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## **A Collection of Greek Coins *Die griechischen Münzen der Sammlung Warren*. By Kurt Regling. Berlin: G. Reimer, 1906. Text and Plates. M. 40.**

Warwick Wroth

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restoration was not for long. The *Pfaffen-kaiser* in two or three years' time had to give away to a more successful soldier, Leo the Armenian; and he, like most of the soldier-emperors at this time, was an Iconoclast. In defiance of the Imperial decrees, Theodore caused the prohibited icons to be borne on Palm Sunday in solemn procession round his monastery and of course in due time received an order for banishment from the neighbourhood of Constantinople. This third exile, which lasted for six years, from 815 to 821, was the longest of all his captivities. He was scourged, as gently as the executioners dared to wield the lash, and was for part of the time kept in pretty close confinement at Smyrna, not so close however as to prevent his conducting a voluminous correspondence with his dispersed monks, with influential courtiers at Constantinople, and with Pope Paschal I., whom he adjured to stretch forth his hand to convene a council to relieve the orthodox church from the tyranny of the Iconoclasts.

It was not however from the Roman pontiff that Theodore's deliverance was to come, but from another of the often-recurring palace conspiracies, by which Leo the Armenian while lustily singing psalms in the Imperial chapel on a dark Christmas morning was struck down by a band of assassins, who drew his rival, the condemned Michael, out of his dungeon and placed him on the throne.

Thus for the last time was Theodore of Studium free, but he hardly regained his

old influence, nor lived to witness the eventual and complete triumph of his cherished icons. He died in 826 in the sixty-eighth year of his age and his body, at first buried in the Island of Prinkipo, was eighteen years later, at the end of the Iconoclastic controversy, transferred to his beloved Studium, and there laid side by side with that of his uncle and brother, who had fought on his side in the great controversy.

Of the merits of that controversy this is not the place to speak. We may confess that while condemning the fierce brutality of most of the Iconoclast Emperors we cannot follow the author in her defence of the theological soundness of Iconodulia. Neither to break nor to worship a statue of Jupiter Olympius or a majestic mosaic of Christ seems to be our fitting attitude in the twentieth century, and possibly it would have been the right attitude in the ninth century also. But be this as it may, there is no doubt that the man whose life is here unfolded before us was one of the noblest figures in Byzantine history—not too fruitful in noble characters—that he acted from sincere and earnest convictions and that in setting himself against that unholy mixture of temporal and spiritual power which has been of late known by the name of Cesaro-papism he deserved well of his country, and however we may differ from his special line of argument, was really serving the great cause of the freedom of human thought.

THOMAS HODGKIN.

#### A COLLECTION OF GREEK COINS.

*Die griechischen Münzen der Sammlung Warren.* By KURT REGLING. Berlin: G. Reimer, 1906. Text and Plates. M. 40.

THIS excellent Catalogue describes a collection of 1769 coins of the Greek series till lately in the possession of Mr. E. P. Warren of Lewes. Some collectors and numismatists whose memories carry them back some way will note as they glance at the plates a fine array of electrum pieces and other rare coins

which they will recognize as old friends. The Warren Collection, in fact, enshrines the well-known cabinet (1016 specimens) of the Rev. W. Greenwell, and I notice many coins which were long ago shown at the British Museum at critical moments just before, or just after, they had come into Mr. Greenwell's possession and which, I remember, were discussed from every conceivable point of view by the collector and the Museum officials. In or before 1902 Mr.

Greenwell decided to dispose of his fine collection. I believe no formal offer of it was ever made to the authorities of our national Museum, and English archaeologists will regret this. At the same time, Mr. Warren is to be congratulated on having saved this carefully formed 'assemblage' from dispersion by auction and thus enabling it to be finally acquired—together with many additions made by himself—by the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, where it will, no doubt, do much to foster a taste for ancient art and the scientific study of an important branch of archaeology.

Mr. Greenwell was especially interested in electrum coinage, chiefly the coinage of Cyzicus. He acquired, when such things were just beginning to come into the market, a number of fine specimens of the gold staters of Lampsacus, a series in many respects akin to the Cyzicenes. He had a predilection also for the coins of two or three important cities, notably Abdera and Cyrene, and—what is not exceptional—for Sicilian coins. Mr. Warren appears to have usefully extended the collection on the lines laid down by Mr. Greenwell, but has added coins of many other classes. The collection as a whole, except for the series which Mr. Greenwell specially collected, is not so interesting to students as a collection like that of the late Sir Edward Bunbury, or the collection of Sir Hermann Weber, whose zeal and catholic tastes time does not abate. Both these collections contain or contained a number of interesting pieces in bronze—a humble but instructive metal which Mr. Greenwell and Mr. Warren seem rather to have disdained, though one understands their point of view as collectors. Some sections of the Warren Collection are, therefore, disappointing to numismatists. There is a heading 'Cappadocia,' but the coinage described consists only of a couple of regal drachms. The Seleucid and Ptolemaic series are scanty. There is one coin of Sidon; there are two of Tyre.

In arranging for the publication of his catalogue, Mr. Warren has been so fortunate as to secure the services of a member of the Berlin coin-cabinet, Dr. Regling, whose learned numismatic researches are familiar

to archaeologists. The book is handsomely printed, and the quarto *format* recalls that of the Berlin "Corpus numorum." It is not quite so easy to hold as the smaller volumes of the Berlin and British Museum Catalogues, but numismatic books hardly belong to the handy 'fireside' literature beloved of Dr. Johnson. Certainly, it gives a larger and more serviceable page than the octavo size, and the plan of noting the Plate-references in the margin—first adopted, I think, in M. Svoronos's 'Crete'—is one deserving of imitation. Personally, also (after many laborious years spent in turning from text to plates placed somewhere at the end), I much approve of Dr. Regling's method of presenting the Plates—there is here a liberal supply of 37—apart from the text. They are far more convenient for reference in this way, and, being bound together, cannot go astray.

As might be expected, Dr. Regling has carried out his task in a most workmanlike way. His descriptions of types are careful and judicious, though I think that in the case of Rhegium he has too hastily deposed 'Demos,' and set up Aristaeos, whose claim is not supported by any decisive evidence. All through, sufficient references to the literature and chronology are added, and notice is even taken of the identities of dies, a branch of numismatic activity which easy-going collectors have now to reckon with. There are also many useful notes which are well worthy of the attention of numismatists. Among them may be mentioned those dealing with the chronology of the coins of Elis (p. 143); the dating of the earliest 'owl-coins' of Athens, which Dr. Regling assigns to the time of Pisistratus (*circa* B.C. 560); symbols punning on names (p. 75); coins on which animals are shown curiously branded, like the ox of Poseidonia which is stamped with a caduceus. For the *selinon* type of the well-known Sicilian city, we have not only a reference to Holm but to 'The *Athenaeum*, 1901, II. p. 61,' a reference which I have not yet conscientiously verified but which I think must refer to the late Mr. Samuel Butler's attempt to grow the Selinuntine plant in a London square.

WARWICK WROTH.