

**CATALOGUE OF A SELECTION
FROM COLONEL LEAKE'S
GREEK COINS: EXHIBITED
IN THE FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM**

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Catalogue of a Selection from Colonel Leake's Greek Coins: Exhibited in the fitzwilliam museum
by Churchill Babington

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CHURCHILL BABINGTON

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CATALOGUE

OF A SELECTION FROM

COLONEL LEAKE'S GREEK COINS,

EXHIBITED IN

THE FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM,

BY

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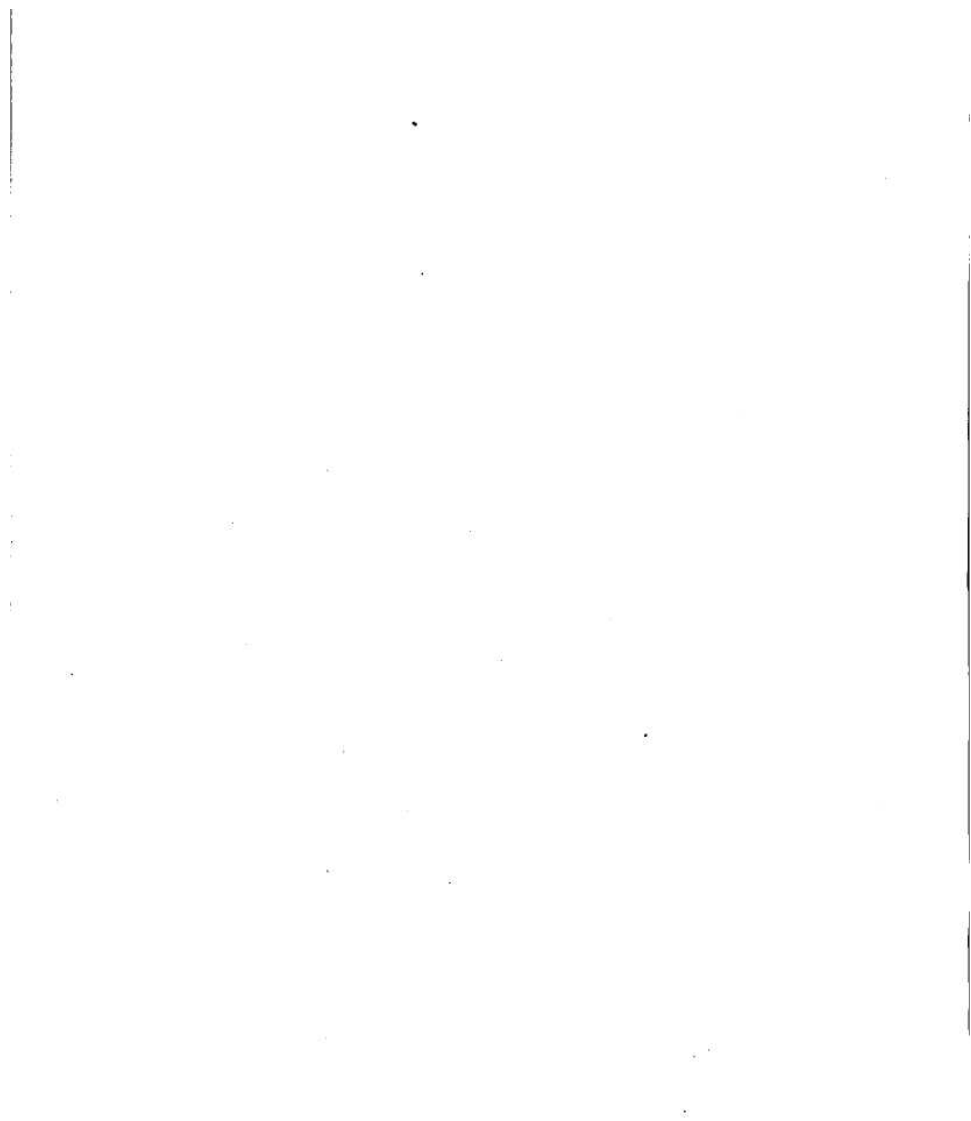
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C A T A L O G U E
OF A SELECTION FROM
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Size of the Coins.

Scale of Mionnet.

N.B. The tickets in the glass-case, nearly the whole of which are written by Col. Leake, are placed *above* the coins to which they refer; and the following Catalogue is designed as much as possible to afford information in *addition* to what they supply. Consequently the types and legends are not ordinarily described at length. The denominations of value, as stater, tetradrachm, &c. are usually added for the gold and silver coins; but the values of the copper coins are for the most part unknown. These last indeed, to speak generally, appear to be rather tokens than coins proper, and so not to be adjusted with accuracy to any scale; the coinages of Italy, Sicily, and Egypt offer some exceptions to this remark. The whole question, however, of denominations and scales is at present in a perplexed and uncertain state. The brown tickets indicate that the coins below them are electrotypes, being impressions in most cases of very rare or finely preserved originals. The abbreviations AV, EL, AR, AE, which occur on the tickets stand for aurum, electrum, argentum, and aes, indicating the metal of which the coin is made, whether gold, electrum, silver, or copper. The figures on the tickets refer to the sizes of the coins, and are taken from the scale of Mionnet which is given above. The weight of the gold and silver coins is also added in grains Troy; the weight of the copper (or brass) coins being in general not given, because coins in this metal (which varies somewhat in coins of different places) have usually lost more in weight than those in other metals. The abbreviation R on the tickets is used for the *reverse* or back view of the coin; R or L often stand for

"to the right" or "to the left," i. e. to the right or left of the spectator. Thus on ticket n. 2, "Horseman R" means that the horseman is moving toward the spectator's right hand: on ticket n. 25, "Head Perseus L" signifies that the head is facing towards the left hand of the spectator. *Ec.* is an abbreviation for *ecergue*, or the lower part of the reverse, which is divided from the rest by a straight line, or otherwise. See no. 60, &c. The open space of a coin is called its field, designated *f* on the tickets, see no. 13, &c.; upon it are often found adjuncts i. e. secondary types, or monograms, the meaning of both which can only in comparatively few cases be discovered. When Col. Leake's ticket reads "another similar," it indicates that his cabinet contains another specimen of the same coin; in such cases a fuller description is added in this Catalogue. In printing the Greek legends no attempt has been made to imitate the ancient forms of the letters.

Col. Leake's divisions of coins into classes is here followed, though it would have been much better if he had simply followed Eckhel, who arranges the coins of Kings, not apart by themselves, but in connection with the regions over which they reigned. Thus the coins of *Macedonia in genere*, and the coins of the various cities of Macedonia, are in Eckhel's system, now almost universally adopted, viewed in juxtaposition with those of the Kings of Macedonia. In Col. Leake's *Nismmata Hellenica*, which is the printed Catalogue of his collection, will sometimes be found information, which is not contained either on the tickets or in this Catalogue. To this, a copy of which is kept in the Library, the reader is referred.

FIRST DIVISION.

COINS OF KINGS AND DYNASTS.

A. EUROPE.

1. *Kings of Macedonia.*

- 1 Alexander I. (Reigned about B.C. 500—454). *Obverse.* Male figure, wearing the Macedonian hat (causia) and light cloak (chlamys), bearing two spears, walking behind a bridled horse. *Reverse.* Sunk square, usually called 'quadrate incuse,' including another square of four divisions, around which is the legend ΑΑΞΑΝΔΡΟ.

B. M., on Leake's ticket, indicates that the original of this very rare piece is in the British Museum. If the Alexander of this coin is Alexander I. of Macedon, as is generally assumed, it is the earliest regal coin known to us having a legend. Some of the Darics (see n. 84 in this selection) may perhaps be as old, but they bear no inscriptions. With the types and weight of this coin compare one of the Orescii in Thrace (n. 96 of European Greece). It is difficult to speak with certainty about the scale of the old Macedonian coinage before Alexander the Great; many, as L. Müller, consider it to be Eginetan, and call n. 10 a didrachm or two-dram piece of that scale. Col. Leake however seems to have reason to doubt the correctness of this view, and rather inclines to suspect it to be of the Euboic standard, whose unit (or dram) appears to have been from 55 to 57 grains Troy. (The Eginetan drachma, as determined from coins of Agina, is about 95 grains Troy.) In this view n. 10 is a tetradrachm (four-dram piece) and the present coin an octodrachm. The octodrachm of eight-dram piece is of very rare occurrence, and surpassed in weight only by certain pieces of Athens (*Europ. Greece*, n. 24) and Sicily (n. 75, 128—132 in this selection). In Queipo's view it is a hexadrachm of a system which he calls Olympic; he recognises also another system, which he calls Bosphoric, in the Macedonian money before Alexander, whose drachmæ weigh about 75, and 57 grains Troy, respectively. (*Essai sur les systèmes métriques et monétaires*, Vol. I. p. 144. Paris, 1859.) His Olympic may perhaps be considered as reduced Eginetan, and his Bosphoric as Euboic weight.

It will be observed that the reverse presents a transition from the rough incuse of the earliest coins (see n. 84 below, and nos. 70, 71, 80, 81 in Asiatic Greece in this selection) to the later coins in which the reverse has a fully developed type of its own. The termination of the genitive, O and not OT, seems to be universal before the age of Philip II., in whose reign the other form first appeared, as it seems, and became speedily almost universal, though lingering traces of the older form are found as late as Lysimachus.

- 2 Archelaus (B.C. 413—399). Perhaps a light tetradrachm; see previous remarks.

This coin has no legend, but a similar one in the British Museum reads ΑΡΧΕΛΑΟ. The goat, which gave the name to the Macedonian capital *Æga*, previously called Edessa, refers to the legend of Caranus (see Leake *Nim. Hell. Kings*, p. 1), and was the symbol of the Macedonian empire (Dan. viii. 5). The advance in art on this coin as compared with the last deserves notice, the types of the obverses being nearly similar.

- 3 Do., the coin reading ΑΡΧΕΛΑΟ. Denomination doubtful; possibly a tridrachm, more probably a very heavy didrachm.

The youthful head, having the diadem, is considered by some to be young Hercules, by others to be Apollo. It is not a portrait of Archelaus, for no regal portraits appear on coins before the age of the successors of Alexander.

- 4 Amyntas II. (B.C. 393—369). Same denomination. The original is in the British Museum.

- 5 Do. Same denomination, but lighter. *Obv.* Head of Hercules in lion's scalp to right. *Rev.* ΑΜΥΝΤΑ. Horse to right.

- 6 Do. This is among the earliest Greek copper coins.

- 7 Philip II. (B.C. 359—336). Gold didrachm, or stater. (Attic scale).

- 8 Do. Do.

These beautiful gold coins of Philip, which had a wide circulation down to Roman times, are peculiarly interesting as being the prototype of the early British gold coinage. (See British and English coins in this selection, n. 1,

&c.) They were worth 20 Attic silver drachms, i.e. about 20 francs.

Scarcely any European gold is earlier than Philip II. The head of the obverse is most probably Apollo; the biga, or two-horse chariot of the reverse, commemorates Philip's Olympian victories. See *Num. Hell.* (Kings), p. 3. The adjuncts (the thunderbolt on n. 7 and the trident on n. 8) indicate the places of mintage on the coins of Philip and succeeding kings: the thunderbolt is probably for Pella, and the trident for Amphipolis. See L. Müller's *Monnaies de Philippe II.* nos. 1 and 59.

- 9 Do. Half-quarter stater. The cantharus is more especially the cup of Bacchus, and is often seen in his hand. See a vase in case III. in this Museum.
- 10 and 11 Do. Tetradrachm and didrachm (Euboic scale?). Both struck at Pella.
- 12 Do. Copper coin. *Obv.* Head of Apollo (or young Hercules) to right. *Rev.* Horseman, below a monogram. Place of mintage uncertain.
- 13 Alexander III. (B.C. 336—323). Gold tetradrachm or doublestater, with the thunderbolt for Pella. (Müller, n. 4).
- 14 Do. Stater. The gold stater or didrachm of Alexander the Great had an immense circulation, and was struck in a great many cities both of Europe and Asia, and the same may be said of his silver tetradrachms (nos. 16, 17).
- L. Müller in his *Numismatique d'Alexandre Le Grand* (Copenhagen, 1855) enumerates between 1700 and 1800 varieties of the coins of Alexander, the greater part of which are gold staters, and silver tetradrachms, and drachms; differing from each other only in the adjuncts; from which the place of mintage can sometimes be determined. The present coin is n. 633 of Müller, and is considered to belong to Northern Greece, the precise place being uncertain.
- 15 Do. Quarter stater. The bow and club relate to Hercules.
- 16 Do. Silver tetradrachm. *Obv.* Head of Hercules in lion's scalp to right. *Rev.* ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ, Jupiter sitting on a throne.
- Below throne KA; in the field a monogram. Struck according to Müller (n. 717) in Northern Greece.
- The silver as well as the gold money of Alexander the Great is adjusted to the Attic scale; the gold money only of Philip being so adjusted. The Attic drachma properly weighs about 67 grains Troy; but the tetradrachms of Alexander vary in weight considerably, being sometimes heavier, more usually lighter than this standard. In the following pages, by tetradrachm, drachma, stater, &c., the Attic tetradrachm, &c. is intended, the contrary not appearing.
- 17 Do. Do., reading ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ only.
- The arms of the throne of the reverse of this rare variety terminate in winged Victories, which on some other coins, has no back but more usually a back with plain arms. The figure in the field is believed by L. Müller to represent a dancing Apollo holding the sacred fillet in both hands, being probably a copy of a statue of an Apollo in some temple at Sicyon, where this coin is considered to have been struck. (Müller, n. 866, p. 219.)
- 18 Philip III. (Aridæus) (B.C. 323—316). Gold stater, types those of Alexander (n. 14). The AY in the field of the reverse indicates, in L. Müller's opinion, that the coin was struck in Lycia. (*Monnaies de Philippe III.* n. 96.)
- 19 Demetrius Poliorcetes (B.C. 294—287). Tetradrachm, on the obverse of which is his portrait. The Neptune, holding an acrostolium, of the reverse, alludes to the naval victory gained by his father Antigonus and himself over Ptolemy Soter in Cyprus, B.C. 306. Very fine work.
- 20 Lysimachus (B.C. 286—280). Gold stater. *Obv.* Portrait of Alexander the Great, as the young