

Alfred, 200 of Burgred of Mercia, and some coins of Louis le Debonnaire, and Charles le Chauve of France. Most of them found their way into the collection of Mr. John Evans, F.R.S. Roman coins also have been found here.

Coins of a more recent date, but of no less interest, have likewise been discovered here at different times. In the nineteenth volume of the *Archæological Journal* for 1862 is the record of a discovery here, by Mr. W. Parker Hamond, of a French jeton, which was exhibited by him at a meeting of the Society; "on one side is Henry IV. on horseback, on the other the arms of France and Navarre. The counters struck at Nuremberg by Hans Krauwinkel and Wolfgang Laufer, for use in France, are numerous, and some of the types have an historical interest. Examples of the time of Henry IV. are given by Snelling, J. de Fontenay, and other writers on jetons."

A Roman road, which followed the lines of the ancient British Ermine Street, ran through the parish of Croydon. Gale, in his "Commentary" on the "Itinerary" of Antonius, says that the Roman road passed through Old Croydon from Woodcote to Streatham. From this circumstance is derived the name *Sreathiam*, "the home on the street." Hither, also, came a branch of the old Watling Street. Naturally, we might expect to find a number of Roman remains in the parish, and we are not disappointed. Mr. Anderson says, "On the verge of the parish of Croydon, in 1871, the remains of a Roman villa were brought to light at Beddington. Other evidences of a former occupation of this neighbourhood by the Romans may be seen in the circumstance that, not long since, a small mutilated cup, or Roman vase, was dug up above the chalk-pit on Croham Farm. It was found at the back of the skull of a skeleton, duly laid on the chalk; there was no coin. A large, yellowish-red, coarse earthenware fragment of a neck and handles of an amphora was also recently dug up from a depth of about six feet—the last three being gravel—at the back of a cottage behind the waterworks, Surrey Street." Three coins—of Otho, Vespasian, and Hadrian—have also been picked up at different times in the parish.

The old town consists chiefly of one street, nearly a mile long, extending from the church to Haling. There appears to have been a town called Old Croydon, situated farther from London, towards Beddington, and some ruins of it were remaining in 1783. Both Camden and Gale notice a tradition that there was anciently a royal palace southward of the present town, next Haling. Through the spacious plain in which stand the

palace and church, run various clear springs of water, which join to form the river Wandie. This river is mentioned by Pope in a well-known passage, where, speaking of the "brothers" of the Thames, he mentions "the blue transparent Vandalis." Camden remarks, "The Vandal is augmented by a small river from the east, which arises at Croydon, formerly Craydiden, lying under the hills."

Croydon is singularly barren in historical reminiscences, apart from those associated with the palace, of which we shall speak presently, and the events relating to it are of little importance. In 1264 a body of troops, who had fought under the Earl of Leicester, consisting of Londoners, on returning home after the battle of Lewes, having taken up their quarters in this town, were attacked by the disbanded Royalists, who had formed the garrison of Tonbridge Castle, when many of them were killed, and their assailants obtained a great booty. From "Stow's Chronicle" we learn that in 1286 "William Warren, son and heir of John Warren, Earle of Surrey, in a tournament at Croyden, was by the challenger intercepted, and cruelly slain." From the same source, too, we learn that "in 1550, Grig, a poulterer, of Surrey, regarded among the people as a prophet, in curing divers diseases by words and prayers, and saying he would take no money, was, by commandment of the Earl of Warwick and others of the King's Council, set on a scaffold in the town of Croydon, with a paper on his breast, wherein were written his deceitful and hypocritical dealings. He was afterwards put in the pillory at Southwark during the Lady Day fair." Stow further tells us that in 1551 an earthquake was felt at Croydon, and several neighbouring places. Fuller, in his "Church History of Britain" (1656), after mentioning the Black Assizes at Oxford, in 1577, adds "The like chanced some four years since at Croydon, in Surrey, where a great depopulation happened at the assizes of persons of quality, and the two judges, Baron Yates and Baron Rigby, died a few days after." Lysons, in his "Environs," remarks that it does not appear by the register that there was any great mortality at Croydon about that time. The plague visited this town in 1603, and in that year and the next 158 persons died of it. The disease proved fatal to many people here also in 1625, 1626, 1631, 1665, and 1666. During the plague, in 1665, we are told several of the poorer classes buried their relations in the woods around the town.

In 1673 the parish was half ruined by a series of scandals, extending over thirteen years, alleged