 211-191, sometimes called Artabanus the First, was the son of Tiridates; he had the same aquiline nose and large eyes. He is shown with a long

beard, the "cap" of Tiridates is not worn, his own hair is held by the "diadem," which is knotted at the back, and the tails fall down behind. Legend: "Arsaces the Great King." The later years of his reign were peaceful—he having been very heavily defeated by Antiochus the Great.

Phriapatius (or Arsaces the Third), Philadelphus, as he calls himself on his coins, possibly had married a sister. He kept to a policy of non-aggression. He reigned from B.C. 191-176, and protected the Greeks in his Kingdom.

B.C. 176-171, Phraates the First (or Arsaces IV), Theopater, succeeds his father, and resumes the policy of aggression, adding Mardia to the Kingdom. This was important as it showed that the power of Syria was declining.

The coins of the successor, who was nominated by Phraates, who was his brother, was Mithridates the First (or Arsaces the Fifth), Epiphanes, and show him with strong features, facing left, long full beard. He assumed the "Tiara" with three rows of pearls on it. The tall stiff "crown" which slightly differs in shape had been the Kingly insignia under the Assyrian and Persian rule. The previous head-gear had been more of the Scythic cap, but not quite as tall, or a band (the "diadem") encircling the head, with two long tails hanging down. Herodian states that the later diadem was double, but this does not show on the coins.

From B.C. 174-136, Mithridates was a great soldier and administrator. His inheritance was a narrow strip of land, to which he added Media, Bactria, Susiana, Elymis, Babylonia, Persia . . . he invaded India over the Punjab to the banks of the Hydaspes, but this was more in the nature of a raid.

Mithridates was the first of the "Great King of Kings," as he apparently reigned over some eighteen Kingdoms. This title seems to have been conferred and is not boastfulness. His son, known as Phraates the Second (or Arsaces the Sixth), Euergetes, engaged the might of Syria in three pitched battles, losing all of them; but the wresting of Margiana from the Scyths is recorded on coins: Parthia held captive the King of Syria, and with the idea of creating a civil war in Syria, the King was sent home, gradually the victorious Syrians occupying the cities were infuriating the inhabitants, and after some months the foreign soldiers were murdered. Finally the Syrian King was engaged in battle and either committed suicide or perished in battle, after his general had fled, followed by most of the soldiers.

Phraates paid due honour, and sent the body home to Syria in a rich silver coffin; he married one of the daughters and sent one of the sons home to claim the throne. This was the last time the Syrians tried to regain their lost lands. In battle with the Scyths, Phraates perished when his Greek auxiliaries had for some quite unaccountable reason deserted to them. Reigned from 136-128.

In B.C. 128 his uncle came to the kingship, known as Artabanus the First (or Arsaces VII), Nicator. He would probably be aged when he succeeded, but he certainly was a soldier, attacking the "Techari" (the Scythian leaders), dying in battle, but the date is not known. There were apparently rival Kings in this and the following reign, possibly as the Scyths had overrun the country, exacting tribute.

Mithridates the Second, son of Artabanus, came to the throne, known as the Great (and Arsaces VIII), Theos Euergetes. Much territory was regained. The coins still show the prominent nose and long pointed beard, the three rows of pearls surmounted by very much larger pearls, profusely scattered on top of the cap, which fits closely on the head. He takes the epithets, "Theopater" and "Nicator." The reverse is sometimes the usual seated figure but is varied with the Pegasus, the winged horse. He is commonly regarded, after his uncle, as the most prominent of the Parthian Kings. He was the first to covet Armenia, and was the first to come into contact with Rome. He formed an alliance with Sulla, and occupied the throne for some forty years, B.C. 128-88.

The next was an apparently aged king, Artabanus the Second (or Arsaces IX), reigning for some eleven years. Then came B.C. 77, Sinatruces (or Arsaces X), Autocrater. He was an exile living with the Scyths; he was about eighty, but he managed to annoy Lucullus. Phraates the Third, who was a son, ascended the throne. Pompey offered the restoration of the provinces lost to Armenia for Parthian aid to crush Armenia—and then resisted the Parthian troops sent to occupy them. There was a time of intrigues with Pompey, and in the end the King was assassinated by his two sons—Mithridates and Orodes (or Horodes), who took Parthia, and his brother Media; Mithridates was expelled for his cruelty, Orodes governed alone. Mithridates looked to Rome for help, in vain. Orodes took Babylon and put Mithridates to death. Crassus ventured to invade Parthia, to be defeated by the

“Surenas.” Crassus’ greed for gold was mocked, molten gold being poured into his dead mouth. In B.C. 51 Cassius defeated the Parthians at Antigonía. Civil wars and intrigues followed. During his reign of twenty years, B.C. 57-37, a great army under the Prince Pacorus, assisted by a Roman general, Labienus, swept from Parthia, and the whole coast, except Tyre, was overrun. The people rose against Herod and Phassel, and the whole of Asia Minor was for a time in the invaders’ hands. Vantidius, Antony’s general, defeated Labienus, captured and executed him; the Parthians were utterly defeated and Pacorus was killed, and Syria was evacuated. In B.C. 37, Orodes was so grieved at his great son’s death that he resigned the throne to his son, Phraates the Fourth, who seems to have been unusually savage. He slew his father, brothers, his own son, and all possible claimants to the throne. Many of the nobles sought safety with Antony, who invaded, but met with failure.

An unknown usurper sat on the throne, but after a few months Tiridates the Second was on the throne. After Actium, which drew the Romans from Media and Parthia; Parthia seized Media. Civil wars rent Parthia, and when Augustus was visiting the east, Phraates restored to him the standards, etc., captured from the Romans, Crassus and Antony; Phraates sent his family to Rome, and his favourite wife Urania (or Musa), an Italian slave-girl presented to him by Augustus remained.

About this time, 2 A.D., Urania and Phraates the Fifth, murdered Phraates the Fourth. In 1 A.D. Augustus comes to agreement with Phraates, who resigns Armenia, and despatches his sons to Rome as hostages. He marries his mother, and such is the reaction that he flees to Rome. His coins show his mother, as joint sovereign, giving her the titles of “Queen” and “Goddess.”

An exiled prince, who became Orodes the Second, was placed on the throne, displaying great cruelty, he was soon deposed, and from Rome was sent Vonones the First, the eldest son of the Phraates the Fourth, but he was not a “Parthian” and the upbringing in Roman luxury had spoiled him; he despised the rough Parthians. He defeated Artabanus, and coins bear: obverse, his own head, and the reverse a “Victory with King Onones on his defeat of Artabanus”; but finally the tables were turned, in A.D. 11, Vonones fled to Armenia, was elected to the vacant throne, and was later slain, after Tiberius persuaded him to relinquish the position.—(*To be continued.*)

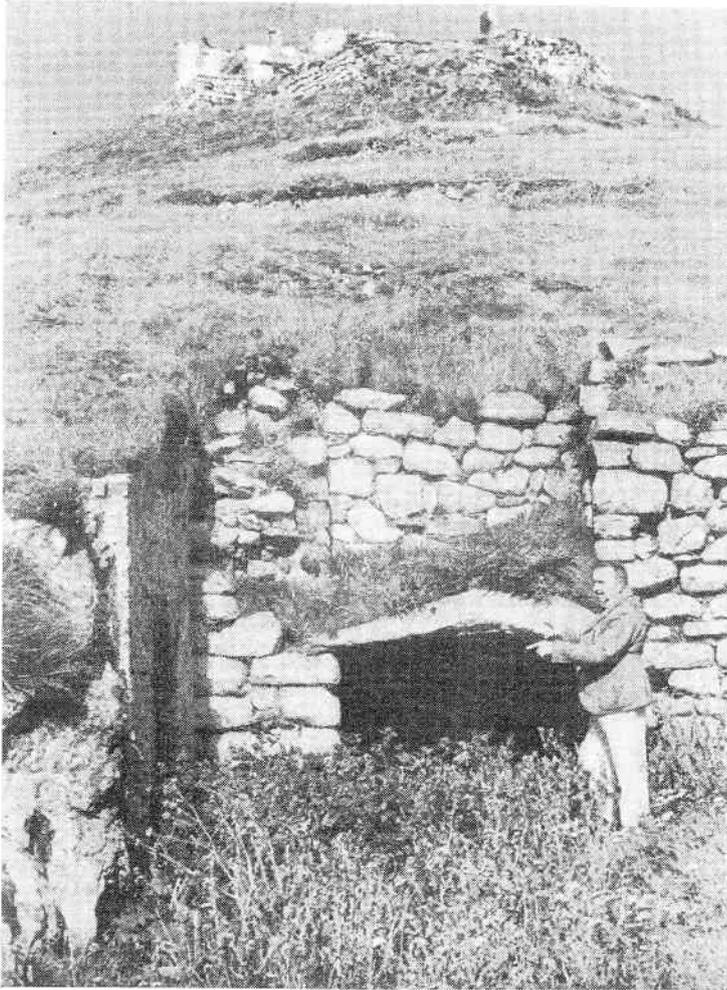


PLATE 1.

Members of the Canterbury Branch of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand at the First Annual Meeting, 24th November, 1948.

Back Row: Messrs. C. Hitching, R. W. Bell, E. F. Harvey, L. Osborne and A. Barker.

Sitting: Miss E. R. Thomas, Mr. W. Salter, Miss S. A. Lange (Sec.-Treas.), Messrs. L. J. Dale (Chairman), F. D. Straw and N. Thomas.



At the top of this photo, the ruins of the old Marisco Castle. In the foreground is Benson's Cave. The man at the mouth of the cave is Mr. Martin Coles Harman.



The twelve roomed house at Mill Combe, built by the Reverend Hudson Heaven, where the present owner now resides.



PLATE 3.

Roman Coins.

1st Row: Nero obv. and rev. lyre player. Galba.

2nd Row: Vespasian obv. and rev. Judea conquered. Titus, Colosseum.

3rd Row: Vespasian obv. and rev. Rome on seven hills, wolf and Tiber. Augustus.

4th Row: Domitian obv. and rev. Minerva holding victory and spear. Tiberius.



Lundy Island: Puffin and half Puffin.



Roman Coins: Vitellius; Nero; Caligula.



Parthian Coins: Mithridates 1st; Phraataces and Musa.



New Zealand two shilling and one shilling, with new obv. legend omitting "Emperor" dated 1948; left, old obverse.

TREASURE TROVE.

FOLLOWING the publication of a paper on treasure trove, Mr. Ernest W. Robson, of Auckland, submitted a series of extracts he had compiled on the subject, as follows:—

All extracts are taken from the *Historical Register of Remarkable Events which have occurred in Northumberland and Durham, Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Berwick-upon-Tweed*, Volumes I, II and III, the former published by John Sykes in 1865 and 1866 and the last one completed on that gentleman's death by T. Fordyce in 1867. These three volumes came out from the old country when we left in the early '30's, having previously been in the library of my grandfather, who was closely connected as a councillor and Justice of the Peace in Newcastle. I mention these few facts as possibly the books are unknown outside that district.

July 30, 1730.

Found near Benwell (the Condercum of the Romans) several urns containing coins, a number were broken but one was preserved and given to the library at Durham.

November, 1752.

The workmen employed in making the military road to Carlisle found a great number of curious Roman coins and medals in the ruins of the old wall near Heddon. They had been deposited in wooden boxes, which were almost decayed, yet several of the medals were as fresh and fair as if newly struck. Some were of silver, but the most part of copper, and a mixture of coarser metal. Several of the curios were purchased by the Royal Society.

January 30, 1756.

A pot was found with 142 pieces of Scots silver coin, about three hundred years old, in the grounds of George Smith, Esq., of Burn-Hall, Durham.

December 27, 1763.

As the hounds of John Tweddell of Unthbank, were hunting they ran a hare on Ramshawmoor, and taking among the rocks, which are there in great abundance, the dogs giving up, a general search began, when one of the men discovered, in a cavity, a large quantity of silver coins, which on examination were found to be shillings and smaller coins of Edward I and II. They were claimed by John Tweddell, Esq., as lord of the manor.

February, 1765.

As two labourers were digging in the manor of Rochester (the Vindobala of the Romans) they found an urn filled with coins of gold and silver, many of which they disposed of, but Mr. Archdeacon, lord of the manor, advertising the same, recovered as treasure trove, near five hundred silver and sixteen golden ones, almost a complete series of those of the higher empire; among these several Othos, most of them in fine preservation.

September, 1766.

Labourers digging near Berwick discovered a quantity of silver coins which appeared to be all Roman of the reign of Augustus Caesar.

December, 1771.

In a large cairn on Turpin's Hill near Winchester a stone chest containing copper coins of Domitian, Antoninus Pius, and Faustina.

January 17, 1772.

As the workmen were clearing away the rubbish of Tyne Bridge the stones were so cemented together that they were obliged to be separated with mail and hammer, and, on separating two stones they discovered a parchment with old characters on it very fresh; but on being exposed to the air the characters disappeared and the parchment mouldered away. The bridge had been built upon the old Roman foundation, as appeared by several coins and medals of Trajan and other Emperors being discovered in the ruins of the old piers. (Note.—There is an illustration of one of these coins. Obv.: Bust of Hadrian, viz., right, head laureated. Rev.: Fortuna standing facing right. The obverse bears no trace of legend, the reverse "Hadrianus Augustus.")

August, 1775.

As two men were pulling down Fenwick Tower near Stamfordham in Northumberland they found several *hundreds* of gold coins of Edward III, in a stone chest, covered with about twelve inches of sand and placed over the arch of the cellar door, which was immediately under the flags of the castle gate. They were supposed to have been concealed on an inroad of David, king of Scots, in 1360, as far as Hexham, whence he carried off the two sons of Sir John Fenwick, who did not long survive the loss, and probably concealed the treasure. The two labourers having quarrelled, the circumstances became divulged, in consequence of which Sir Walter Blackett, Bart., as lord of the manor, had eighty from one man and thirty-five from the other delivered to him. The men had sold great quantities to various people. The impressions were as perfect as if newly minted.

November, 1777.

At Whitburn in the county of Durham were discovered a great number of pieces of silver coin, consisting of a few half-crowns of Charles I and the rest shillings and sixpences of Elizabeth, James and Charles I.

May, 1778.

This month, as the *John and Mary*, Captain Cummins, in the coal trade from Newcastle to London, was casting her ballast on Mr. Cookson's quay at South Shields a discovery was accidentally made of some coins therein; a number of people went to work with riddles, a great number of pieces of gold and silver coins were found: the latter were shillings and sixpences of Queen Elizabeth, and the former, value about 17s each, of the Henrys, and very fresh. The ballast was originally taken up in the river Thames.

March, 1784.

As some men were ploughing the lands of Swaiteshall near Barnardcastle they turned up several pieces of silver, which upon examination were found to be coins of Henry I and which in all probability had lain in the ground nearly 600 years, and what was very remarkable a tradition of treasure being hid there had been handed down in the family for ages.

February 22, 1798.

Workmen digging on the Law-Hill at South Shields discovered the remains of a Roman hypocaust. Among the antiques were a beautiful gold coin of Marcus Aurelius, and several small brass coins from Claudius Gothicus to Valentinian.

August 8, 1792.

As some workmen were pulling down an old house near the market-place, in Stockton, belonging to Mr. James Crowe, they discovered a bag, which had been concealed in an inner wall near the fire-place, which, on examination, was found to contain a considerable number of pieces of silver coin. Some of the coins were worn but others in a fine state of preservation. Among a great variety there were some fine pieces of Edward VI, Queen Mary and Elizabeth, also several half-crowns of Charles I, representing on one side the king on horseback, with arms and weapons, the Welsh feathers behind him and on the reverse the legend: EXVRGAT DEUS DISSIPENTVR INIMICI in a circle near the edge; the RELIG PROT LEG ANG LIBER PAR in two lines across the middle of the area alluding to what His Majesty had declared at the breaking out of the war: "That his intention was to preserve the Protestant religion, laws and liberties of his subjects, and the privileges of Parliament." These were supposed to have been coined at Oxford in 1642, 1643 and 1644. The Bishop of Durham as lord of the manor recovered 840 pieces weighing 9 lbs. 4 ozs.

June, 1804.

As some workmen were pulling down an old house at Gallowhill, in Northumberland, a bag of gold pieces, of the coin of Charles the First was found; the legend Carolus D.G. Mag. Bri. F. et Hi. Rex. and XX behind the head to denote its value in shillings and on the reverse around the arms, Floreat Concordia Regni.

June 21, 1810.

Contained in the foundation stone of the new charity school near the church at North Shields, laid this day, were several coins of the reign of George III.

July 23, 1810.

The foundation stone of the new county courts for Northumberland in the Castle Garth were laid today by Earl Percy. Contained in a hollowed portion of the stone was a suitable brass plate and a set of gold, silver and copper coins of George III.

September 18, 1815.

Many of the tradesmen in Sunderland injudiciously refusing to take the shillings and sixpences that were plain and without remains of the impressions were attacked by the townspeople. After dark a large number of the poor inhabitants met and commenced an attack on the shops of Messrs. Caleb, Wilson, Nattrass, Middlebrook, Walton, Andrews and Hall, all grocers and flower dealers. After the shops had been forced the brave 33rd regiment were called out and the riot act read. The mob was slowly dispersed.

February 13, 1817.

A new silver coin was delivered from the Mint Office, in the Close, to the public in Newcastle, in exchange for the old standard coin of the realm, however defaced or reduced in value or weight by usage.

January 5, 1821.

When some workmen were removing rubbish on the premises of Mr. Fair of Berwick, they found a small wooden box containing 18 gold pieces of Henry VIII, Mary and Elizabeth, and also 20 silver coins of Elizabeth. The whole in good preservation. The gold coins weighed two and a half ounces and the silver two ounces. These were sold as prize to a jeweller.

July 12, 1821.

The workmen employed in converting Gunner-Tower near the Forth-lane into a hall for the incorporated companies of slaters and tylers, found a large quantity of shillings and sixpences of the coinage of Edward I.

January, 1829.

This month one of those rare and beautiful gold coins, a rose-noble of Edward I was found on the estate of William Pawson, Esq. On the impress is the figure of the monarch seated in an ancient ship bearing on his shoulder a shield containing the arms of England, France and Ireland, with the legend "Sic ibi at per undas."

January, 1756.

A labouring man in ditching and scouring a hedge found upon Elvet Moor, 170 pieces of silver coin including in a pot or small urn, of Edward III of England, and Robert II and David kings of Scotland. He carried them to a silversmith in Durham where they were claimed and had by the dean and the chapter as treasure trove found within their manor at Elvet. Upon a division of this money the dean had ten pieces allotted to him, and each of the prebendaries five, and the others of the pieces were deposited in the library, and such of them whose inscriptions and figures were effaced were sold. The value of whole was estimated at five pounds. It is very probable that this money had been deposited in this place at or about the time of the battle of Neville's Cross which was fought in that part of 1346. The urn and a few of the coins are still preserved in the library.

March 14, 1775.

As a farmer at Morton Banks near Bingley was making a drain he found a copper chest containing one hundredweight of Roman silver coins, coined at fifteen different periods from the time of Julius Ceasar downwards. (Comment: This must rank as one of the largest finds of this sort in regard to numbers.)

May, 1856.

During this month whilst some workmen were digging a field at Adderstone they unearthed a vessel containing a number of Roman coins, numbering twenty-eight and a brass scale beam complete with weights; the coins were of various dates from Hadrian to Aurelian inclusive.

And that completes the notes I have taken. There are possibly others within the covers of these ancient chronicles which I shall discover one of these days. I hope that what I have presented will be of some use and interest to the Society.

ROUND-UP OF NEWS.

Greece.—Before the war the English pound bought 550 drachmae; later, trillions of drachmae could not buy an English pound, and now it is held at an official rate of 32,000, but the black market is 38,000, and the English sovereign is exchanged at 220,000 drachmae. The English sovereign, introduced by the British forces, has become the true measure of wealth and currency in Greece, and it is estimated that four million of these sovereigns, and French napoleons are in circulation or in concealment there.

South Africa.—The ex-Director of the South African Mint has recommended a decimal coinage for the Union, based on a florin of 100 cents, and the advantages claimed are simplicity in accounting, and more accurate payment of small purchases "which will, therefore, be cheaper."

British Guiana.—The little countries in the Carribbean Sea use so many different currencies that a visitor reported that he "had to clank through the heat weighed down with £8 17s of silver in my pocket, dragging my trousers down about my knees." Jamaica uses Jamaican pounds, the Bahamas use Bahaman pounds, and Trinidad, Barbados British Guiana and others prefer their own local issues of the West Indian dollar, 4s 2d divided into cents, and these are represented by shillings and florins in a compromise between the decimal and the pence system.

England.—Sir Stafford Cripps stated that the £1 sterling, compared with 1914, was worth .36, or a little over 7s in purchasing power today.

Messrs. Spink & Sons undertook a television broadcast on numismatics from the B.B.C., and the experiment, together with a similar American broadcast, shows that this new departure opens up interesting possibilities for educational lectures in the future.

New Zealand.—The Minister of Finance considers that the issue of bank notes of £2 denomination is not warranted, and said that two-dollar notes issued in the United States and Canada did not affect materially the demand for the single notes. He recalled that the Union Bank of Australia issued a £2 note in New Zealand in the early days. The recent demand for a five-shilling totalisator again brings up the need for a five-shilling bank note to facilitate business, and to avoid carrying heavy coins; it also poses the question whether lighter and smaller coins should be issued. Following the exchange variation, the Reserve Bank of New Zealand will now cash only £1 and 10s New Zealand bank notes up to a limit of £5 in respect of any traveller going to Australia where the New Zealand pound is worth 24s. Australian coin is banned in New Zealand and banks repatriate the money as received. As many as fifty employees in one bank have been working back at night extracting half-silver New Zealand coins to be melted down.

DOUBLE-HEADED PENNIES.

Three perfectly made double-headed pennies were among the interesting coins exhibited by a church dignitary at a recent meeting of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand. All three coins were obtained from the church plate, and one theory advanced was that they were placed there by children at Sunday School, and that the mothers had obtained the pennies from father's pockets while father was "having a lie in" on Sunday morning. Each double-headed penny is worth at least £1 to an evil-doer, but in principle the church authorities do not capitalise on their "ill-gotten gains." The church dignitary explained that he used one of these coins when he had to toss with a fellow-bowler, a sergeant of police, and he added with a twinkle in his eye, "Of course I won."

AUSTRALIAN SOCIETIES.

Numismatic Society of South Australia.—The regular issue of *Numis-News* reflects gratifying progress with an increased membership which now stands at 122. Excellently condensed by Mr. James Hunt Deacon, the news-sheet keeps its scattered members closely in touch with numismatic affairs in the Commonwealth, and gives much useful information. Mr. C. V. Hagley has been elected President for the ensuing year.

Numismatic Association of Victoria.—This Society holds regular meetings in Melbourne and issues regular digests of papers read. This Society, too, shows a pleasing increase in membership, which stood at 134 in 1948.

Numismatic Society of New South Wales.—This Society continues to prosper, and its association with the Sydney University has given an impetus to its activities and status. The President is Mr. R. J. Byatt.

Congratulations are extended to Mr. James Hunt Deacon, F.R.N.S., of the South Australian National Gallery, Adelaide, on being elected Hon. Life Member of the American Numismatic Association. In a world membership of 8,500, there are only nine honorary members of the Association.

DISTRIBUTION OF CROWN PIECE.

The following letter has been received from the Governor of the Reserve Bank of New Zealand, Wellington.

22nd February, 1949.

Dear Madam,

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 14th February, 1949, regarding the issue of Crown Pieces which had been minted in anticipation of the Royal visit to New Zealand this summer.

I should like to express appreciation of your Council's offer of assistance in distributing these coins upon as fair a basis as possible.

For your information, however, I may say that with this end in view the Reserve Bank's intention is to enlist the co-operation of the trading banks in placing supplies at the disposal of every banking office in the Dominion so that all interested persons will have an opportunity of obtaining specimens. In these circumstances I feel that your members will have no difficulty in securing their requirements in their own localities.

So far as export restrictions are concerned the Reserve Bank has not placed any difficulties in the way of collectors abroad who have asked for coinage specimens on the understanding that they are required for educational or other cultural purposes.

Yours faithfully,
E. C. FUSSELL,
Governor.

The Hon. Secretary,
Royal Numismatic Society of N.Z., Inc.,
G.P.O. Box 23,
WELLINGTON.

NOTES OF MEETINGS.

Minutes of the 119th Meeting of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand, Inc. Wellington, 27th September, 1948.

Mr. A. Sutherland in the Chair.

Correspondence.—The Chairman read letters from Fellows and Hon. Fellows expressing their appreciation of the honour conferred upon them.

Boy Scouts' Association.—Decided on motion of Mr. Ferguson and seconded by Mr. Horwood, "That the Boy Scouts' Association Library should be supplied gratis with the Journal for one year."

Binding of Journals.—Decided that the minimum number of each Journal to be retained for binding be 33, to be held by Mr. Hornblow.

Decoration conferred on Mr. Johannes Andersen.—The Chairman stated that the Danish decoration of Knight of Danneborg had been conferred on Mr. Andersen, and after paying a tribute to Mr. Andersen's work, moved, "That a letter of congratulation be sent to him." Seconded by Mr. Ferguson and carried.

Advertising in Journal.—The meeting considered raising the advertising rates and accepting advertisements from leading stamp dealers. Mr. Quinell moved, "That the matter be left in the hands of the Chairman and Mr. Berry." Seconded by Mr. Ferguson and carried.

Current Reports of Numismatic Societies.—Tabled.

New Members.—Mr. Michael McDonald, 30 Rosetta Street, Regents Park, Johannesburg, South Africa.

Papers.—Mr. Horwood read a paper on sea erosion at Dunwich, Suffolk, and Mr. Quinell a paper on Parthians and their coins. Both members were accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

Exhibitions.—It was decided to exhibit the Anson Collection at the next meeting.

The Meeting concluded with the usual social hour and supper.

Minutes of the 120th Meeting of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand, Inc. Wellington, 1st November, 1948.

Mr. A. Sutherland in the Chair. Rev. Canon Stent of Carterton was welcomed to the meeting.

South African Numismatic Society.—A letter from Mr. Edward Miles of the South African Numismatic Society was read. It was decided to place the South African Numismatic Society on the exchange list for the Journal.

Members in Arrears.—Names of three members whose subscriptions were long outstanding were referred to the meeting, which decided that they be struck off the roll.

New Members.—The following new members were elected:—

- Mr. J. T. Boyle, Lautoka, Fiji.
- Mr. Lee F. Hewitt, Chicago, U.S.A.
- Mr. K. M. Fauvel, Masterton.
- Mr. R. A. Foster, Taumarunui.
- Mr. R. D. Straw, Christchurch.

Library List for Journal.—Decided to place the Canterbury Branch Library on the mailing list to obtain one copy per issue; also that officers be authorised to send single copies to intending members.

Tokens and Medals.—Moved by Professor Murray, seconded by Mr. J. Berry, "That the Society should establish a New Zealand collection of tokens and medals and that suitable reference be made in the Journal inviting members to donate specimens for the New Zealand collection." Mr. Quinnell presented a small collection of Japanese invasion paper money to the Society and Canon Stent presented a Licensed Victuallers token. A square iron "Peace Medal," 1919, was received from Mr. J. Sutherland, Timaru. A hearty vote was accorded to the donors of these and other gifts, on the motion of Mr. Hornblow, seconded by Mrs. Inkersell.

Mr. Heenan's Retirement.—The Chairman said that Mr. Heenan would retire after the Royal visit next year, and he thought some recognition should be made in appreciation of his help to the Society over the years. Moved by Mr. Berry, seconded by Mr. Hornblow and carried, "That this Society associate itself with any move to mark the retirement of Mr. J. W. Heenan, and to express appreciation of the assistance he has given during his term of office."

Maori Seals.—The Chairman said that the research into Maori seals was continuing.

Visit of Mr. Mattingly.—It was decided that 29th November be set down as the date for a welcome to Mr. Mattingly, and that two or three members of the Council make suitable arrangements—Wellington members to be circularised.

Decimal Coinage.—The Chairman reported that there was further advice from South Africa indicating that decimal coinage had been recommended for South Africa.

Crown and Medal Commemorating Royal Visit.—The Chairman reported that since last meeting there had been one interview with the Rt. Hon. Mr. Nash and Mr. J. W. Heenan, followed by a meeting with the Hon. Mr. McCombs, Minister of Education, regarding these matters. As yet the Government had made no announcement, but it seemed as if both projects were to go on. Mr. Berry said that there was a suggestion to produce a large medal, and he thought that provided a suitable subsidy could be granted the Society should arrange for the issue itself of a 2-inch Royal visit commemorative medal. He had written to two firms in Australia and one in England asking for estimates for the medal. The Chairman said there was £92 in the medal account but that was earmarked to finance the Tasman medal.

Mr. Quinnell moved, "That a Royal visit 2-inch diameter medal be issued, provided a subsidy could be obtained, by the Society." Mr. Fowler seconded the motion, which was carried.

Honorary Fellowships.—The Chairman referred to the proposal that Mr. Mattingly should, during his visit here, be made an Hon. Fellow of the Society. Professor Murray said that he considered the Society would indeed be honoured by having such a world authority as Mr. Mattingly as one of its Fellows. Mr. Sutherland also nominated Viscount Bledisloe as an Hon. Fellow. After asking the wish of the meeting, the Chairman adjourned the general meeting in order that the Council could consider these recommendations.

Council Meeting.—Professor H. A. Murray moved that an Hon. Fellowship be conferred on Mr. H. Mattingly. This was seconded by Mr. Quinnell and carried.

Mr. Sutherland moved that Lord Bledisloe be made an Hon. Fellow of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand, Inc. This was seconded by Mr. Horwood and carried.

The general meeting then resumed, and the report was adopted.

Press Publicity.—Mr. Weston suggested that reports of meetings be sent to the Press where possible. This was agreed to.

Journal.—Professor Murray said that Professor Sir Thomas Hunter had sent a copy of the Society's Journal to Professor Gilbert Murray at Oxford University, and had received complimentary remarks on the publication.

Paper.—The Chairman read a collection of short extracts from publications relating to "Treasure Trove" which had been prepared by Mr. E. W. Robson of Auckland.

Exhibits.—The Anson Collection.

Errata.—Journal No. 4, page 123: "Establishment of the Bank of England, 1674" should be "1694."

Page 150: "Robinson, E. W." should read "Robson, E. W."

Minutes of 121st Meeting held at Wellington on 29th November, 1948.

Mr. A. Sutherland presided over an attendance of about seventy members and their friends, and members of the Wellington Branch of the N.Z. Classical Association.

Welcome to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Mattingly. The President extended a cordial welcome to these distinguished visitors, and said that this was the first occasion on which the Society was privileged to hear a world authority on the science of numismatics. He referred to Mr. Mattingly's research work during his thirty-five years with the British Museum and said that his monumental works on Roman coins would perpetuate his name in that field. Mr. Sutherland added that members throughout the country hoped that Mr. Mattingly would deliver lectures in the other University cities, and would be able to meet as many members as possible. (Lecture reported elsewhere.)

In moving a vote of thanks, Professor H. A. Murray, a member of the Council, and President of the Wellington Branch of the New Zealand Classical Association, paid a tribute to the lecturer for his interesting address, and said that Mr. Mattingly's works on numismatics would live as a monument to his industry and painstaking research.

A vote of thanks was also accorded to Mr. James Berry for assisting in the screening of the slides. The President, on behalf of the Society, conferred an Hon. Fellowship on Mr. Mattingly who suitably responded.

At the conclusion of the meeting all present were entertained to supper arranged by Mrs. W. D. Ferguson, Mrs. J. Berry, Mrs. Inkersell and Miss E. Emerson.

CANTERBURY BRANCH.

Minutes of the Fifth Meeting of the Canterbury Branch of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand, held at the Museum, Rolleston Avenue, on Thursday, 26th August, 1948.

Mr. L. J. Dale in the Chair.

New Members.—Two further members have joined since our last meeting: Dr. Basil Wilson and Master Graham Cresswell, now making the local membership 26.

Canterbury Centennial Medal.—Steps taken to date were detailed regarding the proposal to issue medals for Canterbury's Centennial in 1950. The meeting unanimously approved such an issue, probably on the same lines as that taken by the Dunedin Association. The Secretary was asked to write to the committee in support of the project.

Presentation.—Purchase of an Otago Medal for Dr. Oliver was authorised. This was mounted and suitably ticketed. As this was Dr. Oliver's last meeting as Director of the Canterbury Museum, reference was made to the gracious and sympathetic help he had given in the formation of our Branch. The Chairman stated that there was no doubt that the Museum was the ideal location for our meetings, and we were grateful for having it made available. He presented the gift to Dr. Oliver with the good wishes of the members for his future, and also for the successful completion of his book.

Papers.—(1) "Lundy Island and its Coinage," by Mr. Alan Barker. (Reported elsewhere.) Mr. Alan Barker was thanked for his paper (his first), which was greatly appreciated by all present.

(2) The second paper by Mr. Wil Salter was entitled "Coin Denominations." He gave a resumé of the subject and exhibited a loose-leaf index book in which he had entered every denomination name with its country and remarks. As he had been accumulating this data over a number of years the result was a lengthy and interesting compendium of information. Typical sheets were distributed to members. It is hoped eventually to file a very full and revised copy of this in the Branch library for reference.

In moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Salter, Mr. Robb expressed the interest of all members in this encyclopaedic catalogue which should be of use to all members.

Exhibits.—A number of coins of unusual denominations were exhibited, including Siamese ticals, Indian chuckram, Slovakia halieru, Swiss half batzen, Jersey 1/13 shilling, Albanian lek, and others. Mr. Barker also showed a half and one puffin of Lundy Island.

The Minutes of the Sixth Meeting of the Canterbury Branch, held at the Canterbury Museum, Rolleston Avenue, on 14th October, 1948.

Mr. L. J. Dale in the Chair.

New Members.—Canterbury members now included Mr. D. McMillan and Miss McMillan, and pleasure was expressed at their joining the Society.

"Friends of the Canterbury Museum."—The Chairman recommended membership in this organisation to those present, and after discussion it was unanimously decided that our Society should join

as a corporate member. The meeting contributed 17s towards the fee of £1. Good wishes and thanks were also expressed to the Director.

No. 4 Numismatic Journal was favourably commented on and congratulations were expressed to Miss Thomas on the printing of her paper on "Treasure Trove," and also to Mr. Allen on his paper on "Hudson Bay" in the same issue.

Canterbury's Centennial, 1950.—Some of the ideas for displays and celebrations in this connection were briefly discussed, and it was generally felt that the Canterbury Branch of the Society would be delighted to assist with any of the work from a numismatic-historic angle, when projects were being prepared. Another excellent suggestion was that if anything approaching a reasonably full record of the Canterbury Token Issuers could be completed, its issue in booklet form would be an excellent centennial effort from our Branch.

The Secretary reported that Mr. Laurie Osborne had very kindly printed a supply of letter heads for the cost of the paper only, and he was warmly thanked for his assistance.

Papers.—This portion of the evening was devoted entirely to several papers furthering our historical survey of Canterbury's token issuing business firms. These were as follows:—

Mason & Struthers—Miss E. R. Thomas.

Beath & Co.—Miss E. R. Thomas.

W. Pratt and Hobday & Jobberns—Miss S. A. Lange.

E. Reece—Mr. L. R. Denny.

H. J. Hall—Mr. L. J. Dale.

Miss Thomas, in particular, prepared very full surveys of the two firms dealt with.

Members were asked to intensify their efforts particularly on the firms mentioned in the June report.

The First Annual Meeting of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand, Inc. (Canterbury Branch), held at the Canterbury Museum, Rolleston Avenue, Christchurch, on 24th November, 1948, at 7.30 p.m.

Mr. L. J. Dale in the Chair.

New Members.—Mr. F. D. Straw of Richmond was welcomed and pleasure was expressed at his joining our Society.

Sec.-Treas. Report.—Miss S. A. Lange read the report for the year as follows:—

In the short space of a year since our inaugural meeting, our Branch seems to have created an identity for itself and we do feel we are setting out in the numismatic path in the right direction.

Locating our meetings in the cultural atmosphere of the Canterbury Museum has been a great help to us, and we wish sincerely to thank Dr. W. R. B. Oliver and the new Director Mr. Roger Duff, who have both been most co-operative. Maybe in the days that lie ahead the Canterbury Branch of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand, Inc. will be able to repay some of the kindnesses from the foster parent.

No doubt, the enthusiasm of our Chairman, Mr. L. J. Dale, has been a big factor in our first year, and help from Mr. Allan Sutherland and the Council Members is also gratefully acknowledged,

We feel particularly pleased with the original papers a number of our members have produced, and we congratulate them on their excellent efforts.

During the year six meetings have been held and the number of North Canterbury members of our Society stands at 29. Attendances have been well worth while and the blending of older and younger members seems a very happy one.

For the year ahead there are several matters which we hope to proceed with. Two of the most important being the establishment of our Branch's Numismatic Library, and the compiling of all known facts about our Christchurch token issuers. It is hoped that a well worth-while medal will be struck for our Canterbury Centennial in 1950, and our Branch naturally will render every possible assistance to the authorities.

Financial Statement.—We are pleased to report that we have been self-supporting and have finished the year with a small credit balance.

Election of Officers.—The following were appointed for the year 1949:—

Chairman: Mr. L. J. Dale, F.R.N.S.

Secretary-Treasurer: Miss S. A. Lange.

Committee: Chairman, Secretary, Messrs. C. M. Robb and W. Salter.

Auditor: Miss E. R. Thomas.

Librarian: Mr. L. Osborne.

Members of the Society expressed their grateful appreciation to the Chairman and Secretary for their work in the first year of the Branch's existence. Opinion was that an excellent foundation was now laid and the future appeared to be very promising.

Business:

(1) The next meeting date was set down tentatively for 23rd February, 1949, and it was left to Mr. Dale to select a suitable paper from some other society or magazine.

At this stage the meeting was adjourned while a photograph was taken of those members present.

The meeting was then continued and the visit of Mr. Harold Mattingly, M.A., F.S.A., F.B.A., an eminent numismatist from London was discussed. It was proposed that we join with the University folk and others interested to arrange a combined lecture at the University some time in January or February, at a time suitable to Mr. Mattingly. This was to be finalised by the executive.

(2) The Chairman was asked to investigate the possibility of Mr. James Berry the designer of Wellington giving us an address in the coming year.

How I Started Coin Collecting.—This was the topic for the next half hour or so. Members gave their stories in brief and it was interesting in each case how this hobby had been fostered. One member said how she had sold a doll's dress at the age of ten for a farthing and later bought her father's collection. Another had been given a Greek half drachma and thinking it a funny sixpence had kept it as a keepsake of his mother. Some had been inspired by the 1940 Centennial efforts and also interest had grown from stamp collecting. Curious money for change had been the beginning of another collection. One's business activities had brought him a box of about 100 odd Roman and Greek coins in exchange. An

interesting use for a coin was given in a story when a farthing had been soldered to a packing case probably as a seal, and a further one where a piece of Italian lava had encased a coin. The last war seemed to have brought the odd specimen of foreign currency into the hands of the school boy and such trading as a mouth organ or some school lunch seemed to be quite the thing!

A gift of a set of Maundy money had been the first interest of another numismatist. Two New Guinea shillings had given the idea of coin collecting to another member when he saw them among some current coinage in a missionary's pocket. Then the missionary said he had some Edward VIII pennies at home and would send some for a film on his return. This was the immediate touch-stone for him. So it seemed that the door to numismatology was opened to all at some time, and it was pleasing that every member contributed to this interesting reminiscent discussion.

The remainder of the meeting was occupied with the "Library half hour," when interesting volumes from the Canterbury Library of the Museum were exhibited, also several by members. Mr. E. F. Harvey arranged this display which was appreciated by all present.

As it was desired to work gradually towards building a comprehensive numismatic library, Mr. L. Osborne was elected Librarian, and various schemes for obtaining books were considered. Mr. Hitchings donated a small volume entitled *Collecting Coins*, by Chamberlain, and it was hoped that further donations would follow. With the consent of the Museum Director it was hoped to house the Society's library there.

CANTERBURY BRANCH ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF
NEW ZEALAND, INC.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure

RECEIPTS				EXPENDITURE			
	£	s	d		£	s	d
Donations	2	12	0	Stationery	1	18	2
Subscriptions	1	15	0	Postages	1	4	6
Sale of Tokens	2	0	0	Presentation Medal		8	6
				Printing Block		14	0
				Subscription	1	0	0
				Balance, cash in hand	1	1	10
	£6	7	0		£6	7	0

17th November, 1948.

S. A. LANGE, Secretary-Treasurer.

AUCKLAND BRANCH.

Minutes of the Auckland Branch of the Royal Numismatic Society of
New Zealand (Inc.).

The inaugural meeting of the Branch was held at the Y.M.C.A., Auckland, on Wednesday, February 23rd, 1949, at 8 p.m. Mr. A. Sutherland, Dominion President, was asked to take the chair for the meeting.

Present.—Messrs. J. C. Entrican, Esq., T. W. Attwood, Esq., E. W. Robson, Esq., A. Robinson, Esq., R. Sellars, Esq., T. P. Southern, Esq., E. J. Morris, Esq., A. Sutherland, Esq., D. O. Atkinson, Esq., N. Soloman, Esq.

Apologies.—The following are members who tendered their apologies for absence but intimated their full support and future co-operation: Professor E. M. Blaiklock, M. A. Jamieson, Esq., Dr. G.

Archev, D. C. Price, Esq., T. O. Dyer, Esq., N. B. Spencer, Esq., C. E. Menzies, Esq., Johannes C. Andersen, Esq.

Foundation Members.—It was resolved that the eighteen members set out above constitute the foundation members of the Auckland Branch.

Formation.—It was moved by Mr. Robson and seconded by Mr. Attwood that an Auckland Branch of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand be formed. The motion was carried unanimously.

Election of Officers.—The following officers were elected: Chairman, J. C. Entrican; Vice-Chairman, T. W. Attwood; Executive, R. Sellars, T. P. Southern; Secretary & Treasurer, E. W. Robson; Auditor, A. Robinson.

Meetings.—Decided that the Branch shall meet on the first Wednesday in each month commencing on the 6th of April, 1949. The commencing time for meetings to be 7.30 p.m.

Venue.—The question of arranging a permanent meeting place was left in the hands of the Executive. The location to be preferably a public institution which would be in keeping with the work of the Society.

Quorum.—The quorum for meetings of the Executive would be three members, the Chairman to have the right of a casting vote.

Rules.—Subject to the required amendments the Rules of the parent Society to be adopted as the Rules of the Auckland Branch.

Branch Subscription.—Decided that members of Branch shall pay an additional levy of two shillings and sixpence for the period ending 31st May, 1949, and that an amount, sufficient to cover Branch expenses, shall be fixed at the first annual meeting for the ensuing twelve months.

Commencement of Year.—Decided that the Branch financial year shall conform with the parent body and shall commence on the first day of June each year.

Business for next Meeting.—It was resolved that in addition to the general business to be discussed at the next meeting it would be desirable to have a short paper read to the members and Mr. Sutherland consented to present a paper on New Zealand Tokens.

Votes of Thanks.—Mr. Entrican expressed the feelings of the members present in a vote of thanks to Mr. Allan Sutherland for his assistance in the business that had been conducted during the evening, and also for the pleasure felt by all present at having the President of the Society in attendance at our first meeting. Congratulations were extended on him on being elected a Fellow of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand.

A special vote of thanks was also expressed to Mr. A. Robinson for the work he had carried out in convening this meeting and the gathering together of the Society members in this city. The meeting ended at 9.45 p.m.

COINS REFLECT HISTORY.

Extracts from the Todd Memorial Lecture, Sydney, 1948, by Harold Mattingly, M.A., F.B.A., F.S.A., F.R.N.S., F.R.N.S. (N.Z.)

The Roman Imperial coinage attends the Empire during its whole course, reign by reign. It can usually be dated closely—often to a single year. It can usually be assigned with confidence to its mints, of which the capital, Rome, is naturally the chief. It provides us with a marvellous gallery of portraits, with the fullest possible record of the different styles and legends of the Emperors, with pregnant references to events, familiar in history, and with a steady commentary on those events and the policies centred on them. Above all, it is continuous. It takes us out of set periods and keeps us in touch with the Empire along its whole course, and it is the only surviving source that does so. Therein lies its great, its unique, value for the student.

The coins of the Empire fall into two main series: the gold and silver issued by the Emperor, and the bronze and copper—subordinate token coinage—issued by the Senate. The mark of senatorial control (S.C.—*Senatus Consulto*) is as normally present on the token coinage as it is absent from the precious metals. But it is becoming every day more plain that the distinction is rather one of form than of final intention. The Emperor elected to give his arrangements for the token coinage the stamp of official approval in the Senate, but he never let the control of it pass out of his own hands.



That is why we find such coinage with the mark S.C. even in imperial provinces like Gaul or Syria. It is quite inconceivable that the Emperor should have risked having propaganda, in a sense contrary to his own, put abroad by an independent Senate. It would have been seriously confusing to the public, and it might so easily have become dangerous to the Emperor himself. For, while the Empire could be seen to bear the stamp of eternity, the individual Emperor and dynasty were subject to the vicissitudes of fortune. There was indeed a dyarchy of a kind, a dual government by Emperor and by Senate. But the distinction was really no more than that of two ways in which the Emperor could proceed, with his self-chosen advisers, or in partnership with the Senate as representative of the Roman State—S.P.Q.R. (*Senatus populusque Romanus*). The only business transacted by the Senate alone was of subordinate importance.

In what capacity would the Emperor speak to his Romans. He had so many parts to play that it is often difficult to decide in what particular guise he is appearing on any one occasion. To the army

he was "Imperator," Commander-in-Chief. To the Senate he was "Chief," chief citizen (*princeps*) and the chief Senator (*princeps senatus*). To the provincials he was the great ruler, with a power more than regal, though officially he lacked the name of king. To the flatterers and to some honest, simple-minded people he was a god. To his slaves and freedmen, and again to some servile folk, he was lord and master. To the Roman people he, as holder of the tribunician power, was their traditional representative and protector. In religion he was *pontifex maximus*, chief priest. But we have still to find some more general conception, in which all these aspects may be summed up. *Imperator*, *tribunicia potestate*, *pontifex maximus*, all describe some facets of the Emperor's power, but he remains, in all the uniqueness of his position, one. The Romans tried to express this when they described him, unofficially, as *princeps*, No. 1 in the State, or, officially, as *Augustus*, "the revered"—a title not actually of a god, but bordering on the divine sphere.

Like most potentates of all times, the Emperors were great builders. As we have seen, they created the Colosseum and restored the Circus; they dedicated new temples to the gods and repaired the old. They commemorated their victories by triumphant arches and columns. They beautified the city with many a forum and basilica. Many such buildings are recorded on coins, and in some cases the coin record is absolutely all that survives to give us an idea of lost greatness. Let us glance at a few that are thus recorded: the forum and column of Trajan, the Basilica Ulpia of the same Emperor, the arch of Trajan, the temple of Concord, the temple of Divus Augustus, the temple of Peace and many more. Trajan, in particular, was never weary of building; when he had nothing new to make, he restored other men's work. The wits said that his name was like the weed that grows everywhere on walls. The Colossus which stood in front of the Golden House, showing Nero as sun-god, was transferred to a new site by Titus; it is represented on a coin of the latter. Rome had always been famous for her aqueducts, and the Emperors Claudius and Trajan constructed new ones. Trajan represented his by a figure reclining on a rock, resting his elbow on an urn. The public roads of Italy were another pride of the Romans. Augustus had repaired them at his own expense, and Trajan added a new one, the Via Traiana, and represented it by a figure reclining on a rock and holding a wheel.

Finally, we may glance at a few wider conceptions, which might be built up out of a linked series of types and which an Emperor might wish to present emphatically to his subjects. One such conception is that of *Aeternitas*, the eternity of Rome, with which the eternity of the Imperial house is bound up, linked to the permanency of the natural order. Sun and moon are its natural symbols, or the phoenix, the bird reborn out of its own ashes. Present, past and future are bound together in an harmonious whole. But interest in the future was feeble compared with interest in the present and the past. There was no general ideal of progress: the Romans hardly had a word for the idea. The characteristic thought of the present is that of the ideal state, the *optimus status rerum*, ensured by an *optimus princeps*, endowed with the virtues necessary to produce it. Every reign that had time to define its programme tried to restate this theme of the *optimus status rerum* in new terms. But the present was firmly rooted in the past. The Romans had a deep respect for tradition, for the *mos maiorum*, and were not guilty of the modern heresy of imagining themselves "self-made."

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