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*Roman Provincial Coinage. Vol. 3. Nerva, Trajan and Hadrian (AD 96–138).
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British Museum Press; Paris: Bibliothèque Nationale 2015, 1322 pages, 340
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The present book is the third volume in the series *Roman Provincial Coinage*, which is dedicated to the provincial minting activity, individual types, and standards of coinage during the reigns of the emperors Nerva, Trajan, and Hadrian (AD 96–138). The volumes are published as part of the *Roman Provincial Coinage* project, which is the result of the international collaboration of a number of scholars and numismatists. The aim of the project is to create a comprehensive database for Roman provincial coinage, which will serve as an aid to future research.¹ The project was implemented in 1992, when the first volume in the series, concerning the Julio-Claudian period, was published. Overall, ten volumes, up to the period of Diocletian's reign, are to be published.² The series is based upon the principal collections (such as the Ashmolean Museum, the American Numismatic Society, the Bibliothèque Nationale de France, etc.) and relevant publications.

Volume 3 is focused on the reigns of the emperors Nerva, Trajan, and Hadrian (AD 98–138) and may be of use in analyzing and seeking correlations between provincial coinage and Nerva's short-lived period of political activity, Trajan's campaigns, and Hadrian's peregrinations. The territorial scope corresponds with the Roman provinces, encompassing the regions of Cyrene, Crete, Achaia, Macedonia, Thrace, Moesia, the northern coast of the Black Sea, Bithynia and Pontus, Asia, Lycia and Pamphilia, Galatia and Cappadocia, Cilicia, Cyprus, Syria, Judea, Arabia, and Egypt. The book consists of two parts: a catalogue and a general introduction with indexes, maps, and tables of coins. The arrangement

¹ *Roman Provincial Coinage* online: <http://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/>.

² Published: the Julio-Claudian period (44 BC–AD 69); the Flavians (AD 69–96); Nerva–Hadrian (AD 96–138); the Antonines (AD 138–192) – online; Gordian I–Gordian III. Province Asia (AD 238–244); Trajan Decius–Uranian Antoninus (AD 249–254).

of the volume is very similar to the other parts of this series, except for the fact that the main introduction is placed at the beginning of Part 2 and not before the catalogue as in the previous volumes.

In the introduction to the catalogue, prominence is given to references to individual collections, the most important sources in the bibliography, and lists of the pertinent minting centres, indicating their territorial extent. Each province is briefly characterized: we are provided with such information as the details in regards to the province's establishment, its borders, its territorial extent, its minting output, and its division into particular regional centres. This essential information is complemented with references to the fundamental literature on the coinage in each region. Furthermore, various aspects of coinage, including such primary issues as chronology, attribution, and a variety of other assumptions, are discussed. For the most part, the information given includes details on standards, metrological values, types, and references to further bibliography.

The general introduction provides the historical background, production, denominations, images, and legends of the coins. The chronology of the individual coins of Trajan and Hadrian can be determined on the basis of titles such as *Dacicus* (beginning in December 102), *Optimus* (from June 114), *Parthicus* (from February 116), *Pater Patriae* (probably from 128), and *Olympius* (probably from 129). Provincial coins also feature images of various members of imperial families (Plotina, Sabina, Aelius, Marciana, Matidia) or people associated with them (Antinous). Unfortunately, determining the correct dates of production of certain coins is very often complicated or even impossible. Some of those coins have no titles, dates, or any specific portrait (much like the pseudo-autonomous coins attributed to cities in the provinces of Asia or Judea). The part referring to the historical background is complemented with references to the primary bibliography on a given reign, including its period and coinage.

The production of individual denominations is described in the next chapter. Gold coinage was issued in Rome and the Bosphoran Kingdom, while silver provincial coins were minted for Cyrene, Crete, Lycia, Galatia, Cappadocia, and Syria, but also for particular cities in Bithynia and Pontus, Cilicia, and Syria. Based on the stylistic similarities of the coin dies, Kevin Butcher divides the silver coinage minted in Trajan's reign into three groups: those struck in Rome, those in Alexandria, and those in Antioch (or, possibly, using the dies made there). The examination results for the silver content have been unsatisfactory, as the content values for the coins prove to be very similar. The centralization of the production of silver coinage was characteristic of the reigns of the Flavian dynasty, of Nerva, and of Trajan. Certain types of the bronze coins intended for circulation in the territories of Cappadocia, Cyprus, Cyrene, and Syria were

produced in Rome, but this specific aspect would call for further, and more thorough, research. However, the policy of centralized production underwent a change during Hadrian's reign. Among other problems subject to consideration, let us mention the names of individual denominations and the quantities of the minted silver coinage in the respective periods. The name *drachmai* is featured in inscriptions from that period, while *denarii* were in circulation throughout the territories of the Roman Empire, except for Egypt. The information on the silver coinage finds is general and only given for some of the provinces; bibliographical references are included. The silver coinage is distinguished in regards to individual provinces or centres, with the most important details and characteristic nominal units being provided. A more problematic question is the bronze coinage and its individual denominations, for these coins possess no uniform system distinguished by diameter and weight values. The material used for production comprised bronze, lead bronze, and brass. Some of these coins tend to repeat the pattern of minting production employed in the Flavian period. The volume offers an interesting view of bronze coinage as based on the individual provinces of the period. This part is also supplemented with an appendix focusing on comparative analyses of the silver content yielded in the process of various examinations as well as the usage of diverse methods such as X-Ray Fluorescence Analysis, Atomic Absorption Spectrometry, or Fast Neutron Activation Analysis.

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The following chapter deals with the imagery and legends appearing on Roman provincial coinage. The obverses depicted images of emperors or other members of imperial families. A notable exception is the portrait of Antinous, who was not related to the emperor's family. His image was featured on provincial coins struck by about thirty-one mints in Greece, Asia Minor, and Egypt. The principal depictions would also include local worship characteristics, architecture, the origins of the cities, emperors' visits, and the connections between particular municipalities. For the most part, they continued the imagery from the Flavian period. Coupled with other archaeological sources or epigraphic evidence, these depictions enable us to attempt a certain reconstruction of the local history and traditions. The legends on the coins were written in Latin, Greek, or both. Some of those coins would be countermarked (for instance, in Cyprus).

Chapter 4 of the general introduction is concerned with the questions of control and the minting activity in the provinces. During Emperor Trajan's reign, most probably in AD 107, the minting reform was carried out, but except for small modifications in the quantity of the silver coins from Antioch (perhaps due to some local reasons), there is no sufficient evidence that the reform was implemented at the provincial level. Determining the amounts of particular coins issued in the reigns of Nerva, Trajan, and Hadrian is difficult. During Nerva's reign, minting

activity in the provinces increased, and under Trajan and Hadrian more silver coinage was produced for the provinces than in the period of the Flavian dynasty. However, in Trajan's reign greater quantities of coins were struck in Syria and Cappadocia than during Hadrian's rule. In the years 96–138, coins were issued by roughly 300 centres. The increase in the minting output could be explained by military campaigns or emperors' visits, but scholars are uncertain about the specific links, as correlations between individual events do not always seem to be in agreement. It has been suggested that production may have been in response to provincial demands. The introduction ends with some key conclusions focused on the continuation of the Flavian system, centralization and the subsequent change during Hadrian's reign, but also on the absence of some conclusive explanation as regards a few problems indicated in the present study.

This brief general account of the essential aspects of the Roman provincial coinage in this period is complete with maps showing the provincial boundaries and minting centres, indexes of the cities, the names of members of the imperial families, the titles and legends used, countermarks, and plates with images of coins. The catalogue contains around 6,570 types of provincial coins, with most of them presented in tables of very good quality.

This insightful publication is a very valuable study on the Roman provincial coinage during the reigns of Nerva, Trajan, and Hadrian. The information on the minting activity in this period has usually been fragmentary and scattered over various journals or presented in general comprehensive studies. Frequently, certain details were incomplete and rudimentary. The present volume is the first complete study of this subject in the above-named period. It is based on a variety of international and private collections, complemented with a bibliography and catalogue, and featuring the most essential body of information. It also provides a critical view of many assumptions, opinions, and theories. The volume's catalogue is very clear and easy to use. It may prove very helpful and useful to the future studies of the economy and structure of the territories in question. Some of the problems are still in need of more in-depth analysis and better clarification, and at times sources representing just one category may be insufficient. The current publication is the fruit of many scholars' hard work and is an important and valuable study that is necessary for further research.

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ADAM DEGLER

Catalogue of Ancient Coins in the Ossoliński National Institute. Part 6: Coins of the Roman Empire: Pertinax–Severus Alexander. Ossoliński National Institute Publishing House, Wrocław 2016, 163 pages, 30 plates, appendix; ISBN 978-83-61056-85-0

The long-awaited sixth volume of the coins from the Ossoliński National Institute in Wrocław, authored by Adam Degler, has been published by the institute's publishing house. The catalogue is a continuation of the long-standing activity of the curator Gabriela Sukiennik, the author of the previous five parts. The first catalogue (*The Coins of the Roman Republic*) was issued in 1985, and the successive volumes were published in chronological order (August–Domitian, Nerva–Hadrian, Antoninus Pius, Marcus Aurelius–Commodus). Part VI is concerned with the coins issued from the year AD 193, i.e., from Pertinax's accession to power, to 235, when Severus Alexander, the last representative of the Severan dynasty, was assassinated. However, later coins associated with this period are also included in the catalogue, notably Renaissance-era medallions modelled on Roman coinage and some "questionable" coins that may be modern counterfeits. Also included are barbarian imitation coins. There is no doubt that this collection is among the most important in Poland, and the author should be acknowledged for the publication of the present catalogue.

The coins in the collection of the Ossoliński National Institute were found in lands belonging to present-day Poland as well as lands historically affiliated with Poland. The locations of some of the coin finds (unfortunately, not all of them) are known, and there is evidence to verify them. The collection was originally housed in Lvov and transferred to Wrocław after World War II. Established in the 19th century, it is being expanded to this day. The most recent coins featured in the catalogue were purchased during the 58th auction held at the Warsaw Numismatic Centre on 8 November 2014. Despite the fact that the collection is mostly comprised of numerous individual donations, it is easy to notice the efforts on the part of the curator, which were intended to make it larger. While the absence of coins from the reigns of Pescennius Niger and Macrinus is not very conspicuous, it is discernible.

Volume VI is 163 pages long and contains 30 plates. It is divided into several sections. The catalogue is preceded by a bilingual introduction, bibliography, references to archive material, and a list of abbreviations. The key section is the catalogue, which consists of 302 items. The coins are divided into five subsections: the wars of succession, the reign of Septimius Severus and his sons,

the reign of Macrinus and the restoration of the Severan dynasty, unofficial coins and imitations, modern Severan-type and disputable coins. Also added are indexes and convergence tables, including three bilingual annexes. The volume is complete with 30 plates containing 302 colour photographs of coins. Additionally, there are illustrations, on the last page, of East Germanic imitations: a coin of Severus Alexander and one of Diocletian/Constantius I. The latter one is not included in the catalogue.

In his concise introduction, the author points to a few interesting features characteristic of Severan coinage. He remarks that the transformation process, concluded with the establishment of a system based on the gold solidus, began in this period. The process of decreasing the content of silver initiated by Septimius Severus was continued by his successors. The author describes the visual programme in the above-named period, which can be divided into two groups: militaristic (Fides, Mars, emperors in arms) and personifications/goddesses (Juno, Vesta, Pudicitia). However, he also takes note of the diversity of types. The catalogue is structured in a clear and logical fashion. The first three parts are arranged in chronological order, after which come unofficial coins, and then, finally, disputed coins and imitations. A brief history of the Ossoliński National Institute collection is also given. In the case of the metallographic analyses performed, the author cites the examination conducted by M. Ponting and H. Gitler (*The Silver Coinage of Septimius Severus and his family (193–211 AD), A Study of the Chemical Composition of the Roman Eastern Issues*).

As already noted, the catalogue is comprised of five parts. The arrangement of the first three is identical. The name of the emperor or dynasty member and the approximate date are shown at the top of the page, while the mint, metal type, and references to the *Coins of the Roman Empire in the British Museum* (BMC) can be found below. Each plate is divided into columns: number, metal/size/weight, axis, denomination, reverse, obverse, and the related literature. The structures of the coins that were examined by means of the ED-XRF method (nos. 23, 32, 71) are presented in the plate section. The *Roman Imperial Coinage Vol. IV Parts 1–2* and *Coins of the Roman Empire in the British Museum Vols. V and VI* or, where possible, *The Coinage of Septimius Sever and his family of the Mint of Rome* are used with a view towards comparing the pieces from the Ossolineum collection and those from the above-named catalogues. Archival inventory numbers, as well as donation and acquisition details can be found in the relevant notes. The order of the coins is chronological, but modified in comparison with the BMC.

The period of the Severan dynasty is divided on a logical basis: the first section, from the assassination of Commodus up until Septimius Severus' consolidation of power; the second one, from Caracalla's proclamation as *Augustus* up until his

death; and, finally, the third one, from Macrinus' reign to the death of the last ruler of the Severan dynasty in 235.

The first part comprises forty-eight coins (three of Pertinax, two of Didius Julian, twenty-nine of Septimius Severus issued between the years 193 and 197, one of Julia Domna, nine of Clodius Albinus, and three of Caracalla as *Caesar*). Apart from the chronological arrangement, prominence is given to coins minted in Rome, which are classified in accordance with their metal material, with gold coins ranked first, followed by silver and then billon. Next in this order of presentation are coins struck in the Eastern mints and bronze ones. A very rare piece is Pertinax's aureus, where Providentia raises only one hand up to a star, which is a variant of the known type. Bibliographical references are also enclosed.

Eighty coins from the years 198–217 can be found in the Ossolineum collection. They were struck following Septimius Severus' reform, which consisted in a major decrease in the silver content in denarii (less than 50%) in order to repay the debt. For this reason, denarii and antoniniani have come to be known as "billon." The absence of gold coins from this period is quite evident.

The third part covers the largest amount of coins (110). The arrangement is similar to that in the previous two groups. A noteworthy instance is Heliogabalus' denarius (no. 132), where the shield between the legion eagles is round instead of oval-shaped. The latest coin is a sestertius (no. 220) minted in the year 235, shortly before the death of Severus Alexander.

Due to the specification of the coins in sections IV and V, they are not represented chronologically. The unofficial coins and imitations are divided into several types: hybrids, subaerati, bronze denarii, and barbarian imitations. In turn, the modern and "questionable" coins are divided into the following three groups: "denarius" types, "as" types, and Renaissance medallions. Detailed descriptions of the featured coins are included, as well as commentaries, analogies, and the related literature. Two coins (no. 244 and no. 274) have been examined using the ED-XRF method.

Indexes, convergence lists, and three annexes follow the 5th section, all of which are supplementary to the catalogue. Annex 1 deals with the ED-XRF method used to demonstrate the material composition of coins. Graphs and tables are clarified in a way which is accessible to the reader unfamiliar with the complicated problems of chemistry. This method was applied on five coins (nos. 23, 32, 71, 244, 274). Unfortunately, none of the coins in the third group were subjected to examination. The second annex introduces essential information about the minimally invasive LA-ICP-MS method. The measurement system, results, diagrams, and conclusions are explained in a clear and comprehensible manner. These two appendixes were written by the professional metallographists Beata Miazga and Barbara Wagner,

respectively. The third annex is an analysis of the results of the above-mentioned methods performed by the author. The reader is assured that the structural integrity of the coins has not been disturbed by the drilling procedure. According to the results of the ED-XRF examinations, three coins were minted in Rome (nos. 23, 244, 271) and one in Laodicea (no. 274). The results of the LA-ICP-MS method performed on a runic aureus (no. 274) and a barbaric imitation of the coinage of Diocletian/Constantius I prove that reliable results can only be obtained by using invasive methods.

The final part of the volume is composed of plates complete with high-resolution colour photographs of the coins under consideration. Inventory numbers can be seen in some of the pictures, which is reminiscent of 19th-century collecting practices.

In conclusion, the *Catalogue of Ancient Coins in the Ossoliński National Institute. Part 6: Coins of the Roman Empire: Pertinax–Severus Alexander* by Adam Degler is a significant and solid follow-up to the work previously commenced by Gabriela Sukiennik. At the same time, it serves as an introduction to the successive catalogues of the coins in the collection of the Ossoliński National Institute. The present catalogue is complete, clearly edited, and without errors. The volume's arrangement and layout is logical, intuitive, and lucid. The use of modern techniques to analyze the composition of metals as well as the chosen method of presenting the results are innovative and effective solutions which ensure that this work is of high quality. Those who are interested in the coinage of the Severan dynasty should not miss this important catalogue.

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Die hier vorzustellende Publikation verdient aus vielerlei Gründen Beachtung.

Diese präsentiert einen bedeutenden spätantiken Münzschatzfund des frühen 5. Jhs. mit insgesamt 1.648 Solidi (davon einer allerdings eine vergoldete Fälschung aus Silber) und einem Semmissis, der innerhalb der antiken Stadtanlage von Simitthus in Tunesien im Mai 1993, beim Bau des neuen Archäologischen Museums ergraben werden konnte, vgl. Kapitel II.

Der Fund stellt zudem den bisher zahlenmäßig größten bekannten Solidusfund überhaupt dar. Mit rund 22,2 römischen Pfund repräsentiert er ein bedeutendes Vermögen, welches den bisherigen Spitzenbeleg aus Ungarn um mehr als zwei Pfund oder 209 Solidi übertrifft (Kap. IV 1). Neben der reinen Zahl und dem Umstand der Herkunft aus einem belegten archäologischen Kontext ist die Bearbeitung und Publikation des Fundes aber auch ein herausragender Beleg für die Zusammenarbeit tunesischer und deutscher Denkmalbehörden und -institutionen.

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Der Ausgräber M. Khanoussi zeichnet für die Kapitel zu Fundumständen und Stadtbeschreibung (Kap. II–III) verantwortlich, welche in französischer Sprache geschrieben sind. H.R. Baldus (1942–2011), der den Schatzfund zwischen 1994 und 1997 bearbeitete, steuerte neben dem einleitenden Kapitel jenes zur Auswertung der Münzuntersuchungen in numismatischer und historischer Perspektive bei (Kap. IV, welches in französischer Übersetzung als Kap. VI wiederholt wird). Beide Autoren zusammen verfassten das Kapitel zu den möglichen Verbergungsumständen (Kap. V auf Deutsch, VII auf Französisch) sowie den rund 80 Seiten umfassenden Münzkatalog (Kap. VIII auf Deutsch), der von einem umfangreichen Tafelteil ergänzt wird (5 Münzen sind nur mit einer Seite, eine gar nicht abgebildet, siehe S. 53) sowie Umzeichnungen der Graffiti (S. 134 f.) begleitet wird. Der Großteil der Aufnahmen ist direkt von den Münzen gemacht, eine kleinere Zahl nach Gipsabdrücken (S. 1).

Es ist sicher dem Zufall geschuldet, dass dieser außerordentliche Münzfund eine überraschende Parallele in dem bei weitem bedeutendsten Münzschatz der römischen Kaiserzeit, dem im September 1993 aufgedeckten Aureusfund¹ mit 2.518 Exemplaren aus der Trierer Feldstrasse, aufweist. Beide sind nicht

¹ GILLES 2013. Besprechungen: BECKMANN 2014: 755–757; SELKE 2014: 331; DROST 2014: 765–769.

nur die größten ihrer Art und stammen aus demselben Fundjahr, sondern auch ihre schließlich glückliche Publikation nahm jeweils knapp 20 Jahre in Anspruch. Es ist sehr zu bedauern, daß der vor vier Jahren verstorbene H.R. Baldus² dies nicht mehr hat erleben können (sein Manuskriptteil war laut eigener Einführung S. 1 f. bereits 1997 abgeschlossen).

Die im Schatz enthaltenen Münzen können wie folgt charakterisiert werden (vgl. Kap. IV mit Tab. 1): die frühesten Gepräge sind wohl noch im Jahre 364 entstanden. Sie sind Teil der ersten kleineren Partie des Schatzfundes, welche 102 Solidi (6,2 % der Gesamtzahl) des kaiserlichen Bruderpaares Valentinianus I. und Valens umfasst, und sämtlich vor 367 und in Antiochia am Orontes entstanden sind. Der weitaus größere Anteil der übrigen 1.545 Solidi (plus ein halber) gehört der Zeit des Theodosius I. und seiner Söhne Arcadius und Honorius an (sowie Mitregenten und Usurpatoren, vgl. S. 20); der Münzfund schließt, so sein Bearbeiter, wohl 418 n. Chr. Die dazwischen liegende Periode von 367 bis 379 ist nicht durch Münzen belegt. Diese auffällige ‚Auszeit‘ wird von Baldus als Ergebnis einer späteren Anfügung der kleineren, früheren Partie, welche damit für gut 50 Jahre unberührt geblieben sein muss, an die größere, spätere erklärt. Dieser Umstand ist anhand anderer Schatzfunde belegt (S. 12 f.) und wird auch von der Erhaltung der Münzen bestätigt (S. 26).

Die identifizierten Münzstätten (S. 14 Tab. 1) verweisen eindeutig auf eine Herkunft des Münzmaterials aus Südgallien (Lyon und Arles mit 3 bzw. 5 Münzen) und Italien (Mailand mit 45,7 %, Ravenna mit 24,6 % und Rom mit 14,3 % Anteil), während der Nordwesten des Reiches mit Trier nur durch ein Exemplar des älteren Schatzteils vertreten ist. Constantinopolis ist durch sechs Münzen ebenfalls schwach belegt (zwei davon aus der älteren, valentinianischen Partie), doch können die früher ‚Sirmium‘ zugewiesenen Gepräge (hier 23 Solidi, zwei davon noch unter Theodosius I.) ebenfalls dort entstanden sein, vgl. S. 15. Thessaloniki ist nur mit einer Münze des Honorius vertreten. Neben einer kleinen Anzahl nicht genau lokalisierbarer Imitationen (Nr. 1223–1224. 1528) ist eine Reihe von Münzen als westgotische, pseudoimperiale Prägung anzusprechen (S. 21–25; Nr. 580–597. 942–972 sowie Nr. 973–1021), welche sicherlich den interessantesten Münzbestand des Schatzfundes darstellt (einige andere Rara sind S. 17 Nr. 115; S. 19 Nr. 1023. 1644 genannt, andere sind erste Belege für den jeweiligen Typ aus gesicherten Funden: S. 16. 19 f.).

Eine erste Gruppe, die aufgrund ihres Stil als nicht reguläre Prägungen für Honorius mit den Münzstätteniglen Mailands (MD) bzw. Ravenna (RV)

² Nachrufe: OLBRICH 2011: 311–320; bes. 312 f.; MARTIN 2011; Schriftenverzeichnis bis 2009: BALDUS 2008: 1–18.

anzusprechen ist, Gruppe stammt offensichtlich aus einer einzigen Werkstatt. Hierfür sprechen Stil, Stempelverbindungen und auch eine charakteristische Punktsetzung im Offizinkürzel, welche auch in Lyon um 411–413 für Iovinus zu beobachten sei (S. 22). Baldus schlägt dementsprechend eine Datierung dieser Gepräge um das Jahr 411 n. Chr. vor und deutet diese als Produkte der aus Italien nach erfolgreicher Plünderung Roms Richtung Südgallien abziehenden Westgoten unter ihrem König Athaulf.

Vertreter einer zweiten Gruppe (Nr. 973–985), diesmal allein mit dem Sigel RV mit abschließendem Punkt für Ravenna unter Honorius, war im RIC X bereits richtig als westgotisches Produkt angesprochen worden (S. 23). Eine zweite (Nr. 986–1021), nun ohne Punkt und damit nur aufgrund des ohne zusätzlichen Hakes nicht vom Buchstaben G unterschiedene C der Umschrift, wiesen diese ebenfalls als nicht offizielle Gepräge aus (S. 23). Baldus möchte diese, abweichend von der Datierung Kents, der westgotische Beischläge erst mit der Gründung des tolosanischen Westgotenreiches im Jahre 418 beginnen läßt, noch der ‚Einwanderungsphase‘ unter ihrem König Vallia 416 (bis 418) zuweisen. Die historischen Umstände und belegten Verbesserungen in den Beziehungen zwischen dem Kaiserhof in Ravenna und den Westgoten stützen diese These (S. 24).

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Das Fehlen von westgotischen Geprägungen nach 418 liefert ein zusätzliches und zeitlich präziseres Argument für einen t.p.q. des Schatzfundes um 418 als es das Fehlen von Münzen für Constantius III. (421 n. Chr.) bietet (S. 11 und 25).

Diese beiden westgotischen Gruppen weisen damit auf Gallia bzw. Hispania, könnten aber auch Hinweise auf den letzten Eigentümer des Schatzes liefern. Offensichtlich stammt der Hauptanteil bis um 408 aus Italien, danach wurden die westgotischen Imitationen hinzugefügt. Dies weist damit auf einen Abschluss der Münzzusammenstellung vor der Verbergung des Schatzfundes im nordwestlichen Mittelmeerraum, also Gallien oder Spanien, und nicht Italien, woher die Masse des Materials stammt (S. 27 f.). Nur spekuliert werden kann über die genauen Umstände der Vergrabung des Fundes und zur Person seines Eigentümers. Auffällig ist, dass der erschlossene t.p.q. um 418 immerhin 11 Jahre vor der 429 stattgefundenen Eroberung Nordafrikas durch die Vandalen, unter Einschluss westgotischer Gruppen, liegt (S. 28 f.).

Im Katalogteil werden sekundäre Veränderungen der Münzen so wie sämtliche wichtigen Kerndaten und auch Vermerke zu Stempelkopplungen (innerhalb des Münzbestands) beschrieben und kommentiert. Zudem sind Beschneidungen, Graffiti und Erhaltung in eigenen, kurzen Abschnitten vorgestellt (S. 25 f.). Dabei fällt allerdings auf, dass die numismatische Arbeit – wohl aufgrund des Todes von Baldus – nicht ganz zu Ende geführt wurde: Denn die jeweils beschnittenen

Münzen sind nicht eigens aufgeführt oder indexiert, sondern können nur einer Durchsicht des Katalogteils entnommen werden.³ So sind anscheinend 39 Münzen oder 2,4 % des Schatzfundes zwecks illegaler Goldgewinnung verknappt worden.

Bezüglich der Graffiti sind nur drei vollständiger Begriffe *Ianuarua, Roma, Bithy...* (S. 26) eigens hervorgehoben; die übrigen Münzbelege sind wieder nur im Katalog enthalten und nicht eigens aufgelistet worden. Zudem scheint der Katalog, und dies führt zur einzigen Kritik an der Publikation, bei Satzlegung und Redaktion gelitten zu haben. An zahlreichen Stellen (S. 26 Graffiti Nr. 130 und 131 sowie Münzen Nr. 1411 und 1412 mögen hier genügen) wird auf Graffiti mit Nummernkürzeln verwiesen, die in der Übersicht der Umzeichnungen der belegten Graffiti von 1–78 gar nicht enthalten sind. Auch scheint es mit einigen Sonderzeichen Probleme bei der Drucklegung gegeben zu haben: Auf S. 53 erscheint „XX“ anstelle des auf drei Uhr weisenden Pfeils zur Angabe der Stempelstellung, auf S. 54 sind es sinnlose Sonderzeichen anstelle der Christogramm-, Kreuz- und Staurogrammzeichen auf den kaiserlichen Vexilla, S. 54 Nr. 11–17 tragen im linken Feld ein Staurogramm (und nicht „&&“) und bei Nr. 42 sind zwei Graffitikürzel irrig durch sinnfreie Zeichen ersetzt.

Die vorliegende Publikation des Münzschatzes von Chimtou/Simitthus bietet eine gründlich aufgearbeitete Dokumentation des Materials und dessen Interpretation sowie eine wichtige Grundlage für weitergehende numismatische und historische Fragestellungen zu Münzumschlag und Geldgeschichte im spätantiken Nordafrika. Sie zeigt auch, wie sehr wir alle und insbesondere das Deutsche Archäologische Institut den numismatischen Sachverstand von H.R. Baldus bereits vermissen.

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³ Die sei hier nachgeholt: Nr. 88, 102, 122, 126, 146, 173, 180, 190, 232, 265, 300, 326, 337, 343, 390, 405, 437, 510, 542, 546, 566, 646, 671, 705, 789, 975, 1030, 1090, 1103, 1165, 1220, 1240, 1288, 1389, 1413, 1438, 1492, 1515, 1526.

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KRZYSZTOF MACIEJ KOWALSKI

Computationis et commemorationis testimonia. W kręgu badań kalkulo-logicznych, medaloznawczych i numizmatycznych, Grajewo 2015, pp. 127; ISBN 978-83-940275-6-8

Published in 2015 by EKO-DOM, Grajewo, this contribution from Krzysztof Maciej Kowalski brings together twenty-three short studies in Polish published earlier (2003–2014) as stand-alone articles in *Przegląd Numizmatyczny*, the journal of numismatics issued in Gdańsk. The studies, which in this book are treated as separate chapters, are united both by the person of their author and by their subject matter, which focuses on tokens, counters, medals, medallions, medalets, and materials related to numismatics. Contrary to the standard practice commonly adopted in academic contributions published in Poland, there is no footnoting in this text. Individual chapters mostly – but not in every case – end with a list of reference literature. Where there is no bibliography, we may assume that this is because the artefacts and topics directly related to them have not been addressed in previously published contributions. The book is divided into five parts. The first two are concerned with objects which it is traditional in British nomenclature to describe as *paranumismatica*, and in American terminology, as *exonomia*. Two other parts include studies of graphic representations of subjects related to numismatics. The last part of the book focuses on materials related to the history of coin and medals collecting.

The first part of the book, titled “Tokens and Counters,” opens with the essay “Calculological Artefacts as a Source of Historical Knowledge,” a concise summary of the research findings made by K.M. Kowalski in his studies in the history of material culture with, additionally, a discussion of the author’s future research plans in this field. One of these plans is to complete and publish a study concerned with new minor disciplines auxiliary to the study of the history of material culture (*Adiutor historicus. Nowe małe dyscypliny pomocnicze historii kultury materialnej*). In this new book, the author means to distinguish fifty new sub-disciplines of the history of material culture, among them: “akiarology” (the study of needles, pins, and needle-cases), “aleology” (the study of artefacts made of bone, horn, antler, and tortoiseshell), and “annulology” (the study of finger-rings). Still another of these newly distinguished disciplines is calculology (the study of tokens, counters, and coin-like objects), the principal tenets of which are presented under the “Tokens and Counters” subheading. It is only to be regretted, however, that the author chose to focus on only some aspects of calculology, most particularly, calculological epigraphics, concerned with the inscriptions on tokens,

counters, and coin-like objects. Hopefully, other aspects of the calculological discipline not addressed in this essay will be given more space in K.M. Kowalski's future book (*Adiutor historicus ...*). It is essential to specify precisely the object of calculological studies and to define individual groups of calculological objects: tokens, counters, jetons, medalets, and others. The definitions of these objects absolutely need clarification given the variability of terminology used both in the literature on this subject and in colloquial language. Despite their similar appearance, raw material, and manufacturing methods, calculological objects may at times be diametrically different in their purpose and uses.

Besides the "Calculological Artefacts as a Source of Historical Knowledge" essay, the first part of the book includes ten other chapters, nine of which focus on specific tokens and counters: Gdańsk church tokens from the 16th to the 18th century, 16th–18th-century lead tokens with images of scissors, a Nuremberg counter from 1573, Louis II's supposed mourning token from 1712, D. Hill & Company's token from 1825, a token commemorating Friedrich Schiller, a token and a counter commemorating the inauguration of Louis IV's Railways, a token issued in commemoration of the founding of the Jewish hospital in Hamburg, an advertising token of a chemist's company from Kolberg. The subject of the last chapter in the first part of the book is an object which definitely is neither a token nor a counter but rather a merchant discount voucher stamp from Bielany Wrocławskie from the late 19th or early 20th century, used for duplicating paper vouchers. These may be classified as part of the group of transaction vouchers, related to transaction tokens, which would explain why the description of this artefact has been included by the author in the same part of the book as that on the tokens; nevertheless, the placement of the chapter here is not fully compatible with the precisely specified title of the first part of the book ("Tokens and Counters").

In part two, "Medals, Medallions and Medalets," there are six chapters dedicated, in the order that they appear, to the following topics: a religious medal from the mid-19th century, a medal commemorating the 400th anniversary of Martin Luther's birth, a medallion celebrating the memory of Ludwig Windthorst, a medal commemorating the Arminius monument from 1925, a medal of the Königsberg Distance Cycling Club from 1896, and 19th century begging medallions. Part three, dedicated to graphic designs related to numismatics, includes two chapters, one addressing the 16th-century representations from Nuremberg of a moneyer's atelier, and the other, a 19th/20th century bookplate of F. R. Meyer, a numismatist from Cologne. Part four, "Numismatical Deltiology," contains three chapters concerned with early 20th-century postcards with representations of coins and a banknote. Finally, part five, "Historical Materials Related to Numismatics Collecting," includes a single study which reports on the findings from an analysis

of the archival record on the coins and medals collection of the now defunct Museum des Oberländischen Geschichtsvereins in Pasłęk (former Preussisch Holland).

The book is richly illustrated and includes photographic images of almost all of the objects described in the text. Although the scale of the photographs reproduced is not given, in almost all the cases the reader can find the necessary metrological data in the text. It may be safe to conclude that the illustrations included in the last chapter of the book concerned with the collections of the Museum des Oberländischen Geschichtsvereins represent objects that are the same as those that are discussed but which actually never belonged to the collection. If this surmise is correct, then information to this effect was not given in the book.

The publication under review, in actual fact a collection of short studies, is a valuable contribution in several respects. First, K.M. Kowalski has introduced into scholarly circulation, in a highly intelligible manner, artefacts previously remaining on the margin of academic research and outside the mainstream of collectors' interests. Many of these actually represent a valuable historical resource, something that readers will come to realize as they read successive chapters of the book. Second, the author has drawn attention to the need for a continued, more regular study of calculological objects. Calculology is definitely a discipline in need of more extensive studies, if only to specify the various functions of tokens and of other artefacts similar to them. It is to be hoped that the basics of calculology will be laid out in the book *Adiutor historicus...* which K.M. Kowalski intends to publish in the future. Third, and last, basing his work on unassuming objects which in themselves appear of little interest, the author has created a number of highly engaging accounts, in a language intelligible to an ordinary reader, without lapsing into academic jargon. As concerns numismatists (researchers and amateur collectors), K.M. Kowalski's book definitely provides an excellent opportunity to expand their horizons.

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