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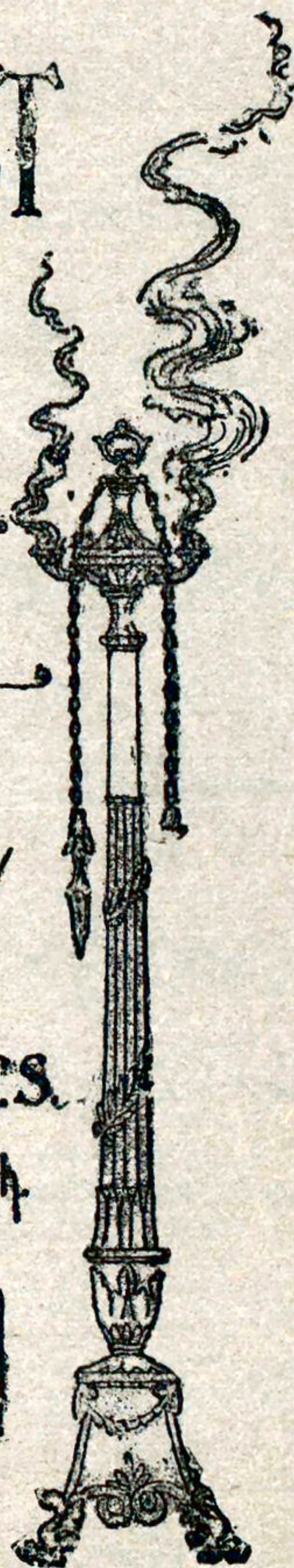
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No. 5

A Blacksmith Token.

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These tokens, although, with one or two exceptions bearing no inscriptions, are usually classed among the Canadian doubtfuls. But we see no reason why the term doubtful should be applied to them.

Some show clear evidences of home manufacture, the dies of which were engraved in Montreal by a "Blacksmith." From this fact the series has received its name.

Further, two varieties are related to the "Ships Colonies & Commerce" series, which are undoubtedly Canadian. One of these, No. 9, has for reverse the obverse of the drooping flag variety, but from the die in a much more worn and broken condition. The other, No. 12, has for reverse the rarer of the two reverses to the drooping flag.

We are strongly inclined to the belief that all from No. 20 to the end of the list, with the bust to the right for prototype, were struck in the State of New York for circulation in Canada or possibly in both countries. Hence the occurrence of Britannia and an eagle, emblems of Great Britain and the United States.

We may also conclude that they began to be circulated during the thirties, and that they were contemporary with or rather companions of the "Hard Times" for varieties occur muled with two of these. And one variety is simply a combination of two dies of the hard times tokens.

The half pence comprising the whole series are poor in workmanship and so rudely struck that they afford us another very good reason for styling them "The Blacksmith Tokens."

No. 1.—Bust to right with old looking head having three forelocks and a long-peaked chin.

Rev. Commerce, to the left, seated. 1820. No legend. The two exergual lines are joined to a number of parallel transverse lines. Breton No, 1008.

No. 1.a Same as No. 1, but in Brass.

No. 2.—Similar bust, but head is younger and larger with a short nose and a small double chin; the bows are smaller with the ends further from the neck.

Rev. Same as No 1.

No. 3. Same as No 2.

Rev. Harp to the left. 1820 No legend. It is not possible to define the number of strings as the upper part of the harp, in the specimen in our collection, is not well struck up.

No. 4. Large bust to left. The bow tying the hair is double, the upper one of which touches the head, while the lower one is smaller and curved upward.

Rev. Britannia to the right, with a wand in her right hand and a sprig in her left; Her breast is very prominent. On a thick flan.

No. 5—Similar, but the upper bow does not touch the head and the lower one curves downward.

Rev. Closely resembles No. 4, but the ornaments around the shield and the stand supporting same are smaller. Thin flan.

No. 6—Same as No. 5. Brass.

No. 7—Same as No. 5.

Rev. Same as No. 4.

No. 8—Same as No. 5.

Rev. Similar, but Britannia is smaller and differs from all other varieties, in having her right hand resting on the shield instead of holding a wand. A large sprig in her left hand, shield without stand. A break in the die extends from the left knee across the left hand to the edge.

This is what is styled the "Britannia on the water" variety.

No. 9—Same as No. 5.

Rev. A ship. Same as on the drooping flag variety of "Ships Colonies and Commerce." Broken die.

No. 10—Same as No. 5.

Rev. A ten stringed harp to the left; the breast of figure on harp is large. Occasionally met with showing two cracks in the die: a curved one extending from the left edge downward through the body of figure, while the other is perpendicular crossing the top of the harp.

No. 11—Same as No. 5.

Rev. Similar to No. 10, but the breast of figure is not so full. The harp on this variety and on Nos. 12 and 14 appear to be counterstamp, rather than struck from dies.

No. 12—Same as Rev. of No. 11.

Rev. "Ships | Colonies | & | Commerce" (Same as the second reverse of "Drooping flag" variety.) Breton No. 998.

No. 13—Similar to No. 5, but the bow is much smaller with the two ends of almost equal length.

Rev. Britannia is smaller with the neck and upper part of bust not struck up; the shield is smaller although its stand is larger.

No. 14. Same as No. 13.

Rev. A seven stringed harp to the left, the string on the right is more distant than the others.

No. 15—Similar to No. 5, but the head is smaller, the chin pointed and the lower bow almost straight, well apparent and perfectly struck, whereas the following varieties have the same bow so weakly struck as to be barely visible.

Rev. Body of Britannia not so extravagant; she has a chignon, and wand only apparent from hand to arm. Brass. Pointed chin variety.

No. 16—The chin is square, and the lower bow square shaped, and although weakly struck is the largest of the series.

Rev. Britannia's head is not shown; the upper exergual line touches the centre of shield stand, instead of terminating under it, as in the preceding variety. Brass. Square chin variety.

No. 17—The forehead is smaller and the chin round and double, lower bow which is hardly visible is close to the upper one and very small.

Rev. The head is smaller and without chignon; the wand extends under the arm from the hand to the drapery. Brass. Round chin variety.

No. 18—Chin short; the lower bow which is small and weakly struck is distant from the upper one.

Rev. Same as No. 17. Brass. Short chin variety.

No. 19—Same as No. 18.

Rev. Head of Britannia not apparent; her right arm is disproportionally large when compared with her left. The wand shows from hand to arm only; the exergual lines are distant from shield stand. Brass. Large arm variety.

This with the four preceding varieties closely resemble each other. The more striking points in which they differ are in the lower bow on the obverses, in the head of Britannia which is shown, with or without a chignon, or is altogether wanting, in the appearance of the wand or the exergual lines on the reverse.

No. 20. Bust to the right. A break in the die extends from the upper edge across the head, ribbons and shoulder, to the lower edge, where it terminates in a large flan.

Rev. Britannia to the right seated. No legend. Wide serrated borders. Struck on thin and thick flans.

No. 21—Same as No. 20.

Rev. "Rising Sun Tavern—" around the field, which appears to be plain.

No. 22—Same as No. 20.

Rev. A large screw bolt. "Turning and Boring" etc. Starbuck's card.

No. 23—Same as No. 20.

Rev. An upright eagle with wings spread. No legend.

No. 24—Same as reverse of No. 23.

Rev. Same as No. 20.

No. 25—Same as reverse of No. 23

Rev. Same as No. 22.

No. 26—Same as reverse of No. 23.

Rev. Tin machine. "Peck, etc., Troy, N. Y." (Peck's card)

No. 27—Same as reverse of No. 22.

Rev. Same as No. 26. Thick and thin flans.

The Peck—Starbuck Mule.

No 28—Eagle on both sides. Thick flan.

In all cases where the metal is not given, the coins are struck in copper.
The order of classification of different varieties:

- No. 1. 1820. Bust to right. Long pointed chin.
2. " " " " Small chin.
3. " " " " Harp reverse.
4. No date " " left. Britannia, thick flan.
5. " " " " " " thin flan.
6. " " " " " " Brass.
7. Mule.
8. Britannia on water.
9. Bust to left. Ship reverse.
10. " " " Harp of 10 strings, large bust.
11. " " " " " " small bust.
12. Harp. Rev. S. C. & C.
13. Bust to left. Small Britannia.
14. Bust to left. Harp with 7 strings.
15. Brass. Pointed chin.
16. " Square chin.
17. " Round chin.
18. " Short chin.
19. " Large arm.
20. Bust to right. Rev. Britannia.

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- | | | | | | |
|-----|--------|-------|----------|-------|-------------|
| 21. | “ | “ | “ | “ | Rising Sun. |
| 22. | “ | “ | “ | “ | Screw bolt. |
| 23. | “ | “ | “ | “ | Eagle. |
| 24. | Eagle. | | | “ | Britannia. |
| 25. | “ | | | “ | Screw bolt. |
| 26. | “ | Rev. | Peck's | card. | |
| 27. | The | Peck— | Starbuck | mule. | |
| 28. | Eagle | on | obv. | and | rev. |

Those possessing specimens of what are known or claimed to be “Blacksmiths” not described in the foregoing list, will confer a favor by sending them or good rubbings to

DR. COURTEAU,
ST. JACQUES, ONT., CANADA.
