

THE COINAGE OF GEORGE III

HVNS Meeting #101, February 8, 2017 – Mark K. Johnson



Half Crown - Courtesy of Spink



Coronation portrait by Allan Ramsay, 1762

HIGH LEVEL OVERVIEW

- History
- Events
- Categorization
- Examples
 - Gold
 - Silver
 - Copper
- Misc
 - Maundy
 - Conder
 - Other Countries



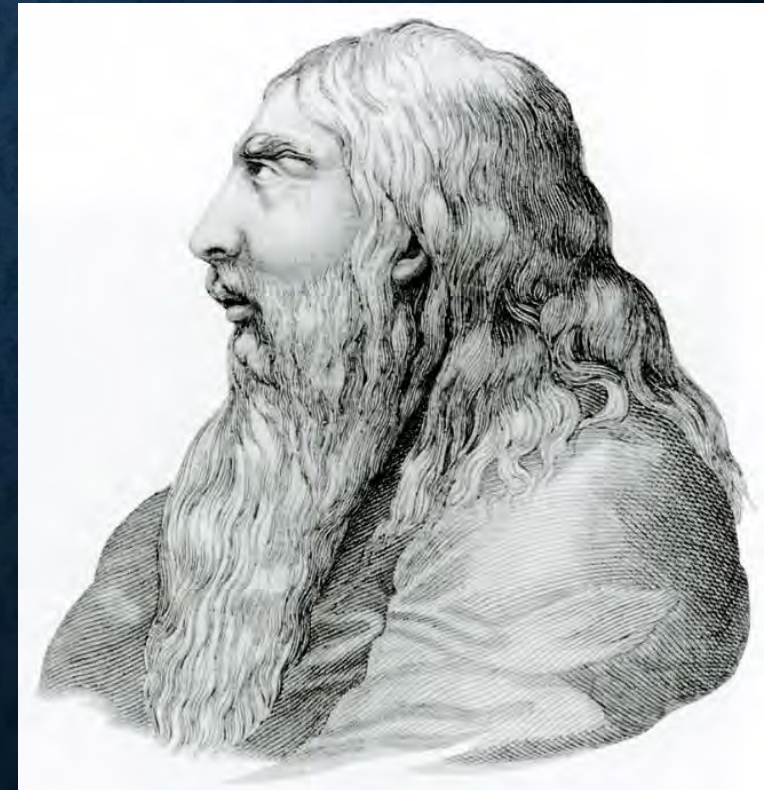
Half Penny - Courtesy of Heritage



KING GEORGE III (1760-1820)

- Born: June 4, 1738 Died: January 29, 1820
- King of Great Britain and King of Ireland - October 25, 1760
- King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland - Jan 1, 1801
- Married Charlotte of Mecklenburg
 - nine sons, six daughters.
 - George IV, William IV, Victoria, Edward VII
- Events
 - American War of Independence (1775-1783)
 - French Revolution (1789-1799)
 - Napoleonic Wars (1803-1815)
 - Afflicted by porphyria (1811 - George IV appointed Prince Regent)

Engraving by Henry Meyer of George III in later life



NUMISMATIC EVENTS

- Mass counterfeiting - 1786 - 2/3 of coins in circulation were fakes
- The Royal Mint struck no copper coins for 48 years, from 1773 until 1821
- Transition to token silver coinage in 1811 (Bank of England issues)
- 1803 - 1815 - Statutory prohibitions on the striking of silver coin during the Napoleonic Wars

CATEGORIZATION OF THE COINAGE

- **Early Coinage (1762-1815) and
New Coinage (1816-1820)**
 - Coinage Act of 1816
 - Fixed gold to silver – one troy pound gold = £46 14s 6d
 - Great Recoinage of 1816

CATEGORIZATION OF THE COINAGE

- **Early Coinage Denominations**

- Guinea = 21 Shillings, Shilling = 12 Pence
- Gold - 5, 2, 1, Half, Third and Quarter Guineas
- Silver - Shilling, Sixpence, Fourpence, Threepence, Twopence, Penny
- Silver (Bank of England) - Dollar (5 Shilling), Half Dollar, Three Shillings, Eighteenpence, Ninepence
- Copper - Twopence, Penny, Halfpenny, Farthing, also Tokens

CATEGORIZATION OF THE COINAGE

- **New Coinage Denominations**

- Pound (Sovereign) = 4 Crowns = 20 Shillings - or - 1 Crown = 5 Shillings = $\frac{1}{4}$ Pound
- Sovereign is 0.235 tr Oz Gold = 4 Crown $4 \times 0.84 = 3.36$ oz Silver for a ratio of 14.3 to 1
- Gold - 5 Pound, 2 Pound, Sovereign, Half-Sovereign
- Silver - Crown, Half Crown, Shilling, Sixpence, (Maundy Set - Fourpence, Threepence, Twopence, Penny)

GUINEAS

- Guinea (1763-1799, 1813) - 5 head types
- Half Guinea (1762-1811) - 7 head types
- Third Guinea (1797-1813) - 2 head types
- Quarter Guinea, 1762 only
- Gold content: 91.7%, 0.246 troy Oz net



1772 guinea, third head

Courtesy of Spink



1790 (Spade) guinea, fifth head



1813 (Military) guinea, sixth head

GUINEAS



Courtesy of Stacks

1773 pattern 5 guinea, 37 mm, 42 gm



Courtesy of Spink



1798 Third guinea, first type, 17 mm, 2.8 gm

SOVEREIGNS



1820 sovereign,
22 mm, 91.7%
fine,
0.235 troy Oz.
net, £1,600

<http://www.mhcoins.co.uk/coins/milledgold/george-iii-1760-1820-1820-sovereign-2/>



1818 Half
Sovereign,
19 mm,
NGC MS 62,
Realized \$950

Courtesy of Heritage



SHILLINGS

(Early Coinage)



1787 6 Pence
(1/2 Shilling)
Baldwins
\$132



- Shilling and Sixpence - 1787
- Fourpence, Threepence, Twopence and Penny - 1762-1800
- 0.179 Oz Silver, 92.5%
- 1/20th of a Pound Sterling

MAUNDY SET (Early Coinage)



The Royal Maundy is a religious service in the Church of England held on Maundy Thursday, the day before Good Friday.

The Monarch gives alms to the poor.

Held since 1210.

RP Coins, £275

<http://www.rpcoins.co.uk/collections/milled-silver/products/00002422>

Maundy Money



- Queen Elizabeth II
- Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh
- Archbishop of Canterbury
- Lord High Almoner, Bishop of Worcester, Right Reverend John Inge
- Dean of Windsor
- Yeoman warders
- 90 men & 90 women



Red Purse : £5.50 in the is made up of £3 for clothing, £1.50 in lieu of provisions and £1 for the redemption of the Sovereign's gown. £5 coin (90th bday) and 50p (Battle of Hastings 950th), **White purse**: 1, 2, 3 and 4 pence coins

SILVER NEW COINAGE

1816-1820

Crown

(5 Shillings),

Half Crown

(2 ½ Shillings),

Shilling,

Sixpence,

Fourpence,

Threepence,

Twopence,

Penny



GREAT BRITAIN
GEORGE III 1820
CROWN GEF

£600.00

PRODU

GREAT BRITA

Crown, 1820,

Reference: S-3



Courtesy of Andreas Afeldt,
The Coin Cabinet, London

St. George and the Dragon

Benedetto Pistrucci (1783-1855)



Royal Mint
bullion,
£250 ~ \$313
0.2358 oz Au

Courtesy of Heritage, ICG VF 30



1818 Half Crown
Small head



1817
Half Crown
Large head
(Bull head)

Ebay, the-coin-king, \$290

1816 Shilling

(The sixpence looked the same)



Courtesy of Andreas Afeldt, The Coin Cabinet, London, £150

1820 Maundy Set



Courtesy of St. James Auctions

EMERGENCY ISSUES - 1804



Oval Countermark on
1795 Mexico City mint
8 Reales

Courtesy of Spink



Octagonal
Countermark on 1799
U.S. Dollar

BANK OF ENGLAND ISSUES

Dollar (5 Shillings)

These were struck
on Spanish 8 Reales
until 1811



BANK OF ENGLAND ISSUES



3 Shillings, "Second Head"
Later type (1812-1816)



Eighteenpence
(1 ½ Shillings), "First Bust"
Earlier type (1811-1812)

COPPER COINAGE

- **First Issue, 1770-1775**
 - Halfpenny, Farthing (1/4 Penny)
- **Second Issue, 1797**
 - Twopence, Penny
- **Third Issue, 1799**
 - Halfpenny, Farthing
- **Fourth Issue, 1806-1807**
 - Penny, Half Penny, Farthing
- **Private Tokens, 1788? -1815**

First Issue Coppers, 1770 - 1775



Courtesy of Baldwins



- Halfpenny
- Farthing
- George III (1760-1820), copper Farthing, 1773, second laureate and cuirassed bust right, with more finely scaled cuirass, rev Britannia seated left on globe, with shield, spear and spray of leaves, date in exergue (Peck 913; S 3775).

CONDER TOKENS

(18TH CENTURY PROVINCIAL TOKENS)

- Industrialization and population growth caused coinage shortages.
- Private token coinage was widely used. Outlawed in 1817.
- Conders struck by Matthew Boulton at Soho – Also struck coins for East India Co., Sierra Leone, Russia and planchets for U.S.
- Conders come in Farthing, Halfpenny (95%), Penny
- 4000+ types by Dalton & Hamer reference (downloadable)



Wikipedia-BrandonBigheart



1788 Anglesey Mine Druid Token

1794 token struck at Soho mint, with lettered edge



Wikipedia-BrandonBigheart



Second Issue Coppers - 1797



Laureate bust right, Seated Britannia left,
raised rim



- Not token coinage
- Soho mint - Boulton
- “Cartwheels”
- Minted for a few years
- Twopence
 - 2 ounces
 - 1.6 inch diameter
 - 8 to the foot
- Penny
 - 1 ounce
 - 1.4 inch diameter
 - 17 to two feet

Third Issue Coppers - 1799



- Halfpence
- Farthing



Courtesy of JN Coins
www.jncoins.co.uk,
£120

Fourth Issue Coppers - 1806-1807



- Penny
 - 1 5/16 inch diameter
- Halfpence
 - 1 1/8 inch diameter
- Farthing
 - 13/16 inch diameter

- 1806 penny, MS65BN, Heritage 4/16, \$494
- 1806 Half penny, Heritage 6/08, \$172
- 1806 Proof Farthing, Baldwins, £300

OTHER COUNTRIES



1786 Penny,
Isle of Man,,
Spink
Auction,
£150

KM# 5 PENNY

Copper Ruler: **George III** Obv: "DROZ F." incuse on shoulder
Obv. Legend: GEORGIUS III • D • G • REX Rev: Three masted
ship at sea Note: 2 varieties exist with single or double pennant.

Date	Mintage	Good	VG	F	VF	XF
1793	72,000	—	18.00	35.00	95.00	350



- Bermuda
- German States
 - Brunswick-Lüneburg-Calenberg-Hannover
- New Brunswick (1/2 Penny, 1832?)
- Essequibo & Demerary (NE S. America, now Suriname etc,)
- Sierra Leone Company - British Colony issue



KM# 10 STIVER

Copper, 33 mm. Obv: Laureate head right Obv. Legend:
GEORGIUS III. D:G. R E X. Rev: Crowned denomination within
wreath Rev. Legend: COLONIES OF ESSEQUEBO &
DEMARARY TOKEN Edge: engrailed

Date	Mintage	F	VF	XF	Unc	BU
1813	215,000	6.50	15.00	50.00	185	—



KM# 2.1 PENNY

Bronze, 32 mm. Obv: Lion, Africa below Obv. Legend: SIERRA
LEONE COMPANY Rev: Clasped hands flanked by value, date
below, written value as legend

Date	Mintage	F	VF	XF	Unc	BU
1791	215,000	100	200	400	600	1,000



**SURVEY:
WHICH IS A
BETTER
LOOKING
DESIGN?**

U.S. Cent

1794 Cent, S-62, Walter Husak, www.largecents.net



British Penny

Jimbo07726, eBay, 21.99 Buy It Now

REFERENCES

- Coins of England – Spink
- The History of the British Sovereign – Royal Mint
- British Coin Gallery
(<http://www.britishcoingallery.com/george-iii/>)
- Coins of the UK (<http://www.coins-of-the-uk.co.uk/>)
- Conder Token Collectors Club (<http://www.ctcc.info/>)
- Wikipedia