Find of Treasure Trove near Tullamore, King's County.—Mr. E.C.R. Armstrong, F.S.A., Local Secretary for Ireland, reports that 140 silver coins, found in the early part of the year by Mr. James Devoy, of Clonmore, Tullamore, King's County, were forwarded as Treasure Trove for inspection to the Royal Irish Academy on 22 March 1922. The coins consisted of 1 sixpence Edward VI, mint mark, ton; 4 groats Mary, mark, pomegranate; 38 English shillings, marks, martlet, cross-crosslet, lis, bell, A, escallop; 3 Irish shillings, mark, harp; 90 English sixpences, marks, lis, pheon, rose, portcullis, lion, coronet, castle, ermine, acorn, cinquefoil, cross, sword, A, escallop, crescent; 1 English groat, mark, martlet; 2 English threepences, marks, cross, and cinquefoil, all 134 coins being of Elizabeth; 1 small Spanish coin, much cut, inscription unreadable. Not being required for the National Collection, these coins were returned to the Treasury Remembrancer.

Note on St. Brigid's Shoe.—Mr. Armstrong also communicates the following: A shoe-shaped reliquary of brass, known as St. Brigid's

St. Brigid's Shoe ($\frac{1}{3}$).

Shoe, formerly in the Petrie collection, is preserved in the Irish National Museum. It has not to my knowledge been illustrated, though it was mentioned by Petrie (*Round Towers of Ireland*, pp. 341, 342) as an example of the custom of swearing on relics of saints. He printed the inscriptions on the reliquary, stating that from these it appeared the shoe was formerly preserved at Loughrea, co. Galway, where there still remained, a short distance from the Carmelite Friary, a small church dedicated to St. Brigid.

The shoe measures 9.6 in. in length. It is much broken. Its ornamentation consists of an oval setting now empty, with above this a small bearded head with an inscription S * Jhon * BAPTIST. Below the setting is a figure of Our Lord; I N R I on a scroll being placed above it. At each side is a circle, the larger of these contains the letters I.H.S. surmounted by a rayed cross and having below a heart and three nails; in the smaller the cross is not rayed and the heart is absent. At the Saviour's feet is an empty rectangular rayed

setting. The raised side of the shoe is incised S*BRIGID◊ VIRGO*KILDARIENSIS HIBERNIAE*PATRONA. Below this is engraved a figure, apparently intended for St. Francis, the stigmata being indicated; and some floral ornament. On the other side the inscription reads HOC*EST*IVRAMENTUM NATURALE Lochreich ANNO*DOMINI*1410. Below this is floral ornament, the heel also being decorated with floral scrolls.

Petrie appears to have considered the shoe to be of ancient date, but it cannot belong to a period earlier than the seventeenth century. Possibly the date 1410 engraved upon it refers to an earlier shrine which, having been destroyed, was replaced by the present specimen. Irish relics were frequently destroyed. The *Annals of Ulster* record, under the year 1538, the burning of the monastery of Down by the Saxon Justiciary, and the carrying off of the relics of Patrick, Columcille, and Brigid, and the image of Catherine, while in the same year the image of Mary of Trim, the Holy cross of Ballyboggan, and the Staff of Jesus were burned.

Special Exhibition of Greek and Latin Papyri at the British Museum.—To commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Graeco-Roman branch of the Egypt Exploration Society a special exhibition has been arranged, at the British Museum, of papyri presented to the Trustees by the Society since the foundation of the branch in 1897. The majority of the papyri shown come from the Society's excavations at Behnesâ (Oxyrhynchus), directed for so many years by Drs. Grenfell and Hunt. Others are from the Fayûm and el-Hîbeh. The Oxyrhynchus papyri come from the dust-heaps of the ancient town, those from the Fayûm were found in house-ruins, and those from Hîbeh were mostly recovered by the process of carefully taking to pieces 'cartonnage' mummy-coverings that were made of old papyri. The selection shown is very representative, all periods, subjects, and types of hands being represented. A Homer MS. of palaeographic interest is exhibited; lyric poetry is represented by Sappho, Pindar, and Bacchylides, while other branches of poetry appear in codices of Sophocles and Kerkidas. In the sphere of philosophy there is an early commentary on the *Topics* of Aristotle, and history is represented by the *Hellenica Oxyrhynchia*, a fragment of a history of Greece, probably by Ephorus, dealing with the years 397–396 B.C. The fragment was written in the third century A.D. An epitome of Livy, of the end of the third century, is a good specimen of Latin historical literature and palaeography. Then there are the famous *Sayings of Jesus*, and an interesting fragment of an 'Old Latin' version of Genesis. The non-literary fragments exhibited are also interesting, notably those illustrating fiscal and other governmental problems and methods, which were so like our own: one papyrus even shows us the 'Treasury Axe' at work in an attempt to economize by reduction of staff. Then there are, of course, the public announcements of plays, games, and shows, the processes of law, and the private letters. A catalogue of the exhibition, prefaced by Mr. H. I. Bell, is on sale in the Manuscript Saloon of the Museum, where the exhibition is placed. The exhibition is a most