



LINCOLN CITY AND COUNTY MUSEUM
PUBLICATIONS, No. 10.

Coins of the Roman Period Found in Lincolnshire

(PART I.)

(Reprinted from "Lincolnshire Notes and Queries.")

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Curator.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

Sold at the Museum.

JUNE, 1910.

LINCOLN:

W. K. Morton & Sons, Ltd., "Chronicle" Office, 290, High Street.

Coins of the Roman Period

FOUND IN LINCOLNSHIRE.



It is very desirable that a list of coins of the Roman period found in this county should be compiled. Only here and there can be found written evidence of the occurrence of such coins, whilst scattered about this large county there are numerous persons who possess Roman coins in large or small numbers. It is hoped that all who have specimens will report them to the writer so that they may be incorporated in the list which will be published. It will be better still if the coins can be brought together on account of the educational, as well as the historical value such a collection would have.

The County Museum is doubtless the institution in which such a collection should be permanently cared for. The large number of visitors to the museum and their applications for information regarding our county's antiquities make it obvious that such a series is needed. It is hoped that anyone who has it in his power to contribute a single coin or a few coins of the period will do so, that the county collection may be the means of reference for the work under consideration.

It is intended that the first list shall be of Roman coins actually in the Museum collection, which forms a very respectable nucleus for such a list. The public spiritedness of several donors has put some two or three hundred coins at the disposal of the writer, and it is hoped that this appeal will induce others to emulate their generosity and so contribute to the delight of the many, without being out of reach of their own gifts. To such donors as Mrs. H. Mackinder, Miss O'Neil, Dr. E.

Mansel Sympson, Mr. Nathan Heywood and others the writer here expresses his gratitude.

The list will cover the period from the early years of the first century to the time of the Constantines, the middle of the fourth. Where possible the inscriptions will be given in full, and where such are omitted it must be assumed that the coin is worn and therefore illegible. The place of discovery will be given and the name of the donor to the Museum collection of Roman coins.

The denominations of the coins will be given as far as possible. The popular classification of Imperial bronze coins in "first," "second" and "third" brass has of course no scientific value. The so-called first brass is the *Sestertius*, the second brass the *Dupondius*, while the *Semis*, *Triens* and *Quadrans* are indiscriminately classified as third brass. By the time of Caracalla the *Denarius* had become so debased as to be almost a bronze coin. As the term "third brass" is sometimes erroneously applied to it, it may be as well to point out that it has no connection with the bronze coinage. In 215 A.D., on account of the debasement of the *Denarius* Caracalla introduced a new silver coin called the *Argentus* (worth a denarius and a half) which can be distinguished from the denarius by the fact that the head of the Emperor is radiate on it. Each Emperor debased the coinage more and more so that the *argenteus* soon became a copper coin washed with silver, and drove the denarius and also the copper coinage out of circulation. This coin which was the standard coin during the third century is really a silver and not a brass coin. Diocletian recalled in 292 A.D. this debased coinage and instituted a new silver coin, and two copper coins the *Follis* and the *Denarius*.

When the series in the Museum collection has been exhausted it is intended to publish a further series of Roman coins which have been found in Lincolnshire, the notices of which have not been before brought together, and such information as may come to hand as this paper progresses. The writer hopes that all who have it in their power will forward that, which will materially add to the knowledge regarding the occurrence and distribution of coins of the Roman period found in Lincolnshire.

In conclusion I have to thank Mr. J. Allan of the British Museum for assistance during the preparation of this catalogue.

AUGUSTUS, 27 B.C. to 14 A.D.

Dupondius.

1. *Obv.* CAESAR (PONT. MAX) Laureate head to right.
Rev. ROM. ET. AVG. The altar of Lyons between two pillars, each surmounted by a Victory.

A worn specimen, dug up on the West Common, Lincoln. Presented by W. Homer. April, 1907.

"The altar on the coins of Augustus is the 'Ara Lugdunensis,' said to have been dedicated to Rome and Augustus by sixty Gaulish tribes at the confluence of the Rhone and Saone." The coins were struck at Lyons in Gaul.

DRUSUS, SENIOR. Minted under Claudius.

Sestertius.

2. *Obv.* NERO CLAVDIVS DRVSVS GERMANICVS IMP. Head to left.

Rev. TI. CLAVDIVS CAESAR AVG. P.M. TR. P. IMP. Claudius seated holding a palm; at his feet shields, helmets, and other arms. In the exergue S.C.

Found in Lincoln, 1878. Presented by Nathan Heywood, Sept. 24, 1909.

CLAUDIUS, 41 to 54 A.D.

Sestertius.

3. *Obv.* TI. CLAVDIVS CAESAR AVG. P.M. TR. P. IMP. P.P. Laureate head to right.

Rev. SPES AVGVSTA. Hope walking to left holding a flower in right hand and raising robe with left. In the exergue S.C.

Found in Stonefield garden, Lincoln. Presented by the late J. Swan, April 3, 1907.

Dupondius.

4. *Obv.* As 3. Head to left.
Rev. Minerva to right, helmeted, hurling a javelin; on her left arm a buckler. In the field S.C.

Found in Stonefield garden, Lincoln. Presented by the late J. Swan, April 3, 1907.

Dupondius.

5. As 4.
Found in Stonefield Garden, Lincoln. Presented by the late J. Swan, April 3, 1907.

Dupondius.

6. As 4. Found in Stonefield Garden, Lincoln. Presented by the late J. Swan, April 3, 1907.

Dupondius.

7. As 4. Found in the Bail, Lincoln. Presented by Dr. E. Mansel Sympson, Oct. 15, 1909.

Dupondius.

8. *Obv.* As 4.
Rev. [CERES AVGVSTA.] Ceres seated.
Worn specimen. Found in a garden, Nettleham Road, Lincoln. Presented by W. Priestley, August, 1909.

NERO, 50 to 68 A.D.

Dupondius.

9. *Obv.* IMP. NERO CAESAR AVG. P. MAX. TR. POT. P.P.
Head to right.
Rev. SECVRTAS AVGVSTI. Figure of Security seated, at her feet an altar and torch. A double-struck specimen, but otherwise fine. In the exergue S.C.
Found in Stonefield Garden, Lincoln. Presented by the late J. Swan, April 3, 1907.

Dupondius.

10. *Obv.* IMP. NERO CAESAR AVG. P. MAX. TR.P. P.P.
Head to right.
Rev. GENIO AVGVSTI. Genius standing at a lighted altar holding on the left arm a cornucopia, and a patera in right hand. In the field S.C.
Found in Stonefield Garden, Lincoln. Presented by the late J. Swan, April 3, 1909.

Dupondius.

11. *Obv.* IMP. NERO CAESAR AVG. MAX. Head to right.
Rev. VICTORIA carrying a globe on which are the letters S.P.Q.R. In the field S.C.
Found in Stonefield Garden, Lincoln. Presented by the late J. Swan, April 3, 1907.

GALBA, 68 A.D.

Denarius.

12. *Obv.* IMP. SER. GALBA CAESAR, AVG. P.M. Laureate head to right.

Rev. DIVA AVGVSTA. Livia standing to left, holding patera and sceptre.

Found near the Roman West Gateway, Lincoln, 1836. Presented by Nathan Heywood, Sept. 24th, 1909.

VESPASIAN, 69 to 79 A.D.

Sestertius.

13. *Obv.* IMP. CAES. VESPASIAN. AVG. P.M. TR. P.P. COS. III.
Laureate head to right.

Rev. SALVS AVGVSTA. Salus seated to left, holding a patera in right hand, and sceptre in the left hand. In the exergue S.C.

Found in Lincoln, 1878. Presented by Nathan Heywood, Sept. 24th, 1909.

Dupondius.

14. *Obv.* IMP. CAESAR VESPASIAN. AVG. COS. III. Laureate head to right.

Rev. PROVIDENT. An altar. In the field S.C.

Found in Lincoln. Presented by W. Bee, April 30th, 1908.

Dupondius.

15. As 14.
Found in Lincoln. Presented by the late B. Vickers, March, 1906.

Dupondius.

16. *Obv.* IMP. CAES. VESPASIAN. AVG. Laureate head to right.

Rev. Illegible.

Found in Lincoln. Presented by A. Smith, Sept. 15th, 1909.

DOMITIAN, 69 to 96 A.D.

Dupondius.

17. *Obv.* IMP. CAES. DOMIT. AVG. GERM. COS. XIII. CENS. PER. P.P. Laureate head to right.

Rev. FORTVNAE AVGVSTI. Fortune standing with rudder and cornucopia. In the field S.C.

Found in Lincoln. Presented by Dr. E. Mansel Sympson, Oct., 1909.

Dupondius.

18. *Obv.* CAESAR AVG. F. DOMITIAN. COS. Head to right.

Rev. Worn specimen. Probably FELICITAS AVGVSTA. Fortune standing, etc., as 17. In the field S.C.

Found on West Common, Lincoln. Presented by F. Williams, Sept. 28th, 1909.

NERVA, 96 to 98 A.D.

Dupondius.

19. *Obv.* IMP. NERVA CAES. AVG. P.M. TR. P. II. COS. III. P.P. Laureate head to right.
Rev. LIBERTAS PVBLICA. Standing figure of Liberty. In the field S.C.
 Found in Lincoln. Presented by the late B. Vickers, March, 1906.

Dupondius.

20. *Obv.* IMP. NERVA CAES. GERM. TR. P. COS. III. P.P. Head to right.
Rev. FORTVNA AVGVST. Fortune standing with rudder and cornucopia. In the field S.C.
 Found in Lincoln. Presented by Mrs. H. Mackinder, Dec. 13th, 1909.

TRAJAN, 98 to 117 A.D.

Denarius.

21. *Obv.* IMP. CAES. NER. TRAIANO OPTIMO AVG. GER. DAC. Laureate head to right.
Rev. P.M. TR. P. COS. VI. P.P. S.P.Q.R. Fortune seated to left, holding a rudder in right hand, and cornucopia in left. In the exergue FORT. RED. (i.e. FORTVNA REDVX).
 Found on Wellingore Heath, 1909. Purchased.

Sestertius.

22. *Obv.* IMP. CAES. NERVAE TRAIANO AVG. GER. DAC. P.M. TR. P. COS. Laureate head to right.
Rev. S.P.Q.R. OPTIMO PRINCIPI. Fortune standing with rudder and cornucopia. In the field S.C.
 Found in Lincoln. Presented by the late B. Vickers, March, 1906.

Sestertius.

23. *Obv.* IMP. CAES. NERVAE TRAIANO AVG. GER. DAC. P.M. TR. P. COS. V. P.P. Laureate head to right.
Rev. S.P.Q.R. OPTIMO PRINCIPI. Rome seated, holding a Victory in the right hand, in the left hand a hasta. In the exergue S.C.
 Found in Lincoln. Presented by Mrs. H. Mackinder, Dec. 13th, 1909.

Dupondius.

14. *Obv.* IMP. CAES. NERVA TRAIAN. Head to right.
Rev. Much worn, illegible.
 Found in the Bail, Lincoln. Presented by Dr. E. Mansel Sympson, Oct. 15th, 1909.

Dupondius.

15. Much worn specimen. Head to right.
 Found in Lincoln, 1878. Presented by Nathan Heywood, Sept. 24th, 1909.

Dupondius.

16. *Obv.* Worn. Head to right.
Rev. S.P.Q.R. OPTI . . . Figure of Arabia with camel. In the field S.C. In the exergue ARAB. ADQ.
 Found in Lincoln. Presented by Mrs. H. Mackinder, Dec. 13th, 1909.

HADRIAN, 117 to 138 A.D.

Sestertius.

17. *Obv.* HADRIANVS AVG. COS. III. Laureate head to right.
Rev. Legend illegible, probably MONETA AVG. Moneta standing, scales in right hand, left hand resting on hasta. In the field S.C.
 Found in Lincoln. Presented by the late B. Vickers, March, 1906.

Sestertius.

18. *Obv.* As 27.
Rev. FORTVNAE (REDVCI). The Emperor standing to right, clasping the hand of Fortune, standing to left, holding a cornucopia. In the exergue S.C.
 Found in Lincoln. Presented by Miss O'Niell, Oct., 1907.

Dupondius.

19. *Obv.* Worn and illegible. Head to right.
Rev. Legend illegible. Fortune standing with rudder and cornucopia. In the field S.C.
 Found in Lincoln. Presented by Mrs. H. Mackinder, Dec. 13th, 1909.

Dupondius.

20. *Obv.* HADRIANVS . . . Head to right.
Rev. CLEMENTIA AVG. COS. III. Draped figure standing, with wreath in right hand, left hand resting on sceptre. In the field S.C.
 Found in Lincoln. Presented by Dr. E. Mansel Sympson, Oct., 1909.

31. *Dupondius.*
Obv. Worn. Head to right.
Rev. Standing figure facing to right.
 Found in Lincoln. Presented by Miss O'Niell,
 Oct., 1907.

ANTONINUS PIUS, 138 to 161 A.D.

32. *Sestertius.*
Obv. IMP. ANTONINVS AVG. PIVS P.P. . . . Laureate
 head to right.
Rev. LIBERTAS COS. III. Liberty standing to right. In
 the field S.C.
 Found in Lincoln. Presented by Mrs. H. Mackinder,
 Dec. 13th, 1909.

33. *Dupondius.*
Obv. Worn. Head to right.
Rev. BRITANNIA COS. III. Britannia seated to left, on
 a rock. In the exergue S.C.
 Found in Lincoln. Presented by W. Priestley,
 Jan., 1909.

34. *Dupondius.*
Obv. ANTONINVS AVG. PIVS. Head to right.
Rev. Legend illegible, probably LIBERALITAS. A draped
 figure standing, right hand uplifted, cornucopia in left
 hand. In the field S.C.
 Found on the West Common, Lincoln, 1889. Pre-
 sented by F. Williams, Sept. 28, 1909.

35. *Dupondius.*
Obv. Worn and defaced. Head to right.
Rev. Worn and defaced. Standing figure.
 Found in Lincoln. Presented by the late B. Vickers,
 March, 1906.

FAUSTINA THE ELDER, wife of Antoninus Pius

36. *Sestertius.*
Obv. DIVA FAUSTINA. Head to right.
Rev. CERES. Ceres standing to left with ears of corn in
 right hand, torch in left.
 Found in Stonefield Garden, Lincoln. Presented by
 the late J. Swan, April 3, 1907.

37. *Dupondius.*
 Much worn and corroded. Head to right.
 Found in Lincoln. Presented by A. Smith, Dec., 1909.



Photo by

The Author.

BRONZE COINS OF THE ROMAN PERIOD
 (The numbers correspond with the description in the list).

The original Coins are somewhat larger than the illustrations.