



# BALDWIN'S

*The Name for Numismatics*

Auction Number 76  
Thursday 27 September 2012



The  
**BENTLEY**  
Collection

OFFICIAL COINEX AUCTION

British Milled Sovereigns  
Part 2

To be held in the Council Chamber  
The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy



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11 Adelphi Terrace  
London WC2N 6BJ  
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7930 9808  
Fax: +44 (0)20 7930 9450  
email: [auctions@baldwin.co.uk](mailto:auctions@baldwin.co.uk)



**BALDWIN'S**  
*The Name for Numismatics*

## OUR SPECIALIST TEAM

<b>Ian Goldbart</b>	Managing Director	<a href="mailto:Ian@baldwin.co.uk">Ian@baldwin.co.uk</a>
<b>Edward Baldwin</b>	Chairman European, Russian, Colonial and Oriental Coins Military Medals and Decorations, Numismatic Books	<a href="mailto:Edward@baldwin.co.uk">Edward@baldwin.co.uk</a>
<b>Seth Freeman</b>	Director Tokens and Banknotes	<a href="mailto:Seth@baldwin.co.uk">Seth@baldwin.co.uk</a>
<b>Steve Hill</b>	Director English hammered and milled Coins	<a href="mailto:Steve@baldwin.co.uk">Steve@baldwin.co.uk</a>
<b>Dimitri Loulakis</b>	Director English, European and Latin American Coins, modern Greek Coins	<a href="mailto:Dimitri@baldwin.co.uk">Dimitri@baldwin.co.uk</a>
<b>Andre de Clermont</b>	Islamic Coins	<a href="mailto:Andre@baldwin.co.uk">Andre@baldwin.co.uk</a>
<b>Graham Byfield</b>	Indian and Islamic Coins, Commemorative Medals	<a href="mailto:Graham@baldwin.co.uk">Graham@baldwin.co.uk</a>
<b>Paul Hill</b>	Ancient Greek, Roman and Byzantine Coins	<a href="mailto:Paul@baldwin.co.uk">Paul@baldwin.co.uk</a>
<b>Caroline Holmes</b>	Numismatic Books	<a href="mailto:Caroline@baldwin.co.uk">Caroline@baldwin.co.uk</a>
<b>David Kirk</b>	Military Medals and English Coins	<a href="mailto:David@baldwin.co.uk">David@baldwin.co.uk</a>
<b>Laurent Stainvurcel</b>	European Coins	<a href="mailto:Laurent@baldwin.co.uk">Laurent@baldwin.co.uk</a>
<b>Matt Curtis</b>	Auction Office Manager	<a href="mailto:Matt@baldwin.co.uk">Matt@baldwin.co.uk</a>
<b>Sam Weedall</b>	Auction Co-Ordinator	<a href="mailto:Sam@baldwin.co.uk">Sam@baldwin.co.uk</a>
<b>Caroline Newton</b>	PR and Marketing Manager	<a href="mailto:CarolineNewton@baldwin.co.uk">CarolineNewton@baldwin.co.uk</a>

## EXTERNAL CONSULTANTS

<b>Daniel Fearon</b>	Commemorative Medals	<a href="mailto:Daniel@baldwin.co.uk">Daniel@baldwin.co.uk</a>
<b>Stan Goron</b>	Indian Coins	<a href="mailto:Stan@baldwin.co.uk">Stan@baldwin.co.uk</a>
<b>Peter Donald</b>	Byzantine Coins	<a href="mailto:Peter@baldwin.co.uk">Peter@baldwin.co.uk</a>

## WORLDWIDE REPRESENTATIVES

<b>Mr Randy Weir</b>	P O Box 64577, Unionville, Ontario, L3R 0M9 Canada	<a href="mailto:RandyWeir@baldwin.co.uk">RandyWeir@baldwin.co.uk</a>
<b>Mr Ma Tak Wo</b>	Unit 2A, 9 <sup>th</sup> Floor, China Insurance Building, 48 Cameron Road Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, Hong Kong	<a href="mailto:MaTakWo@baldwin.co.uk">MaTakWo@baldwin.co.uk</a>





# BALDWIN'S

*The Name for Numismatics*

**Auction Number 76**

Thursday 27 September 2012

## The BENTLEY Collection

of

British Milled Sovereigns

Part II

CIPFA

3 Robert Street

Adelphi, London, WC2N 6BH

The Council Chamber

**10.00 am** precisely

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## OFFICIAL COINEX AUCTION

A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd, 11 Adelphi Terrace, London WC2N 6BJ

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7930 9808, Fax: +44 (0)20 7930 9450, email: [auctions@baldwin.co.uk](mailto:auctions@baldwin.co.uk)  
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Date of Sale	<b>Thursday 27 September 2012</b>		
One Session:	10.00am		Lots 382 - 931

Public View      Sunday 23 September 2012

A H Baldwin and Sons Ltd  
11 Adelphi Terrace, London WC2N 6BJ

10.00 am - 4.00 pm

Viewing at all other times **by appointment** at  
11 Adelphi Terrace during the preceding two weeks  
9.30 am - 4.30 pm, Monday to Friday

Order of Sale      George III      Lots 382 - 388

George IV Lots 389 - 393

William IV                      Lots 394 - 396

Victoria Lots 397 - 627

## Colonial Issues

## Australia

Adelaide Lots 628

Sydney Lots 629 - 744

Melbourne                                  Lots 745 - 844

Perth Lots 845 - 878

Canada Lots 879 - 890

India Lots 891 - 895

## South Africa

Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek      Lots 896 - 918

Dominion, Pretoria Mint                      Lots 919 - 931

## Baldwin's Celebrating 140 Years

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**Catalogue Editor** Edward Baldwin

**Design and Layout** Seth Freeman

Cataloguer Steve Hill

Photography David Kirk

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# The BENTLEY Collection

## All That Glitters....

A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd are proud to present Part Two of the outstanding Bentley Collection. This, the largest part of three, contains all the Colonial Branch Mint Gold Sovereigns as well as a further selection of the London series. The lot numbering of the sale continues directly from part one which was successfully sold on the 8 May 2012, starting at Lot 382 and running through to Lot 931.

The highlight and most valuable coin of the sale is the fabled 1920 Sydney mint Sovereign which is the key to the Australian Numismatic series. It is one of the 251 lots of Australian based material in this auction. There are twelve lots from the Ottawa mint in Canada which represent every year and variety of the Gold Sovereign production there and five lots from British India with the entire production of 1918 dated gold coinage represented. The auction ends with a South Africa section which includes 23 lots of rare South African Republic issues of 1874-1902 and thirteen lots of Imperial type Sovereigns. There are many extremely rare issues of both currency and proof coins throughout these sections in the catalogue.

Please refer to the part one catalogue introduction for a narrative on how the collection was formed and for a brief historical background to the gold Sovereign.

### Order of Sale

London Series	Gold Sovereigns, George III to Victoria, 1817-1879	Lots 382-627
Australian Series	Adelaide type II Gold Pound Coin Token	Lot 628
Australian Series	Sydney Branch Mint Gold Sovereigns Victoria to George V, 1855-1926	Lots 629-743
Australian Series	Melbourne Branch Mint Gold Sovereigns Victoria to George V, 1872-1931	Lots 744-844
Australian Series	Perth Branch Mint Gold Sovereigns Victoria to George V, 1899-1931	Lots 845-878
Canadian Series	Ottawa Branch Mint Gold Sovereigns Edward VII to George V, 1908-1919	Lots 879-890
Indian Series	British India, Bombay Branch Mint Gold Sovereigns George V, 1918	Lots 891-895
ZAR Series	Republic Gold Issues, 1874-1902	Lots 896-918
South African Series	Pretoria Branch Mint Gold Sovereigns, George V, 1923-1932	Lots 919-931

### A Note on Mintage Figures

All quoted calendar year mintages or numbers issued have been cross checked between two publications where appropriate:-

*The History of the Gold Sovereign* – Sir Geoffrey Duveen and H G Stride – published Oxford University Press, 1962  
*Sovereigns of the British Empire* - Captain J J Cullimore Allen OBE - published Spink & Son, 1965.

### A Note on the Weighing of Coins

All Sovereigns are struck in 22 carat gold (916.66 fineness) unless otherwise stated.

The standard weight of a Sovereign is 7.98805g or 123.27447 grains as dictated by the Coinage Act of 1870.  
One gram = 15.4323 grains.

A unique opportunity occurs with the Bentley Collection to weigh accurately a large sample of surviving sovereigns even though their manufacture is quite uniform and weights very similar. It is interesting to see how accurately they were made and to examine how wear and tear takes its toll upon the more circulated examples, some of which are currently below the accepted legal tender weight as dictated by the later 1890 Coinage Act.



In practice the weight can vary between 7.97g and 8.00g when rounded to two decimal places for a good quality coin. The more wear a coin exhibits the lower the weight can be. A sovereign was deemed non-legal tender once its weight diminished to under 122.5 grains, about 7.937g.

All coins were weighed on a Sartorius scientific balance to three decimal places and rounded up or down accordingly to two decimal places for publication.

### A Note on Grading

All Sovereigns in the Bentley Collection have been graded on strict and conservative British standards. It should be borne in mind that gold, being the softest metal used in the manufacture of coinage, will always generally show some hairlines or light contact marks of some kind, and every effort has been made to mention all such instances.



For a true FDC Victoria Sovereign see Lot 623 (pictured above) which sets a standard for uncirculated grade that all the other Sovereigns in this collection are compared to.

Some of the coins in the Bentley Collection were originally obtained “encapsulated and graded”, encased in plastic, from which the owner arranged removal of the coins. Where the original grade from the various companies involved is known it is mentioned in the cataloguing along with our own strict British grading. However, we cannot advise or predict what any coin in the Bentley Collection may or may not be graded as by a third party grading service.

### A Note on Varieties

Varieties of coins and differences upon them can take many different forms and some are much more significant than others. There has been a trend in the numismatic trade recently to call any slight difference from one coin to another “a newly discovered” variety or more crassly an “error”, when clearly this is not always the case. To be a true error upon a coin, the engraver who made it must have made a mistake when preparing the die which is clearly evident on the struck coins from those particular dies. This can take the form of a wrong letter used in the legend whether the right way up or rotated (or correct letter but rotated), or even more seriously a wrong bust or other design element used which is different to other current coins of the time. The use of Roman style true capital letter I punches can be deemed an error, but may just have been used for necessity if the Arabic style number 1 punch was missing or broken on the day of preparing the die. These sorts of striking are all true varieties, as they differ markedly to that which is normally encountered.

### A Note on Provenances

Every effort has been made to include provenance when available in the time allowed to prepare this catalogue. Most of them are present due to the records kept of the acquisitions to the collection over many years. These generally consist of old dated invoices from the individuals and companies concerned. If any additional provenances become apparent after the issue of this catalogue but before the sale date, notices of them will appear on our website and as a printed sheet for visitors viewing the coins in this part of the collection.





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## THE BENTLEY COLLECTION OF MILLED GOLD SOVEREIGNS PART TWO

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### Royal Mint Issues - London



#### The Reign of King George III (1760-1820)

House of Hanover

Born: 4 June 1738



Accession: 25 October 1760

Married: Charlotte of Mecklenburg-Strelitz 8 September 1761  
the day they met for the first time.

Coronation: Tuesday, 22 September 1761

Children: nine sons, six daughters

Died: 29 January 1820, aged 81

### An Extremely Rare Pattern Sovereign of 1816, Milled Edge Engraved by Thomas Wyon



- 382 ♀ **George III (1760-1820)**, Pattern Sovereign 1816, engraved by Thomas Wyon Jnr. after Pistrucci's cameo, larger laureate head right, with ties at rear, four distinct leaves at top of laurel wreath that consists of 14 leaves, toothed border both sides, obverse struck slightly off-centre, legend in small letters both sides, *GEORGIUS III D: G: BRITT: REX F: D:*, *rev* struck en médaille, die flaw into crown and another in legend, crowned square shield of arms quartered with the arms of Hanover as an escutcheon, 5 strings to Irish harp, crown with 12 jewels on each arch, central crown upright with parallel vertical lines of 6 jewels, taller cross on crown with horizontal line separating it from orb below, date 18 16 below arms lightly double struck, legend *BRITANNIARUM REX FID: DEF:* edge, straight grained milled, 7.97g, 22.1mm (WR 186 R6 *this coin*; Murdoch 187; DM -). *Tiny pin-point sized black spots below ear lobe, lightly toned, otherwise mint state and extremely rare.* £15,000-20,000

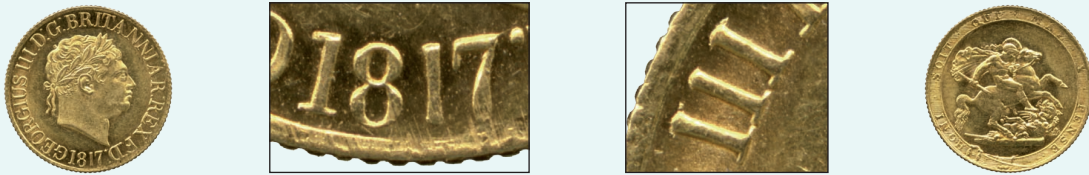
ex Virgil M Brand collection, dispersed post mortem from 1932

ex Herman Selig collection, Spink Auction 131, 2 March 1999, lot 1171 – the plate coin in Wilson and Rasmussen

The key features of this proposed pattern engraved by Wyon are the portrait with 14 leaf wreath, five strings to the Irish harp and the crown arranged with pearls on the arches evenly balanced at twelve per side and six on each side of the central vertical. This is the companion piece to Lot 2 of the Bentley Collection which has a plain edge; we note that the milled edge piece offered here is of a significantly lower weight than the heavy weight plain edge piece.



## 1817 Sovereign with Absent Serifs on Numerals and Letters



- 383** 9 **George III**, Sovereign, 1817, engraved by Benedetto Pistrucci, second 1 with no serifs top or bottom, no upper serifs to figures I in king's name and numerals, first laureate head right, coarse hair, date below, raised rim both sides, *rev* inverted die axis, St George slaying dragon right with broken lance, the last three words of motto double struck, no upper left serif to I of HONI, no bottom left serif to I of SOIT, weak MAL Y, 7.99g (Marsh 1; MCE 464; S 3785). *Brilliant, some light marks, extremely fine and rare.* £1500-1800

ex Noble Investments (UK) PLC, London, 21 November 2005

Calendar year mintage 3,235,239

For a narrative on the new coinage of 1817 see the introduction to George III in the part one of the Bentley Collection

The missing serifs seem to be a product of weak striking and preparation of the dies. This was highlighted under "a note on varieties" in part one of the Bentley Collection.

## Very Rare 1818 Gold Sovereign with Ascending Colon



ascending colon in legend

- 384** 9 **George III**, Sovereign, 1818, ascending colon variety, first laureate head right, coarse hair, date below, a mere trace of lower right serif to second 1 of date, raised rim both sides, *rev* St George slaying dragon right with broken lance, no upper left serif to I of HONI, 7.97g (Marsh 2A; MCE 465; S 3785A). *Red tone with underlying brilliance, very pleasing, good extremely fine and rare.* £4000-5000

Calendar year mintage 2,347,230

A proof quality striking of this variety will be offered in the part three of the Bentley Collection.

## The Extremely Rare Proof Sovereign of 1820



- 385** 9 **George III**, Proof Sovereign, 1820, open 2, normal date arrangement, second laureate head right, finer engraved hair tightly curled, date below, date with 20 larger than 18, the initial G of legend turned more in line with date, ascending colon after BRITANNIA:, lettering clear of thinner raised rim, only a trace of outer linear circle on obverse, *rev* St George slaying dragon right with broken lance, trace of upper left serif to I of HONI, weak MAL Y, 8.00g (WR 200 R7; S 3785C). *A few light hairlines and tiny dig on cheek, otherwise mint state and of the highest rarity according to Wilson and Rasmussen.* £15,000-20,000

For a narrative on the new bust of 1820 see introduction before Lot 7 in part one of the Bentley Collection.

It is interesting to note in the finer detail of this proof issue that the upper left serif of HONI is not absent as it always seems to be on the currency examples. Perhaps this is a diagnostic of the true proof issue.

ex Sothebys, 17 November 2000, lot 525 (part), illustrated as No.7





- 386** 9 **George III**, Sovereign, 1820, closed 2, neater smaller date arrangement, second laureate head right, finer engraved hair, with misstruck rim milling encroaching onto obverse from 10-1 o'clock, finer date below, the initial G of legend halfway turned towards date, closed 2 with thinner finer engraved 0, 8 and 2 spaced apart, 20 slightly smaller than 18 and in line, ascending colon after BRITANNIAR; larger space between X and F, some obverse letters slightly doubled, lettering clear of thinner raised rim, only a trace of outer linear circle, *rev* St George slaying dragon right with broken lance, no upper left serif to I of HONI, s of SOIT with broken upper curve, 7.81g (cf Marsh 4B R; MCE 466; S 3785C). *Only fair and well below the legal weight for tender due to wear, nevertheless rare.* £400-500

purchased via A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd, July 2010

Calendar year mintage 931,994

It is interesting to note that, as one of the lower grade Sovereigns in the Bentley Collection, this coin is well under the legal tender weight limit that was set in successive Coinage Acts from 1816-1891.



- 387** 9 **George III**, Sovereign, 1820, open 2, normal date arrangement, second laureate head right, finer engraved hair, date below, thin top heavy open 2 in date with tail upward, higher than 0, 8 and 2 spaced apart, 20 out of line from 18, the initial G of legend halfway turned towards date, ascending colon after BRITANNIAR; lettering clear of thinner raised rim, some obverse letters slightly doubled, only a trace of outer linear circle on obverse, *rev* St George slaying dragon right with broken lance, trace of upper left serif to I of HONI, s of SOIT with broken upper curve, 7.92g (cf Marsh 4B R; MCE 466; S 3785C). *Surface marks, some light deposits of dirt removed, fine to good fine.* £500-600

ex Reserve Bank of Australia Sale, Downies, 29-30<sup>th</sup> November 2005, lot 1134

purchased via Winsor and Sons, Jamberoo, Australia and through A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd, 4 December 2006

Calendar year mintage 931,994

It is interesting to note that, as one of the lower grade Sovereigns in the Bentley Collection, this coin is well under the legal tender weight limit that was set in successive Coinage Acts from 1816-1891.



**Short date figures, open 2**

- 388** 9 **George III**, Sovereign, 1820, short date figures, laureate head right, finer engraved hair, shorter thicker date below, high spread short date figures with open 2, 8 and 2 widely spaced apart, the initial G of legend close to 1 and turned in more in line with date, ascending colon after BRITANNIAR; larger space between X and F, colon after double-cut, I and V in king's name touch at top, doubled lettering both sides, lettering clear of rim, and trace of outer linear circle, *rev* St George slaying dragon right with broken lance, no upper left serif to I of HONI, U of QUI flawed, 7.97g (Marsh 4A R; MCE 466; S 3785C). *Has been once lightly gilt and mounted, edge repair in milling, otherwise detail very good, better than extremely fine, the rarest date variety for 1820.* £800-1000

purchased via Spink and Son, March 2004

Calendar year mintage 931,994

George III died on 29 January 1820

**The Reign of King George IV (1820-1830)**  
**House of Hanover**

**Born:** 12 August 1762

**Accession:** 29 January 1820

**Married:** Caroline of Brunswick 8 April 1795  
later separated and banned from attending the Coronation

**Coronation:** Thursday, 19 July 1821

**Child:** one daughter Charlotte  
who predeceased her Father 6 November 1817

**Died:** 26 June 1830, aged 67



**Rare Off-centre Die Axis 1821 Sovereign**



**389** *g* **George IV (1820-1830), Sovereign, 1821, off-centre die axis, first laureate head left, B.P. below, slightly doubled, a number of small raised die flaws in lettering, lettering with horizontally ruled interior compartments, GEORGIUS III D: G: BRITANNIAR: REX F: D:, milled border between linear concentric circles both sides, rev struck with inverted die axis off-centre by about 45 degrees, broken lance on ground to left, with WWP in relief below, date in exergue, with B.P. to upper right, edge milled, 7.98g (Marsh 5; MCE 471; S 3800). *Light scratch above head, hairlined, almost extremely fine and unusual.* £1000-1200**

ex A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd sourced via Paul Davies Ltd, October 2010

Calendar year mintage 9,405,114

For more narrative on the mintage figures and issue of 1821, see part one of the Bentley Collection, Lots 11 and 12.



## Extremely Rare George IV Barton's Metal Pattern Obverse Sovereign



- 390** **George IV**, Pattern Uniface Sovereign, 1825, struck in Barton's Metal (gold electrolysed copper), engraved by William Wyon after Francis Chantrey's model, second bare head left, date below, rosette either side, toothed border and raised rim, bold raised lettering *GEORGIUS IV DEI GRATIA*, *rev* blank with a raised rim, edge plain showing copper with gold borders, 4.09g, 21.7mm (cf S 3801). *Speckling of black tone in bottom third of obverse, otherwise as struck and extremely rare.* £1500-2000

Experimental patterns struck in Barton's metal exist in most denominations usually of gold and silver dated 1825. Bartons Metal is gold electrolysed copper where a thin sheet of gold has been laid over a copper core and struck as method to show how a token coinage could be produced. The Deputy Comptroller of the mint at this time was John Barton (1771-1834) who was an engineer and responsible for inventing new more efficient machinery at the Royal Mint. Many of the new methods and machines were written up in detail in the *Mechanic's Magazine*, volume III – 1824 in issues 63-67. The Bartons Metal patterns of 1825 are all uniface obverse and reverse designs and are extremely rare.

The companion uniface reverse of equal rarity will be offered in part three of the Bentley Collection, May 2013

## Very Rare 1825 Milled Edge Proof Sovereign with Eight Heart Semée in the Arms



- 391** **George IV**, Proof Sovereign, 1825, engraved by William Wyon after Francis Chantrey's model, second bare head left, date below, rosette either side, toothed border and raised rim both sides, *GEORGIUS IV DEI GRATIA*, *rev* struck with inverted die axis, by Jean Baptiste Merlen, crowned quartered shield of arms, with the arms of Hanover as an escutcheon, eight hearts in semée of Hanoverian lion, two upper lis of inner frame around Scottish lion incomplete, Irish arms with nine harp strings, re-touched frosting on design elements, leaving finest detail indistinct, evident on crown band, *BRITANNIARUM REX FID: DEF:*, edge milled, 8.03g (WR 236 R5; Montagu 930; Murdoch 382 (part); Nobleman 137 (part); DM 159; S 3801). *Lightly hairlined, otherwise as struck and very rare.* £6000-8000

This milled edge 1825 proof carries eight hearts in the Hanoverian Arms like the currency pieces, as opposed to the seven heart semée plain edge piece (published for the very first time in part one of the Bentley Collection).

All the denominations issued for the current new coinage of the second type of George IV in 1825 were also produced to proof quality, no doubt to present to officials and very important persons, and included a pattern gold Five Pounds, Two Pounds and silver Crown that were not current this year. Additionally, Pistrucci himself would be able to supply proofs to whomever he pleased or to those who would commission him to do so. These very rare proofs of 1825 were obviously in demand, as they led directly to the sale of entire Proof Sets in cases from the following year (1826). Proof Sets then began to be produced on a more regular basis for Coronations, Jubilees and new coinages.

## Very Pleasing Example of the 1826 Proof Gold Sovereign



- 392** *G* **George IV**, Proof Sovereign, 1826, second bare head left, date below, lower left serif of first R absent, *rev* crowned shield of arms, quartered with the arms of Hanover as an escutcheon, eight hearts in semée of Hanoverian lion, two upper lis of inner frame around Scottish lion detached, tiny hairline flaw below shield to right, 7.99g (WR 237; S 3801). *Light tone, a little hairlined, otherwise practically as struck.* £3000-4000

ex Stacks, New York, USA, 7-8 December 1994, lot 2455

The 1826 proof Sovereign was one of the coins included in commemorative sets made to present to officials and very important persons and included a pattern gold Five Pounds, Two Pounds and Half-Sovereign as well as the silver and copper denominations from Crown to Farthing. Additionally, Pistrucci himself had the right to supply single proofs to whomever he pleased or to those who would commission him to do so. Proof Sets then began to be produced on a more regular basis for Coronations, Jubilees and new coinages.

## Unusual 1830 George IV Sovereign with En Médaille Die Axis



- 393** *G* **George IV**, Sovereign, 1830, struck with en médaille die axis, second bare head left, date below, *rev* crowned shield of arms, quartered with the arms of Hanover as an escutcheon, 7.91g (Marsh 15; MCE 481; S 3801). *Once cleaned, almost very fine and rare, the only specimen the cataloguer has seen, extremely rare.* £1000-1500

ex St James's Auction 4, 8 May 2006, lot 362

The occurrence of a true opposite die axis to that usually encountered is a real oddity in the gold series of currency coinage. The upright die axis is usually reserved for medals in this period or rare proof striking (hence the term "en médaille" - like a medal) and though slightly off-centre die axis strikes do rarely occur, true opposite is a real rarity. In the Bentley Collection as a whole it is only this coin of 1830 and one sold in part one, dated 1817, that have an opposite to the normal die axis. Part three of the Bentley collection will contain a possibly unique proof 1830 Sovereign of George IV that also has this dies axis.

It is interesting to note that, as one of the lower grade Sovereigns in the Bentley Collection, this coin is well under the legal tender weight limit that was set in successive Coinage Acts from 1816-1891.

Calendar year mintage 2,387,881

George IV died on 26 June 1830





## The Reign of King William IV (1830-1837) House of Hanover

**Born:** 21 August 1765

**Accession:** 26 June 1830

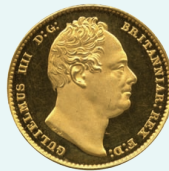
**Married:** Adelaide of Saxe-Coburg and Meiningen, 11 July 1818  
after first meeting a week before,  
a double wedding with his brother,  
Prince Edward the Duke of Kent.

**Coronation:** Thursday, 8 September 1831

**Children:** two daughters who both died in childhood,  
ten illegitimate children previously

**Died:** 20 June 1837, aged 71

### Extremely Rare William IV Pattern Sovereign Dated 1830



**394 g William IV (1830-1837), Pattern Sovereign, 1830, by William Wyon after Francis Chantrey's model, second bare head right with coarse hair and flat topped, deeply engraved ear, w.w. incuse fully on truncation, nose points to second I in BRITANNIAR, GULIELMUS III D: G: BRITANNIAR REX F: D:, finely toothed border and raised rim both sides, coarse bead like border teeth, *rev* struck with inverted die axis, by Jean Baptiste Merlen, crowned quartered shield of arms, with the arms of Hanover as an escutcheon, seven heart semée, Irish arms with eight harp strings, crown with 13 pearls on each arch and five pearls each side of vertical facing upright, inner crown band with nine jewels, ANNO 1830 below, finer taller border teeth, edge plain, 7.68g, 21.8mm (WR 260 R5; Montagu 1083; Murdoch 440 (part); Nobleman 203; DM 178; S 3829B). *Small tiny striking flaw in reverse field to left of shield, some very light hairlines, otherwise mint state and extremely rare.* £10,000-15,000**

Note the lighter weight of this pattern coin which ensured it would not go far if inadvertently passed into circulation.

It is interesting to see that the "second bust" rendition was used for this initial pattern dating from the year of accession in 1830. Most currency coins from 1831 carry the first bust. The second bust in currency for 1831 is extremely rare being more wholly adopted from 1832. Therefore the chronology does not follow in reality as their referencing suggests. The second bust turned out to be the most prolific in this reign, used consistently from 1832 until the end of the reign. Both busts must have been used concurrently at times but the only reason they can accurately be called first and second bust is based on when they were phased out rather than when they were first introduced. For further reading see the introduction to the reign of King William IV in part one of the Bentley Collection.

The Coronation of King William IV took place 8 September 1831. All the denominations issued for the current new coinage for the Coronation year of William IV in 1831 were also produced to proof quality in Coronation proof sets. These undoubtedly were made to present to officials and very important persons, and in addition to current 1831 dated denominations, included a proof gold Two Pounds and silver Crown, Halfcrown and Shilling that were not current that year. Additionally, William Wyon himself would be able to supply proofs to whomever he pleased or to those who would commission him to do so. The 1831 proof set is generally accepted as the second proof set available from the Royal Mint, the first being 1826, though unofficial "sets" can be put together of coins of 1821 and 1825 as well.



- 395** *G* **William IV**, Sovereign, 1832, M over small m or V variety, second bare head right with coarse hair and flat topped, deeply engraved ear, w.w. fully incuse on truncation, nose points to second I in BRITANNIAR, second M possibly over a V or small half-sovereign sized m and double punched, coarse border teeth, *rev*, crowned quartered shield of arms, with the arms of Hanover as an escutcheon, date below, finer border teeth, 7.97g (Marsh 17; MCE 490; S 3829B). *Rim bruise, nearly very fine, reverse better, a very unusual die variety, rare.* £800-1000

ex St James's Auction 7, 8 February 2008, lot 602  
Calendar year mintage 3,737,065



- 396** *G* **William IV**, Sovereign, 1832, high off-set 2 in date, second bare head right with coarse hair and flat topped, deeply engraved ear, w.w. fully incuse on truncation, nose points to second I in BRITANNIAR, second M possibly over a V or small half-sovereign sized m and double punched, coarse border teeth, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms, with the arms of Hanover as an escutcheon, date out of alignment below, finer border teeth, 7.87g (Marsh 17; MCE 490; S 3829B). *Surface marks, good fine, an unusual die variety, scarce.* £500-600

purchased via A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd, March 2006  
Calendar year mintage 3,737,065

It is interesting to note that, as one of the lower grade Sovereigns in the Bentley Collection, this coin is well under the legal tender weight limit that was set in successive Coinage Acts from 1816-1891.  
William IV died on 20 June 1837



## The Reign of Queen Victoria (1837-1901) House of Hanover

Born: 24 May 1819

Accession: 20 June 1837

Married: Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, 10 February 1840

Coronation: Thursday 28 June 1838

Children: four sons  
five daughters

Died: 22 January 1901  
aged 81



## The Extremely Rare Victoria Pattern Sovereign of 1837



**397 G Victoria (1837-1901), Pattern Sovereign, 1837**, engraved by William Wyon, small young head left, hair bound with plain double fillet, with raised line depicting edges of fillets, plain truncation ruled with fine lines, close spaced date below slightly double struck, rosette either side, fine toothed border and high raised rim both sides, VICTORIA DEI GRATIA more widely spaced from 8 to 4 o'clock, *rev* struck with inverted die axis, engraved by Jean Baptiste Merlen, crowned quartered narrow shield of arms within laurel wreath tied with bow below shield, twelve pearls on each arch of crown, four pearls vertically arranged on central upright, nine pellets visible on ermine below jewel band, laurel wreath each side consists of 30 leaves per side and terminates in three leaves at top, six harp strings in Irish arms, left string emanates from back of female figure, emblems below, rose at centre, thistle to left, shamrock to right, small rosette either side, BRITANNIARUM REGINA FID: DEF:, edge plain, 8.00g, 21.9mm (WR 296 R5; Montagu 1566; Murdoch 499; DM 199). *Lightly toned with some light hairlines, otherwise mint state and extremely rare.* £15,000-20,000

ex Spink and Son, 17 April 1997

For a narrative on the initial pattern and currency Sovereign of Victoria's reign see part one of the Bentley Collection, Lots 33-35. This is considered to be the second obverse for the proposed pattern Sovereign for young Queen Victoria for which she granted William Wyon multiple portrait sittings. The head is of a small stature, though larger than the first proposal (see Lot 33 from part one of the Bentley Collection), with plain fillets the legend more widely spaced. Note that this pattern is of the correct weight for issue for circulation, unlike the other smaller young head patterns in the Bentley Collection, which suggests this proposed design ran a close second to the adopted young head as used for currency.



- 398** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1838, doubled date, first young head left, hair bound with double fillet, ponytail terminates in single curved strand of hair, w.w. raised on truncation, date below heavily double struck, queen's name less so, fine toothed border and raised rim both sides, VICTORIA DEI GRATIA, *rev* struck with inverted die axis, crowned shield of arms within laurel wreath tied with bow below shield, narrow crown arches not so acutely angled, each with eleven pearl adornment, five pearls vertically arranged on central upright, wreath of 24 leaves each side, each terminate with two leaves at top, seven harp strings in taller Irish arms, first left string from scroll at back of female figure, emblems below, small rosette either side, BRITANNIARUM REGINA FID: DEF:, edge milled, 7.99g (Marsh 22 R; MCE 499; S 3852). *Light surface marks, good extremely fine.* £2000-2500

ex Spink and Son, August 2001

Calendar year mintage 2,718,694

For further information on the first young head of Queen Victoria, see part one of the Bentley Collection, Lot 33.

### Victoria 1839 Proof Sovereign Struck En Médaille



- 399** ♀ **Victoria**, Proof Sovereign, 1839, first young head left, ponytail termination less detailed, no single strand, date below, last A of legend slightly disjointed, *rev* struck en médaille, crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, Irish Arms with diagonal depiction of rear of harp body visible through strings, some legend letters lightly filled with raised die flawing, second 1 of legend with broken upper left serif, edge plain, 7.89g, 21.8mm (WR 302 R4; S 3852). *Very light contemporary hairlines, tiny nicks over head, otherwise, as struck and rare.* £3500-4500

ex Spink Auction 129, 17 November 1998, lot 277

Note the lighter weight of this proof coin, which ensured it would not go far if inadvertently passed into circulation.

The 1839 Proof Sovereign was produced for presentation to very important persons and William Wyon himself would have been able to supply proofs to whomever he pleased, or to those who would commission him to do so. These proof Sovereigns were produced with either an inverted or upright die axis, whether this was intentional or not is uncertain. The 1839 proofs were included as part of the "Coronation" Proof Sets showing proof quality coins struck from highly polished dies of all the denominations to be issued for currency, if not already in circulation. Some of the proof denominations occur in these sets with either one die axis or the other but, to be a true set, all coins should feature with the same die axis. As the Crown and Five Pounds always occur with the same upright die axis it would seem to dictate that all the proofs in the set from the Sovereign to Farthing of 1839 should also be upright (as per the piece offered here).

For further information on the proof issue of 1839 see the footnote to Lot 39 part one of the Bentley Collection.

The 1839 proof set is generally accepted as the third proof set available from the Royal Mint and at the time deluxe fitted cases could be supplied to house the coins.



## The Very Rare Victoria 1839 Currency Sovereign



- 400** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1839, first young head left, ponytail terminates in single curved strand of hair, date below, last A of legend slightly disjointed, *rev* inverted die axis, crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, some legend letters lightly doubled, edge milled, 7.99g (Marsh 23; S 3852). *Some very light bagmarks, small scratches by F of reverse legend, otherwise good extremely fine and very rare.* £4000-5000

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 14 September 1993

## The Extremely Rare Unbarred A Variety of 1842 Currency Sovereign

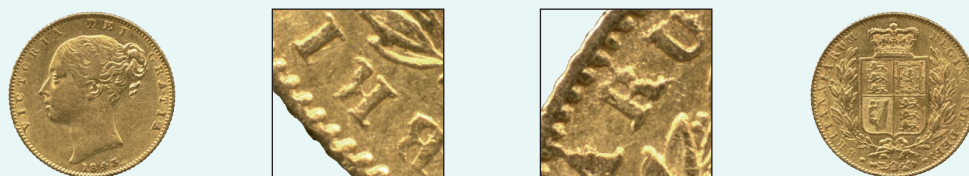


- 401** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1842, unbarred A's in GRATIA, first young head left, ponytail terminates in single curved strand of hair, date below with nearly closed 2, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, edge milled, 7.97g (Marsh 25; MCE 502; S 3852). *Surface marks, good fine to nearly very fine and extremely rare with the unbarred A's in legend.* £800-1000

ex St James's Auction 10, 6-7 November 2008, lot 526

Calendar year mintage 4,865,375

It is interesting to note that this is the same obverse die used for the 1841 Sovereign with unbarred A's and it was the 1842 version that was noted in print first. There are three varieties of the 1842 Sovereign in the Bentley Collection, normal 1842 (see Bentley part one), the very rare "open 2" (to be offered in Bentley part three) and the piece offered here, the extremely rare "unbarred A" variety which appears to be a product of weak cross-bars in the A's rather than an inverted "V" as some thought previously.



- 402** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1843, first young head left, ponytail terminates in single curved strand of hair, date below, die flaw between 4 and 3, other light flaws in legend, penultimate A of legend filled, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, upper left serif of second I absent and first letter R in BRITANNIARUM broken and resembling a K, 7.95g (Marsh 26; MCE 503; S 3852). *Scuffed with surface marks, otherwise good fine.* £300-400

ex St James's Auction 14, 30 September 2010, lot 417

Calendar year mintage 5,981,968

## The Only Known Example of the Victoria 1843 Sovereign with “3” over an “8”



- 403** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1843, 3 struck over an 8, first young head left, ponytail terminates in single curved strand of hair, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, 7.99g (cf Marsh 26B; MCE 503; S 3852). *Proof-like some hairline marks, good extremely fine, extremely rare, the only specimen currently known.* £2000-2500

purchased via A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd, 28 July 2010

Calendar year mintage 5,981,968

This extremely rare overdate was only discovered two years ago and is not dissimilar to the 1843 with 3 over 2 (discovered and published in 1980 by Michael Marsh, see part one of the Bentley Collection, Lot 44). However, unlike the 3 over 2, which was clearly using a left-over die from 1842 to prolong its life and therefore intentional, this coin depicts a true engraving error. It seems that the date was punched incorrectly with an 8 at first instead of a 3 and had to be corrected. It remains the only specimen known to the cataloguer thus far and is in superb condition



**closer date, small “44”**

- 404** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1844, smaller 44 higher than 18, closer spaced date, first young head left, ponytail terminates in single curved strand of hair, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, upper left serif of second I absent and disjointed first N and I in BRITANNIARUM, 7.97g (cf Marsh 27; MCE 505; S 3852). *Cleaned, nearly very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 3,000,445

For further reading on date varieties of 1844 Sovereigns see footnote to Lots 46-47 in part one of the Bentley Collection.



**small close date**

- 405** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1845, small close date, first young head left, ponytail does not terminate in single strand of hair, date below in an arc, slight doubling of legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, top of E in DEI incomplete, 8.01g (Marsh 28; MCE 506; S 3852). *A little weakly struck at shield, otherwise uncirculated.* £800-1000

Calendar year mintage 3,800,845

For further reading on varieties of 1845 Sovereigns see footnote to Lots 48-51 in part one of the Bentley Collection.





**spread date large "5"**

- 406** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1845, spread date large 5, first young head left, ponytail does not terminate in single strand of hair, date below, first A unbarred and last A broken in obverse legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, top of E in DEI incomplete, die flaw on N and A of first word, 7.94g (Marsh 28; MCE 506; S 3852). *Once cleaned, good fine to nearly very fine.* £300-350

purchased via A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd, 8 February 2008

Calendar year mintage 3,800,845

For further reading on varieties of 1845 Sovereigns see footnote to Lots 48-51 in part one of the Bentley Collection.



- 407** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1846, first young head left, date below, curvy 6 with sharp end, hairline raised flaw by 4, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel, emblems below, some doubling in part of reverse legend, 7.98g (Marsh 29; MCE 507; S 3852). *Light surface marks, good extremely fine, previously graded by NGC as MS63.* £600-800

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 2 June 1995

Calendar year mintage 3,802,947

### Unusual Inverted 1 in Date 1847 Sovereign



**inverted figure "1"**

- 408** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1847, no lower left serif to 1 in date as an inverted figure 1, struck over another figure 1 perhaps also inverted, first young head left, ponytail terminates in a trace of a single curved strand of hair, date below doubled, last I of legend without lower right serif, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel, emblems below, die flaw by second A in legend, another by letter G, 7.92g (Marsh 30; MCE 508; S 3852). *Once cleaned, fine, very unusual and rare.* £400-500

ex St James's Auction 7, 8 February 2008, lot 647

Calendar year mintage 4,667,126

This coin seems genuinely to have the "1" of the date inverted which is very unusual.

It is interesting to note that, as one of the lower grade Sovereigns in the Bentley Collection, this coin is well under the legal tender weight limit that was set in successive Coinage Acts from 1816-1891.

For further reading on varieties of 1847 Sovereigns see footnotes to Lot 54 in part one of the Bentley Collection.



**missing serif in date**

- 409** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1847, no lower right serif to 1 in date, 4 with tiny serif, first young head left, ponytail does not terminate in a single strand of hair, date below doubled, last I of legend without lower right serif, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel, emblems below, 7.96g (Marsh 30; MCE 508; S 3852). *Once cleaned, good fine, very unusual and rare.* £400-500

Calendar year mintage 4,667,126

For further reading on varieties of 1847 Sovereigns see footnotes to Lot 54 in part one of the Bentley Collection.

### Second larger young head type Sovereign of Queen Victoria (1837-1901)



- 410** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1848, second larger young head left, hair bound with double fillet, W.W. raised on truncation, legend surrounding, date below, date and legend doubled, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, E of DEF with a weak top bar, 7.98g (Marsh 31; MCE 509; S 3852C). *Prooflike though scuffed, extremely fine.* £400-600

Calendar year mintage 2,246,701

This is the most prolific of the 1848 coins carrying the new second larger young head (albeit with some doubling of date and legend), the change-over may have occurred for the reasons discussed in the introduction to the second young head of Queen Victoria in part one of the Bentley Collection, Lot 56. See also "a note on varieties" in the introduction, specifically the part about dual-hubbed dies.



**missing serifs in the Queen's name**

- 411** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1848, first I of queen's name with no lower serifs, second larger young head left, hair bound with double fillet, W.W. raised on truncation, legend surrounding, date below, date and legend doubled, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, 7.97g (Marsh 31; MCE 509; S 3852C). *Hairlined, almost extremely fine and very unusual.* £300-400

ex A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd sourced via Paul Davies Ltd, October 2010

Calendar year mintage 2,246,701





**rotated "9" in date**

- 412** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1849, 9 rotated out of line and doubled, second larger young head left, date below, date figures and latter half of legend doubled, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die flawed emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 32 R; MCE 510; S 3852C). *Once cleaned, otherwise extremely fine.* £500-600

ex Spink and Son, purchased November 2003

Calendar year mintage 1,755,399

For further reading on varieties of 1849 Sovereigns see footnote to Lots 57-58 in part one of the Bentley Collection.



**missing serif in date**

- 413** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1850, thin topped 1 in date with no upper serif, second larger young head left, date below, doubled legend and date, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, 7.97g (Marsh 33 R; MCE 511; S 3852C). *Once cleaned, nearly extremely fine and very unusual.* £800-1000

ex A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd sourced via Paul Davies Ltd, October 2010

Calendar year mintage 1,402,039

For further reading on varieties of 1850 Sovereigns see footnote to Lots 59-61 in part one of the Bentley Collection.



- 414** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1852, second larger young head left, date below doubled, die flaw at end of legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, 7.98g (Marsh 35; MCE 513; S 3852C). *Once cleaned, lightly hairlined nearly extremely fine.* £300-400

purchased via A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd, 28 July 2010

Calendar year mintage 8,053,435

For further reading on varieties of 1852 Sovereigns see footnote to Lots 63-64 in part one of the Bentley Collection.



- 415** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1852, second larger young head left, date below doubled, die flaw at end of legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, E of DEF with a weak top bar, penultimate I of legend without upper left serif, 7.97g (Marsh 35; MCE 513; S 3852C). *Some surface marks, nearly extremely fine and unusual.* £300-400

ex St James's Auction 13, 6 May 2010, lot 965

Calendar year mintage 8,053,435

For further reading on varieties of 1852 Sovereigns see footnotes to Lots 63-64 in part one of the Bentley Collection.



**1853 spread date**

- 416** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1853, spread date, second larger young head left, w.w. raised on truncation, date below, 5 struck over a lower 5, 18 doubled, legend slightly doubled, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, some light die flaws, 7.99g (Marsh 36; MCE 514; S 3852C). *Some hairline surface marks mainly on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine.* £400-500

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 294

Calendar year mintage 10,597,993

For further reading on varieties of 1853 Sovereigns see footnotes to Lots 65-69 in part one of the Bentley Collection.



**"4" over a smaller "4"**

- 417** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1854, 4 over a higher smaller 4, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, die flaw from truncation tip to rim, date below, the small 4 either a product of double strike, or possibly correcting a Half-Sovereign size 4, lightly doubled legend both sides, penultimate A with blobby die flaw to right foot, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, 7.95g (cf Marsh 37; MCE 515; S 3852D). *Once cleaned, light surface marks, nearly very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 3,589,611

The ww incuse variety for 1854 is that which is usually encountered for this date; the unusual date is not. For further reading on varieties of 1854 Sovereigns see footnote to Lot 70 in part one of the Bentley Collection.



**broken 5's in date**

- 418** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1855, broken figure 5's in date, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, date and legend doubled both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel, emblems below, 7.98g (cf Marsh 37; MCE 516; S 3852D). *Nicely toned, a few tiny digs, otherwise extremely fine and unusual.* £400-500

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 20 November 1989

Calendar year mintage 8,448,482

For further reading on varieties of 1855 Sovereigns see footnotes to Lots 72-74 in part one of the Bentley Collection.





**connected 5's in date**

- 419** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1855, connected though doubled figure 5's in date, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, date and legend doubled both sides, flaw from first I in legend towards rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel, emblems below, 7.98g (cf Marsh 37; MCE 516; S 3852D). *Once cleaned, light surface marks, nearly very fine.* £300-350

ex St James's Auction 13, 6 May 2010, lot 979

Calendar year mintage 8,448,482

For further reading on varieties of 1855 Sovereigns see footnotes to Lots 72-74 in part one of the Bentley Collection.

### Extremely rare 1856 Sovereign with 6 of date over 5



**clashed "6" over "5"**

- 420** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1856, 6 struck over a 5, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy 6 with bulbous top, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, reverse legend slightly doubled, 7.96g (Marsh 39; MCE 517; S 3852D). *Once cleaned, light surface marks, otherwise good very fine and extremely rare.* £700-800

purchased via A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd, November 2008

Calendar year mintage 4,806,160

This coin clearly has a figure 5 within the 6; the figure 5 is showing through part of the 6 rather than showing only around the outline. The upper interior of the 6 clearly shows elements of a 5 shaped interior too. A highly unusual coin.

For further reading on varieties of 1856 Sovereigns see footnote to Lot 75 in part one of the Bentley Collection.



**close date**

- 421** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1857, closer date figures, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, 7 with small tailed die flaw on upper bar, die flaw on first and third i's of legend, EI of DEI out of rotational alignment, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, die flaw on last A and rose of emblems, 7.95g (Marsh 40; MCE 518; S 3852D). *Once cleaned, reverse toned, light surface marks, extremely fine and unusual.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 4,495,748

Examples of both the spread and normal dates were sold in part one of the Bentley Collection, see lots 77 and 78.



**normal date arrangement**

- 422** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1857, normal date figures, tailed 7 over a smaller 7, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, 7.97g (Marsh 40; MCE 518; S 3852D). *A few light surface marks and digs, otherwise extremely fine and unusual.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased in the late 1990s

Calendar year mintage 4,495,748

Examples of both the spread and normal dates were sold in part one of the Bentley Collection, see lots 77 and 78.



**unusual overstruck I in VICTORIA**

- 423** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1857, normal date figures, double struck second I in queen's name, possibly over a Half-Sovereign-sized I, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, some obverse letters out of alignment and doubled, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, last F with die flaw to rim, 7.98g (Marsh 40; MCE 518; S 3852D). *Light short scratch in field behind neck, otherwise almost extremely fine, unusual.* £300-400

ex A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd sourced via Paul Davies Ltd, June 2008

Calendar year mintage 4,495,748

Examples of both the spread and normal dates were sold in part one of the Bentley Collection, see Lots 77-78.

## The Extremely Rare Unbarred A's in Obverse Legend 1858 Sovereign



- 424** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1858, Incomplete 5 and unbarred A's in legend, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, high 5 in date and figures out of line, unbarred A's in GRATIA, some doubling both sides, die flaw in legend and C out of rotational alignment, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, reverse legend lightly doubled, 7.95g (Marsh 41 R; MCE 519; S 3852D). *Once cleaned, good fine and extremely rare, very few examples known.* £300-400

purchased via A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd, 28 July 2010

Calendar year mintage 803,234

The unbarred A's in GRATIA variety is only seen on the dates 1841, 1842 and 1858.

For further reading on varieties of 1858 Sovereigns see footnote to Lot 79 in part one of the Bentley Collection.





- 425** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1859, incomplete 5 in date, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, 7.95g (Marsh 42; MCE 520; S 3852D). *Fine to good fine with associated surface marks.* £300-350

purchased from Andrew Holds at an unspecified date c.2002

Calendar year mintage 1,547,603

For further reading on varieties of 1859 Sovereigns see footnote to Lot 80 in part one of the Bentley.

## The Finest Known “Ansell” Variety Sovereign Dated 1859



the Ansell ribbon

- 426v** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1859, “Ansell” second larger young head left, with extra line depicted on lower fillet of hair, indicating struck from Australian “brittle” gold, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, complete 5, small bulb type 9, die flaw from neck to field to left of date, another long flaw from top rim over head vertical to cheek, unbarred last A in legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 42A R4; MCE 520; S 3852E). *Good extremely fine and the finest Ansell Sovereign known to the Cataloguer.* £6000-8000

ex Dr David Aboav collection of Sovereigns and Half-Sovereigns, Spink Auction 147, 5 October 2000, lot 376

ex “A Collection of Sovereigns”, Mark Rasmussen, List No.3 supplement, Autumn 2002, 7 November 2002

“Ansell” variety mintage 167,539 of a total calendar year of 1,547,603

In 1859 this quantity of coin from the regular mintage was found to be of inferior “brittle” quality and, on melting, was found to have been annealed with quantities of antimony, arsenic and lead. Mr George Frederick Ansell, who was employed in the Rolling Room at the mint and had a scientific background, was given permission to experiment with this inferior batch of sovereigns. He was successful in adjusting the alloy mix to reproduce them in a much stronger form which resulted in the whole quantity being re-coined and denoted with the extra line in the hair fillet. Today they are very rare indeed, especially in the high grade offered here.



- 427** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1860, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, letter O-like zero, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, doubled legend on obverse, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, second N in legend with raised die flaw, 7.99g (Marsh 43; MCE 521; S 3852D). *Rim nick, surface marks and hairlines, otherwise extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Noble Numismatics (UK) PLC, direct purchase, 3 October 2005

Calendar year mintage 2,555,958

As we enter the 1860s we start to find more engraving oddities than ever. As the quality of workmanship in the gold striking department seems to become more lax, the introduction of the die number system occurred as a new means of quality control. After which, engraving errors suddenly seem to all but disappear, as will be seen later in the chronology of the Bentley Collection.

The large wide O in the date of this coin was once thought to be rarer than a normal thinner zero. However the cataloguer has seen more 1860 dated Sovereigns with this letter O type zero than normal figure 0. Perhaps the zero punch went missing for a time at the mint in 1860 or broke beyond repair.

For further reading on varieties of 1860 Sovereigns see footnote to Lot 81-83 in part one of the Bentley Collection.

1860 marks the year that James Wyon retires as resident engraver at the mint and is succeeded by his son George Wyon.



- 428** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1860, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, first I in queen's name with no lower serifs and letter R without lower left serif, as well as D and I in DEI, some light raised die flaws, penultimate A on obverse unbarred, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, reverse legend doubled, 7.93g (Marsh 43; MCE 521; S 3852D). *Cleaned fine, very unusual with so many serifs missing.* £300-350

ex A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd sourced via Paul Davies Ltd, June 2008

Calendar year mintage 2,555,958

This 1860 Sovereign with the absent serifs is most likely explained by the blockage upon the obverse die by either dirt or grease in the corners of many of the letters. This would occur if either the obverse die had been newly reset in position and had been recently greased, or if the die had endured a production journey (a days die work) when, nearing the end of the day, dirt from the dies or metal from the blanks was starting to clog the serifs on the obverse die. This leaves us with several small details missing on the letters of the struck coin. Dirt and grease tend to end up on the periphery of the coin rather than nearer the centre upon the design, as the centre receives the full blow of the strike where the highest relief occurs, whilst the metal (and dirt and grease) tends to spread outwards towards the margins of the coin. This is why it gathers in small depressions of the lettering only, such as the serifs and cross-bars.



#### spread date

- 429** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1861, spread date especially 8 and 6, lightly doubled, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top higher in date, date out of alignment, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, doubled date and obverse legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 44; MCE 522; S 3852D). *Some light surface marks, otherwise good very fine.* £300-400

purchased via A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd, July 2006

Calendar year mintage 7,624,736

The Mint output for the calendar year is back up to higher levels. Statistically, therefore, this dictates more variety than ever and is apparent on date and legends for 1861 dated Sovereigns - there are over ten different varieties in the Bentley Collection alone. For further reading on varieties of 1861 Sovereigns see footnote to Lot 84-90 in part one of the Bentley Collection.



#### IA over tilting IA

- 430** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1861, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, loop of 6 does not meet upright, IA of queen's name struck over tilting figures, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, all letters of queen's name out of alignment, light die flaw on V and last A of legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, doubled reverse legend, 7.96g (Marsh 44; MCE 522; S 3852D). *Once cleaned, nearly very fine.* £300-350

ex A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd sourced via Paul Davies Ltd, October 2006

Calendar year mintage 7,624,736

This 1861 Sovereign appears to have suffered from shoddy engraving of the legend on the obverse die, in that the queen's name is out of alignment and there is even a correction on the last two letters, where they appear more out of line than ever.

This could have occurred for a number of reasons, perhaps an inexperienced apprentice engraver made a real hash of the legend and was stopped from working further on this die and a more skilled worker stepping in to re-punch the last two letters and complete the legend. Or perhaps it was the product of a skilled engraver on an off-day, feeling unwell, or after a hearty lunch in the last hour or two of the day and tiredness had crept in. The engraver then corrected and finished off the die the next day when feeling fresher. There are a myriad of reasons, it is nice to speculate why.

For further reading on varieties of 1861 Sovereigns see footnote to Lots 84-90 in part one of the Bentley Collection.





closer date

- 431** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1861, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, light die flaw to left of date, 8 doubled, very light legend doubling both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, 7.96g (Marsh 44; MCE 522; S 3852D). *Once cleaned, good very fine, reverse better.* £300-400

ex St James's Auction 5, 27 September 2006, lot 628

Calendar year mintage 7,624,736

For further reading on varieties of 1861 Sovereigns see footnote to Lots 84-90 in part one of the Bentley Collection.



large "1" over smaller "1" with small "8"

- 432** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1862, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, loop of 6 does not meet upright, large 1 appears to be over a smaller 1, small 8 over small 8, 2 die flawed, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, some doubling in parts of legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, some raised die flaws on reverse, noticeably between R and I and E and G at start and end of legend respectively, 7.98g (Marsh 45; MCE 523; S 3852D). *Some light black surface marks, good very fine and unusual.* £300-400

purchased via A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd, July 2010.

Calendar year mintage 7,836,413

The 8 appears to be the size used for the Half-Sovereign denomination. The 1 and the 2 of the date are much larger, the 6 is somewhere in between. The 1 appears to be struck over a small 1 of the same sort of stature as the 8. An unusual date overall.

For further reading on varieties of 1862 Sovereigns see footnote to Lots 91-94 in part one of the Bentley Collection.



hooked type "6" in date

- 433** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1862, larger wider date with hooked type 6, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, some doubling in parts of obverse legend more so in last word, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, 7.97g (Marsh 45; MCE 523; S 3852D). *Some light surface marks, very fine and unusual.* £300-350

purchased via A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd, November 2008

Calendar year mintage 7,836,413

This 1862 Sovereign features the more open and sharper "hooked" 6 which begins to make an appearance from this date onwards into the die number series. The more curvy bulb type 6 is still more prevalent for the 1860 decade as a whole but this hooked 6 seems to appear toward the end of the 1862 production run and goes as far as die number 7 consecutively and then die number 9 for 1863 once the die number series commences. In the Bentley Collection it does not make another appearance until die number 15 of 1864 and then appears sporadically until die number 30 of that year. After that, at least within the confines of the Bentley Collection, it does not appear again making the hooked 6 a bit of a rarity.

For further reading on varieties of 1862 Sovereigns see footnote to Lots 91-94 in part one of the Bentley Collection.



high "62" in date

- 434** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1862, larger wider date with hooked type 6, 62 very high compared to 18, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, legend doubled both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, emblems below, some raised die flaws on reverse, noticeably between R and I and E and G at start and end of legend respectively, 7.97g (Marsh 45; MCE 523; S 3852D). *Some light black surface marks, very fine and unusual.* £300-350

purchased Spink and Son, May 2005

Calendar year mintage 7,836,413

For further reading on varieties of 1862 Sovereigns see footnote to Lots 91-94 in part one of the Bentley Collection.

### The Victorian Die Number Series of Gold Sovereigns 1863-1874 at the Royal Mint London

For a synopsis on the Victorian die number series and a table detailing the known die numbers for each date please refer to the catalogue for part one of the Bentley Collection, Lots 97-98.



- 435** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1863, die number 3, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, 8 slightly doubled, sharper more hooked incomplete 6, die flaw on 1 of date, raised die flaw evident on C of queen's name, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 3 below, emblems below, hairline raised die flaw around most of legend, especially on second word, 7.97g (Marsh 48; MCE 524; S 3853). *Light rim nick, hairlines, a pleasing extremely fine.* £300-400

ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)

Calendar year mintage 5,921,669

The calendar year mintage also includes the last of the non-die number coins dated 1863. This coin is die number 3 of 24 numbered dies in the Bentley Collection, plus the 827 numbered piece with die 22 reverse (sold in part one). Eight 1863 die number Sovereigns are offered for sale in part two. Marsh claims three other numbers exist, making 27 reverse dies with numbers in total, plus some more of the non-die numbered variety used to strike nearly 6 million Sovereigns. This shows a good die longevity.

For further reading on varieties of 1863 die number Sovereigns see footnote to Lots 98-106 in part one of the Bentley Collection.



- 436** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1863, die number 4, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, sharper more hooked incomplete 6, die flaw on 1 of date running to neck, raised die flaw evident from last A of legend to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 4 below, emblems below, hairline raised die flaw on first A of reverse legend, 7.97g (Marsh 48; MCE 524; S 3853). *Light hairlines, good very fine.* £300-350

ex Bennie Linden collection, DNW, 7 October 2003, lot 493

Calendar year mintage 5,921,669

see footnote on Lot 435 for a brief synopsis of the 1863 die numbers





- 437** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1863, die number 8, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, raised die flaw from tip of neck to rim, date below, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, queen's name doubled especially VI, V possibly over a small V, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 8 below, emblems below, some light doubling in reverse legend, raised die flaw in second word, 7.96g (Marsh 48; MCE 524; S 3853). *Light surface marks, extremely fine, unusual with the V over a seemingly smaller V, a result of the double strike.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 5,921,669

see footnote on Lot 435 for a brief synopsis of the 1863 die numbers



- 438** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1863, die number 12, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, raised die flaw on 1 of date, lightly doubled legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 12 below, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 48; MCE 524; S 3853). *Light streak of tone, good extremely fine.* £400-500

Calendar year mintage 5,921,669

see footnote on Lot 435 for a brief synopsis of the 1863 die numbers



- 439** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1863, die number 13, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 13 below, emblems below, reverse legend lightly doubled, 8.00g (Marsh 48; MCE 524; S 3853). *Some light scuffs, extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 894 (part)

Calendar year mintage 5,921,669

see footnote on Lot 435 for a brief synopsis of the 1863 die numbers



- 440** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1863, die number 17, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, die flawed and doubled date, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 17 below, emblems below, 7.91g (Marsh 48; MCE 524; S 3853). *Scuffed with surface marks, very fine.* £300-350

ex London Coins Auction 103, November 2003

Calendar year mintage 5,921,669

It is interesting to note that, as one of the lower grade Sovereigns in the Bentley Collection, this coin is well under the legal tender weight limit that was set in successive Coinage Acts from 1816-1891.

see footnote on Lot 435 for a brief synopsis of the 1863 die numbers



- 441** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1863, die number 20, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, queen's name doubled, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 20 below, with larger 2 and smaller round higher O, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 48; MCE 524; S 3853). *Light surface marks, from being bagged when new, good extremely fine.* £400-500

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased May 1990

Calendar year mintage 5,921,669

The arrangement of the die number on the reverse seems a little haphazard compared to others.

see footnote on Lot 435 for a brief synopsis of the 1863 die numbers



- 442** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1863, die number 22, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 22 below, emblems below, 7.96g (Marsh 48; MCE 524; S 3853). *Once cleaned, very fine, reverse a little better.* £300-400

ex G K Coins, purchased via Spink and Son, November 2003

Calendar year mintage 5,921,669

see footnote on Lot 435 for a brief synopsis of the 1863 die numbers



- 443** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 3, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, light raised die flaw through 1 of date, raised die flaw in V and A of queen's name and last I of obverse legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 3 below, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *A few very light marks, red patch of tone on the reverse, very fine, reverse extremely fine and brilliant.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased late 1990s

Calendar year mintage 8,656,352

This coin is die number 3 of 94 different numbered dies in the Bentley Collection running from 1 to 105. Four of these are unrecorded by Marsh in his listing of numbers known. Marsh claims ten other numbers exist making 104 reverse dies in total to strike more than 8 million Sovereigns. This suggests an inefficient die longevity. However, it must always be borne in mind that the calendar year mintages are exactly that and do not reflect the dates upon the coins in that period, some of them could have been 1863 dated coins and 1864 date coins were probably made into the first part of 1865. A statistician should be able to make more sense of the figures given more time and research, perhaps in collaboration with the Royal Mint Museum. Part two of the Bentley Collection contains a total of 31 different die numbers of 1864.





- 444** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 4, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, light raised die flaw through 4 of date, queen's name doubled, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 4 below, emblems below, 7.98g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Rim nick on reverse, a pleasing extremely fine, reverse good extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 549 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 8,656,352  
see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers



- 445** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 9, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below doubled, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, queen's name quite doubled, as are other words in legend, raised die flaw on first I, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 9 below, emblems below, 7.97g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Some pin-point sized black spots, once lightly cleaned, rim nick, otherwise extremely fine.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 8,656,352  
see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers



- 446** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 10, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, some letters of obverse legend doubled, smaller letter A's or maybe inverted V's over A's in last word, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 10 below, 10 lightly flawed, emblems below, die flaw in last R of legend, 7.95g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Once lightly cleaned, rim nick, otherwise good very fine / almost extremely fine and unusual.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 8,656,352  
The doubling of the A's in the last word could be a case of the engraver correcting smaller A's underneath from the erroneous use of Half-Sovereign punches.  
see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers



- 447** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 15, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below doubled, sharp top to 4, sharper more hooked incomplete 6, die flaw to left of 8 running from rim to neck, some very light doubling in legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 15 below, emblems below, 7.95g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Once lightly cleaned, nearly very fine.* £300-350

ex A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd sourced via Paul Davies Ltd, October 2006  
Calendar year mintage 8,656,352

This coin shows a reversion to the sharper hooked type 6 in the date along with a more sharply topped figure 4. The hooked type 6 was discussed further at Lot 433, it is quite a rarity especially in 1864 dated Sovereigns in the Bentley collection. see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers



- 448** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 24, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below doubled, sharp top to 4, sharper more hooked complete 6, die flaw running from rim to neck via 6, last A of legend doubled, last R with raised die flaw, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 24 below, emblems below, some doubling of reverse legend, 7.99g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Small spot at mouth and top of hair bun, more red spots on reverse, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 549 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 8,656,352

This coin shows a refinement of the hooked 6 in that it is now complete, the loop is attached to the body of the 6. The hooked type 6 was discussed further at Lot 433. It is quite a rarity, especially in 1864 dated Sovereigns in the Bentley collection. see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers



- 449** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 27, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below doubled, sharp top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, a hint of doubling of legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 27 below, emblems below, 7.98g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Once cleaned, some light surface marks and scuffs, extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 18 September 1995  
Calendar year mintage 8,656,352

This coin shows a reversion to the curvy 6 but this time it is coupled with the sharp topped 4 which is usually seen with the hooked 6. There are only seven instances of this combination in 1864 die number sovereigns in the Bentley Collection, with sporadic occurrences between die numbers 21 and 36.

see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers and Lot 433 re the types of 6





- 450** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 28, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below doubled, sharp top to 4, sharper more hooked incomplete 6, some doubling of legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 28 below, emblems below, light flaw above end of penultimate word of legend, 7.98g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Once cleaned, some red spots on reverse and patch by date, good fine, reverse better.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 8,656,352

The hooked type 6 was discussed further at Lot 433. It is quite a rarity especially in 1864 dated Sovereigns in the Bentley collection. The hooked type 6 in date seems to disappear, never to be used again, in the shield Sovereign series after die number 30 of 1864. see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years.



- 451** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 33, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, hint of doubling to legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 33 below, UM of legend out of alignment, 7.99g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Once lightly cleaned, light bagmarks evident, extremely fine.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 8,656,352

see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers



- 452** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 36, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, sharp top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, R of queen's name out of alignment, hint of doubling to legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 36 below, emblems below, 7.97g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Once lightly cleaned, almost very fine / good very fine.* £300-350

ex Spink Numismatic Circular, February 1998, item 518

ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)

Calendar year mintage 8,656,352

see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers



- 453** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 38, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, R of queen's name out of alignment, some doubling to legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 38 below, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Some light hairlines, a pleasing extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased c.1995

Calendar year mintage 8,656,352

see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers



- 454** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 42, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, penultimate I die flawed, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 42 below doubled, emblems below, raised die flaw to right of crown runs to rim, 7.98g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Once lightly cleaned, otherwise extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1348 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 8,656,352  
see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers



- 455** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 43, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, light doubling of legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 43 below doubled, emblems below, raised die flaw to right of crown runs to rim, 7.98g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Once cleaned, two scuffs on face, good fine to almost very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 8,656,352  
see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years.



- 456** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 46, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, 18 doubled, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, last two words doubled in legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 46 below doubled, emblems below, raised die flaw to right of crown runs to rim, 7.98g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Once cleaned, dig on neck, toned very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 8,656,352  
see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years.



- 457** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 52, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 52 below, emblems below, raised die flaw connects upper parts of letters in legend, 7.98g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Once cleaned, rim nick, surface marks, otherwise extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 27 September 1990  
Calendar year mintage 8,656,352  
see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers



- 458** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 54, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, die flaw from stub top 4 to neck, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, slight die flaw in first I of legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 54 below, emblems below, absent upper serif to B in legend, 7.97g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Once cleaned, now lightly toned, almost extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1348 (part)

Calendar year mintage 8,656,352

see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers. Note the lack of upper serif on the letter B.



- 459** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 57, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, weak tops to some letters with a trace of doubling, no top serif to D in obverse legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 57 below, emblems below, 7.94g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Light red tone with some surface marks, otherwise almost very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 8,656,352

see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years. Note the lack of upper serif on the letter D.



- 460** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 62, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, die flaw from 1 to neck, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, last A and 4 doubled, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 62 below, wide spaced 62, emblems below, absent upper serif to B in legend, raised die flaw from left of centre of crown to rim, 7.93g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Scratch in field in front of neck, other scuffs and nicks, fine, reverse better.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 8,656,352

see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years.





- 461** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 64, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, doubled date and legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 64 below, emblems below, absent upper serif to B in legend, 7.99g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *A few light bagmarks, otherwise as struck with a very pleasing obverse, previously graded by NGC as MS63 CAMEO.* £500-600

ex Jacob Y Turner collection, Goldberg, Hollywood, USA, 26-27 May 2003, lot 360

Calendar year mintage 8,656,352

see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers. Note the lack of upper serif on the letter B.



- 462** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 65, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, light die flaw to left of 1 in date, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 65 below, emblems below, absent upper serif to B in legend, 7.98g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Uneven tone, very fine, the reverse better.* £300-350

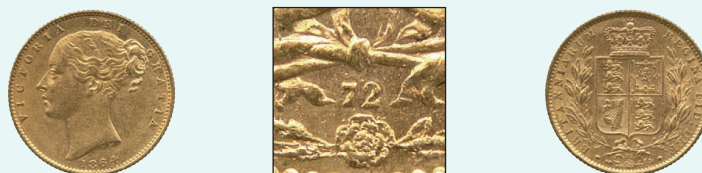
ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996

ex Spink Numismatic Circular, October 1997, item 5024

ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)

Calendar year mintage 8,656,352

see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers. Note the lack of upper serif on the letter B.



- 463** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 72, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, lightly die flawed stub top 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, light die flaw between AT of last word, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 72 below, emblems below, weak upper serif on first R in legend, 7.98g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Good very fine, the reverse better.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 8,656,352

see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years.



- 464** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 76, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, obverse legend doubled, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 76 below, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Some red deposit of lower right quarter of reverse, otherwise toned extremely fine.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 8,656,352

see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years.



- 465** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 77, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, doubled date and start of legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 77 below, emblems below, absent upper serif to B in legend, some doubling and die flaw at first I and T, 7.97g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Once cleaned, good fine, reverse much better, this die number unlisted in Marsh.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 8,656,352

see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers

Within the Bentley Collection, this is one of only eight die number coins in the entire series that was not recorded as a known die number by Marsh, three of which occur in 1864 dated die number Sovereigns. It is therefore quite a rarity. For further information please refer to the die number table in part one of the Bentley Collection. Note the lack of upper serif on the letter B.



- 466** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 81, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, some light doubling in legend, last A die flawed, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 81 below, emblems below, 8.00g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Unevenly toned, almost extremely fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 8,656,352

see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years.



- 467** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 86, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, die flaw from tip of neck to rim, date below, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, obverse legend doubled, I of DEI flawed to head, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 86 below, emblems below, 8.00g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Some light surface marks, pleasing good extremely fine.* £400-500

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1350 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 8,656,352  
see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers



- 468** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 89, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, die flaw in field near neck, date below, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, last I die flawed, trace of doubling in legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 89 below, emblems below, 7.98g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Some spots and light speckling both sides, extremely fine.* £400-500

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1350 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 8,656,352  
see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers



- 469** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 93, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, trace of doubling in obverse legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 93 below, emblems below, absent upper serif to B in legend, 7.94g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Uneven tone, good fine.* £300-350

ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 8,656,352  
see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers. Note the lack of upper serif on the letter B.



- 470** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 94, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, die flaw from tip of neck to rim, date below, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, some doubling in legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 94 below, emblems below, absent upper serif to B in legend, 7.97g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Toned, some light marks, a pleasing extremely fine.* £350-450

ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 8,656,352  
see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers. Note the lack of upper serif on the letter B.





- 471** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 97, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, die flaw from tip of neck to rim, date below, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, trace of doubling in obverse legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 97 below, emblems below, absent upper serif to B in legend, 7.98g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Scratch on obverse from mouth towards start of legend, patches of red tone on reverse, otherwise a pleasing good extremely fine.* £400-500

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1351 (part)

Calendar year mintage 8,656,352

see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers. Note the lack of upper serif on the letter B.



- 472** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 101, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, die flaw through 1 of date from neck to rim, date below, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 101 below, emblems below, hint of doubling in reverse legend, 7.99g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Surface marks, extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1351 (part)

Calendar year mintage 8,656,352

see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers



- 473** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1864, die number 104, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, stub top to 4, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, last I of legend with weak upper serifs, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 104 below, emblems below, 7.97g (Marsh 49; MCE 525; S 3853). *Cleaned with light scuffs and hairlines, extremely fine.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 8,656,352

see footnote on Lot 443 for a brief synopsis of the 1864 die numbers

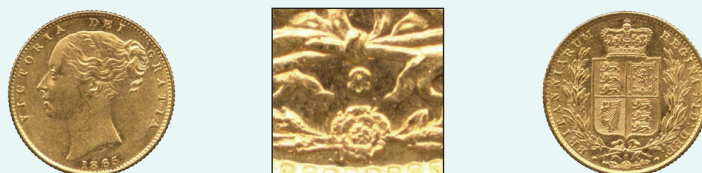


- 474** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1865, die number 2, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, last three letters of legend and penultimate I die flawed, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 2 below, emblems below, some doubling of reverse legend, 7.98g (Marsh 50; MCE 526; S 3853). *Light surface marks and hairlines, pleasing good extremely fine.* £400-500

ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)

Calendar year mintage 1,450,238

This coin is die number 2 of 34 different numbered dies in the Bentley Collection, running from 1 to 40, ten of which feature in the Bentley Collection part two. Marsh claims twelve other numbers exist, making 52 reverse dies in total to strike about 1½ million Sovereigns. This suggests poor die longevity. However, it must always be borne in mind that the calendar year mintages are exactly that, and do not reflect the dates upon the coins in that period, some of them could have been 1864 dated coins, and 1865 date coins were probably made into the first part of 1866. A statistician should be able to make more sense of the figures given more time and research perhaps in collaboration with the Royal Mint.



- 475** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1865, die number 8, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, die flaw from bun of hair to rim to left of G, date below, incomplete bottom loop to 5 which has a square top half, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, hint of doubling to obverse legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 8 below, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 50; MCE 526; S 3853). *Light surface marks toned extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1315 (part)

Calendar year mintage 1,450,238

see footnote on Lot 474 for a brief synopsis of the 1865 die numbers



- 476** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1865, die number 12, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, square top 5, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, last I of legend die flawed, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 12 below, die flaw at top of 12, emblems below, reverse legend doubled, 7.98g (Marsh 50; MCE 526; S 3853). *Some light hairlines, pleasing good extremely fine.* £400-500

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased c.1995

Calendar year mintage 1,450,238

see footnote on Lot 474 for a brief synopsis of the 1865 die numbers



- 477 G Victoria**, Sovereign, 1865, die number 13, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, square top 5, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, last I of legend die flawed, doubled date and legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 13 below, emblems below, 7.97g (Marsh 50; MCE 526; S 3853). *Some traces of black deposit, once cleaned, very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 1,450,238

see footnote on Lot 474 for a brief synopsis of the 1865 die numbers



- 478 G Victoria**, Sovereign, 1865, die number 15, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, angled top 5, die flawed curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, light die flaw from penultimate A into field, lightly doubled obverse legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 15 below, emblems below, die flaw at NIA of legend, 7.97g (Marsh 50; MCE 526; S 3853). *Some light hairlines, good extremely fine.* £400-500

ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)

Calendar year mintage 1,450,238

see footnote on Lot 474 for a brief synopsis of the 1865 die numbers



- 479 G Victoria**, Sovereign, 1865, die number 21, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, angled top 5, die flawed curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, light die flaw between T and I of last word, hint of doubling both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 21 below, emblems below, 7.98g (Marsh 50; MCE 526; S 3853). *Heavily scuffed on obverse, hairlined, about extremely fine.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 1,450,238

see footnote on Lot 474 for a brief synopsis of the 1865 die numbers



- 480 G Victoria**, Sovereign, 1865, die number 24, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, angled top 5, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 24 below, emblems below, hint of doubling in legend, 7.98g (Marsh 50; MCE 526; S 3853). *Toned extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 1,450,238

see footnote on Lot 474 for a brief synopsis of the 1865 die numbers





- 481** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1865, die number 28, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, angled top 5, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 28 below, 8 higher than 2, emblems below, 7.96g (Marsh 50; MCE 526; S 3853). *Toned nearly very fine / good very fine.* £300-350

ex Spink Numismatic Circular, February 1998, item 521

ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)

Calendar year mintage 1,450,238

see footnote on Lot 474 for a brief synopsis of the 1865 die numbers



- 482** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1865, die number 32, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date doubled below, angled top 5, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, legend doubled both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 32 below, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 50; MCE 526; S 3853). *Some scuffs and hairlines, extremely fine, reverse better.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 1,450,238

see footnote on Lot 474 for a brief synopsis of the 1865 die numbers



- 483** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1865, die number 36, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, 8 doubled, angled top 5, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, trace of legend doubling both sides, light die flaw at start and end of legend, flaw from neck into field, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 36 below, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 50; MCE 526; S 3853). *Scratch by nose, dig by first R on reverse, light hairline marks, tiny red spot both sides, otherwise extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1353 (part)

Calendar year mintage 1,450,238

see footnote on Lot 474 for a brief synopsis of the 1865 die numbers

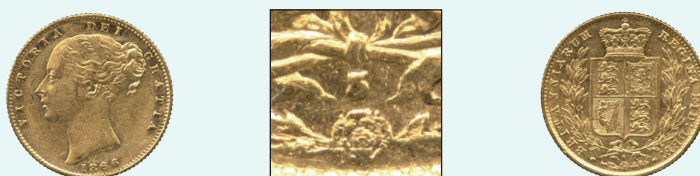


- 484** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 1, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date doubled below, die flaw between 1 and 8, curvy rounded 6's with bulbous top, last I of legend die flawed, trace of doubling in obverse legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 1 below, emblems below, 7.98g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Once cleaned with associated nicks and hairlines, red patch of tone on caul of crown, other tiny red spots, otherwise extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 552 (part)

Calendar year mintage 4,047,288

This coin is die number 1 of 77 different numbered dies in the Bentley Collection running from 1 to 78. Marsh claims that die numbers 12 and 79 also exist, which are absent from this collection, making a total of 79 reverse dies to strike just over four million Sovereigns, suggesting good longevity. There are 27 different die number pieces of 1866 offered here in part two of the Bentley Collection.



- 485** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 3, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date doubled below, curvy rounded 6's with bulbous top, some doubling in obverse legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 3 below, emblems below, 7.96g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Once cleaned, with associated scuffs and hairlines, very fine / extremely fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 4,047,288

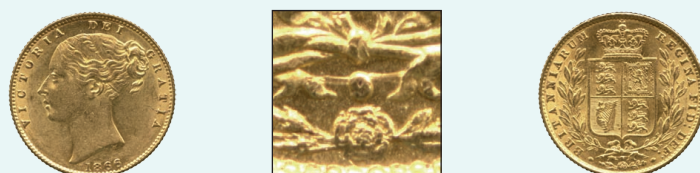
See footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years.



- 486** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 6, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded 6's with bulbous top, second 6 die flawed, C of queen's name die flawed to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 6 below, emblems below, 7.96g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Once cleaned, toned with light surface marks, nearly very fine / good very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 4,047,288

See footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years.



- 487** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 9, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded 6's with bulbous top, last I of legend die flawed, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 9 below, die flaw on top of 9, emblems below, 7.97g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Lightly toned, extremely fine.* £350-450

Calendar year mintage 4,047,288

see footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers

## Very Rare “6” over “5” Overdate on an 1866 Die Number Sovereign



- 488** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, second 6 struck over 5, die number 11, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date doubled below, curvy rounded 6's with bulbous top, die flaw to left of 1 in date, trace of doubling to legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 11 below, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *A few tiny nicks on obverse otherwise, as struck and very unusual with the overstruck date, very rare.* £600-800

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased May 1990

Calendar year mintage 4,047,288

See footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers. The phenomenon of an overstruck date in the die number series is very seldom seen. Die number 11 for this date exists in non overdate format too, an example of which was sold in part one of the collection, Lot 155.



- 489** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 13, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded 6's with bulbous top and die flawed, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 13 below, emblems below, 7.97g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Lightly scuffed and hairlined, nearly very fine, reverse better.* £300-350

ex Spink and Son, purchased March 2005

Calendar year mintage 4,047,288

see footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers



- 490** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 15, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded open 6's with bulbous top, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 15 below, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Two small red patches of tone on reverse, light surface marks and scuffs, otherwise extremely fine.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 4,047,288

see footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers





- 491** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 20, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded 6's with bulbous top, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 20 below, emblems below, trace of doubling in reverse legend, 7.95g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Some red patches of tone on reverse and spots, light surface marks and scuffs, otherwise nearly very fine / good very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 4,047,288

See footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years.



- 492** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 24, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below doubled and die flawed, curvy rounded 6's with bulbous top, some doubling of legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 24 below, emblems below, die flaw from left crown arch to rim, 7.98g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Some haymarking and hairlines, good extremely fine.* £400-500

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased October 1991

Calendar year mintage 4,047,288

see footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers



- 493** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 26, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below doubled and die flawed, low 1 in date, curvy rounded 6's with bulbous top, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 26 below widely spaced, emblems below, 7.96g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Some light surface marks, short scratch by eye, bold very fine, reverse better.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 4,047,288

See footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years.



- 494** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 28, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded open 6's with bulbous top, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 28 below, emblems below, first N of legend doubled, 7.98g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Some light surface marks, extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 14 November 1990

Calendar year mintage 4,047,288

see footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers



- 495** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 32, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, second 6 die flawed, curvy rounded 6's with bulbous top, last A of legend die flawed, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 32 below, emblems below, hint of doubling in reverse legend, die flaw by G, 7.98g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Some light surface marks and scuffs, extremely fine, reverse better.* £300-400

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 330 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 4,047,288  
see footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers



- 496** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 36, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded 6's with bulbous top, C of queen's name die flawed, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 36 below, emblems below, 7.96g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Some light spots on reverse good very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 4,047,288  
See footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years.



- 497** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 37, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded open 6's with bulbous top, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 37 below, emblems below, 7.98g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Rim nick on obverse, old light scratch on face, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Warwick and Warwick Auction, before 2000, lot 479  
ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 4,047,288  
see footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers



- 498** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 38, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded open 6's with bulbous top, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 38 below, emblems below, 7.98g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Some light surface marks, otherwise good extremely fine.* £400-500

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 6 July 1990  
Calendar year mintage 4,047,288  
see footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers



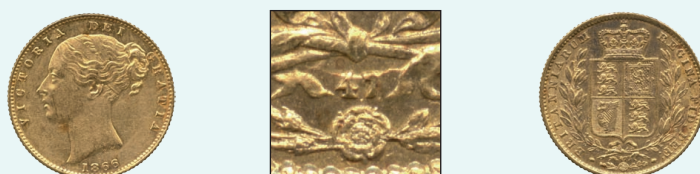
- 499** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 41, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded open 6's with bulbous top, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 41 below, emblems below, 7.98g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Some light hairlines, extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £400-500

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 13 June 1997  
Calendar year mintage 4,047,288  
see footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers



- 500** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 46, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded open 6's with bulbous top, die flaw from I of queen's name to cheek, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 46 below, emblems below, trace of doubling in legend, die flaw on R of second word, 7.97g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Streak of tone on reverse and other light marks, extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 333 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 4,047,288  
see footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers



- 501** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 47, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded 6's with bulbous top, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 47 below, emblems below, trace of doubling in legend, 7.99g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Light surface marks and hairlines, spot by throat and top of head, patch of tone and a few spots on reverse, otherwise extremely fine.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 4,047,288  
See footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years.



- 502** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 50, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded 6's with bulbous top, die flawed V in legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 50 below, emblems below, trace of doubling in legend, 7.98g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Tiny nick by nose in field, other light marks otherwise good extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 554 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 4,047,288  
see footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers





- 503** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 56, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded 6's with bulbous top, die flaw from T to rim in legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 56 below, emblems below, 7.95g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Some hairlines, otherwise nearly extremely fine.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 4,047,288

See footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years.



- 504** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 60, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded 6's with bulbous top, last A die flawed to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 60 below, emblems below, trace of doubling in legend, 7.99g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Nearly extremely fine / brilliant extremely fine.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 4,047,288

see footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers



- 505** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 62, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded 6's with bulbous top, penultimate I die flawed to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 62 below, emblems below, 7.97g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Scuffed, black streak of tone on reverse, nearly extremely fine / extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1321 (part)

Calendar year mintage 4,047,288

see footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers



- 506** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 66, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded 6's with bulbous top, last R die flawed to hair, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 66 below, emblems below, trace of doubling in legend, 7.99g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Light hairline marks, short scratch behind neck, toned extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1359 (part)

Calendar year mintage 4,047,288

see footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers



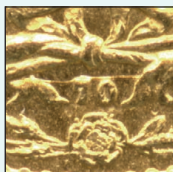
- 507** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 69, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded open 6's with bulbous top, hint of doubling both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 69 below, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Light hairlines and surface marks, nearly extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Spink Numismatic Circular, February 1998, item 522

ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)

Calendar year mintage 4,047,288

see footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers



- 508** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 70, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, die flaw from tip of neck into field, date below, curvy rounded 6's with bulbous top, hint of doubling in obverse legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 70 below, die flaw above 70, emblems below, 7.98g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Light hairlines, tiny rim nick, good extremely fine.* £400-500

Calendar year mintage 4,047,288

see footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers



- 509** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 75, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded 6's with bulbous top, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 75 below die flawed, emblems below, 7.95g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Red patches of tone on obverse, toned nearly very fine, reverse better.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 4,047,288

See footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years.



- 510** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1866, die number 78, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date doubled below, curvy rounded 6's with bulbous top, last word of obverse legend doubled and lightly flawed, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 78 below, emblems below, hint of doubling in legend, 7.96g (Marsh 51; MCE 527; S 3853). *Cleaned very fine / good very fine.* £300-350

ex Stacks, 2 December 1997, lot 78

ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)

Calendar year mintage 4,047,288

see footnote on Lot 484 for a brief synopsis of the 1866 die numbers



- 511** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1868, die number 4, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, last A die flawed, hint of doubling in legends both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 4 below, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 52; MCE 528; S 3853). *Light scratch on neck and surface marks, extremely fine, reverse better.* £300-400

ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 1,653,384

This coin is die number 4 of 40 different numbered dies in the Bentley Collection running from 1 to 41. Marsh claims that die numbers 40, 47 and 48 also exist, which are absent from this collection, making a total of 43 reverse dies to strike just over 1½ million Sovereigns. This suggests a poor longevity but, as will be seen, the mintage for 1869 is high so some dies dated 1868 will probably have been used into the year 1869. There are 13 different die number Sovereigns dated 1868 offered in part two of the Bentley Collection.



- 512** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1868, die number 6, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded 6 with bulbous top, penultimate I die flawed to rim, doubled obverse legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 6 below die flawed, emblems below, raised die flaw between R and I of legend, 7.94g (Marsh 52; MCE 528; S 3853). *Some residual dirt around rim both sides, scuffed with surface marks, fine / good fine.* £300-350

ex Northeast Coins and Treasures, Vermont, USA, via Ebay, September 2003

Calendar year mintage 1,653,384

see footnote on Lot 511 for a brief synopsis of the 1868 die numbers



- 513** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1868, die number 10, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded open 6 without bulb, doubled legend both sides, second I die flawed to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 10 below die flawed, emblems below, 7.96g (Marsh 52; MCE 528; S 3853). *Scratch to left of date and on cheek, red spot on reverse, other light surface marks, almost very fine, this die number was not known to Marsh, rare.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 1,653,384

See footnote on Lot 511 for a brief synopsis of the 1868 die numbers. This is one of only eight die number coins in the entire series in the Bentley Collection that was not recorded as a known die number by Marsh, this being the only one that occurs for 1868 dated die number Sovereigns. It is therefore quite a rarity, for further information please refer to the die number table in part one of the Bentley Collection.

This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years, hence it may be the only known 1868 die number 10 Sovereign.





- 514** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1868, die number 13, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, die flawed 1, curvy rounded open 6 without bulb, doubled legend both sides, less so on reverse, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 13 below, no upper serif to 1, emblems below, die flaw joins the upper parts of some reverse letters, 7.97g (Marsh 52; MCE 528; S 3853). *A few tiny spots each side, very fine, reverse better.* £300-350

ex Spink and Son, purchased July 2004

Calendar year mintage 1,653,384

See footnote on Lot 511 for a brief synopsis of the 1868 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction. Note the lack of upper serif on the 1 of the die number. It seems it was not just the date or letter punches that had broken corners.



- 515** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1868, die number 16, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, curvy rounded open 6 without bulb, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 16 below lightly die flawed, emblems below, hint of doubling in reverse legend, 7.97g (Marsh 52; MCE 528; S 3853). *A few tiny nicks and hairlines, scratch on lower right of reverse, otherwise very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 1,653,384

See footnote on Lot 511 for a brief synopsis of the 1868 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years, hence it may be the only known 1868 die number 16 Sovereign.



- 516** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1868, die number 18, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, raised blobby die flaw at lower curve of neck, date below, curvy rounded open 6 without bulb, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 18 below, no upper serif to 1, emblems below, hint of doubling in reverse legend, die flaw joins the upper parts of some reverse letters, 7.97g (Marsh 52; MCE 528; S 3853). *Light nicks and bagmarks, a pleasing extremely fine.* £350-450

Calendar year mintage 1,653,384

See footnote on Lot 511 for a brief synopsis of the 1868 die numbers. Note the lack of upper serif on the 1 of the die number, it seems it was not just the date or letter punches that had broken corners.



- 517** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1868, die number 23, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, raised die flaw from tip of neck to first I of queen's name, date below, curvy rounded open 6 without bulb, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 23 below, emblems below, hint of doubling in reverse legend, die flaw joins the upper parts of some reverse letters, 7.97g (Marsh 52; MCE 528; S 3853). *Once cleaned, now toned, almost very fine / extremely fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 1,653,384

see footnote on Lot 511 for a brief synopsis of the 1868 die numbers



- 518** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1868, die number 24, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, raised die flaw from V to rim, date below, curvy rounded open 6 without bulb, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 24 below, emblems below, hint of doubling in reverse legend, die flaw joins the upper parts of some reverse letters, 7.98g (Marsh 52; MCE 528; S 3853). *Hairline scratch in obverse field, shorter scratch on neck, a few scuffs and nicks otherwise, extremely fine, reverse better.* £300-400

ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 1,653,384  
see footnote on Lot 511 for a brief synopsis of the 1868 die numbers



- 519** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1868, die number 27, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, curvy rounded open 6 without bulb, doubled A in queen's name, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 27 below, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 52; MCE 528; S 3853). *Some nicks and hairlines otherwise, nearly extremely fine / extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Charles Stueve, Abbeygate Coins, Westhampton Beach, New York, c.1990  
Calendar year mintage 1,653,384  
see footnote on Lot 511 for a brief synopsis of the 1868 die numbers



- 520** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1868, die number 31, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, curvy rounded open 6 without bulb, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 31 below, no upper serif to 1, emblems below, small upper serif to B in legend which is lightly doubled, 7.98g (Marsh 52; MCE 528; S 3853). *Some scuffs and hairlines otherwise, nearly extremely fine / extremely fine.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 1,653,384  
see footnote on Lot 511 for a brief synopsis of the 1868 die numbers



- 521** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1868, die number 35, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, curvy rounded open 6 without bulb, hint of doubling with some light flaws in legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 35 below lightly flawed, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 52; MCE 528; S 3853). *Some hairlines and surface marks, black streak on neck, tone spots on chin, otherwise extremely fine.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 1,653,384  
See footnote on Lot 511 for a brief synopsis of the 1868 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years.



- 522** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1868, die number 36, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, curvy rounded open 6 without bulb, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 36 below widely spaced, emblems below, hairline raised flaw in some letters, 7.96g (Marsh 52; MCE 528; S 3853). *Some hairlines, good very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 1,653,384

see footnote on Lot 511 for a brief synopsis of the 1868 die numbers



- 523** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1868, die number 41, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, curvy rounded open 6 without bulb, hint of doubling in legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 41 below, no upper serif to 1, emblems below, 7.98g (Marsh 52; MCE 528; S 3853). *Light surface marks, extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £350-450

Calendar year mintage 1,653,384

See footnote on Lot 511 for a brief synopsis of the 1868 die numbers. Note the lack of upper serif on the 1 of the die number, it seems it was not just the date or letter punches that had broken corners.



- 524** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1869, die number 4, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, 6 with open curvy top with bulb, last A of legend die flawed, hint of doubling in legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 4 below, emblems below, light raised die flaw connects some letters, 7.98g (Marsh 53; MCE 529; S 3853). *Some nicks and surface marks, extremely fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 6,441,322

This coin is die number 4 of 63 different numbered dies in the Bentley Collection running from 1 to 69. Marsh claims that 13 other die numbers exist, which are absent from this collection, making a total of 76 reverse dies to strike nearly 6½ million Sovereigns, although some of this total maybe 1868 dated Sovereigns. This suggests good longevity for the dies. One die number in the Bentley Collection run of 1869 is not recorded by Marsh, number 63, which will be offered for sale in part three. This is one of 21 different die number Sovereigns dated 1869 offered in the Bentley Collection part two.



- 525** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1869, die number 6, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, 6 with open curvy top without bulb, hint of doubling in legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 6 die flawed below, emblems below, 7.96g (Marsh 53; MCE 529; S 3853). *Some surface marks, very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 6,441,322

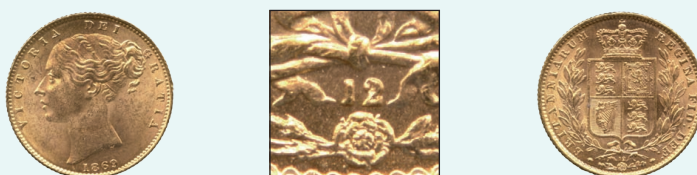
See footnote on Lot 524 for a brief synopsis of the 1869 die numbers. The unusual curved 6 without the top terminal bulb, the likely result of a faulty punch, continues intermittently through 1869.





- 526** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1869, die number 8, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, 6 with open curvy top with bulb, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 8 below, emblems below, small upper serif to B in legend, 7.99g (Marsh 53; MCE 529; S 3853). *Some light hairlines, extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £400-500

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 9 June 1993  
 Calendar year mintage 6,441,322  
 see footnote on Lot 524 for a brief synopsis of the 1869 die numbers



- 527** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1869, die number 12, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, doubled date below, 6 with open curvy top without bulb, last A of legend and second I in queen's name die flawed, some doubling in obverse legend and a trace on reverse, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 12 below, emblems below, small upper serif to B in legend, 7.98g (Marsh 53; MCE 529; S 3853). *Dark spot on obverse, tiny black specks on reverse with some light nicks and hairlines, nearly extremely fine / extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 558 (part)  
 Calendar year mintage 6,441,322  
 See footnote on Lot 524 for a brief synopsis of the 1869 die numbers. Note the unusual curved 6 in date without the top terminal bulb.



- 528** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1869, die number 15, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, 6 with open curvy top with bulb, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 15 below, no lower right serif to 1, emblems below, small upper serif to B in legend, hint of doubling to legend, 8.00g (Marsh 53; MCE 529; S 3853). *Some light hairlines and red patches of tone on obverse, some brilliance both sides, otherwise good extremely fine.* £400-500

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 559 (part)  
 Calendar year mintage 6,441,322  
 See footnote on Lot 524 for a brief synopsis of the 1869 die numbers. Note the lack of lower right serif on the 1 of the die number. It seems it was not just the date or letter punches that had broken corners.



- 529** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1869, die number 18, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, die flawed date below, 6 with closed curvy top with bulb, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 18 below, no lower right serif to 1, emblems below, die flaw from right laurel wreath to second word, 7.98g (Marsh 53; MCE 529; S 3853). *Patchy red tone on reverse, scratch in hair, very fine / good very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 6,441,322

See footnote on Lot 524 for a brief synopsis of the 1869 die numbers. Note the lack of lower right serif on the 1 of the die number. It seems it was not just the date or letter punches that had broken corners.

This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years.



- 530** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1869, die number 21, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, die flawed date below, 6 with open curvy top without bulb, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 21 below, no lower right serif to 1, emblems below, 7.98g (Marsh 53; MCE 529; S 3853). *Patchy red tone both sides, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £350-450

Calendar year mintage 6,441,322

See footnote on Lot 524 for a brief synopsis of the 1869 die numbers. Note the unusual curved 6 in date without the top terminal bulb and the lack of lower right serif to the 1 in the die number.

This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years.



- 531** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1869, die number 25, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, die flawed date below, 6 with open curvy top without bulb, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 25 below, emblems below, light raised flaw joins some letters on reverse, 7.99g (Marsh 53; MCE 529; S 3853). *Light surface marks and hairlines, otherwise almost extremely fine / extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 27 July 1994

Calendar year mintage 6,441,322

See footnote on Lot 524 for a brief synopsis of the 1869 die numbers. Note the unusual curved 6 in date without the top terminal bulb.



- 532** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1869, die number 29, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, die flaw between 1 and 8 of date below, 6 with open curvy top with bulb, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 29 below, larger 2 with small 9, emblems below, light raised flaw joins some letters on reverse, 8.00g (Marsh 53; MCE 529; S 3853). *A few tiny specks of toning, otherwise as struck and pleasing.* £400-600

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1369 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 6,441,322  
see footnote on Lot 524 for a brief synopsis of the 1869 die numbers



- 533** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1869, die number 30, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, die flaw in 1 of date, 6 with curvy top with bulb, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 30 below die flawed, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 53; MCE 529; S 3853). *Light surface marks and hairlines, otherwise toned extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 6 February 1990  
Calendar year mintage 6,441,322  
see footnote on Lot 524 for a brief synopsis of the 1869 die numbers



- 534** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1869, die number 33, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, 6 with open curvy top with bulb, last T of legend with die flaw to rim, hint of doubling in legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 33 below die flawed, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 53; MCE 529; S 3853). *Patchy red tone on reverse, almost extremely fine / extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1369 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 6,441,322  
see footnote on Lot 524 for a brief synopsis of the 1869 die numbers



- 535** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1869, die number 36, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, 6 with open curvy top without bulb, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 36 below, emblems below, hint of doubling in reverse legend, 7.99g (Marsh 53; MCE 529; S 3853). *Obverse rim nick, toned, good extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1369 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 6,441,322  
See footnote on Lot 524 for a brief synopsis of the 1869 die numbers. Note the unusual curved 6 in date without the top terminal bulb.





- 536** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1869, die number 40, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, 6 with open curvy top without bulb, hint of doubling in obverse legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 40 below, emblems below, light raised flaw joins some letters on reverse, 7.99g (Marsh 53; MCE 529; S 3853). *Some hairline marks, proof-like, good extremely fine.* £500-600

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1370 (part)

Calendar year mintage 6,441,322

See footnote on Lot 524 for a brief synopsis of the 1869 die numbers. Note the unusual curved 6 in date without the top terminal bulb.



- 537** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1869, die number 41, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, 6 with open curvy top with bulb, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 41 below, 1 without lower right serif, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 53; MCE 529; S 3853). *Some hairlines, extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £400-500

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1370 (part)

Calendar year mintage 6,441,322

See footnote on Lot 524 for a brief synopsis of the 1869 die numbers. Note the lack of lower right serif on the 1 of the die number. It seems it was not just the date or letter punches that had broken corners.



- 538** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1869, die number 44, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, die flaws from hair bun to rim and tip of neck to rim, doubled date below, 6 with open curvy top with bulb, doubled obverse legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 44 below, emblems below, only a trace of the upper serif in B of legend, 7.98g (Marsh 53; MCE 529; S 3853). *Light surface marks, extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased c.1996

Calendar year mintage 6,441,322

see footnote on Lot 524 for a brief synopsis of the 1869 die numbers



- 539** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1869, die number 47, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, die flawed date below, 6 with open curvy top with bulb, last A die flawed to rim, hint of doubling to obverse legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 47 below, emblems below, hairline die flaw in second word, 7.98g (Marsh 53; MCE 529; S 3853). *Light surface marks and hairlines, bold very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 6,441,322

See footnote on Lot 524 for a brief synopsis of the 1869 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years.



- 540** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1869, die number 50, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, 6 with open curvy top without bulb, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 50 below, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 53; MCE 529; S 3853). *Reverse rim nick, dig and scratch on neck, otherwise good extremely fine.* £350-450

Calendar year mintage 6,441,322

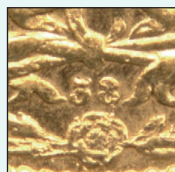
See footnote on Lot 524 for a brief synopsis of the 1869 die numbers. Note the unusual curved 6 in date without the top terminal bulb.



- 541** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1869, die number 54, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, 6 with open curvy top without bulb, D of legend and last I each with a raised die flaw running to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 54 below, emblems below, 7.98g (Marsh 53; MCE 529; S 3853). *A few red spots and patches of tone, very fine, reverse better.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 6,441,322

See footnote on Lot 524 for a brief synopsis of the 1869 die numbers. Note the unusual curved 6 in date without the top terminal bulb.



- 542** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1869, die number 58, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, 6 with open curvy top without bulb, hint of doubling to legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 58 below, emblems below, second A quite doubled, 7.98g (Marsh 53; MCE 529; S 3853). *Surface marks and hairlines, almost extremely fine / extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Union Bank of Switzerland Sale 47, lot 1665

ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)

Calendar year mintage 6,441,322

See footnote on Lot 524 for a brief synopsis of the 1869 die numbers. Note the unusual curved 6 in date without the top terminal bulb.



- 543** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1869, die number 62, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, 6 with open curvy top without bulb, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 62 below, small 6 with larger 2, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 53; MCE 529; S 3853). *Some light surface marks, good extremely fine.* £400-500

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 18 October 1993

Calendar year mintage 6,441,322

See footnote on Lot 524 for a brief synopsis of the 1869 die numbers. Note the unusual curved 6 in date without the top terminal bulb.



**544** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1869, die number 69, second larger young head left, ww incuse on truncation without stops, date below, 6 with open curvy top with bulb, penultimate A die flawed, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 69 below, 7.96g (Marsh 53; MCE 529; S 3853). *Heavy surface marks and scuffs, light red spots on reverse, almost very fine, reverse better.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 18 October 1993  
Calendar year mintage 6,441,322  
see footnote on Lot 524 for a brief synopsis of the 1869 die numbers

### The Third Young Head Rendering of Queen Victoria



It has always been known that the truncation again differs from 1870 onward for the young head shield reverse design Sovereigns, and they are so referenced in the *Spink Standard Catalogue* as 3853B. Marsh mentions the difference in his narrative as point number 3, but did not go as so far to tabulate or study it further. The raised w.w. actually runs to the very edge of the truncation and meets the field.

However, most significantly in the years of study by this cataloguer of the Bentley Collection it was noted that the bust is actually different. There is a change to the rendering of the hair which is very evident when comparing coins of the previous type and this “new” third head. The rendering of the hair in the large bun and the top-most strands of hair are of a different arrangement and the treatment of the ponytail below also differs. Coupled with the change of the ww initials on the neck back to being punctuated and in relief on this truncation, it makes for a more significant variety than has previously been credited. The reason for this change is open to further research, but this cataloguer feels it must be something to do with a significant Act of Coinage passed and proclaimed in 1870 where all coinage in circulation dating to before the reign of Queen Victoria was deemed to be no longer legal tender. This is coupled with the fact that change was afoot at the Sydney branch mint in Australia with the design of the Sovereign there about to be replaced to fit in with the London issues. The only difference to denote them as Sydney being the mere addition of a small letter S for Sydney where the die number appears on the London issued pieces. The Melbourne mint was already planned and being built and they too would fit in with this design with a small letter M below the shield and wreath.



**545** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1870, die number 82, third young head left, with double fillet, w.w. in relief on truncation, hair of differing arrangement in the bun of the hair with an extra strand of hair in the ponytail, date below, 1 of date doubled, penultimate A die flawed, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 82 below, smaller 8 with larger 2, emblems below, 7.98g (Marsh 54; MCE 530; S 3853B). *Rim nick on obverse, some scuffs, hairlines and other light marks, toned, good very fine / extremely fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 2,189,960

This coin is die number 82 of a mere 18 different numbered dies in the Bentley Collection running from 1 to 96. Part two of the Bentley Collection contains nine of the 1870 die numbers. Marsh claims that 80 other die numbers exist! Please see the footnotes to Lots 213-214 in part one of the Bentley Collection for further information and analysis.





- 546** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1870, die number 86, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, trace of date doubled, last T die flawed, die flaw in hair, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 86 below die flawed, emblems below, hairline flaw at start of second word, 7.98g (Marsh 54; MCE 530; S 3853B). *Red spot on reverse, light surface marks, almost extremely fine / extremely fine.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 2,189,960  
see footnote on Lot 545 for a brief synopsis of the 1870 die numbers



- 547** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1870, die number 89, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, legend doubled on obverse, die flaw in field at lower left, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 89 below, emblems below, light hairline flaws connect some reverse letters, 7.99g (Marsh 54; MCE 530; S 3853B). *Once cleaned with light surface marks and hairlines, now toned, extremely fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 2,189,960  
see footnote on Lot 545 for a brief synopsis of the 1870 die numbers



- 548** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1870, die number 92, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, penultimate A die flawed to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 92 below, emblems below, hint of doubling to reverse legend, 7.97g (Marsh 54; MCE 530; S 3853B). *Scratch on obverse from chin to nose, another to right side of bow in reverse wreath, otherwise toned almost extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1376 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 2,189,960  
see footnote on Lot 545 for a brief synopsis of the 1870 die numbers



- 549** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1870, die number 93, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, last A die flawed to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 93 below die flawed, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 54; MCE 530; S 3853B). *Light scratch in obverse field, with other light hairlines and surface marks, otherwise extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1376 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 2,189,960  
see footnote on Lot 545 for a brief synopsis of the 1870 die numbers



- 550** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1870, die number 96, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, 8 and 0 of date doubled, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 96 below die flawed, emblems below, 7.96g (Marsh 54; MCE 530; S 3853B). *Slightly scuffed fields with underlying brilliance, nearly very fine / good very fine.* £300-350

ex Spink and Son, purchased July 2004  
Calendar year mintage 2,189,960  
see footnote on Lot 545 for a brief synopsis of the 1870 die numbers



- 551** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1870, die number 114, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, last A die flawed to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 114 below, no upper serifs to figure 1's, emblems below, hint of doubling to reverse legend, 7.95g (Marsh 54; MCE 530; S 3853B). *Once polished, toned, nearly very fine / very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 2,189,960  
Note the lack of upper serifs on the 1's of the die number. It seems it was not just the date or letter punches that had broken corners.  
See footnote on Lot 545 for a brief synopsis of the 1870 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years.



- 552** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1870, die number 117, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, 1 of date die flawed to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 117 below, no upper serifs to figure 1's, emblems below, 7.95g (Marsh 54; MCE 530; S 3853B). *Red tone, heavy surface marks, some residual black dirt around rim, almost very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 2,189,960  
Note the lack of upper serifs on the 1's of the die number. It seems it was not just the date or letter punches that had broken corners.  
See footnote on Lot 545 for a brief synopsis of the 1870 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction and within the last 10 years.



- 553** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1870, die number 123, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, 0 of date die flawed to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 123 below, no upper serif to 1, emblems below, 7.98g (Marsh 54; MCE 530; S 3853B). *Some nicks and scuffs, hairlined with other light surface marks, brilliant extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Stacks, 5 November 1997, lot 1031  
ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 2,189,960  
Note the lack of upper serifs on the 1 of the die number. It seems it was not just the date or letter punches that had broken corners.  
see footnote on Lot 545 for a brief synopsis of the 1870 die numbers



- 554** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871, die number 2, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, 8 of date die flawed, some raised flaws at end of legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 2 below, emblems below, 8.00g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Some light surface marks, extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 14 August 1992

Calendar year mintage 8,767,250

This coin is die number 2 of a total of 75 different numbered dies in the Bentley Collection, running from 1 to 111. Part two of the Bentley Collection contains 24 of the 1871 die numbers. Marsh claims that 23 other die numbers exist making a total of 98 reverse dies to strike nearly nine million Sovereigns. Coincidentally this is the same total arrived at for 1870 if you take Marsh's extras for that year into account, which again suggests some sort of error in determining known dies of 1870. Die number 42 is present in the Bentley Collection. It is a number not included in Marsh's list for 1871. The 1871 total number of dies to calendar year output suggests reasonable longevity for the dies. However, it must be borne in mind that 1871 is the first calendar year where the new St George and dragon reverse Sovereign for Queen Victoria is produced and the output will include a lesser proportion for these coins too. This is why trying to analyse calendar output against die numbers and variations known is so troublesome.

It seems from now onward the evidence of dies starting to break up gradually with raised hairline die flaws, and a problem of dual-hubbing in the dies giving doubled letters and date figures, seems to diminish. See "a note on varieties" in the introduction of the part one catalogue to learn more about dual-hubbing.



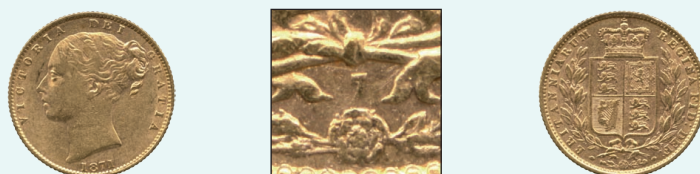
- 555** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871, die number 5, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, doubling of date and legend, some raised flaws in parts of legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 5 below, emblems below, trace of doubling in legend, 7.98g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Some light surface marks, scuffed on cheek, previously graded by PCGS as MS63, extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 566 (part)

ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)

Calendar year mintage 8,767,250

see footnote on Lot 554 for a brief synopsis of the 1871 die numbers



- 556** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871, die number 7, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, lightly die flawed date, G of legend die flawed to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 7 below, emblems below, raised hairline flaw connects some letters of legend, 7.94g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Some light surface marks, with nicks and scuffs, toned good fine / very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 8,767,250

See footnote on Lot 554 for a brief synopsis of the 1871 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction, bought in the last 10 years.





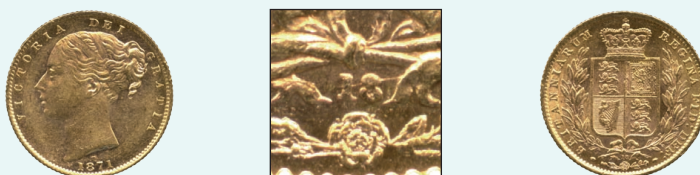
- 557** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871, die number 9, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, hint of doubling in legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 9 below, emblems below, raised hairline flaw connects some letters of legend, 7.98g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Some light surface marks and nicks, otherwise extremely fine.* £350-400

Calendar year mintage 8,767,250  
see footnote on Lot 554 for a brief synopsis of the 1871 die numbers



- 558** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871, die number 14, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, hint of doubling in legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 14 below, emblems below, raised hairline flaw in last A of legend to rim, 7.97g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Tiny obverse rim nick, otherwise pleasing good extremely fine.* £400-500

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1377 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 8,767,250  
see footnote on Lot 554 for a brief synopsis of the 1871 die numbers



- 559** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871, die number 18, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, die flaw by 1 of date, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 18 below, emblems below, hint of doubling in legend, 7.99g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Surface marks and hairlines, pleasing extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, c.1997  
Calendar year mintage 8,767,250  
see footnote on Lot 554 for a brief synopsis of the 1871 die numbers



- 560** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871, die number 20, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, die flaw through 8 of date to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 20 below, top of 2 incomplete, emblems below, raised hairline flaw connects some letters with a hint of doubling in legend, 7.98g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Surface marks and nicks, nearly extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, c.1997  
Calendar year mintage 8,767,250  
see footnote on Lot 554 for a brief synopsis of the 1871 die numbers



- 561** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871, die number 24, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, die flaw from top of head to field, another in last I of legend, doubling of date and legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 24 below, emblems below, raised hairline flaw in second word, 7.99g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Brilliant, light surface marks, rim nick on reverse, extremely fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 8,767,250

see footnote on Lot 554 for a brief synopsis of the 1871 die numbers



- 562** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871, die number 26, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, raised die flaw at penultimate A, hint of doubling to legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 26 below, top of 2 incomplete, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Tiny dig on reverse by second letter I, some light bagmarks behind head, otherwise brilliant uncirculated.* £500-600

Calendar year mintage 8,767,250

see footnote on Lot 554 for a brief synopsis of the 1871 die numbers



- 563** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871, die number 28, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, doubling of date and legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 28 below, top of 2 incomplete, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Light hairlines and surface marks, spot in field behind neck, toned good extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, 2 June 1995

Calendar year mintage 8,767,250

see footnote on Lot 554 for a brief synopsis of the 1871 die numbers



- 564** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871, die number 31, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, die flaw to left of D in legend and at last A, another to left of date, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 31 below, emblems below, hint of doubling in some letters, 8.00g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Light hairlines and surface marks, good extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, 6 February 1990

Calendar year mintage 8,767,250

see footnote on Lot 554 for a brief synopsis of the 1871 die numbers



- 565** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871, die number 33, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, letter C die flawed shut, doubled date and legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 33 below, emblems below, first E die flawed to rim, 7.96g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Light surface marks, red tone, very fine / good very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 8,767,250

see footnote on Lot 554 for a brief synopsis of the 1871 die numbers



- 566** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871, die number 35, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, die flaw to left of date onto neck, other flaws at O, third I, and last T of legend, doubled profile of bust and date and legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 35 below, emblems below, first D die flawed to wreath and another near letter G to rim, 7.99g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Light surface marks and nicks, extremely fine, the reverse better.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 8,767,250

see footnote on Lot 554 for a brief synopsis of the 1871 die numbers



- 567** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871, die number 38, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, die flaw through letter C, another at tip of neck and last A of legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 38 below, emblems below, light raised die flaws in reverse legend, 7.99g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Light surface marks and hairlines, one rim nick each side, good extremely fine.* £350-450

Calendar year mintage 8,767,250

see footnote on Lot 554 for a brief synopsis of the 1871 die numbers



- 568** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871, die number 43, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, tiny die flaw by last A of legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 43 below, emblems below, hint of doubling on reverse legend, 7.96g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Light surface marks, one reverse rim nick each side, toned about very fine / good very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 8,767,250

see footnote on Lot 554 for a brief synopsis of the 1871 die numbers





- 569** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871, die number 48, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, 7 of date die flawed, as well as both letter A's, further die flaw from hair bun to rim, doubling of legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 48 below, emblems below, hint of doubling on reverse legend, 7.98g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Light surface marks, nicks and hairlines, once cleaned, now toned good very fine / extremely fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 8,767,250

see footnote on Lot 554 for a brief synopsis of the 1871 die numbers



- 570** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871, die number 66, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, first 1 of date die flawed to neck, last I of legend flawed to rim, doubling of legend both sides, more evident on obverse, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 66 below, emblems below, 8.00g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Light surface marks and nicks, otherwise extremely fine.* £350-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, c.1997

Calendar year mintage 8,767,250

see footnote on Lot 554 for a brief synopsis of the 1871 die numbers



- 571** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871, die number 73, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, die flaw to left of date from rim to neck, other tiny flaws in hair bun and at last A of legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 73 below, emblems below, second T of legend doubled only, 8.00g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Light surface marks, nicks and hairlines, mainly on obverse, some spots on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine.* £350-450

Calendar year mintage 8,767,250

See footnote on Lot 554 for a brief synopsis of the 1871 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction, bought in the last 10 years.



- 572** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871, die number 74, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, die flaw in penultimate A to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 74 below, emblems below, 7.96g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Scratch on cheek, some scuffs and surface marks, rim nick on obverse, some tiny red spots, otherwise very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 8,767,250

See footnote on Lot 554 for a brief synopsis of the 1871 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction, bought in the last 10 years.



- 573** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871, die number 78, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, date doubled with die flaw by second 1 from rim to neck, further die flaw in last three letters of legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 78 below, emblems below, hairline raised die flaw in some letters of reverse, 7.97g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Some surface marks and hairlines, some tiny red spots, otherwise almost very fine.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, 2 June 1995  
Calendar year mintage 8,767,250  
see footnote on Lot 554 for a brief synopsis of the 1871 die numbers



- 574** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871, die number 97, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, date lightly die flawed and some letters of legend, last I of legend with die flaw to rim, some doubling of date and legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 97 below, emblems below, hairline raised die flaw in some letters of reverse, 8.00g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Some light surface marks and nicks, toned extremely fine.* £350-400

Calendar year mintage 8,767,250  
see footnote on Lot 554 for a brief synopsis of the 1871 die numbers



- 575** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871, die number 100, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, last word of legend die flawed, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 100 below, 1 with weak serif and central 0 over a higher 0, emblems below, hint of doubling in legend, 7.98g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Some light surface marks, black blemish in field behind head, dig over 8 of date, otherwise toned good extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1381 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 8,767,250  
see footnote on Lot 554 for a brief synopsis of the 1871 die numbers



- 576** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871, die number 103, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, die flaw across top of 18 and in latter part of queen's name, hint of doubling to some letters both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 103 below, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Some scuffs and surface marks with hairlines, light scratches on neck, otherwise with a black tone, good extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Stacks, 21 February 1997, lot 1135  
ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 8,767,250  
see footnote on Lot 554 for a brief synopsis of the 1871 die numbers



- 577 G Victoria, Sovereign, 1871, die number 106, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, some letters with a hint of doubling, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 106 below, 1 with weak serif, 6 higher than 10, emblems below, M of legend thick from doubling, but right upright thinner, 7.99g (Marsh 55; MCE 531; S 3853B). *Some light surface marks and nicks, otherwise good very fine.* £300-350**

Calendar year mintage 8,767,250

See footnote on Lot 554 for a brief synopsis of the 1871 die numbers. This coin was purchased from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction, bought in the last 10 years.



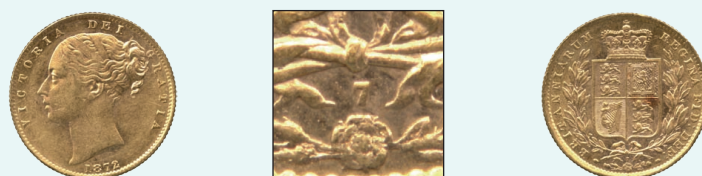
- 578 G Victoria, Sovereign, 1872, die number 2, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below trace of doubling in date and legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 2 below, lightly die flawed number and legend, emblems below, 8.00g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Short scratch by ponytail of hair, reverse rim nick, otherwise toned extremely fine.* £300-400**

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1383pt.

Calendar year mintage 13,486,708

This coin is die number 2 of a total of 110 different numbered dies in the Bentley Collection, running from 1 to 112. Marsh claims that only one other exists, number 103. Part two of the Bentley Collection contains 37 of the 1872 die numbers. This would seem to suggest good die longevity for such a high output in the calendar year, 1872 represents the pinnacle of calendar year output for the reign of Queen Victoria and the highest mintage in a year since the inception of the modern gold Sovereign. However, it must be borne in mind that this figure includes the new St George and dragon reverse Sovereign for Queen Victoria and the non-die number Sovereigns of 1872 too. This is why trying to analyse calendar output against die numbers and variations known is so troublesome.

It would be more than 35 years before this total in one calendar year was surpassed. The longevity for the dies can be considered reasonable.



- 579 G Victoria, Sovereign, 1872, die number 7, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 7 below, emblems below, 7.97g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Red blemish on reverse shield, softly struck in parts, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine and pleasing.* £350-450**

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1383 (part)

Calendar year mintage 13,486,708

see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers





- 580** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 8, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, hint of doubling to date and legend both sides, die flaw from V to rim, and through first A from rim to head, further flaw in hair bun to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 8 below, emblems below, hairlines raised die flaw in some letters, 7.98g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Some light deposit and red spots on reverse, some hairlines, otherwise good extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1383 (part)

Calendar year mintage 13,486,708

see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 581** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 12, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, die flawed 2 in date, further raised flaws in both T's and last A of legend, hint of doubling to top part of obverse and some of reverse legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 12 below, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Red spot at bridge of nose and black blemish on reverse rim, some other red colour, hairlines on cheek and other light surface marks, otherwise good extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1384 (part)

Calendar year mintage 13,486,708

see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 582** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 13, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, die flaws to last three letters in queen's name and last A of legend, hint of doubling to date and legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 13 below, emblems below, 7.98g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *A few light hairlines, otherwise pleasing, toned good extremely fine.* £400-500

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 570 (part)

ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)

Calendar year mintage 13,486,708

see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 583** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 16, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, raised die flaw beyond last letter of legend and another from rim into field before start of legend, letter E of legend mal-formed, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 16 below, emblems below, hint of doubling to legend, flaw between I and N of second word, 7.97g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Dig on letter E of obverse has malformed it, light surface marks and obverse rim nick, good very fine / extremely fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 13,486,708

see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 584** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 19, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, only a trace of stops in letters, date below, penultimate A die flawed, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 19 below, emblems below, hint of doubling to legend and flaws in some letters, 7.98g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Streak of black tone to obverse with a few light hairlines, scratch on cheek, otherwise extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 570 (part)

ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)

Calendar year mintage 13,486,708

see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 585** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 21, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, doubling in legend, a hint on reverse, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 21 below, emblems below, 7.97g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Scratch to right of crown on reverse, some nicks and hairlines, otherwise toned very fine / good very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 13,486,708

see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 586** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 25, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, die flaw to right of 2 from rim to neck, further die flaw between T and I across to last A, hint doubling in some letters both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 25 below, emblems below, hairline die flaw in F and M of legend, 8.00g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Scratch to right of die number on reverse, some hairlines, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1386 (part)

Calendar year mintage 13,486,708

see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 587** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 29, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, die flaw across top of date and last A to rim, some doubling in legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 29 below, emblems below, some raised flaws in parts of legend, 7.98g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Rim nick on obverse, streak of black tone on reverse, some hairline scuffs, otherwise extremely fine.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 13,486,708

see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



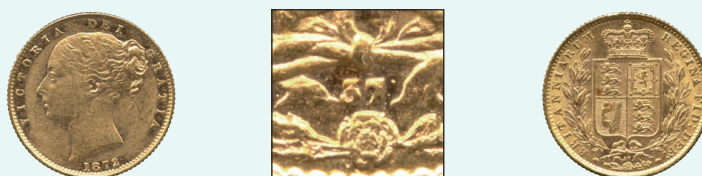
- 588 ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 31, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, die flaw across part of date and penultimate A to rim, some doubling in legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 31 below, small 3, large 1, emblems below, some raised flaws in parts of legend, 7.98g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Patchy tone both sides, scuffed with some hairlines, otherwise very fine.* £300-350

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1321 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 589 ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 34, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, date and legend lightly doubled both sides with some light raised die flaws, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 34 below, filled and blundered figures, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Patchy tone both sides, surface marks and spots, otherwise almost extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Spink and Son, purchased September 2003  
Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
See footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers. This coin was purchased via Spink from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction, bought in the last 10 years.



- 590 ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 37, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 37 below, emblems below, hint of doubling in some letters with some light raised flaws, 7.99g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Some light scuffing with surface marks, two red spots on reverse, otherwise very fine / good very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
See footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers. This coin was purchased via Spink from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction, bought in the last 10 years.



- 591 ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 39, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, 1 of date die flawed, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 39 below, emblems below, hint of doubling in a few letters, 7.98g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Some light nicks and surface marks, extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1386 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers





- 592** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 39, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 39 below, emblems below, hint of doubling and light die flaws in legend, 7.99g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Some light surface marks, two red spots on reverse with rim nick, otherwise nearly extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1386 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 593** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 47, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, 1 of date die flawed to neck and across to 8, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 47 below, emblems below, some light die flaws in legend, 7.98g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Some light surface marks, some tiny spots on reverse, small scratch to left of crown, otherwise nearly extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1320 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 594** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 50, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, O, third I and last A of legend die flawed to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 50 below, emblems below, raised light die flaws in legend, 7.99g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Some light surface marks, rim nick on reverse, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £350-400

purchased via Ebay, August 2004  
Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 595** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 54, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, last word doubled with light die flaws, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 54 below, emblems below, some letters doubled, 8.00g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Scratch on neck, digs by chin, other light surface marks and nicks, obverse rim nick, otherwise toned, good extremely fine.* £350-400

ex Stacks, 21 February 1997, lot 1139  
ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 596** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 55, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 55 below, left 5 is larger than other, emblems below, 7.95g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Scuffed with light surface marks, some black deposits on rim, otherwise almost very fine / very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 597** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 59, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, 1 of date die flawed to rim, light die flaws in last word of legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 59 below, emblems below, some light flaws in reverse legend, 7.99g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Some nicks and light surface marks, very fine / good very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 598** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 64, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, date lightly die flawed, last A die flawed to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 64 below, emblems below, some light flaws in reverse legend, 7.99g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Some nicks under chin, short scratch on neck, other light surface marks, two obverse rim nicks and one on reverse, scratch by 2 of date, otherwise nearly extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1388 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers

## A Very Rare Occurrence of an Over-struck Die Number on a Sovereign



number "65" over "64"

- 599** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 65, 5 over 4 in die number, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, date lightly die flawed, last A die flawed to rim, hint of doubling to legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 65 below, the 5 struck over a 4, emblems below, some light flaws in reverse legend, 8.00g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Nick on cheek by mouth, some light hairline surface marks, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine and very rare with an overstruck die number.* £400-600

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 345 (part), the overstrike not noted  
Calendar year mintage 13,486,708

See footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers. We are used to seeing overstruck dates but this coin is the only overstrike of a die number that we are aware of. Presumably it has to be an engraving error on the part of the engraver preparing the numbered dies. Perhaps he had just made reverse die number 64 and still had the 4 punch to hand and used it in error when making die 65. Of course with the strict quality control now in place at the mint it had to be corrected immediately to show 65. Overdates in the die number series are practically non-existent too as the quality control was so high, this piece is therefore very unusual and very rare. For an overdate in the die number series see Lot 488 in this sale.



- 600** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 70, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, date and legend slightly doubled both sides, last A of legend die flawed to rim, *rev* die axis slightly off-centre, crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 70 below, emblems below, some light flaws in reverse legend, 7.97g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Obverse rim nick, short scratch on bun of hair, heavy surface marks, otherwise once cleaned, very fine, unusual with off centre die axis.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 601** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 73, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, date lightly doubled with 1 die flawed to neck, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 73 below, emblems below, some letters doubled in reverse legend, 7.98g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Slight metal flaw to top of left laurel wreath on reverse, some hairlines and surface marks, toned very fine, reverse better.* £300-350

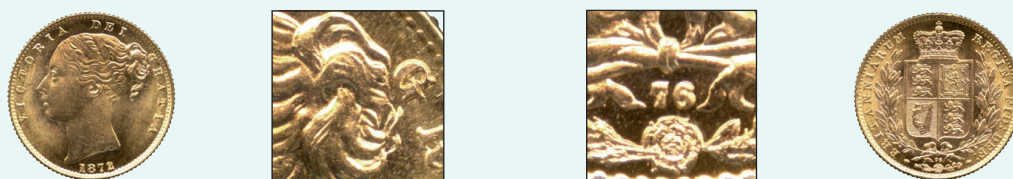
Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers





- 602** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 74, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, date with 2 die flawed to neck, another flaw at last T of legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 74 below, die flaws in 74, emblems below, some letters in reverse legend die flawed, 7.98g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Some nicks and short scratches on neck and cheek, obverse rim nick and other light surface marks, otherwise brilliant extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, 2 June 1995  
 Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
 see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 603** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 76, third young head left, hair in bun with more well struck attached curls, w.w. in relief fully on truncation, date below, some doubling in date and legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 76 below, 6 doubled, emblems below, some letters in reverse legend lightly die flawed, 8.00g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Scuff on neck with light surface marks, brilliant and pleasing, good extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, 14 June 1992  
 Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
 There appears to be a touch more outline definition to the profile of this coin (evident on the rear of the hairbun and the base of the truncation), probably indicative of an early strike for the die.  
 see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 604** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 78, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, 1 of date flawed to rim, further flaw at last A of legend, some doubling in legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 78 below, small 7, large 8, emblems below, some letters in reverse legend lightly die flawed, 7.99g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Some surface marks, obverse rim nick, toned almost extremely fine / extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 572 (part)  
 ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)  
 Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
 see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 605** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 80, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, 1 and 2 of date both die flawed to rim, some doubling in legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 80 below, lightly die flawed, emblems below, some letters in reverse legend lightly die flawed, 7.98g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Black mark above 72, scratch on ear lobe and behind head, toned on reverse, almost extremely fine/ extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1389 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 606** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 84, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date lightly doubled below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 84 below, lightly die flawed large 8, small 4, emblems below, some letters in reverse legend doubled, 7.98g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Light streaks of tone with hairlines and surface marks, very fine / almost extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1324 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 607** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 86, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date lightly doubled below, 1 die flawed, last A of legend die flawed to rim, hint of doubling to legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 86 below, emblems below, some letters in reverse legend lightly die flawed, 7.99g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Nick on cheek, light surface marks, extremely fine / good extremely fine, previously graded by PCGS as MS64.* £350-450

ex Jacob Y Turner collection, Goldberg, Hollywood, USA, Sale 20, 26-27 May 2003, lot 364  
Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 608** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 92, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, 1 of date doubled, raised die flaw to left of last I in legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 92 below, 9 doubled, emblems below, some letters in reverse legend doubled, 7.98g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Green spot on obverse, two red spots on reverse, other hairlines, nicks, digs and surface marks, very fine / extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1320 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 609** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 94, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, date and legend doubled, third I with raised die flaw to rim, last A with a trace of die flaw, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 94 below, emblems below, some letters in reverse legend with raised die flaws, 7.99g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Some light surface marks and spots, otherwise extremely fine.* £350-400

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1390 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 610** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 96, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, raised die flaw from neck to rim, date below, hint of doubling to some obverse letters, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 96 below, 96 flawed, emblems below, some letters in reverse legend with raised die flaws, 7.98g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *A few light surface marks, two obverse rim nicks, otherwise pleasing, good extremely fine.* £400-500

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 573 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 611** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 101, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, date and legend doubled both sides, last A die flawed, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 101 below, first 1 over a lower 1, second 1 touches ribbon, emblems below, some letters in reverse legend with raised die flaws, 7.99g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Red spots on reverse, obverse rim nick, light surface marks, extremely fine.* £350-400

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1320 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 612** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 102, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, date and legend doubled both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 102 below, incomplete 2, emblems below, 7.98g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Some scratches and digs on reverse by crown, otherwise unevenly toned with light surface marks, good very fine.* £300-350

ex Spink and Son, purchased July 2004  
Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
See footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers. This coin was purchased via Spink from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction, bought in the last 10 years.





- 613** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 105, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 105 below, 1 weak and flawed, emblems below, 7.96g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Scratch on neck, reverse rim nick, scuffed, once cleaned, almost very fine / good very fine.* £300-350

ex Spink and Son, purchased March 2005  
Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 614** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872, die number 112, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below lightly die flawed, obverse legend doubled, hint of doubling on reverse, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 112 below, incomplete 2, joined to middle 1, emblems below, 7.98g (Marsh 56; MCE 533; S 3853B). *Surface marks, patchy uneven tone, extremely fine.* £350-400

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 575 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 13,486,708  
see footnote on Lot 579 for a brief synopsis of the 1872 die numbers



- 615** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1873, die number 4, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, date and legend doubled in places both sides, last letter I flawed from rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 4 below, lightly die flawed, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 57; MCE 535; S 3853B). *Some light surface marks, toned almost extremely fine / extremely fine.* £350-400

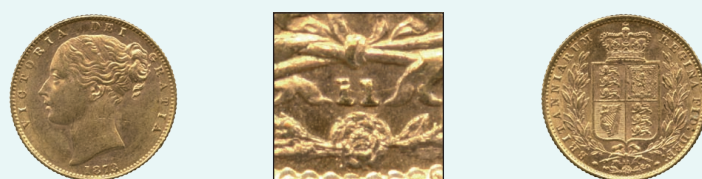
ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 576 (part)  
ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 2,368,215

This coin is die number 4 of a total of 27 different numbered dies in the Bentley Collection for 1873, running from 1 to 107. Marsh claims that 75 others exist! That makes a total of 102 reverse dies to strike just over two million Sovereigns suggesting a very uneconomic lifetime for the dies, as this output figure also includes the St George and dragon reverse coins of 1873. We feel that the die numbers recorded for 1873 in Marsh may be unreliable and could be some sort of human typographical error, perhaps transposing 1872 known die numbers for 1873 (which is more likely). However, the fact there are some rather large gaps in the die numbering of the Bentley specimens leaves the verdict open. What we can say is that, in twenty years of seriously looking, most of numbers claimed to exist have just not been on the marketplace. Part two of the Bentley Collection contains nine of the 1873 die numbers.



- 616** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1873, die number 8, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, date and legend doubled in places both sides, last letter A flawed to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 8 below, emblems below, 7.98g (Marsh 57; MCE 535; S 3853B). *Scratch by nose and one on throat, some other scuffs and surface marks, extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £350-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, 2 June 1995  
Calendar year mintage 2,368,215  
see footnote on Lot 615 for a brief synopsis of the 1873 die numbers



- 617** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1873, die number 11, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, die flaws in queen's name and some light doubling on both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 11 below, lightly die flawed, emblems below, 7.98g (Marsh 57; MCE 535; S 3853B). *Scratch at back of neck into field, some other surface marks, toned almost extremely fine / extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, c.1997  
Calendar year mintage 2,368,215  
see footnote on Lot 615 for a brief synopsis of the 1873 die numbers



- 618** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1873, die number 14, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, trace of light doubling in date and legend on both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 14 below, 1 over a lower 1, emblems below, die flaw by first I to rim, 7.99g (Marsh 57; MCE 535; S 3853B). *Rim nick on obverse, some other surface marks, one red spot on reverse, toned good extremely fine.* £400-500

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 577 (part)  
ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 2,368,215  
see footnote on Lot 615 for a brief synopsis of the 1873 die numbers



- 619** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1873, die number 16, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, some light doubling on both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 16 below, emblems below, some light raised die flaws in reverse legend, 7.95g (Marsh 57; MCE 535; S 3853B). *Some residual dirt on reverse rim and lettering, other surface marks, toned bold fine.* £300-350

ex A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd, May 2006  
Calendar year mintage 2,368,215  
see footnote on Lot 615 for a brief synopsis of the 1873 die numbers



- 620** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1873, die number 20, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below with hairline die flaw, some light doubling in legend, die flaw at O, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 20 below, emblems below, some light raised die flaws in reverse legend, 7.99g (Marsh 57; MCE 535; S 3853B). *Some light nicks and surface marks, extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, 6 February 1990  
Calendar year mintage 2,368,215  
see footnote on Lot 615 for a brief synopsis of the 1873 die numbers



- 621** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1873, die number 24, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, some light doubling in date and legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 24 below, emblems below, some light raised die flaws in reverse legend, 7.95g (Marsh 57; MCE 535; S 3853B). *Some light scuffs and surface marks, toned very fine / good very fine.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, 6 February 1990  
Calendar year mintage 2,368,215  
See footnote on Lot 615 for a brief synopsis of the 1873 die numbers. This coin was purchased via Spink from one of the groups of coins from the wreck of the RMS *Douro* that were not sold by auction, bought in the last 10 years.



- 622** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1873, die number 103, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, hair bun die flawed to rim, date below, 1 of date die flawed to rim, some light doubling in date and legend both sides, last AT with die flaw to rim, hairline flaw in queen's name, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 103 below, die flawed number with the 0 over a lower 0, emblems below, some light raised die flaws in reverse legend, 7.99g (Marsh 57; MCE 535; S 3853B). *Some digs on neck and one by chin, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1395 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 2,368,215  
see footnote on Lot 615 for a brief synopsis of the 1873 die numbers



## A Truly Fleur de Coin Example of a Victoria Die Number Sovereign



- 623** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1873, die number 107, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, die flaw from rear of neck onto field, date below lightly die flawed, some hairline flaws in legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 107 below, 1 of die number inverted and struck over a regular 1, emblems below, 7.99g (Marsh 57; MCE 535; S 3853B). *Prooflike FDC, seemingly an early strike.* £500-700

ex Jacob Y Turner collection, Goldberg, Hollywood, USA, Sale 20, 26-27 May 2003

Calendar year mintage 2,368,215

See footnote on Lot 615 for a brief synopsis of the 1873 die numbers. This coin is another example of as good a preservation of a Victorian Sovereign as one could wish for.

## The Extremely Rare 1874 London Shield Reverse Sovereign Die Number 28



- 624** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1874, die number 28, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, die number 28 below, incomplete 2, emblems below, 7.94g (Marsh 58; MCE 537; S 3853B). *Some residual dirt on rim and lettering, some light scuffs and surface marks, otherwise almost very fine / very fine and extremely rare.* £2500-3000

ex Spink and Son, January 2000

Calendar year mintage 520,713

This coin is die number 28 of a total of 3 different numbered dies in the Bentley Collection for 1874, running from 28 to 33. Marsh claims that 4 others exist, making a total of 7 possible dies for this rare shield reverse. There were also 1874 dated St George and Dragon reverse coins included in the output figure of just over a ½ million Sovereigns. This suggests very good die longevity indeed but most were likely to be the St George reverse in reality as the shield reverse of this date is very elusive. Neither the Bentley collector nor this cataloguer have ever seen any of the other four die numbers claimed to exist by Marsh.

## Extremely Rare 1879 Pattern London Shield Reverse Sovereign of Queen Victoria



**625 g Victoria**, Pattern Sovereign, 1879, engraved after William Wyon, third young head left, with double fillet, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, toothed border and raised rim both sides, VICTORIA DEI GRATIA, *rev* struck with inverted die axis, engraved after Jean Baptiste Merlen, crowned shield of arms within laurel wreath tied with bow below shield, seven harp strings in Irish arms, left string emanates from scroll, emblems below, small rosette either side, BRITANNIARUM REGINA FID: DEF:, second word lightly doubled, edge milled, 8.00g, 22mm (WR 322 R7; DM -; Murdoch 511). *Well struck, four tiny black spots only, otherwise brilliant mint state and probably struck for display at the Melbourne International Exhibition in 1879, Australia, of the highest rarity.* £12,000-15,000

ex Reginald Huth collection, Sothebys, 4 April 1927, lot 266A (part)

ex Sothebys, 9 October 1995, lot 827

Sovereigns of proof quality from highly polished dies would be struck as a matter of record for the mint and probably for presentation to highly important persons. It seems that in 1880 the Deputy Master of the Melbourne mint, V Delves Broughton, approached London requesting examples of coins and medals produced, for display at the International Exhibition in Melbourne. Mr C W Fremantle, the Comptroller at the Royal Mint, agreed to prepare two proof examples of each of the current coins of 1880 and earlier dates, which were struck in such quantity that when prepared for shipment weighed 2cwt and 19lb. The Museum of Victoria in Australia still retains one of the 1880 "Imperial Proof Sets" the other was seemingly traded after the exhibition for a collection of ancient coins. Part three of the Bentley Collection will contain an 1880 proof shield sovereign, which may well emanate from the second set. The 1879 piece offered here may well be from the group of earlier date coins exhibited at Melbourne in 1880. It is so rare that not even an illustration was included in the Wilson Rasmussen publication.

For further reading on the subject of special striking made by the mint for exhibition in Australia, see the Journal of the Numismatic Association of Australia, volume 2, article by John Sharples "The Numismatic Collection of the Museum of Victoria", available online at the Association website.



## St George and Dragon Reverse Proof Sovereigns

### A Very Rare Plain Edge Proof St George Reverse Sovereign of 1871, Large B.P.



**WW over WW less apparent and large incomplete B.P.**

626 9 **Victoria**, Proof Sovereign, 1871, young head of third style left, ww buried under recut ww and less apparent in thin truncation in relief, tip of neck points outwards, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim both sides, VICTORIA D: G: BRITANNIA: REG: F: D:, obverse letter A's and colons doubled, *rev* struck en médaille, St George slaying dragon with sword, folds of cape not complete at hem, dragon with lower claws detached, four to left and three to right arm, horse with intermediate tail ending in two strands with traces of third, well defined tail with no spurs of extra hair, broken lance on ground-line to left, *WWP* in relief under lance, date in exergue, slightly doubled and widely spaced, the second 1 higher than the rest, large incomplete B.P. to upper right, edge plain, 8.00g, 21.8mm (WR 319 "R7"; BM Collection 8466; DM 212). *Tiny dig under second I of legend, otherwise lightly toned with underlying brilliance, as struck and very rare.* £6000-8000

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, unspecified date, c.1990

For more detailed reading about the introduction of the St George and dragon reverse and the proof strikings of it, please refer to part one of the Bentley Collection, lots 303-304. It is interesting to note that this obverse die with the recut WW over the top of a lower WW always seems to have a little incuse dot on the upper part of each hair fillet near the top of the head.



## A Very Rare Plain Edge Proof St George Reverse Sovereign of 1871, Large B.P.



**WW over WW more apparent, large incomplete B.P.**

**627 9 Victoria**, Proof Sovereign, 1871, young head of third style left, ww buried over recut ww and more apparent in thin truncation in relief, tip of neck points outwards, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim both sides, VICTORIA D: G: BRITANNIAE REG: F: D:, obverse letter A's and colons doubled, *rev* struck en médaille, St George slaying dragon with sword, folds of cape not complete at hem, dragon with lower claws attached, four to left and three to right arm, horse with intermediate tail ending in two strands with traces of two more, tail therefore more detached, no spurs of extra hair, broken lance on ground-line to left, *WWP* in relief under lance, date in exergue, slightly doubled, the second 1 higher than the rest, large incomplete B.P. to upper right, edge plain, 8.00g, 21.8mm (WR 319 "R7"; BM Collection 8466; DM 212). *Tiny dig in O of legend, otherwise brilliant as struck and very rare.* £6000-8000

ex Winsor and Sons, Jamberoo, Australia, c.2005

For more detailed reading about the introduction of the St George and dragon reverse and the proof strikings of it, please refer to part one of the Bentley Collection, lots 303-304. It is interesting to note that this obverse die with the recut WW over the tops of a lower WW always seems to have a little incuse dot on the upper part of each hair fillet near the top of the head.

This coin was used on the front cover of the Bentley Collection preview brochure (issued January 2012).

Queen Victoria died on 22 January 1901

## Colonial Gold Issues

The entire Colonial branch mint section of the Bentley Collection is being offered for sale here in part two. These will be offered in the chronological order of the opening of each branch of the Royal Mint. The exceptions to this being the Adelaide Pound token which pre-dates branch minting in Australia and will be sold first, and the South African series of Ponds which will be offered before the Imperial type George V South Africa Sovereigns in the last part of the sale. Additionally there are three Bombay mint (India), George V, 15-Rupee coins, dated 1918, which were issued in the same year as the Imperial type and whose face value directly equated with the gold sovereign at that time.

The running order for the section is as follows:-

### AUSTRALIA

- Adelaide Pound type II 1852
- Sydney Branch Mint, "Australia" type reverse Sovereigns, first and second obverses 1855-1870
- Sydney Branch Mint, Imperial type Sovereigns from 1871  
shield reverse followed by St George and dragon reverse to 1926
- Melbourne Branch Mint, Imperial type Sovereigns from 1872  
shield reverse followed by St George and dragon reverse to 1931
- Perth Branch Mint, Imperial type Sovereigns 1899-1931

### CANADA

Ottawa Mint Imperial type Sovereigns 1908-1919

### INDIA

Bombay Branch Mint Imperial Sovereigns 1918 and companion 15 Rupee pieces dated 1918

### SOUTH AFRICA

- President Thomas Burgers Ponds, Kruger type Ponds, Veldt Pond and varieties.
- Pretoria Branch Mint, Imperial type Sovereigns from 1923-1932

### AUSTRALIA

#### References used in this section

McD Greg McDonald – *the Pocket Guide to Australian Coins and Banknotes*, 19<sup>th</sup> Edition 2012, valuations in Australian Dollars.

QM *The Quartermaster collection* – auction catalogue, 4 June 2009, issued by Monetarium (Australia) Pty Ltd, Kogarah, NSW, with expert cataloguing by Winsor & Sons of Jamberoo, NSW, Australia.

KM Krause and Mishler, valuations in American Dollars.

Fr Friedberg – *Gold Coins of the World*, valuations in American Dollars.

These are in addition to the Marsh and Spink references used in all sections of this catalogue.

#### Further Reading

The following publications have been consulted in relation to the Australian section in addition to those above:-

Coleman P Hyman, *An Account of the Coins, Coinages, and Currency of Australasia*, printed by Charles Potter, Sydney, 1893

Thomas Gill, *A Brief Sketch of the Coinage and Currency of South Australia*, printed by Vardon and Sons, Adelaide, 1912.

Dr Arthur Andrews, *Australasian Tokens and Coins, A Handbook*, published by William Applegate Gullick, 1921

J Hunt Deacon, *The "Ingots" and "Assay Office Pieces" of South Australia*, printed by the Hawthorn Press, Melbourne c.1955.

Robert L Clarke, *The Coins of British Oceania*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 1964, South Pasadena, published by Dansco of Venice, California (USA) for American Collectors of Australian coins.

Captain J J Cullimore Allen, *Sovereigns of the British Empire*, published by Spink and Son, 1965

*Royal Sovereign 1489-1989*, edited by G P Dyer, published by the Royal Mint 1989

## A Note on Grading

We wish to emphasise that the coins in this section have been graded according to strict British standards, which seem to compare differently to that used in Australia. This will become clear when coins with British grading here are actually nicer than a specimen in the Quartermaster collection which on the Australian system appears to be one whole grade higher. This occurs frequently and it would seem an Australian grading equivalent of the British standard is one grade step higher.

This is also demonstrated in the McDonald publication where valuations are quoted for three types of uncirculated coin, which is a direct reflection of the differing market-place between the UK and Australia for their collectible coinages. No UK coin catalogue has such degrees of valuation and the British standard prevails here with only one true grade of uncirculated. The grading of coins remains a subjective science especially when crossing to other continents.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

### The Adelaide Pound gold coin tokens issued by the South Australia Government Assay Office

Following the discovery of gold deposits at Ballarat in Victoria and near Bathurst in New South Wales, a gold rush caused the working man population of the townships of Southern Australia to deplete dramatically, leaving behind their businesses and families in the hope of striking it rich in the goldfields. This caused a massive drain on the economies of the towns as funds were withdrawn to finance travel and digging. Adelaide, the major town near the goldfields, suffered heavily with over half the male population effectively leaving town in a very short time and the town neared bankruptcy. However, gold mined from the fields began a sudden influx into the local economy as the first successful gold-diggers returned. A means of processing the gold was quickly required, preferably by refining and striking into coin. However the Lieutenant-Governor of South Australia, Sir Henry Young, knew a mint could not be set up without Royal approval from Great Britain and the logistics of obtaining such approval would take over six months with the distance involved. Sir Henry Young acted upon advice of George Tinline, the acting Manager of the South Australian Banking Company and the Colonial Treasurer, Robert Torrens about the understanding of a clause in the Bill affecting currency, which in part stated that "unless urgent necessity exists," effectively exposing a loophole in the Bill. This exploitation was used by the South Australian Legislative Council to pass the Bullion Act number 1, to produce gold ingots and later gold token coins.

Within hours of the Bullion Act being passed the Government Assay Office was set up and the refining of gold Ingots could commence. These excessively rare ingots were objects of necessity refined, weighed and stamped with the assay office hallmarks and their weight and fineness, a scant few survive today (Quartermaster collection lots 1 and 2 are two of a maximum of four examples in private hands). These ingots however did little to relieve the immediate problems in the town due to their variance in size, high value and the ease of which they could be faked. Criticism of the ingots by November of 1852 caused an amendment to be made to the Bullion Act authorising the issue of gold "coins" of Ten Shillings, One Pound, Two Pounds and Five Pounds, still without Royal approval and proclamation, therefore they were a token gold coinage. Dies were prepared by local die-sinker Joshua Payne for the Pound and Five Pound denominations and, by the time the amendments had been passed by the Council, coins had already been produced since late September. Payne probably also prepared the gold ingots that preceded the token coin issue.

The very first die for the gold pound failed after maybe no more than 30 strikes, but perhaps as many as 50, having seemingly started to crack as soon as the first piece was struck. No examples of the type one Pound are known today without some sign of the die crack and are of the highest rarity; the Bentley Collection does not contain an example of this coveted piece.

The Five Pound coin dies were purportedly used to strike six specimens and this is mentioned in sources as early as Hyman in 1893, however no survivors are known of these early pieces. The only Five Pound Adelaide gold tokens were six gold restrikes made from the dies in 1919 and a further one in 1929 for the National Gallery of South Australia. If an original Five Pound should ever turn up it would be a numismatic dream coin as would be a type I Pound with no sign of the die crack (perhaps the first coin struck).



The type II Pounds were struck more successfully in a larger quantity and were a great relief to the economy of Adelaide, but not many survive today and most that do have been mounted for jewellery. Minting had finished in February 1853 when nearly 25,000 had been struck. However, locals found the gold within the coin token was actually worth more than the face value and so many found their way at the time to the melting pot. The shortage of gold coin began to be relieved at this time as the Bank of New South Wales had placed a regular order of 3,000 sovereigns a month in London from August 1851, boosted to 50,000 a month in August 1852, with two special orders in the interim of 250,000 sovereigns each. The time of each order being placed until physical delivery would have been many months.

Royal disapproval followed by November 1853 and a great quantity of British gold Sovereigns were sent to circulate within the town to further alleviate any economic problems, probably from the quantities being supplied to the Bank of New South Wales.

Sir Henry Young went on to be Governor of Tasmania from 1854 and retired from that position in 1861. Robert Torrens who had suggested production of ingots initially was later knighted. George Tinline was awarded a solid gold plate and £2,500 for his effort and advice.

The legacy we have today are some very important gold Pound tokens dated 1852, a type II of which is offered in Lot 628.

### Very Rare Type II Adelaide Gold Pound 1852



**628 9 Adelaide**, gold token for a Pound, struck in 22 carat gold alloyed with copper, 1852, 2 of date with curly top, crown over date, beaded circle surrounding with dentilated pattern, GOVERNMENT ASSAY OFFICE, rosette either side, ADELAIDE below, very faint toothed border both sides, *rev* struck en médaille, ONE at centre, VALUE above, POUND below, beaded circle surrounding with dentilated pattern, WEIGHT. 5 DWT: 15 GRS: surrounding, rosette either side, 22 CARATS. below, 2's have plain tops, edge is not completely milled in that the reeding does not fully traverse the entire edge, 8.44g (McD page 40; QM 23 R3; KM 2; Fr 3). *Some light die striations showing through on rims both sides, light surface marks, weak on high points, otherwise extremely fine and very rare.* £20,000-25,000

ex Monetarium, Kogarah, NSW Australia, purchased 7 March 2003

Total mintage 24,768, according to Hunt Deacon, which may include type I. The type I dies cracked immediately on use and broke purportedly after 30-40 pieces were struck.

The full weight of an Adelaide type II Pound as quoted on the coin equates to 8.7478g

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates an EF quality type II Pound at a valuation of AU\$52,000 (or £35,000)

### The Sydney Branch Mint

The need for a Mint to produce coin in Australia and convert the local gold from the goldfields, without sending out of the country, finally came to fruition when an Order of Council was issued and ratified in the presence of the Queen at Osborne House on the Isle of Wight, 19 August 1853. Application and legislation to reach this point had been underway since at least 1851 and what with the escapades of Adelaide it became more apparent for the need that led to the Order of Council and building of a Mint on the site of the Old Rum Hospital in Macquarie Street, Sydney. Designs, dies and pattern coins were produced dated 1853, an example of which can be seen as QM24 in the Quartermaster collection. The Sydney mint opened 14 May 1855 and the first type design from the 1853 pattern was adopted for currency. The design of the Sydney Sovereigns was to be quite different from the Imperial British type, as the original intention was for them to be only legal tender within Australia. This changed with the Colonial Branch Mint Act of 1866, when they became legal tender in the UK and other colonies too, which led directly to the harmonisation of the Imperial type designs at the Sydney mint. The 1855-1868 yellow gold Sovereigns of the Sydney mint that were alloyed with silver were most popular in export trade with India, where they were more revered than the British Sovereign for their yellow colour, signifying the more valuable alloy with silver as opposed to the red gold colour of the British Sovereign alloyed with copper. This changed in 1868, the first step towards harmonisation of the types of denomination, when Sydney mixed copper in the alloy, rather than silver, making some of the 1868 dated issue and all for 1870 of the red gold colour.



When the Sydney mint ceased minting gold Sovereigns in 1926, the total number of all Sovereigns struck of both Australia and Imperial types from 1855-1926, according to *Sovereigns of the British Empire*, stood at 144,435,550. However, this total is 50,000 pieces higher than the individually quoted calendar year outputs in this publication by Capt J J Cullimore Allen. Presumably this is the result of human error in adding all the individual calendar year outputs, it being such a round figure.



### The Reign of Queen Victoria (1837-1901)

#### House of Hanover

**Born:** 24 May 1819

**Accession:** 20 June 1837

**Married:** Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, 10 February 1840

**Coronation:** Thursday 28 June 1838

**Children:** four sons, five daughters

**Died:** 22 January 1901, aged 81

### The First Type "AUSTRALIA" Sovereign

There are two types of obverse, the first was engraved by James Wyon and appears on coins dated 1855 and 1856 as well as the initial pattern of 1853 (see QM24).

The second type obverse was engraved by Leonard Charles Wyon and appears on a pattern of 1855 (see QM26) and currency from 1857-1870.

The reverse design was by Leonard Charles Wyon and was unchanged from 1853-1870.



## A Brilliant Example of the Extremely Rare 1855 Sovereign



- 629** *G* **Victoria (1837-1901), Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1855, engraved by Joshua Payne, obverse designed by James Wyon, first young head left, with double fillet, small date below, toothed border and raised rim both sides, VICTORIA D: G: BRITANNIAR: REGINA: F: D:, rev struck with inverted die axis, reverse designed by Leonard Charles Wyon, AUSTRALIA at centre, crown above, within laurel wreath tied with bow at bottom, SYDNEY MINT above, ONE SOVEREIGN below, edge milled, 7.98g (McD 102; QM 25 R3; Marsh 360 R; KM 2; Fr 9). Some scuffs and bagmarks both sides, some burnishing in obverse field around nose and lips, down to the chin, otherwise brilliant good extremely fine and on par with the Quartermaster specimen, being more choice though a little more surface marked.** £20,000-25,000

ex Winsor and Sons, Jamberoo, NSW Australia, purchased January 2005

Calendar year mintage 502,000

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates an AUNC quality 1855 Sovereign at a valuation of AU\$110,000 (or £74,000)

## A Very Pleasing Example of the Last Year of the First Type Sydney Sovereign



- 630** *G* **Victoria, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1856, engraved by Joshua Payne, obverse designed by James Wyon, first young head left, with double fillet, small date below, toothed border and raised rim both sides, VICTORIA D: G: BRITANNIAR: REGINA: F: D: some letters doubled in legend, rev struck with inverted die axis, reverse designed by Leonard Charles Wyon, AUSTRALIA at centre, crown above, within laurel wreath tied with bow at bottom, SYDNEY MINT above, ONE SOVEREIGN below, edge milled, 7.98g (McD 103; QM 27 R3; Marsh 361 R; KM 2; Fr 9). Some light nicks and surface marks both sides, with a little patchy deposit remaining in legend, otherwise extremely fine and very rare.** £6000-8000

ex Kurt Jaggard Coins, Sydney, Australia, purchased 23 August 2002

Calendar year mintage 981,000

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates an EF quality 1856 Sovereign at a valuation of AU\$19,500 (or £13,100)



## The Second Type "AUSTRALIA" Sovereign

The second incarnation of the Sydney mint Sovereign occurs in 1857 for currency after a pattern submitted by Leonard C Wyon dated 1855. It seems Leonard's Father, William Wyon, perhaps influenced this portrait's style of hair, as the gathered hair is very similar to that seen on the British Gothic Florin and Crown from 1847 onward.

The full description for a second type Sovereign of the Sydney mint is as follows



**Victoria (1837-1901)**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1870, engraved by Joshua Payne, designed by Leonard Charles Wyon, second young head left, with hair gathered and plaited, looping under the ear and entwined into a looped bun at rear, wreath of banksia in hair, date below, toothed border and raised rim both sides, VICTORIA D: G: BRITANNIAR: REG: F: D:, *rev* struck with inverted die axis, AUSTRALIA at centre, crown above, within laurel wreath tied with bow at bottom, SYDNEY MINT above, ONE SOVEREIGN below, edge milled

## A Pleasing Example of the First Year of the Second Type of Sydney Mint Sovereign



**631 9 Victoria (1837-1901)**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1857, second young head left, with hair gathered and plaited, wreath of banksia in hair, date below, legend surrounding with toothed border and rim, *rev* AUSTRALIA at centre, crown above, within laurel wreath tied with bow at bottom, SYDNEY MINT above, ONE SOVEREIGN below, edge milled, 7.99g (McD 104; QM 29 R3; Marsh 362 R; KM 4; Fr 10). *Once polished with associated light hairlines, otherwise a pleasing coin, good extremely fine and very rare.* £6000-8000

ex Noble Numismatics, direct purchase, 16 January 2003  
Calendar year mintage 449,000

### Weak letter T in MINT on Reverse Sovereign of 1857



- 632** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1857, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, letter F in legend slightly filled, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above the word MINT with a very weak letter T, appears to read MIN, 7.96g (cf McD 104; QM 29 R3; Marsh 362 R; KM 4; Fr 10). *Scuffed with nicks and surface marks, otherwise very fine and very unusual.* £600-800

ex Winsor and Sons, Jamberoo, NSW Australia, purchased c.2003  
Calendar year mintage 449,000

### A Well Preserved Example of the Extremely Rare 1858 Sovereign



- 633** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1858, 5 die flawed closed, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above, 7.97g (McD 105; QM 30 R3; Marsh 363 R; KM 4; Fr 10). *One light rim abrasion, other light bagmarks, otherwise toned, good extremely fine and pleasing, extremely rare.* £10,000-12,000

ex Noble Numismatics, 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sale 66, 28 March 2001, lot 1219  
Calendar year mintage 1,101,500



- 634** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1859, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, doubled date and legend, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above, 7.99g (McD 106; QM 31 R2; Marsh 364; KM 4; Fr 10). *Some light surface marks and scuffing both sides, retaining mint brilliance and lustre, almost extremely fine / extremely fine and rare.* £1000-1500

ex Monetarium, Kogarah, Australia, purchased 17 March 2003  
Calendar year mintage 1,050,500



**normal date**

**635** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1860, clear open 6, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above, 7.98g (McD 107; QM 32 R3; Marsh 365 R; KM 4; Fr 10). *Some light bagmarks, extremely fine / good extremely fine and rare.* £1000-1500

ex Reserve Bank of Australia holdings via Winsor and Sons, Jamberoo, NSW Australia c.2003  
Calendar year mintage 1,573,500



**filled "6" in date**

**636** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1860, slightly filled loop on 6, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above, 7.99g (cf McD.107; QM 32 R3; Marsh 365 R; KM 4; Fr 10). *Heavily scuffed with surface marks, good fine.* £400-500

ex Reserve Bank of Australia holdings via Winsor and Sons, Jamberoo, NSW Australia c.2003  
Calendar year mintage 1,573,500

## The Only Known High Grade Specimen of the 60 over 59 Dated Sydney Sovereign



**"60" struck over "59"**

**637** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1860, 60 struck over 59, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above, 8.01g (McD 107a this coin illustrated p.57; QM-; Marsh -, KM 4; Fr 10). *Some light scuffing mainly on reverse, scratched by crown, otherwise good extremely fine and of the highest rarity.* £15,000-18,000

ex Winsor and Sons, Jamberoo, NSW Australia, purchased c.2003

This is the plate coin in the McDonald catalogue, which suggests this is the highest grade example known and, possibly, the only example known.

Calendar year mintage 1,573,500

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates this coin as UNC at a valuation of AU\$52,000 (or £35,000)





- 638** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1861, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, doubled date with weakness to end of legend, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above, NE of legend weaker than rest, 7.98g (McD 108; QM 33 R2; Marsh 366; KM 4; Fr 10). *Some light surface marks, retaining mint lustre, extremely fine / good extremely fine and very rare.* £1000-1500

ex Winsor and Sons, Jamberoo, NSW Australia, purchased c.2003  
Calendar year mintage 1,626,000



- 639** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1861, with off-centre die axis, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, *rev* die axis slightly off-centre by a few degrees, crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, letter V over a higher V, legend above, 7.97g (cf McD.108; QM 33 R2; Marsh 366; KM 4; Fr 10). *Some surface marks and digs, toned almost extremely fine and unusual.* £400-600

Calendar year mintage 1,626,000

### The Very Rare 1861 over-date Sovereign with 1 struck over 0



**"1" struck over "0" in date**

- 640** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1861, 1 of date over 0 second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, die flaw from second A of legend, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above, 7.97g (McD 108a; QM 34 R6; Marsh -; KM 4; Fr 10). *Rim nick, some surface marks and digs, similar looking grade to Quartermaster specimen, though more surface marked, very fine and very rare, not many specimens extant.* £3000-4000

Calendar year mintage 1,626,000

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates a VF quality 1 over 0 Sovereign at a valuation of AU\$8,100 (or £5,400) with EF at \$16,500 (or £ 11,000)



- 641** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1862, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date lightly doubled below, incomplete 6, last part of legend doubled and some words on reverse, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, last N disjointed, legend above, 7.99g (McD 109; QM 35 R3; Marsh 367; KM 4; Fr 10). *A few light nicks and surface marks, light scratch in obverse field, retaining brilliance and lustre, otherwise extremely fine.* £2000-2500

ex Noble Numismatics, Sale 66, 28 March 201, lot 1229  
Calendar year mintage 2,477,500



**hooked "6"**

- 642** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1863, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, hooked 6 without bulb at top, die flawed shut, no left serifs to second R in legend, last I struck over another I, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above, some doubling in legend, 7.98g (McD 110; QM 36 R2; Marsh 368; KM 4; Fr 10). *Rim nick below date, some light surface marks and scuffs, otherwise nearly extremely fine.* £800-1000

ex Noble Numismatics, direct purchase, 16 January 2003  
Calendar year mintage 1,255,500



- 643** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1863, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, hooked 6 without bulb at top, incomplete bottom serifs on second and third letter i's in legend, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, incomplete letter G, legend above, 7.97g (McD 110; QM 36 R2; Marsh 368; KM 4; Fr 10). *Rim nick on reverse, some light surface marks and heavier scuffs, some residual dirt, otherwise good fine and unusual.* £300-400

ex A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd, purchased 13 April 2010  
Calendar year mintage 1,255,500



- 644** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1864, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, incomplete hooked 6, 8 doubled, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, incomplete letter G, legend above, die flaw across top of letters in SYDNEY, 7.99g (McD 111; QM 37 S; Marsh 369; KM 4; Fr 10). *Some scuffs and light digs with surface marks, otherwise extremely fine.* £500-600

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 9 June 1993  
Calendar year mintage 2,698,500



- 645** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1865, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, curvy 6 with bulb top, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above, 7.95g (McD 112; QM 38 R2; Marsh 370; KM 4; Fr 10). *Light scratch under N on reverse, lightly scuffed with surface marks, proof-like fields, good extremely fine, practically as struck.* £4000-5000

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 17 March 1992  
Calendar year mintage 2,130,500



- 646** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1865, off-centre die-axis, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, *rev* die axis off by about 100 degrees, crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above, 7.94g (cf McD.112; QM 38 R2; Marsh 370; KM 4; Fr 10). *Heavily scuffed, almost fine to fine and unusual.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 2,130,500



## The 1865 with "5" Struck Over "4" - One of Only Two Specimens Known



"5" struck over "4" in date

- 647** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1865, with 5 struck over 4, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, last words of legend doubled, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above, 7.95g (McD 112a; QM 39 R7; Marsh -; KM 4; Fr 10). *Heavy scuffs and surface marks, bold fine and one of only two specimens known, of highest rarity thus.* £4000-5000

ex Reserve Bank of Australia holdings, direct purchase via Winsor and Sons, Jamberoo, Australia, 17 August 2005  
 Calendar year mintage 2,130,500  
 The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates this coin as VF at a valuation of AU\$11,750 (or £7,850)



- 648** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1866, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, die flawed curvy 6's with bulbed tops, die flaw in REG: F:, the latter letter flawed to rim, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above, 8.00g (McD 113; QM 40 S; Marsh 371; KM 4; Fr 10). *Light scuffs and surface marks, scratch in obverse field, good extremely fine and very pleasing.* £2000-2500

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 17 March 1992  
 Calendar year mintage 2,911,000



- 649** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1866, off-centre die-axis, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, curvy 6's with bulbed tops, *rev* die axis off by about 135 degrees, crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above, doubled DN in legend, 7.98g (cf McD.113; QM 40 S; Marsh 371; KM 4; Fr 10). *Some scuffs and digs, surface marks, toned very fine / good very fine and unusual.* £500-600

ex Kurt Jaggard Coins, Sydney, Australia, purchased 30 May 2002  
 Calendar year mintage 2,911,000



**650** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1867, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, with incomplete letter E and N, legend above, with N doubled, 8.00g (McD 114; QM 41 S; Marsh 373; KM 4; Fr 10). *Light scuffs and surface marks, extremely fine, reverse better.* £1000-1500

ex Kurt Jaggard Coins, Sydney, Australia, purchased 23 August 2002  
Calendar year mintage 2,370,000

### 1868 Sovereign with the Gold Content Alloyed with Silver



**651** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1868, struck in 22 carat gold alloyed with 8.33% silver, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, 6 flawed, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above, legend with some doubling, 7.99g (McD 115; QM -; Marsh 373; KM 4; Fr 10). *A few very light marks, with yellow colour from the silver alloy, otherwise as struck and proof-like, very rare, the Quartermaster collection did not contain an example.* £2000-2500

ex Winsor and Sons, Jamberoo, NSW Australia, purchased c.2005

Calendar year mintage 2,319,000 to which should be added that for calendar year 1869 of 1,202,000

The Sydney mint type Sovereigns are all struck in 22 carat gold and usually alloyed with 8.33% silver as demonstrated here. For an example of an 1868 Sovereign alloyed with copper and further information, see the next lot.

## 1868 Sovereign with the gold content alloyed with copper



- 652** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1868, struck in 22 carat gold alloyed with 8.33% copper, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, 6 flawed shut, light raised flaw in last two letters of legend, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above, light raised flaws in some letters of legend with doubling, 8.00g (McD 115a; QM 43 S; Marsh 373; KM 4; Fr 10). *A few very light scuffs and surface marks, with red colour from the copper alloy, good extremely fine.* £1500-2000

ex Winsor and Sons, Jamberoo, NSW Australia, purchased c.2005

Calendar year mintage 2,319,000 to which should be added that for calendar year 1869 of 1,202,000

The Sydney mint type Sovereigns are all struck in 22 carat gold and usually alloyed with 8.33% silver. The only variation to copper alloy is this 1868 issue coin and the issue of 1870. The cataloguer suspects that the copper alloy pieces were struck later than the silver alloy pieces. There are no known 1869 dated Australia Sovereigns though McDonald has a reference number 116 waiting in case one exists and Marsh has number 374. As the 1870 coins are alloyed with copper, this 1868 copper alloyed piece must have immediately preceded these and succeeded the silver alloy pieces. It might not be as clear cut as saying calendar year 1868 mintage was silver alloy and calendar year 1869 produced 1868 dated copper alloy coins, but it seems this would be the order of production.

## A Superb 1870 Australia Sovereign



- 653** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1870, struck in 22 carat gold alloyed with 8.33% copper, second young head left, with wreath of banksia in hair, date below, wispy raised flaw in legend and date, *rev* crown and laurel wreath arranged around AUSTRALIA at centre, denomination below, legend above, last N with incomplete limb, legend with doubling, 8.00g (McD 117; QM 44 S; Marsh 375; KM 4; Fr 10). *Tiny rim nick on obverse, otherwise as struck, with a brilliant red hue, very pleasing.* £2000-2500

ex Noble Numismatics Sale 66, 28 March 201, lot 1344

Calendar year mintage 1,220,000



## Imperial Type Sovereigns in Australia

With the very significant Coinage Act of 1870 in Great Britain came a sweeping change to harmonise the design of the coins minted from the Australian output of gold with that produced from the Royal Mint in London. The fact that the Australia design coins were legal tender only within Australia for their formative years had obviously affected export trade. The Colonial Branch Act of 1866 had made the Australia type coins legal tender in the UK and in trade, useful especially with closer neighbours in India and Asia. However the British Imperial gold Sovereign was already a respected trade coin with its shield reverse and more acceptable than the Australia type coins. This is what led to the design harmonisation as governed by the Act of 1870.

As briefly mentioned already in this catalogue (see Lot 545), the new third young head design was adopted from 1870 on British Sovereigns. This obverse, coupled with the shield reverse design, was deemed by the Act to be used at the Colonial branch mints in Sydney and the new Melbourne mint, which was being constructed and was hoped to be ready for operation in 1871. In fact it was 1872 before the Melbourne mint could start its operation and for further information about Melbourne please see the introduction before Lot 744.

The Colonial branch Mints would add their own die letter beneath the shield design, under the junction of the laurel wreath. From 1871 the resurrection of the St George and dragon reverse Sovereigns occurred in Great Britain and at the Sydney mint, the latter having a letter S under the bust. Melbourne mint produced this reverse from 1872 and both of these branch mints struck both types of reverse for most years with the young head until 1887. The shield design was retained at the Australian branch mints as it was still the preferred coin in trade with India and Asia, while the St George reverse was preferred domestically. The mints were given the choice of which to strike according to demand, which is why some years do not exist for certain reverse types.

According to the publication *Royal Sovereign*, a Chinese General, Wong Yung Ho, visited the Melbourne mint in 1887 and confirmed that the shield design was preferred by the Indians when trading with the Orient. The Indians feared they would upset the Chinese if they paid for their wares with the St George reverse coin. This was because of the humiliating position of the Chinese national symbol the dragon under the horseman and therefore this reverse design was not generally seen in commerce in Asia.

The Quartermaster collection, sold in June 2009, with expert cataloguing by now retired dealer Barrie Winsor and Tony Richardson, revealed with detailed illustration for the first time in print the bust variations used on Australian shield reverse Sovereigns of Sydney and Melbourne. The 1871 S with WW incuse using the older style second type young head in the London series, with the subsequent third head style as mentioned previously in use on WW relief shield sovereigns from 1871 to 1880 at Sydney, with one further issue in 1882 and from 1872 to 1880 at Melbourne. However the Quartermaster collection transposes the naming of these busts, compared to that with which we are familiar in the British series. What is without doubt is that there is also a fourth bust variation with a higher hairline on the forehead, extra long hair behind the ear and variation again in the hair bun, which was used at Sydney and Melbourne from 1881 to 1887 and is illustrated and explained before the relevant lots. Additionally this bust was used on rare pattern or proof sovereigns of 1886 and 1887 without mint letter produced at the Royal Mint in London. For an example of the 1887 pattern issue with this bust see lot 302 in part one.

Sovereigns were produced for most years from 1855 to 1926 in one variety or another. The Half Sovereign was produced from 1855 too, and were last produced dated 1915.

The Bentley collection contains currency examples of all the known dates and practically all the reverse combinations, along with the sub-varieties known.

### Sydney Mint Imperial Type Victoria Young Head Sovereigns, Shield Reverse

The full description for the majority of young head shield reverse Sovereign of the Sydney mint follows:-



**Victoria (1837-1901), Sovereign, Sydney Branch mint, 1877 S**, engraved after William Wyon, third young head style left, with double fillet, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, toothed border and raised rim both sides, VICTORIA DEI GRATIA, *rev* struck with inverted die axis, engraved after Jean Baptiste Merlen, crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, tied with bow below shield, narrow crown arches not so acutely angled, each with eleven pearl adornment, five pearls vertically arranged on central upright, wreath of 24 leaves each side, each terminate with two leaves at top, seven harp strings in taller Irish arms, first left string from scroll at back of female figure, emblems below, small rosette either side, BRITANNIARUM REGINA FID: DEF: Mint letter M below, emblems below, edge milled

Abbreviated descriptions of the Sydney Sovereigns based on that above, follow here, the first coin of 1871 is somewhat different to the majority as demonstrated below.

### The Initial Imperial Type Sovereign of the Sydney Mint



**654 G Victoria (1837-1901), Sovereign, 1871 S**, young head left, the same as used in the second bust at the Royal Mint London, wide rear hair fillet with bottom line defined by a raised line, ww incuse without stops on truncation, date below, letter V slightly filled, raised die flaw from neck to rim to left of date, some light die flaws in legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below, emblems below, hint of doubling in legend, 7.99g (McD 118b; QM 46 S; Marsh 69; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). *Toned with some light surface marks, otherwise good extremely fine, on par with the Quartermaster collection example.* £400-600

ex Kurt Jaggard Coins, Sydney, Australia, purchased 30 May 2002

Calendar year mintage 2,814,000 which includes St George reverse design pieces.

This obverse bust is the same as the second young head in the London series that was in use from 1848-1869. It is therefore a very late usage of this bust and the die may have been made much earlier than 1871 in anticipation of the new mint opening at Sydney, perhaps engraved during 1869 when this head was still in common use at the Royal Mint in London.



#### W.W. in relief truncation

- 655** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871 S, third young head left, more narrow rear hair fillet without defining line, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, 7 over a lower 7, letter A's doubled, raised die flaw from D to rim and another from rim to neck at 1 of date, some die clashing evident with elements of reverse design showing as raised features on obverse, at bridge of nose and under chin, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below, die flaw by mint mark and in parts of legend, 7.99g (McD 118a; QM 45 S; Marsh 69; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). *Toned with some light surface marks, otherwise good extremely fine and rare.* £400-600

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 29 June 1990  
Calendar year mintage 2,814,000 which includes St George reverse design pieces.



- 656** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872 S, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, raised die flaw from D to rim and C to rim, another from rim to neck at 1 of date, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below, die flaw by mint mark and in parts of legend and wreath, 7.98g (McD 119; QM 47 S; Marsh 70; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). *Toned with some light surface marks, otherwise good extremely fine and scarce.* £400-600

ex Kurt Jaggard Coins, Sydney, Australia, purchased 30 May 2002  
Calendar year mintage 1,815,000 which includes St George reverse design pieces.



- 657** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1873 S, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, raised die flaw at IA of queen's name, runs to rim from I, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below, whole legend with light raised die flaws, 7.99g (McD 121; QM 50 S; Marsh 71; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). *Toned with some light surface marks, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine and scarce.* £400-600

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 29 June 1990  
Calendar year mintage 1,478,000 which includes St George reverse design pieces.



- 658** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1875 S, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below, 7.98g (McD 123; QM 52 S; Marsh 72; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). *A couple of tiny digs and some light surface marks, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine and scarce.* £400-600

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 13 August 1992  
Calendar year mintage 2,122,000 which includes St George reverse design pieces. There were no 1876 S Shield reverse sovereigns struck, only St George type.





**low letter "S" touches rose**

- 659** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1877 S, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, die flaws in parts of last two words, penultimate I flawed to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below lower touching rose, some doubling in legend, 7.98g (McD 124; QM 53 S; Marsh 73; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine and scarce.* £400-600

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 18 January 1990

Calendar year mintage 1,590,000 all shield type as no St George reverse was struck this year or the next.



- 660** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1878 S, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, lightly die flawed, V slightly filled, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below, 7.97g (McD 125; QM 54 S; Marsh 74; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). *Once polished with associated light surface marks, otherwise good very fine / extremely fine and scarce.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 18 July 1990

Calendar year mintage 1,259,000 all shield type as no St George reverse was struck this year or the previous.



- 661** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1878 S, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, die flaw like a stop after V of queen's name so it appears to read v.ICTORIA, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below, 7.95g (cf McD.125; QM 54 S; Marsh 74; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). *Some light deposit around rim, light scuffs and surface marks, good fine and an oddity.* £300-400

ex St James's Auction 6, 8 June 2007, lot 577

Calendar year mintage 1,259,000 all shield type as no St George reverse was struck this year or the previous.

The pellet type die flaw is reminiscent of some other similar varieties seen in the British series, most notably the O.NE Penny of 1897 which sells for quite a premium.



**"S" struck over a lower "S"**

- 662** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1879 S, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, open C in queen's name, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below, S appears to be over a higher S, 7.95g (McD 126; QM 55 S; Marsh 75; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). *Surface marks, good fine to almost very fine and unusual.* £300-400

ex A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd, purchased November 2008

Calendar year mintage 1,366,000 which includes St George reverse design pieces.



**so-called "C" over "O" variety**

- 663** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1879 S, so-called C over O variety, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, lightly die flawed, letter C in queen's name appears die flawed as does letter T, letter D and penultimate A both with die flaws to rim like the C, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below, 7.99g (McD 126, note d and p.57; QM 56 R7; Marsh 75; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). *Light surface marks, good extremely fine and finer than the Quartermaster specimen which in 2009 was thought to be unique, this cataloguer has seen three specimens thus far, extremely rare variation of which this is the best the he has seen.* £1000-1500

Calendar year mintage 1,366,000 which includes St George reverse design pieces.

This "variety" was catalogued in the Quartermaster collection for the first time and now appears in the McDonald publication as "two known" with a valuation in VF at AUD\$9,500 (or £6,350). However, this cataloguer has seen three specimens. Rather than being a definite letter O under the C, it appears more likely that the C is die flawed closed as the raised die flaw continues from the top of the C to the rim. This is not the only letter to demonstrate a flaw from its top to rim as the dies were weakening and beginning to break down. The variety nevertheless is little known and seems to sell for a premium as an interesting variation to a normal 1879 S shield sovereign.



- 664** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1880 S, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, lightly flawed on figure 1, letter G die flawed to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below, S flawed as is last letter D of legend, 7.99g (McD 127; QM 57 S; Marsh 76; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). *Light surface marks, extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Noble Numismatics Sale 66, 28 March 2001, lot 1264

Calendar year mintage 1,459,000 which includes St George reverse design pieces.

## The Extremely Rare Inverted A in VICTORIA 1880 Sydney Sovereign



**inverted "A" for "V"**

- 665** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1880 S, inverted A for V in legend, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, some light die flaws in legend and date both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below, 7.99g (McD 127a; QM 58 R5; cf Marsh 76; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). *Light surface marks, brilliant good extremely fine and appears to be on par with the Quartermaster specimen of this great rarity.* £3000-4000

ex Spink and Son, purchased 6 February 2002

Calendar year mintage 1,459,000 which includes St George reverse design pieces.

This is a genuine legend error and truly rare variety that is still only demonstrated by a few specimens. The engraver in haste, or due to lack of sharpness in eyesight or poor daylight, has clearly selected an A punch rather than a V when stamping in the letters onto the obverse die; or perhaps the correct punch could not be located in time. He and his superiors either did not notice or could not afford to waste a valuable die for a tiny error, the legacy of which has passed to us as an interesting true variety in the coinage of 1880. Similar inverted A for V varieties occur in the British Sovereign series too and it is one of the more spectacular variations that can occur on a coin and of great rarity.

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates this coin as AUNC at a valuation of AU\$17,000 (or £11,350)

## A New Style Portrait at the Sydney Mint



From 1881-1887, with the shield reverse, the fourth bust style comes into use at Sydney and at Melbourne. The main defining characteristics are the much higher hairline, which if extended up would meet the centre of the letter A in the legend. Behind the ear there is a distinctly longer curling strand of hair compared to those either side of it. The hair at the rear of the hair bun is perhaps a little finer engraved in the strands and there is a slightly larger gap from the G of legend to the hair bun. Additionally the tip of the neck at the front is more sharply pointed than the previous busts. Note that for 1882 dated shield reverse coins at Sydney that this new bust and the previous one exist together.



**666** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1881 S, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation which is more truncated with a pointed tip at front, hair behind ear with longer strand, hairline higher on forehead, date below, lightly flawed on figure 1 from neck to rim, last letter I die flawed to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below, 7.99g (McD 129; QM 60 S; Marsh 77; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). *Light surface marks, dusky tone, good extremely fine and scarce.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 1,360,000 which includes St George reverse design pieces.



**667** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1882 S, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below, first letters R and E of legend die flawed, 7.97g (McD 131; QM -; Marsh 78; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). *Obverse rim nick and nick in cheek, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine and scarce.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 18 July 1990

Calendar year mintage 1,298,000 which includes St George reverse design pieces.

It is interesting to note the Quartermaster collection did not contain an example of the newer portrait 1882 S shield sovereign QM62, by contrast the Bentley Collection does not contain the 1882 S shield with the earlier third head obverse, one of the few varieties not present in the Australian currency shield reverse series.





668



669

**668** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1883 S, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below, low mint letter near rose, 7.97g (McD 133; QM 64 S; Marsh 79; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). *Struck from very yellow coloured gold, suggesting high silver content in the alloy, dig on 8 of date other light marks, otherwise good extremely fine and unusual, scarce.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 31 July 1990  
Calendar year mintage 1,108,000 which includes St George reverse design pieces.

**669** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1884 S, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, lightly die flawed date and legend both sides, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below, 7.98g (McD 135; QM 66 C; Marsh 80; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). *Toned with light surface marks, good extremely fine and scarce.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 1,595,000 which includes St George reverse design pieces.



**670** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1885 S, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, lightly die flawed legend both sides, D flawed to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below, low mint letter near rose, 7.99g (McD 137; QM 68 S; Marsh 81; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). *Very attractive tone, some light bagmarks, otherwise practically as struck and scarce.* £600-800

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 18 January 1990  
Calendar year mintage 1,486,000 which includes St George reverse design pieces.



**671** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1886 S, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, lightly die flawed 6, last R flawed to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below, 7.99g (McD 139; QM 70 S; Marsh 82; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). *Light surface marks and hairlines, a few scratches on obverse, good extremely fine and scarce.* £400-500

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 22 March 1990  
Calendar year mintage 1,667,000 which includes St George reverse design pieces.



**672** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1887 S, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, lightly die flawed 7 to rim, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter S below, 7.98g (McD 141; QM 72 S; Marsh 83; KM 6; Fr 11; S 3855). *Light surface marks and uneven tone, otherwise practically as struck and scarce.* £400-600

ex International Acquisitions, Wellington, New Zealand, 22 January 2002  
Calendar year mintage 1,000,000 which includes St George reverse design pieces.

## Sydney Mint Imperial Type Victoria Young Head Sovereigns, St George and Dragon Reverse

The new St George and dragon reverse, a design resurrected from the reign of George IV, was introduced at Sydney in 1871 and Melbourne in 1872. Variation can occur in the portrait at the truncation, where the initials W.W. can either be “buried” within the truncation in relief without stops and therefore not fully apparent, or later versions which have the W.W. complete on truncation with stops and in relief.

The reverses show a lot more variation, only at Sydney the dates can appear to be more spread or closer in arrangement and the B.P. initials can vary in size. At both Sydney and Melbourne the initials can be complete or so incomplete that merely a trace exists. Some varieties have no trace of B.P. at all and the stop distances can vary too. Moving on from the exergue, St George can either have a cape with a complete hem line or some detachment. The dragon itself has varying claw arrangements between the upper and lower front arms both in number, shape and length, whether attached or not. Also earlier date coins have straighter claws, whereas some later dies have more curved claws. It is only from study of the Bentley collection herewith that the make-up of the die varieties has finally been determined.

The most major variation in the reverse designs is in the horse tails, till recently thought of as being either long tail or short tail. From research in the last decade in Australia and published properly in the Quartermaster collection catalogue, a so-called intermediate tail variety has become apparent. However from further study this cataloguer has determined that the medium tail should more correctly be termed a variation on the long tail specifically. It is evident that as the years passed by that the transfer from the master die of the St George long tail design became less well defined and the elements of the lowest strands of the tail and significantly the spur in the recess of the tail become much weaker. The lack of the strand terminals on the end of the tail make the distance from the lance larger, the hem of the cape on these pieces is less complete and the B.P. initials are also mere traces. The dragon claws can be more detached too, which explains why the short tail makes an appearance later as a new master die must have been employed. There are also two variations of the short tail design and the horse tail spurs, which can be thick or thin with single or multi-strands of hair. Some strands can curve either in towards or away from the main body of the tail. As mentioned above, the dragon will vary too in the claw arrangements, when there is a tail variation.

A full description of the St George reverse Sydney Sovereign is as follows



**Victoria (1837-1901), Sovereign, 1871 S, young head of third style left, engraved after William Wyon, bound with two fillets, letter S below, ww buried in truncation in relief, VICTORIA D: G: BRITANNIAR: REG: F: D: finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim both sides, *rev* inverted die axis, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, dragon claws four to left and four to right arm, the second on upper arm detached, horse with long tail ending in three strands, upper curve of tail with one spur of hair, broken lance on ground-line to left, *WWP* in relief under lance, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, edge milled**

Note that the hem of the cape of St George can be complete or a little disjointed too.

## The One Year Only Type Large B.P. 1871 Sydney Sovereign



**claws of 4/3 arrangement, short tail horse and wider date and large B.P.**

**673** ♀ **Victoria (1837-1901)**, Sovereign, 1871 S, short tail horse, young head of third style left, letter S below close to neck, ww buried in truncation in relief, trace of top of another ww at bottom, some letter R's with lower serifs joined, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, dragon claws four to left and three to right arm, the first on lower arm detached, horse with short tail ending in three strands, no spur of hair at upper curve of tail, date in exergue, widely spaced the 8 higher than rest, large B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 143; QM 74 S; Marsh 110A; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858). *Some light bagmarks, very fine and scarce, appears to compare well with the Quartermaster coin.* £300-400

ex Winsor and Sons, Jamberoo, NSW Australia, purchased January 2005

Calendar year mintage 2,814,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces.

The large B.P. variety only occurs at Sydney mint for this date, it is a one year only type, and is in combination with a more spread date. The obverse has a more defined WW buried in the truncation with a trace of another lower WW.



**claws of 4/4 arrangement and long tail horse**

**674** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1871 S, long tail horse, young head of third style left, letter S below close to neck, ww buried in truncation in relief, all letter R's with lower serifs joined, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, dragon claws four to left and four to right arm, the second on upper arm detached, the lowest claw on lower arm very short, horse with long tail ending in three strands, upper curve of tail with one spur of hair, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 143a; QM 75 R2; Marsh 110; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858A). *Some light bagmarks and hairlines, appears to be on par with the Quartermaster specimen, good extremely fine and very rare.* £1000-1500

ex Kurt Jaggard Coins, Sydney, Australia, purchased 30 May 2002

Calendar year mintage 2,814,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces.

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates this coin as AUNC at a valuation of AU\$4,900 (or £3,300)





**one stop only in B.P**

- 675** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872 S, young head of third style left, letter S below close to neck, ww buried in truncation in relief, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, upper curve of tail with one weak spur of hair, date in exergue, tiny B.P to upper right, last stop absent, 7.97g (McD 144; QM 76 S; Marsh 111; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858A). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine and scarce.* £350-450

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 2 June 1995  
Calendar year mintage 1,815,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces.



- 676** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1873 S, young head of third style left, letter S below, ww buried in truncation in relief, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, upper curve of tail with one spur of hair, date in exergue, lightly die flawed date, tiny B.P to upper right, last stop absent, 7.98g (McD 146; QM 78 S; Marsh 112; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858A). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise extremely fine and scarce.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 19 October 1991  
Calendar year mintage 1,478,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces.



- 677** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1874 S, young head of third style left, letter S below, ww buried in truncation in relief, last letter I flawed from rim to neck, all letter R's with lower serifs joined, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, upper curve of tail with one spur of hair, date in exergue, 4 slightly doubled, tiny B.P. to upper right, last stop distant, 7.99g (McD 148; QM 80 R; Marsh 113; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858A). *Some light bagmarks and surface marks, otherwise extremely fine and rare.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 2 June 1995  
Calendar year mintage 1,899,000 presumably mostly St George as there are no shield sovereigns of Sydney dated 1874.



- 678** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1875 S, young head of third style left, letter S below, ww buried in truncation in relief, all letter R's with lower serifs joined, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, upper curve of tail with one spur of hair, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, last stop distant, 7.98g (McD 150; QM 82 S; Marsh 114; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858A). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise toned extremely fine and scarce.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased c.1997  
Calendar year mintage 2,122,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces.



- 679** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1876 S, young head of third style left, letter S below doubled, ww buried in truncation in relief, all letter R's with lower serifs joined, some light raised die flaws in first half of legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, upper curve of tail with one spur of hair, date in exergue, lightly die flawed date, tiny B.P. to upper right, last stop distant, 7.98g (McD 152; QM 84 S; Marsh 115; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858A). *Light bagmarks, otherwise extremely fine and scarce.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 21 August 1992

Calendar year mintage 1,613,000 presumably mostly St George as there are no shield sovereigns of Sydney dated 1874. There are no St George reverse Sydney mint Sovereigns for both 1877 and 1878.



**"S" further from neck**

- 680** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1879 S, young head of third style left, letter S below further from neck, ww buried in truncation in relief, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, upper curve of tail with one spur of hair, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, last stop doubled, 8.00g (McD 156; QM 88 R; Marsh 116; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858A). *Some light bagmarks and other surface marks, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine and very rare.* £1000-1500

ex Monetarium, Kogarah, Australia, purchased 17 March 2003

Calendar year mintage 1,366,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces.

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates this coin as EF at a valuation of AU\$3,400 (or £2,300)



**"S" distant from neck and long tail with trace of one single strand spur**

- 681** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1880 S, young head of third style left, letter S below further from neck, ww buried in truncation in relief, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, upper curve of tail with one spur of hair, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 158; QM 91 S; Marsh 117; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858A). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine and scarce.* £300-400

ex Monetarium, Kogarah, Australia, purchased 17 March 2003

Calendar year mintage 1,459,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces.



**short tail with two short spurs and no B.P. variety**

- 682** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1880 S, short tail and no B.P. variety, young head of third style left, letter S below further from neck, ww buried in truncation in relief, some light flaws in parts of obverse legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, upper curve of tail with two short spurs of hair, date in exergue, blank exergue to upper right, 7.96g (McD 158a; QM -; Marsh 117; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858B). *Scuffed with surface marks, almost very fine and very rare, no example present in the Quartermaster collection.* £300-500

ex Reserve Bank of Australia Sale, Downies, November 2005, lot 1885, purchased through Winsor and Sons, December 2005

Calendar year mintage 1,459,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces.

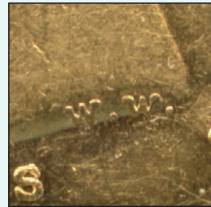


**W.W. complete on truncation and long tail with weak single strand spur at upper curve of tail**

- 683** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1880 S, second young head of third style left, letter S below further from neck, w.w. complete truncation in relief, *rev* die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, upper curve of tail with one weak single strand spur of hair, incomplete hem to cape, date in exergue, incomplete BP to upper right widely spaced no stops, 7.99g (McD 158b; QM 92 S; Marsh 117; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858C). *A few light nicks and surface marks, appears to be finer than the example in the Quartermaster collection, good extremely fine and rare.* £400-600

ex Monetarium, Kogarah, Australia, purchased 17 March 2003

Calendar year mintage 1,459,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces.



**W.W. complete on truncation and long tail with single strand spur at upper curve of tail**

- 684** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1880 S, second young head of third style left, letter S below further from neck, w.w. complete truncation in relief, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, upper curve of tail with one single strand spur of hair, date in exergue, a mere trace of BP to upper right, 7.98g (cf McD.158c; QM 93 S; Marsh 117B; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858F). *A few light nicks and surface marks, obverse rim nick, appears to be the same variety and finer than the example in the Quartermaster collection, a pleasing extremely fine and rare.* £400-600

ex Kurt Jaggard Coins, Sydney, Australia, purchased 22 October 2001

Calendar year mintage 1,459,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces.

The no BP varieties are usually blocked or weak BP dies, there are very few coins on which the BP is definitely absent like the coin in the next lot.



**no BP variety and short tail with two short single strand spurs**

- 685** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1881 S, short tail and no B.P. variety, young head of third style left, letter S below further from neck, ww buried in truncation in relief, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, cape hem complete, some light die flaws in field, horse with short tail, upper curve of tail with two single strand spurs of hair, date in exergue, blank exergue to upper right, 7.98g (McD 160; QM 95 S; Marsh 118B; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858B). *Some bagmarks, extremely fine / good extremely fine and appears finer than the Quartermaster collection coin and rare.* £350-450

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 29 June 1990

Calendar year mintage 1,459,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces.





**no B.P. variety and short tail with two short single strand spurs**

**686** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1881 S, short tail and no B.P. variety, second young head of third style left, letter S below further from neck, w.w. complete truncation in relief, hint of some doubling in legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, upper curve of tail with two single strand spurs of hair, date in exergue, blank exergue to upper right, 7.99g (McD 160a; QM 96 S; Marsh 118B; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858D). *Some bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine and appears finer than the Quartermaster collection coin and rare.* £400-600

ex Monetarium, Kogarah, Australia, purchased 17 March 2003

Calendar year mintage 1,459,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces.



**short tail with thick multi-strand spur**

**687** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1882 S, short tail with BP variety, second young head of third style left, letter S below further from neck, lightly die flawed, w.w. complete truncation in relief, third and fourth colons of legend die flawed to rim, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, upper curve of tail with thick spur of hair consisting of two strands, date in exergue, B with incomplete P to upper right, no stops, 7.98g (McD 162a; QM 101 S; Marsh 119; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858E). *Some bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine and appears finer than the Quartermaster collection coin and rare.* £400-600

ex Monetarium, Kogarah, Australia, purchased 17 March 2003

Calendar year mintage 1,298,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces.



**thick multi-strand spur at upper curve of tail and weaker hem to cape**

**688** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1882 S, short tail with no BP variety, second young head of third style left, letter S below further from neck, w.w. complete truncation in relief, D G doubled, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, upper curve of tail with thick spur of hair consisting of two strands, weak hem to cape, date in exergue, 2 rotated out of line slightly, blank to upper right, no stops, 7.99g (McD 162; QM 100 S; Marsh -; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858D). *Some bagmarks and digs, dig by first 8, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine and appears finer than the Quartermaster collection coin and rare.* £400-600

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 18 September 1995

Calendar year mintage 1,298,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces.



**spur of two parallel strands of hair at upper curve of tail and complete hem to cape**

**689** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1883 S, short tail with BP variety, second young head of third style left, letter S below, w.w. complete truncation in relief, die flaw near initials, another flaw to left of third I, D G doubled, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, upper curve of tail with spur of hair consisting of two long parallel strands, complete hem to cape, date in exergue, BP with no stops, 7.98g (McD 164; QM 105 R; Marsh 120; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858E). *Some light marks and digs, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine and appears to be on par with the Quartermaster collection coin and rare.* £400-600

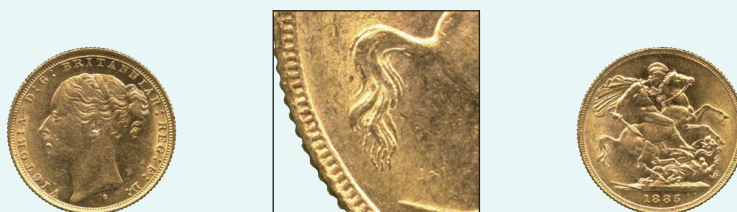
ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 7 January 1995  
Calendar year mintage 1,108,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces.



**short horse tail with thin hair spur in upper curve**

**690** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1884 S, short tail with BP variety, second young head of third style left, letter S below, w.w. complete truncation in relief, light flaw to left of fourth I, D G doubled, light flaw in queen's name, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, upper curve of tail with thin strand of hair and trace of another higher one, complete hem to cape, date in exergue, BP incomplete with no stops, 7.98g (McD 166; QM 109 S; Marsh 121; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858E). *Some light marks and hairlines, otherwise good extremely fine and appears to be more attractive than the Quartermaster collection coin and scarce.* £400-600

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 18 January 1990  
Calendar year mintage 1,595,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces.



**short horse tail with thin hair spur angled more outward**

**691** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1885 S, short tail with BP variety, second young head of third style left, letter S below, w.w. complete truncation in relief, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, upper curve of tail with thin strand of hair angled more outward, complete hem to cape, date in exergue, BP with no stops, 7.99g (McD 168; QM 112 S; Marsh 122; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858E). *Some light bagmarks, nicks and hairlines, otherwise good extremely fine and appears to be finer than the Quartermaster collection coin and scarce.* £400-600

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 2 June 1995  
Calendar year mintage 1,486,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces.

This reverse die has a different treatment to the 1884 in the preceding lot, the thin strand spur of hair halfway up the tail is angled more outwards, with a thin short strand above it, unlike the 1884 which is less angled with a mere stump of hair above. The tail terminates in three strands of hair and to the left of this is a strand of shorter hair and folded towards the three strands at termination.



- 692** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1886 S, short tail with BP variety, second young head of third style left, letter S below, w.w. complete truncation in relief, some light die flaws in letters at beginning and end of legend, D G doubled, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, upper curve of tail with thin strand of hair and trace of another higher one, complete hem to cape, date in exergue, BP with no stops, the P weak and incomplete, 7.98g (McD 170; QM 116 S; Marsh 123; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858E). *Some light bagmarks, obverse rim nick, reverse brilliant, otherwise good extremely fine and appears to be on par with the Quartermaster collection coin but with a better reverse, scarce.* £400-600

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 12 November 1990

Calendar year mintage 1,667,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces. This 1886 reverse has the same tail arrangement as the 1884 in lot 690.



- 693** *G* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1887 S, short tail with BP variety, second young head of third style left, letter S below, w.w. complete truncation in relief, light die flaws in some letters in legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, die flaw from St George helmet to rim, horse with short tail, upper curve of tail with thin strand of hair and trace of another higher one, complete hem to cape, date in exergue, the 7 with a serif foot at top right, BP with no stops, the P weak and incomplete, 7.98g (McD 172; QM 118 S; Marsh 124; KM 7; Fr 15; S 3858E). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine and appears to be on par with the Quartermaster collection coin, scarce.* £400-600

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 18 July 1990

Calendar year mintage 1,000,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces. This 1887 reverse has the same tail arrangement as the 1884 in lot 690 and 1886 in the preceding lot.

The Melbourne mint St George Sovereign of 1887 in Lot 786 also has this 7 with the extra serif foot at top. The same punch must have been used to prepare both dies at the Royal Mint in London.



## Sydney Mint Victoria Jubilee Type Sovereigns

The Golden Jubilee of Victoria's reign occurred in 1887, bringing a change to the coinage with a more up to date and mature portrait of the Queen wearing a tiny crown with veil. Both the Sydney and Melbourne mints seamlessly swapped over to the new design, with the same quirks as the London mint pieces, in that there are two varieties of legend spacing in relation to the bust which has its own variations on the initials on the truncation. The reverses also venture through two different types of tail.

The standard full description for a Jubilee type Sovereign of Queen Victoria at the Sydney mint is as follows:-



**Victoria (1837-1901)**, Sovereign, 1887 S, Melbourne mint, engraved by Joseph Edgar Boehm, Jubilee tall veiled bust left with older features, veil with two rows of crenellations, with small Imperial crown, large fleurs inside, top cross on field intrudes the border, wearing 13 pearl necklace, brooch at front with relief jewel, half a garter star at base of bust under sash, decorated border to dress bust, small spread J.E.B. fully on truncation arranged in a straight line with a hooked J, first type legend further from crown, two pearl drop ear ring, VICTORIA D:G: BRITT: REG: F: D:, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim both sides, outer rim blends with teeth, *rev* struck en médaille, after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, streamer to helmet, complete hem to cape, extra mane hair above hand holding rein, horse with short tail, three strand end to tail, two spurs of extra hair on curve of tail, dragon with three claws to left and three to right arm, trace of fourth claw, all attached, broken lance on ground-line to left, WWP in relief under lance, S mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, edge milled

## An Extremely Rare Proof 1887 Sydney Mint Sovereign



**694 ♀ Victoria (1837-1901)**, Proof Specimen Sovereign, 1887 S, Jubilee tall veiled and crowned bust left with older features, top cross of crown touches linear circle, wearing 13 pearl necklace, initials J.E.B. fully on truncation in a straight line but curving up towards shoulder, hooked J doubled, first type legend with G: further from crown, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised prominent rim both sides, *rev* struck en médaille, St George slaying dragon with sword, streamer to helmet, horse with short tail, three strand end to tail, two extra spurs of hair on upper curve of tail, dragon with three claws to upper and four to lower arm, the second lower claw detached, S mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, edge milled, 7.97g (McD 174; QM -; Marsh -; KM 10; Fr 19; cf S 3868A). *Two tiny rim nicks on reverse, very light scratch in hair, perhaps from light polishing, more yellow to orange colour than a currency piece, well defined and otherwise good extremely fine and extremely rare.* £15,000-25,000

ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates this coin as Proof at a valuation of AU\$195,000 (or £131,000). This coin has seen light polishing, hence the low estimate, but it is extremely rare and the Quartermaster collection did not contain an example. The Bentley Collection contains two examples.



**tiny small spread J.E.B. with hooked "J"**

**695** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1887 S, Jubilee crowned bust left, tiny initials J.E.B. fully on truncation arcing towards perimeter, hooked J with doubled B, first type legend with G: further from crown, some light die flaws in parts, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, streamer to helmet, horse with short tail, dragon with three / four arrangement of claws, S mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 174; QM 124 R; Marsh 138A; KM 10; Fr 19; S 3868). *Some light surface marks, a pleasing extremely fine / good extremely fine and rare.* £400-600

Calendar year mintage 1,002,000

### Proof-like 1887 Sydney Mint Sovereign with JEB initials in arc



**696** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1887 S, Jubilee tall veiled and crowned bust left with older features, top cross of crown touches linear circle, wearing 13 pearl necklace, small initials J.E.B. fully on truncation, arranged in a slight arc, hooked J with doubled B and therefore larger, the E a little blundered, first type legend with G: further from crown, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised prominent rim both sides, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, streamer to helmet, horse with short tail, dragon with three / four arrangement of claws, S mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, edge milled, 7.99g (McD 174; QM 124 R; Marsh 138A; KM 10; Fr 19; S 3868). *Toned a few very light marks, otherwise as struck with a specimen-like finish and rare.* £600-800

Calendar year mintage 1,002,000

This coin is not dissimilar to the specimen proof offered in Lot 694 on account of the overall finish of the coin. However it is not quite as well defined in the smallest detail of the design, the J.E.B. is malformed and the brooch above is also unclear.



### larger repositioned J.E.B. with hooked J and larger stops

**697** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1887 S, Jubilee crowned bust left, larger initials J.E.B. fully on truncation in a straight line, hooked J with large stops, first type legend with G: further from crown, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, S mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 174; QM -; cf Marsh 138A; KM 10; Fr 19; S 3868). *Patchy red tone, light surface marks, almost extremely fine / extremely fine and rare, no matching type in the Quartermaster collection.* £350-450

Calendar year mintage 1,002,000



### B.P initials – no second stop

**698** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1888 S, Jubilee crowned bust left, small spread J.E.B. fully on truncation, reading in a straight line towards shoulder, hooked J, first type legend with G: further from crown, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, die flaw from rim to top of horse head, horse with short tail, S mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, the last stop absent, 7.98g (McD 176; QM 129 S; Marsh 139; KM 10; Fr 19; S 3868A). *Some hairline scratches on reverse, otherwise weak extremely fine to extremely fine and scarce.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 2,187,000



### normal J.E.B. with angled "J" fully on truncation

**699** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1888 S, Jubilee crowned bust left, J.E.B. fully on truncation with right-angled J, first type legend with G: further from crown, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, S mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, the last stop absent, 7.99g (McD 176b; QM 131 S; Marsh 139; KM 10; Fr 19; S 3868). *Some light bagmarks and other surface marks, otherwise weak extremely fine to extremely fine and scarce.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 2,187,000



### second repositioned legend detail

**700** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1888 S, second legend, Jubilee crowned bust left, J.E.B. fully on truncation with right-angled J, second type legend with G: closer to crown, which does not intrude border circle, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, S mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, the last stop absent, 7.99g (McD 176c; QM 132 C; Marsh 139; KM 10; Fr 19; S 3868B). *Rim nick on reverse and other very light marks, otherwise weak extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Ebay purchase, 21 February 2002  
Calendar year mintage 2,187,000





**thick tail spur of twin strands and dragon claws of 4/4 arrangement**

- 701** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1889 S, first legend, Jubilee crowned bust left, J.E.B. fully on truncation with right-angled J, first type legend with G: further from crown, some light die flaws in latter half of legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, now with one thick spur of hair at upper curve made up of two strands of hair, dragon claws fully attached, with four claws on both arms, S mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, the last stop absent, 7.99g (McD 178; QM 135 S; cf Marsh 140; KM 10; Fr 19; S 3868A). *Some light surface marks, otherwise good extremely fine and scarce.* £400-600

ex Ebay purchase, 21 February 2002. Calendar year mintage 3,262,000



**lower arm, fourth claw weaker**

- 702** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1889 S, second legend, Jubilee crowned bust left, J.E.B. fully on truncation with right-angled J, second type legend with G: closer to crown, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, now with one thick spur of hair at upper curve, lower arm of dragon with weak fourth claw, S mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, the last stop absent, 7.99g (McD 178a; QM -; cf Marsh 140; KM 10; Fr 19; S 3868A). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise practically as struck and extremely rare, no specimen present in the Quartermaster collection.* £400-600

Calendar year mintage 3,262,000



**two extra spurs of hair on tail and dragon claws of 3/4 arrangement, the second lower detached**

- 703** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1890 S, first legend, Jubilee crowned bust left, J.E.B. fully on truncation with right-angled J, first type legend with G: further from crown, some light die flaws in legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, with two extra spurs of hair at upper curve, dragon claws with three on upper and four on lower arms, the second claw on the lower arm detached, S mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, the last stop absent, 7.99g (McD 180; QM 139 S; Marsh 141; KM 10; Fr 19; S 3868A). *Once cleaned, with light surface marks, a weak extremely fine and rare.* £300-400

ex A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd sourced via Paul Davies Ltd, September 2006. Calendar year mintage 2,808,000



- 704** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1890 S, second legend, Jubilee crowned bust left, J.E.B. fully on truncation with right-angled J, second type legend with G: closer to crown, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, with two extra spurs of hair at upper curve, S mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, the last stop absent, 7.99g (McD 180a; QM 140-1 S; Marsh 141; KM 10; Fr 19; S 3868B). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine and scarce.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 12 November 1990. Calendar year mintage 2,808,000



**doubled "S" resembles a figure "9"**

**705** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1890 S, second legend, Jubilee crowned bust left, J.E.B. fully on truncation with right-angled J, second type legend with G: closer to crown, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, with two extra spurs of hair at upper curve, S mint mark at centre of ground flawed and resembling a number 9, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, the last stop absent, 7.95g (cf McD 180a; QM 140-1 S; Marsh 141; KM 10; Fr 19; S 3868B). *Toned with many surface marks, good fine and unusual.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 2,808,000



**longer strands in helmet streamer and four curved claws attached to each arm**

**706** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1891 S, long horse tail, Jubilee crowned bust left, J.E.B. fully on truncation with right-angled J, second type legend, light die flaws in queen's name, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet streamer consists of longer strands, light die flaw from rim to helmet, horse with long tail, with one extra spur of hair at upper curve, dragon claws now with four curved claws on each arm all attached, S mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny complete B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 182; QM 143 C; Marsh 142; KM 10; Fr 19; S 3868C). *Some light bagmarks and surface marks, otherwise extremely fine /good extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased December 1990

Calendar year mintage 2,596,000. The legend type from 1891-1893 is always of the second repositioned type.



**long horse tail with one extra spur and "S" struck over a lower "S"**

**707** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1892 S, long horse tail, Jubilee crowned bust left, J.E.B. fully on truncation with right-angled J, second type legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, with one extra spur of hair at upper curve, dragon claws now with four curved claws on each arm all attached, S mint mark at centre of ground, S struck over a lower S, date in exergue, widely spread figures, tiny complete B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 184; QM 146 S; Marsh 143; KM 10; Fr 19; S 3868C). *Some light bagmarks and hairlines, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 12 November 1990

Calendar year mintage 2,837,000



**B.P. complete**

**708** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1893 S, long horse tail, Jubilee crowned bust left, J.E.B. fully on truncation with right-angled J, second type legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, with one extra spur of hair at upper curve, S mint mark at centre of ground, S struck over a lower S, date in exergue, date lower in exergue than previous years appearing more spread, tiny complete B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 186; QM 148-9 S; Marsh 144; KM 10; Fr 19; S 3868C). *Some light bagmarks, scratch on cheek, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Charles Stueve, Abbeygate Coins, Westhampton Beach, New York, c.1990

Calendar year mintage 1,498,000. The Jubilee head at Sydney and Melbourne both occur dated 1893, whereas London does not, having already swapped to the new old head design entirely by 1893. The Colonial Branch mints in Australia did not receive their old head dies until much later than the local demand dictated for the striking of gold. Therefore these two mints carried on with the Jubilee head production in 1893. At Sydney there were more Jubilee head pieces dated 1893 than the new old head pieces. It was the other way around for these types at Melbourne.

### Sydney Mint Victoria Old Head Type Sovereigns

The old head type design commenced on the coinage in 1893 after a gestation of just over two years. This was a direct reaction to public criticism of the Jubilee type design, culminating in comment from the Queen herself on her own displeasure of the small crowned bust. The British Royal Mint introduced the new design on coinage dated from 1893 and whole proof sets containing all the designs were available to purchase.

For more information on the design process of the old head see part one of the Bentley Collection, before Lot 335. At this time the only Colonial Branch Mints in operation were the Sydney and Melbourne mints. They received the new design much later in the year and had already struck many Sovereigns of the older Jubilee type design in both mints. Sydney in fact struck more of the old design than the new old head for coins dated 1893, Melbourne vice versa. The full description of such a coin is as follows.



**Victoria (1837-1901)**, Sovereign, 1896 S, Sydney Branch mint, engraved by Thomas Brock, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, VICTORIA D:G: BRITT: REG: F: D: IND: IMP:; toothed border surrounding, *rev* struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, three strand streamer on helmet, horse with long tail, three strand end to tail, one spur of extra hair on curve of tail, dragon with four claws on each arm, broken lance on ground-line to left, WWP in relief under lance, S mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim, edge milled



## 1893 S Old Head Sovereign Muled with the Reverse of the 1893 S Jubilee Head issue



**one extra spur of hair in upper curve of tail and four long curved claws on each arm**

**709** ♀ **Victoria (1837-1901)**, Sovereign, 1893 S, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, toothed border surrounding, raised die flaws in some words in legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, one spur of extra hair on curve of tail, dragon with four curved claws attached on each arm, S mint mark at base of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim, 7.99g (McD 189; QM 151 C; Marsh 162; KM 13; Fr 23; S 3877). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine and appears to be on par with the Quartermaster coin.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 7 June 1996

Calendar year mintage 1,346,000. This coin shares the same reverse die as the Jubilee head issue and is technically a mule.



**710** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1894 S, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, toothed border surrounding, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, tiny thin hair spur in upper curve of tail, dragon with four shorter curved claws attached on each arm, die flaw at front raised leg of horse, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 8.00g (McD 191; QM 153 C; Marsh 163; KM 13; Fr 23; S 3877). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine and appears to be on par with the Quartermaster coin.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 29 June 1990

Calendar year mintage 3,067,000



**711** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1895 S, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, toothed border surrounding, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 193; QM 155 C; Marsh 164; KM 13; Fr 23; S 3877). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine and appears to be on par with the Quartermaster coin.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 29 June 1990

Calendar year mintage 2,758,000



**712** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1896 S, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, toothed border surrounding, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, raised die flaw from lance to rim, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 195; QM 158 S; Marsh 165 S; KM 13; Fr 23; S 3877). *Some light bagmarks, dig on right side of ground-line, otherwise brilliant good extremely fine and appears to be finer than the Quartermaster coin.* £300-350

ex David L Cannon collection, Cincinnati, Ohio, USA, purchased 19 September 1989

Calendar year mintage 2,544,000



- 713** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1897 S, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, toothed border surrounding, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 197; QM 161 S; Marsh 166; KM 13; Fr 23; S 3877). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine and appears to be finer than the Quartermaster coin.* £300-350  
Calendar year mintage 2,532,000



- 714** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1898 S, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, toothed border surrounding, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 199; QM 163 S; Marsh 167; KM 13; Fr 23; S 3877). *Some light bagmarks and nicks, otherwise good extremely fine and appears to be on par with the Quartermaster coin.* £300-350  
Calendar year mintage 2,548,000



- 715** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1899 S, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, toothed border surrounding, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 201; QM 165 C; Marsh 168; KM 13; Fr 23; S 3877). *Quite bagmarked, otherwise brilliant good extremely fine and appears to be on par with the Quartermaster coin.* £300-350  
ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 29 June 1990  
Calendar year mintage 3,259,000



716



717

- 716** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1900 S, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, toothed border surrounding, some light die flaws in first half of obverse legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, only a trace of extra spur of hair at upper curve, S mint mark at base of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 204; QM 168 C; Marsh 169; KM 13; Fr 23; S 3877). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine and appears to be on par with the Quartermaster coin.* £300-350  
ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased October 1990  
Calendar year mintage 3,586,000. This represents the highest calendar year output for the old head design in the Sydney series.

- 717** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1901 S, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, toothed border surrounding, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 207; QM 171 C; Marsh 170; KM 13; Fr 23; S 3877). *Quite bagmarked, otherwise brilliant good extremely fine and appears to be finer than the Quartermaster coin.* £300-350  
ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased October 1990  
Calendar year mintage 3,012,000  
Queen Victoria died on 22 January 1901

**The Reign of King Edward VII (1901-1910)**  
**House of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha**

**Born:** 9 November 1841

**Accession:** 22 January 1901

**Married:** Alexandra of Denmark 10 March 1863

**Coronation:** Saturday, 9 August 1902

**Children:** three sons, three daughters

**Died:** 6 May 1910, aged 68



**718** ♀ **Edward VII (1901-10)**, Sovereign, 1902 S, Sydney mint, engraved by George William De Saulles, bare head facing right, Des. below, toothed border and raised rim, EDWARDVS VII D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, *rev* struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, cloak with complete hemline, two stand helmet streamer, horse with long tail, ending in three strands, with one spur higher up at curve, broken lance on ground-line to left, *WWP* in relief under lance, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim, edge milled, 7.98g (McD 210; QM 178 (part); KM 15; Fr 32; Marsh 204; S 3973). *A myriad of nicks and surface marks mainly on obverse, dig by cape, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £300-350

ex David L Cannon collection, Cincinnati, Ohio, USA, purchased 19 September 1989  
 Calendar year mintage 2,813,000



**719** ♀ **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1903 S, bare head facing right, Des. below doubled, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 213; QM 179 (part); KM 15; Fr 32; Marsh 205; S 3973). *Unevenly toned with light bagmarks, two short scratches on beard, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 2,806,000





- 720** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1904 S, bare head facing right, Des. below, raised die flaw at top of second D and RE of legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 216; QM 180 (part); KM 15; Fr 32; Marsh 206; S 3973). *Rim nick on reverse, surface marks and hairlines, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Robert Reed collection, Los Angeles, USA c.1990  
Calendar year mintage 2,986,000



- 721** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1905 S, bare head facing right, Des. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, some light die flaws around date and initials, 8.00g (McD 219; QM 181 (part); KM 15; Fr 32; Marsh 207; S 3973). *Serious obverse bagmarks, scuffed, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 2,778,000



- 722** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1906 S, bare head facing right, Des. below, light raised die flaw in REX, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, light die flaw at top of 0, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 222; QM 182 (part); KM 15; Fr 32; Marsh 208; S 3973). *A few light bagmarks and nicks, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Robert Reed collection, Los Angeles, USA c.1990  
Calendar year mintage 2,792,000.



- 723** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1907 S, bare head facing right, Des. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, S mint mark on bottom of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 225; QM 183 (part); KM 15; Fr 32; Marsh 209; S 3973). *A few light bagmarks, nicks and other marks, larger scuff on cheek, lovely reverse, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased September 1991  
Calendar year mintage 2,539,000



- 724** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1908 S, bare head facing right, Des. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, raised die flaw from lance to rim, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 228; QM 184 (part); KM 15; Fr 32; Marsh 210; S 3973). *A few light surface marks and nicks, scratch by initial E of legend, with a superb reverse, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 2,017,000



- 725** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1909 S, bare head facing right, Des. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 231; QM 185 (part); KM 15; Fr 32; Marsh 211; S 3973). *A few light bagmarks, nicks and hairlines, otherwise extremely fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 2,057,000



- 726** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1910 S, bare head facing right, Des. below, light die flaw at second D of legend and following word, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 234; QM 186 (part); KM 15; Fr 32; Marsh 212; S 3973). *A few light nicks and hairlines, lightly scratched at rear of ear, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 2,135,000  
King Edward VII died on 6 May 1910

**The Reign of King George V (1910-1936)**  
House of Windsor

Born: 3 June 1865

Accession: 6 May 1910

Married: Mary of Teck, 6 July 1893

Coronation: Thursday, 22 June 1911,  
second Coronation as Emperor of India at  
the Delhi Durbar, Tuesday, 12 December 1911

Children: five sons, one daughter

Died: 20 January 1936, aged 70



727 9 **George V (1910-1936)**, Sovereign, 1911 S, Sydney mint, designed by Edgar Bertram Mackennal, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, toothed border and raised rim, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, *rev* struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with three strand streamer, horse with long tail, ending in three strands, with one spur higher up at curve, broken lance on ground-line to left, *WWP* in relief under lance, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim, edge milled, 7.98g (McD 237; QM 187; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh 271; S 4003). *A few light bagmarks, otherwise practically as struck.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 14 January 1992  
Calendar year mintage 2,519,000





- 728** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1912 S, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 240; QM 188; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh 272; S 4003). *A few light hairlines and surface marks, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 14 January 1992  
Calendar year mintage 2,227,000



- 729** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1913 S, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 243; QM 189; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh 273; S 4003). *Some very light marks, uncirculated, previously graded by PCGS as MS64.* £300-400

ex Ebay purchase 2002  
Calendar year mintage 2,2349,000



- 730** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1914 S, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and smaller, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 246; QM 190; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh 274; S 4003). *Some light nicks on neck and reverse field, otherwise practically as struck.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 10 June 1991  
Calendar year mintage 1,774,000



- 731** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1915 S, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and smaller, lightly die flawed in some letters of legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 249; QM 191; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh 275 S; S 4003). *Some light nicks on neck, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 10 June 1991  
Calendar year mintage 1,346,000



- 732** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1916 S, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and smaller, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 252; QM 192; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh 276; S 4003). *Some light marks on head, reverse rim nick, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased c.1997  
Calendar year mintage 1,242,000



- 733** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1917 S, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and smaller, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 255; QM 193; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh 277; S 4003). *Bagmarks and nicks both sides, scratch on cloak, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 10 June 1991  
Calendar year mintage 1,666,000



- 734** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1918 S, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and smaller, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 258; QM 194; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh 278; S 4003). *Just a few light hairlines, very pleasing, uncirculated.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased c.1997  
Calendar year mintage 3,716,000



- 735** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1919 S, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and smaller, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 261; QM 195; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh 279; S 4003). *Some light surface marks and bagmarks, good extremely fine.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 1,835,000



## The Legendary 1920 Sydney Mint Sovereign



- 736 9 George V, Sovereign, 1920 S, Sydney mint, by Edgar Bertram MacKennal, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and smaller, toothed border on obverse, GEORGIVS V D. G. BRITT: OMN: REX F. D. IND: IMP:, rev struck en médaille, by Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, broken lance on ground-line to left, WWP in relief under lance, S in relief on ground-line at centre, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, grained border in linear circle surrounding, edge milled, 7.99g, 22.1mm (McD 264; cf Quartermaster 196; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh 280 R4; S 4003). Struck from a rusted reverse die as usual for this rarest of the rare currency issues from the Sydney mint, tiny scratch on face of St George, with a few other light handling marks, tiny reverse rim nick and another tiny nick on the obverse, otherwise practically as struck, of the highest rarity and the crowning piece in the collection. £300,000-400,000**

ex Jaggards, Sydney Australia, retail list, February 1979

ex Kurt Jaggard Monetary Auction Sale 2, Sydney, Australia, 11 April 2006, lot 404, sold for AU\$582,500 (£392,000)

purchased by Winsor and Sons, Jamberoo, NSW Australia as detailed in McDonald footnote (a) and p.71

Calendar year mintage 360,000 – but 1920 dated coins must statistically be a small fraction of this judging from the tiny number of survivors that have ever appeared for sale on dealers lists or in public auction.

The 1920 S is the rarest date and mint combination in the gold Sovereign series of the British Empire. Much rarer than the London 1819 Sovereign, the key piece of the Great Britain Sovereign series of which there are about 10-12 specimens in commerce.

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates UNC quality 1920S Sovereign at a valuation of AU\$900,000 (or £606,000 at the current exchange rate)



#### Other examples traced of the 1920 Sydney mint Sovereign in chronological order of date sold publicly.

1. Spink and Son (Australia) Pty Ltd, Sydney, Australia, Sale 2, 2 November 1978, lot 631, "nearly EF" sold for AU\$3,600 hammer price (estimate AU\$3,000), ex A H F Baldwin collection.

Spink and Son, London, Auction 90, "The Property of a Lady", 15 March 1992, lot 438, "good EF" sold for £104,000 hammer price – the second highest price ever achieved for a British coin at that time (estimate £20,000-25,000). This collection was once that of Capt J J Cullimore Allen, author of *Sovereigns of the British Empire*, published in 1965, in which from his narrative it does not sound as though he owned a 1920 S at that time. He died in 1970 but Mr D G Liddel of Spink and Son fulfilled one last promise to obtain this coin for the collection to make it complete in 1978.

2. Noble Numismatics, Sydney, Australia, Sale 50 – 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sale, 20-22 March 1996, lot 1470, "EF" quality, sold for AU\$135,000 hammer price (estimate AU\$100,000).

3. Specimen / Proof Striking sold in the Quartermaster collection, Monetarium (Australia) Pty Ltd, Kogarah, 4 June 2009, lot 196, "Finest known example FDC" sold for AU\$800,000 hammer price (estimate AU\$750,000-850,000). This coin has been struck from a good reverse die as opposed to the other three which all appear to be from a rusty reverse die.

There was a 1920 S Sovereign sold through Spink and Son, circa November 1973, having been bought in the Wallis and Wallis Sale (CM43) of 23 October 1973, however a catalogue of this sale has not been available to consult further. It is suspected that that coin could be the one offered for sale here, as there was a detailed report of the coin prepared by the Royal Mint certifying it genuine with its distinctive "pickled" reverse. The weight of the coin was exactly the same as the coin offered here and therefore may be some earlier provenance for this piece.

This makes a total of only three different currency examples that have passed through public auction, which have the rusted reverse die, and the one specimen proof that was sold at the Quartermaster sale. The first Sovereign listed above has since been housed in an institutional collection and is therefore far less likely to appear again for sale, as opposed to those that are privately owned. There is also a currency 1920 S Sovereign with the distinctive "pickled" reverse certified genuine and housed in the Royal Australian Mint Collection, another institutional piece unlikely ever to be on the market. This coin came from the Reserve Bank of Australia, to whom it had been handed in 1931, when Australia left the Gold Standard and law dictated that gold was to be sold to the Central Bank by private individuals from 1929.

The story of the 1920 dated Sydney mint Sovereign is one steeped in mystery; why is it so rare and elusive today?

Firstly, it is interesting to note at this decade change that very few other denominations exist as 1920 dated coins from the Sydney mint. In fact it is only the bronze Penny that seems to have been issued for currency dated that year with some from Sydney, probably more from Melbourne, with a total output of over nine million pieces. According to McDonald all the currency Halfpennies dated 1920 were produced at Melbourne (a pattern only existing for Sydney), as opposed to Krause that lists them as being from Sydney with a mintage just over four million. However, what is more striking is the lack of silver currency from the Sydney mint dated 1920, there being only some extremely rare patterns of the Florin and Shilling but no Sixpences or Threepences. This was because of the price fluctuation in silver following World War I, which culminated in the price reaching a major high in sterling on 11 February 1920 of 89.5pence an ounce. For this reason, manufacturing coin was totally uneconomical before you even consider the additional costs of smelting and minting. There were also no gold Half-Sovereigns produced from Sydney at this time, as reported in the Royal Mint report for 1921, reviewing production in 1920.

Contemporary surviving records from the Sydney mint are sketchy and what survives on record at the Royal Mint is only of what dies were produced to send to Sydney and the calendar year output figures.

Because the calendar year output figure has always been quoted as 360,000 pieces from the mint record as evidenced in publications like "Sovereigns of the British Empire" by Capt J J Cullimore Allen, it was only ever suspected to be a "rare" year, as this output was much lower than the seven figure sums produced in each year of the preceding decade. In fact Cullimore Allen compared the rarity equally to a 1922 Sydney, which had a slightly higher output year and did not even individually value the coin on a tentative price list, dated 25 February 1965 and included with the book, which rates Burgers Ponds at £350-400, when a lowly Sydney George V Sovereign is rated "from £4". It must also be remembered that information at that time from Australian researchers and collectors was rare, as the Australian law dictated that private individuals could not legally retain gold coins.

It should be additionally borne in mind that the output figure given by the mint is for the total of Sovereigns produced in a calendar year and does not necessarily correlate with the date upon each coin. Most of the 360,000 produced could well have been 1919 dated which is suggested by the few surviving currency specimens dated 1920 that have been publicly sold.

It seems clear there was a major issue with the condition of the reverse dies received at the Sydney mint, which would have been shipped from London in advance of the new date being produced.

The fact that three of the 1920 Sovereigns ever sold by auction, and the example in the Royal Australian Mint, have the unusual reverse does suggest that the dies as received were not in usable condition, which is evident from the fact of the "pickled" surface state of the dies used to strike the currency pieces surviving today. This "rusted" appearance seems, perhaps, to be a result of the original packing grease used to transport the dies becoming encrusted and / or baked onto the dies and giving them a rough texture which transmitted to the coins as the "rusted" look on all the known currency pieces evident today. More research needs to be done to find a record of the passage of the dies from the mint in London to Sydney by ship, especially if the voyage had interruption or the cargo hold had a problem. Either a large quantity was produced from these faulty reverse dies and later melted down after scrutiny from quality control, leaving some scant few survivors (which seems highly unlikely in practice, especially with gold coinage) or a small quantity only was ever struck as a matter of record or for a special purpose, once it was realised that full scale production of coins dated 1920 would not be possible.

From some limited research in collaboration with Mr G P Dyer, former Curator of the Royal Mint, it has been possible to glean that a total of 22 reverse dies dated 1920 left the mint office for packing and shipping in November 1919. Research compiled over the years by Mr Dyer from the literally scraps of information left of what was the Sydney mint record, it seems only two of these dies were used in 1920, having been received in January of that year in Sydney. Therefore it could be concluded that 20 of the 22 reverse dies were unusable. Furthermore, the 360,000 Sovereigns struck in 1920 were produced initially on two dates in January to a total of £220,000, and latterly two dates in June to a total of £140,000. The January "journeys" (a days work in the mint) were most likely 1919 dated coins. The two journeys of June 1920 could have been produced from the two reverse dies of the 22 received, but further confirmation is required. Presumably 22 reverse dies, if they had all been used, would have been enough to strike up to four million sovereigns, if demand and capability dictated it. Mintage output in calendar year 1918 was nearly of that quantity and later for the calendar year 1925 at Sydney broke five million output for one time only.

So from the scant evidence, it seems possible that a maximum 140,000 Sovereigns of the 360,000 produced in the year 1920 could have been dated 1920. However, the physical survivors that have appeared suggest a very low mintage indeed. This cataloguer feels that they must have been struck to order for a special event in 1920 without the time available to restore the reverse dated die to a proper usable state.

The specimen strike as the Quartermaster coin (No.3 above) was probably struck later, perhaps to mark the closure of the Sydney mint in 1926, when more care and attention could be made with one of the dies to finally obliterate the rusty texture upon it.

The small number of surviving coins in commerce strongly suggest a very small mintage and therefore it would seem much if not all the quantity struck in the calendar year 1920 were probably dated 1919. The intriguing story of the 1920 dated coins being struck for a prominent special occasion seems somehow more likely, and further research could be very valid and hopefully very fruitful.

A 1920 Sydney Sovereign will always be a piece of Australian numismatic history and, for now, an enigma.

## The Very Rare 1921 Sydney Sovereign



- 737 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1921 S, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop absent, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 267; QM 199 S; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh 281 R3; S 4003). *Reverse rim nick, nick on tip of neck, weaker reverse strike around ground-line, otherwise good extremely fine and very rare.* £1500-2000

ex Winsor and Sons, Jamberoo, NSW Australia, purchased 2005

Calendar year mintage 839,000

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates AUNC quality 1921S Sovereign at a valuation of AU\$3,500 (or £2,350)

## The Extremely Rare 1922 Sydney Sovereign



- 738 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1922 S, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop very weak, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, small raised die flaw from tail to lance, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 270; cf. QM.202; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh 282 R3; S 4003). *A myriad of bagmarks, mainly on obverse, otherwise extremely fine and extremely rare.* £10,000-15,000

ex Jaggards of Sydney, invoiced 13 June 2001

Calendar year mintage 578,000

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates EF quality 1922S Sovereign at a valuation of AU\$35,750 (or £24,075). Curiously the Quartermaster collection only had an example of the even rarer specimen proof striking.

## The Excessively Rare Specimen Proof Striking of the 1923 Sydney Sovereign



- 739** 9 **George V**, Specimen Sovereign, 1923 S, struck to proof quality, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop absent, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.97g (McD 273; QM 205 R7; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh -; S 4003). *One nick in obverse field and one speck of dirt on reverse rim, otherwise with an obviously superior strike to a currency piece, with a satin finish, compares very well with the Quartermaster collection specimen, of the highest rarity.* £30,000-40,000

ex Winsor and Sons, Jamberoo, NSW Australia, purchased 2005

Calendar year mintage 416,000

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates the Proof quality 1923S Sovereign at a valuation of AU\$195,000 (or £131,000)

Specimen strikes were produced as a matter of record for institutional collections and for rare presentation to very important persons.

## The Rare 1924 Sydney Sovereign



- 740** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1924 S, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and smaller, small raised die flaw from rim to neck, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, raised die flaw by lance, 7.98g (McD 276; QM 208 S; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh 284 R3; S 4003). *Unevenly toned on reverse, other light marks in obverse field, extremely fine and very rare* £1200-1500

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased September 1991

Calendar year mintage 394,000

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates the EF quality 1924S Sovereign at a valuation of AU\$2,250 (or £1,500)



- 741** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1925 S, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and smaller, small raised die flaw under 2 of date to rim, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 279; QM 211; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh 285 S; S 4003). *Reverse rim nick, otherwise practically as struck* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased September 1991

Calendar year mintage 5,632,000. This is the highest calendar year output ever from the Sydney mint for a gold Sovereign.



## The Extremely Rare 1926 Sydney Currency Sovereign



**742 9 George V, Sovereign, 1926 S, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, M very weak and latter stop absent, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, small raised die flaw from tail to lance, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 282; QM 214 R3; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh 286 R4; S 4003).** *Some light marks, a little weak of strike on reverse and some nicks in the exergue, appears to be finer than the Quartermaster collection coin, lightly toned good extremely fine, practically as struck and extremely rare.* £20,000-25,000

ex Winsor and Sons, Jamberoo, NSW Australia, purchased c.2004

Calendar year mintage 1,031,050

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates UNC quality 1926S Sovereign at a valuation of AU\$58,000 (or £39,000)

## The Extremely Rare Specimen Striking of the 1926 Sydney Sovereign



- 743 9 George V**, Specimen Sovereign, 1926 S, struck to proof quality, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and smaller, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, S mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g, 22.3mm (McD 282; QM -; KM 29; Fr 38; Marsh -; S 4003). *One light rim nick on reverse and nick on body of horse, tiny speck on king's cheek, otherwise toned practically as struck and of the highest rarity.* £30,000-40,000

ex Noble Numismatics Sale 66, 28 March 2001, lot 1318

Perhaps the odd 50 in the calendar year mintage of 1,031,050 were some of these specimen striking which were struck to mark the closure of the Sydney mint along with other later striking of Sydney mint coins like the 1902 gold Five Pounds and Two Pounds amongst others.

For further reading on the subject of the closure of the mint see the Journal of the Numismatic Association of Australia, volume 2, article by John Sharples "The Numismatic Collection of the Museum of Victoria" available online at the Association website.

Specimen strikes were produced as a matter of record for institutional collections and for rare presentation to very important persons. The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates the Proof quality 1926S Sovereign at a valuation of AU\$195,000 (or £131,000)



## The Melbourne Mint

Colonel Edward Ward, the first Deputy Master at Melbourne, originally anticipated the new Melbourne mint would open as early as 1870. However, due to circumstances somewhat beyond controls, the mint opened late for operation, 12 June 1872, in William Street. It was later considered one of the six best buildings in the City. This tardiness was mostly because the ship *Rangoon* had sunk near Galle Harbour in Ceylon while carrying all the new 1871 dated dies from the mint in London. A very limited number of the dies were salvaged and these later came into use with the overdate 1872 over 1, which is explained in more detail in lot 746. Colonel Ward was already experienced, having previously been Deputy Master at Sydney and it was through his leadership that the difficulties were overcome at Melbourne. By the end of 1872 nearly three quarters of a million sovereigns of the shield reverse had been produced, all with the mint letter M under the wreath on the reverse. St George reverse Sovereigns and gold Half Sovereigns were also introduced to production from 1873 with mint letter M, and both shield and St George reverse coins were produced in most years until 1887. The shield design was retained at the Australian branch mints only, as it was still the preferred coin in trade with India and Asia, and the St George reverse was preferred domestically. The mints were given the choice of which to strike according to demand, which is why some years do not exist for certain reverse types.

According to the publication *Royal Sovereign*, a Chinese General, Wong Yung Ho, visited the Melbourne mint in 1887 and confirmed that the shield design was preferred by the Indians when trading with the Orient. The Indians feared they would upset the Chinese if they paid for their wares with the St George reverse coin. This was because of the humiliating position of the Chinese national symbol the dragon under the horseman and therefore this reverse design was not generally seen in commerce in Asia. Half Sovereigns were last produced dated 1915 and the Sovereigns were last struck dated 1931.



According to *Sovereigns of the British Empire* by Capt J J Cullimore Allen, when the Melbourne mint ceased minting Imperial type gold Sovereigns dated 1931, the total quantity of all Sovereigns at this branch mint stood at 147,282,731 pieces, including those sent for pyx trial assay. This was the highest total of gold sovereigns from the three branch mints based in Australia. However the individual year by year breakdowns quoted in this publication, including the pyx or assay totals, come to 59,436 coins less than the quoted total, showing some inaccuracy in the quoted figures or more likely a lack of completeness in the year breakdowns in the earlier period of the mint operation, perhaps in the young head series where some uncertainty lies.



### The Reign of Queen Victoria (1837-1901) House of Hanover

**Born:** 24 May 1819

**Accession:** 20 June 1837

**Married:** Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, 10 February 1840

**Coronation:** Thursday 28 June 1838

**Children:** four sons, five daughters

**Died:** 22 January 1901, aged 81



### Melbourne Mint Imperial Type Victoria Young Head Sovereigns, Shield Reverse

The full description for the young head shield reverse Sovereign of the Melbourne mint is as follows



**Victoria (1837-1901)**, Sovereign, Melbourne Branch Mint, 1872 M, engraved after William Wyon, third young head left, with double fillet, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, toothed border and raised rim both sides, VICTORIA DEI GRATIA, *rev* struck with inverted die axis, engraved after Jean Baptiste Merlen, crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M below, emblems below, edge milled



**744 ♀ Victoria (1837-1901)**, Sovereign, 1872 M, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, trace of doubling in date and legend both sides, raised die flaw from D of legend to head, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M below, emblems below, 8.00g (McD 120; QM 48 S; Marsh 59 R; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854). *Some light surface marks, otherwise good extremely fine and rare.* £400-600

ex Kurt Jaggard Coins, Sydney, Australia, purchased 30 May 2002  
Calendar year mintage 748,180 which includes St George reverse design pieces.



**745 ♀ Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872 M, struck with an en médaille die axis, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, raised die flaw from neck to rim by 7 of date, *rev* struck with an upright die axis, crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M more slender and tall below, emblems below, 7.98g (cf McD.120; QM 48 S; Marsh 59 R; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854). *A few tiny nicks on head and neck, tiny red spots on reverse, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine, very unusual and rare.* £600-800

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1045 (part)  
Calendar year mintage 748,180 which includes St George reverse design pieces.



"2" struck over "1"

- 746 G Victoria, Sovereign, 1872 M, 2 struck over 1, third young head left, hair in bun more disjointed, weak bridge to nose, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, raised die flaw to left of date to rim, raised die flaw to left of D in legend to head, further flaw at penultimate A of legend, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M below touches left ribbon, emblems below, 7.97g (McD 120 note c; QM 49 S; Marsh 59A R4; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854). *Some tiny black spots in upper right quarter of reverse, otherwise weak extremely fine / good extremely fine and very rare.* £1200-1500**

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased September 1991

Calendar year mintage 748,000 which includes St George reverse design pieces, 180 of this total went for pyx trial.

According to McDonald and the Quartermaster catalogues, these overdate pieces were struck for only a few days in September 1872 when 1872 dated dies were expended unexpectedly early before a new batch of dies could be received from England. A local engraver, Julius Hogarth, was employed to change unused 1871 dated dies to show 1872. The new 1872 dies from England arrived in early October but, what is more interesting is that, the 1871 dated dies had already been to the bottom of the sea and back. They had been sent over the previous year when it was anticipated that the Melbourne mint would be ready on schedule for operation. However, the ship carrying the 1871 dies, the *Rangoon* hit rocks and sank near Galle Harbour on the last leg of the journey from Ceylon. Some of the dies were evidently salvaged and it seems Julius Hogarth made at least one usable with the overdate engraving. It seems that for 1873 only St George reverse designs were produced.



- 747 G Victoria, Sovereign, 1874 M, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, trace of doubling in date and legend both sides, raised die flaw from D of legend to head, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M below, emblems below, 7.98g (McD 122; QM 51 S; Marsh 59 R; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854). *Some light surface marks, a little weakly struck at centre, red tone, otherwise good extremely fine.* £600-800**

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased September 1991

Calendar year mintage 1,373,000 which includes St George reverse design pieces, 298 of this total went for pyx trial. There were no shield Sovereigns issued from Melbourne in the preceding year 1873.



- 748 G Victoria, Sovereign, 1874 M, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M taller and slender below, emblems below, 7.98g (McD 122; QM 51 S; Marsh 59 R; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854). *Patches of silver colour showing through on reverse, perhaps surface enrichment of residual silver solder and gilding, other surface marks, very fine.* £300-350**

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased April 1992

Calendar year mintage 1,373,000 which includes St George reverse design pieces, 298 of this total went for pyx trial.

This piece was originally bought for the Bentley Collection as a piece seemingly demonstrating a silver alloy in the mix with the gold content. There are no shield Sovereigns from the Melbourne mint from 1875-1879 inclusive.

## The Extremely Rare 1880 M shield Sovereign



**749 9 Victoria, Sovereign, 1880 M, third young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, trace of doubling in date and legend both sides, raised die flaw from D of legend to head, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M below, die flaw running through some letters, emblems below, 7.98g (McD 128; QM 59 R3; Marsh 61 R2; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854). *Rim nick on obverse and one on reverse, light bagmarks, toned good extremely fine and extremely rare, this coin appears to be finer than the Quartermaster example.*** £5000-6000

ex Douro Cargo, Spink Auction 118, 20-21 November 1996, lot 1074

Calendar year mintage 3,052,800 which includes St George reverse design pieces, 654 of this total went for pyx trial.

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates an AUNC quality 1880M shield Sovereign at a valuation of AU\$11,250 (£7,500)

## A New Style Portrait at the Melbourne Mint



From 1881 till 1887 with the shield reverse the fourth bust style comes into use at Melbourne just like at Sydney. The main defining characteristics are the much higher hairline which if extended up would meet the centre of the letter A in the legend. Behind the ear there is a distinctly longer curling strand of hair compared to those either side of it. The hair at the rear of the hair bun is perhaps a little more finely engraved in the strands and there is a slightly larger gap from the G of legend to the hair bun. Additionally the tip of the neck at the front is more sharply pointed than the previous busts.



## A Wonderful Example of the 1881 M Shield Sovereign



**750 g Victoria, Sovereign, 1881 M**, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation which is more truncated with a pointed tip at front, hair behind ear with longer strand, hairline higher on forehead, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M below, right foot near to ribbon, emblems below, 7.99g (McD 130; QM 61 S; Marsh 62 R; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854). *Rim nick, a few light handling marks, otherwise as struck and very pleasing with a proof-like hue, appears finer than the Quartermaster specimen.* £2000-2500

ex Kurt Jaggard Coins, Sydney, Australia, purchased 30 May 2002

Calendar year mintage 2,324,800 which includes St George reverse design pieces, 503 of this total went for pyx trial.

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates an UNC quality 1881M shield Sovereign at a valuation of AU\$5,000 (or £3,350)



**751 g Victoria, Sovereign, 1882 M**, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M below, right foot touches ribbon, emblems below, 7.98g (McD 132; QM 63 S; Marsh 63; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854). *Surface marks and rim nicks, extremely fine, reverse better and scarce.* £500-600

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased October 1991

Calendar year mintage 371,400 of which 531 went for pyx trial.

## The Extremely Rare 1883 M Shield Sovereign



**752 g Victoria, Sovereign, 1883 M**, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M below, left foot touches ribbon, emblems below, 7.98g (McD 134; QM 65 R2; Marsh 64 R2; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854). *Toned with two tiny black specks on reverse shield, otherwise uncirculated and finer than the Quartermaster example, extremely rare.* £2500-3000

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased October 1991

Calendar year mintage 427,000 of which 450 went for pyx trial.



- 753** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1884 M, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M below, right foot near to ribbon, emblems below, 7.98g (McD 136; QM 67 S; Marsh 65; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854). *Light surface marks and hairlines, bagmarks and a few nicks, otherwise good extremely fine and scarce.* £800-1000

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 5 December 1989

Calendar year mintage 2,942,000 which includes St George reverse design pieces, 630 of this total went for pyx trial.



- 754** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1884 M, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M below, right foot touches ribbon, emblems below, 7.98g (McD 136; QM 67 S; Marsh 65; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854). *Some light nicks and surface marks, prooflike and obviously a very early strike, good extremely fine, reverse as struck and rare.* £1000-1200

ex A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd, November 2008

Calendar year mintage 2,942,000 which includes St George reverse design pieces, 630 of this total went for pyx trial.

This coin could even have been struck from the proof dies after they had served their purpose in striking proof coins and therefore retaining some of the proof qualities on the surfaces. The coin is at least an early striking showing sharp definition of the design.



- 755** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1885 M, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M below, emblems below, 7.99g (McD 138; QM 69 S; Marsh 66; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854). *Quite bagmarked and scuffed, with reverse rim nick, dig on cheek, extremely fine, reverse better, rare.* £400-600

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 18 January 1990

Calendar year mintage 2,966,500 which includes St George reverse design pieces, 643 of this total went for pyx trial.



## The Extremely Rare 1886 M Shield Sovereign



- 756** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1886 M, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M below, emblems below, 7.98g (McD 140; QM 71 R4; Marsh 67 R3; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854). *Light scratch in field, and another under chin intruding neck with other light surface marks, black speck on Irish harp, extremely fine, reverse better, less surface marked than the Quartermaster coin and appears to be of commensurate quality and extremely rare.* £8000-10,000

ex Noble Numismatics, Sale 66, 28 March 2001, lot 1268

Calendar year mintage 2,901,500 which includes St George reverse design pieces, 631 of this total went for pyx trial.

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates an EF quality 1886M shield Sovereign at a valuation of AU\$23,500 (or £34,900)

## The Extremely Rare 1887 M Shield Sovereign



- 757** *g* **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1887 M, fourth young head left, w.w. in relief on truncation, date below, *rev* crowned quartered shield of arms within laurel wreath, mint letter M below, left foot touches ribbon, emblems below, 7.98g (McD 142; QM 73 R3; Marsh 68 R3; KM 6; Fr 12; S 3854). *Very light surface marks, otherwise toned, as struck, and appears on par with the Quartermaster example, if not better, extremely rare.* £7000-9000

ex Kurt Jaggard Coins, Sydney, Australia, purchased 30 May 2002

Calendar year mintage 1,916,424 which includes St George reverse design pieces, 624 of this total (probably all shield reverses) went for pyx trial.

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates an UNC quality 1887M shield Sovereign at a valuation of AU\$19,500 (or £13,100)



## Melbourne Mint Imperial Type Victoria Young Head Sovereigns, St George and Dragon Reverse

The new St George and dragon reverse, a design resurrected from the reign of George IV, was introduced at Sydney in 1871 and Melbourne in 1872. Variation can occur in the portrait at the truncation, where the initials W.W. can either be “buried” within the truncation in relief without stops and therefore not fully apparent, or later versions which have the W.W. complete on truncation with stops and in relief.

For more information on the varieties of this type, please see Lot 672

### A note on the Pyx Trial Totals Quoted for the Melbourne Mint

Capt Cullimore Allen in his publication *Sovereigns of the British Empire* gives calendar year outputs for the Melbourne mint for every year of its existence and a separate figure each time for “Assay Pieces” which were those set aside for the annual trial of the Pyx in London. Cullimore Allen does not make it quite clear whether this figure is included in the calendar year output totals or whether it is in addition to. Earlier in the publication it is suggested that the pyx assay number is included in the year total as the Deputy Master of the Melbourne mint seems to have been instructed to always finish a years output on a round number figure. Pyx Trial coins by their very nature are intended to be circulation strikes and in the modern coinage are not additions to a total production run, so it seems to make sense that the Assay figure must be included in the output total for the year. It is not as if once the Trial of the Pyx on these coins has taken place that they would not have been released into circulation anyway, if they were not there would be thousands of sovereigns gathering in storage somewhere from these annual trials. However later in the book Cullimore Allen, just before Edward VII, specifically says that the assay total needs to be added to the still round figured calendar year totals. This is in reaction to correspondence he had with the Deputy Master at the Melbourne mint c.1960, who quoted an old correspondent from 1909. To this cataloguer something in this information seems to have been lost in the passage of time and through more than one correspondent. The round figure totals make more sense, Sydney mint carried out the same round total practice and the same Deputy Master was responsible for this at the start, so the Assay trial pieces we feel must be already included in the Melbourne totals, which is why the totals quoted here are also different to the Marsh publication, as he added the Pyx trial piece numbers on top.

A full description of the St George reverse Melbourne Sovereign is as follows



**Victoria (1837-1901), Sovereign, 1874 M, young head of third style left, engraved after William Wyon, bound with two fillets, letter M below, ww buried in truncation in relief, VICTORIA D: G: BRITANNIAR: REG: F: D:, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim both sides, *rev* inverted die axis, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, dragon claws four to left and four to right arm, the second on upper arm detached, horse with long tail ending in three strands, tail with extra single stand spur at upper curve of tail, broken lance on ground-line to left, *WWP* in relief under lance, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, edge milled.**



some dragon claws absent

**758** 9 **Victoria (1837-1901)**, Sovereign, 1872 M, young head of third style left, letter M below, ww buried in truncation in relief, VICTORIA D: G: BRITANNIAR: REG: F: D:, die flaw between N's in legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, some dragon claws absent, three to left and one to right arm, the second on upper arm detached, horse with long tail ending in three strands, tail with extra single stand spur at upper curve of tail, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 8.00g (McD 145; QM 77 R2; Marsh 94; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *Some light bagmarks, appears to be finer than the Quartermaster specimen, good extremely fine and very rare.* £1500-2000

ex Kurt Jaggard Coins, Sydney, Australia, purchased 30 May 2002

Calendar year mintage 748,180 which includes shield reverse design pieces.

The dragon claws are not fully evident on this 1872 sovereign, it should be the usual 4/4 arrangement but where there should be claws are mere stumps and only 3/1 are visible.

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates an AUNC quality 1872M St George Sovereign at a valuation of AU\$6,500 (or £4,375)



weak dragon claws of 4/4 arrangement

**759** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1872 M, with misstruck reverse rim, young head of third style left, letter M below, ww buried in truncation in relief, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, mere trace of spur on long horse tail, dragon claws of 4/4 arrangement but most very weak, date in exergue, tiny B.P. with faint stops to upper right, rim and border misstruck appearing thicker than usual, 7.98g (cf McD 145; QM 77 R2; Marsh 94; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *Cleaned with surface marks, otherwise very fine, very rare and unusual.* £300-400

ex A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd, June 2008

Calendar year mintage 748,000 which includes St George reverse design pieces, 180 of this total went for pyx trial.



**high letter "M" under neck and dragon claws 4/4 arrangement**

**760** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1873 M, young head of third style left, letter M below nearly touches neck, ww buried in truncation in relief, first G in legend die flawed to rim, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, long tail with trace of hair spur in upper curve of tail, dragon claws all present of 4/4 arrangement, the last a stub claw, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 8.00g (McD 147; QM 79 R; Marsh 95; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *Light bagmarks, mainly near to horse tail, otherwise toned, good extremely fine and appears to be on par with the Quartermaster coin, if not more attractive, rare.* £400-500

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 12 November 1990  
Calendar year mintage 752,000 presumably all St George reverse of which 199 went for pyx trial.



**761** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1874 M, young head of third style left, letter M below near neck, ww buried in truncation in relief, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, long tail with single hair spur in upper curve of tail, dragon claws all present of 4/4 arrangement, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 149; QM 81 R; Marsh 96; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *Light bagmarks on obverse, appears to be finer than the Quartermaster coin, toned practically as struck and rare.* £1000-1200

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 18 July 1990  
Calendar year mintage 1,373,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces, 298 of this total went for pyx trial.  
The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates an UNC quality 1874M St George Sovereign at a valuation of AU\$3,550 (or £2,400)



**762** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1874 M, struck with an off-centre die axis, young head of third style left, letter M below, ww buried in truncation in relief, light raised die flaws in queen's name, *rev* die axis about 45 degrees off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, long tail with single hair spur in upper curve of tail, dragon claws all present of 4/4 arrangement, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.96g (cf McD.149; QM 81 R; Marsh 96; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *Heavy surface marks and scuffs both sides, nearly very fine and unusual.* £400-500

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 18 July 1990  
Calendar year mintage 1,373,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces, 298 of this total went for pyx trial.



## Transitional 1875 Reverse

### Showing elements of Long Tail and so-called Medium Tail Design



**no spur of hair on long tail**

**763** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1875 M, young head of third style left, letter M below near neck, ww buried in truncation in relief, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, absent spur on long tail, only a mere stub apparent, dragon with 4/4 claw arrangement, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (cf McD.151a/151b; QM 83 S; Marsh 97; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *Red spot on cheek and tiny spot on reverse rim, other light surface marks and bagmarks, good extremely fine and unusual.* £400-500

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased October 1991

This coin appears to be a transitional piece between the long tail and so-called medium tail which proves the medium is a variation of the long tail. Elements of the long tail type still vaguely shows under scrutiny and is therefore a hybrid of McDonald 151a and 151b, the latter being newly discovered.

Calendar year mintage 1,888,000 presumably all St George reverse of which 405 went for pyx trial.

## Transitional 1876 Reverse

### with elements of Long Tail and so-called Medium Tail Design



**no spur apparent on long tail and weak dragon claws**

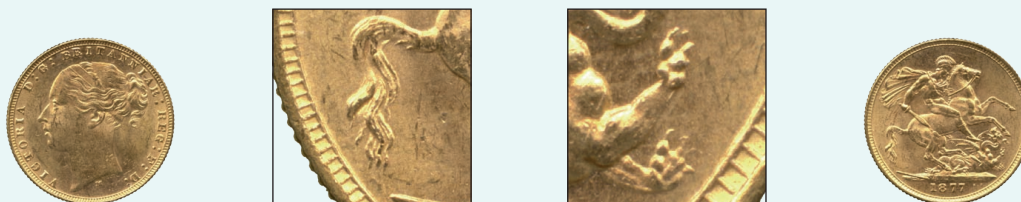
**764** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1876 M, young head of third style left, letter M below near neck, ww buried in truncation in relief, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, spur absent but terminal strands of long tail evident, raised die flaw at top of tail, dragon claws weak at top arm, arrangement 4/4 but some merely stumps, date in exergue, lightly die flawed figures, tiny B.P. to upper right, 8.00g (cf McD 153; QM 85 S; Marsh 98; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *Very yellow gold, with a few light bagmarks, seems to be on par with the Quartermaster example, weakly struck, good extremely fine.* £400-500

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 9 September 1997

This coin appears to be another transitional piece between the long tail and so-called medium tail which proves the medium is a variation of the long tail. Elements of the long tail type still vaguely show under scrutiny, in this case the terminal strands.

Calendar year mintage 2,124,000 presumably all St George reverse of which 445 went for pyx trial.

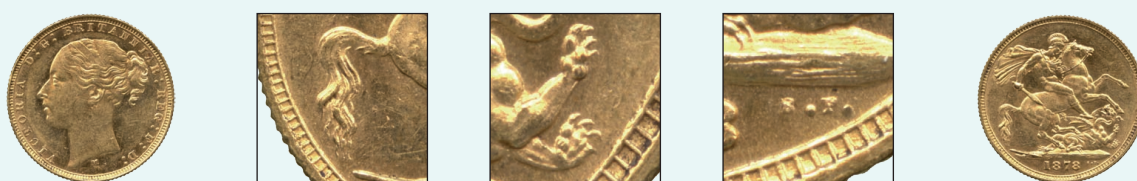
## Transitional 1877 Reverse with elements of Long Tail and so-called Medium Tail Design



**no spur apparent on long tail and weak dragon claws**

**765** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1877 M, young head of third style left, letter M below near neck, ww buried in truncation in relief, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, spur absent but terminal strands of long tail evident, no hair spur, some raised die flaws in field, dragon claws with some absence and stumps, upper arm with two attached and trace of a detached third claw, lower arm with one attached and three detached, date in exergue, lightly die flawed figures, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 154; QM 86 R; Marsh 99; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *Streaky tone to reverse, extremely fine/ good extremely fine and on par with the Quartermaster specimen which also lacks the spur.* £400-500

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 12 November 1990  
Calendar year mintage 1,487,000 presumably all St George reverse of which 316 went for pyx trial.



**thin strand spur halfway up tail, all dragon claws apparent and large stops on B.P.**

**766** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1878 M, young head of third style left, letter M below lower, ww buried in truncation in relief, some doubling of legend, BR and E out of alignment, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, thin single strand of hair in upper curve of tail, dragon claws of 4/4 arrangement and all apparent, date in exergue, second 8 slightly rotated, tiny B.P. to upper right with large stops, 7.99g (McD 155; QM 87 R; Marsh 100; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *Light bagmarks, brilliant good extremely fine, appears to be finer than the Quartermaster coin.* £400-600

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 12 November 1990  
Calendar year mintage 2,171,000 presumably all St George reverse of which 457 went for pyx trial.



**weak B.P. with incomplete "B"**

**767** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1879 M, young head of third style left, letter M below lower, ww buried in truncation in relief, some doubling of legend, with some letters out of alignment, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, weak tail spur with long tail, dragon claws of 4/4 arrangement and all apparent, date in exergue, second 8 slightly rotated, weak B.P. to upper right, incomplete B, 7.99g (McD 157; QM 90 S; Marsh 101; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *Uneven tone, light bagmarks, good extremely fine.* £400-600

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 18 July 1990  
Calendar year mintage 2,740,000 presumably all St George reverse of which 594 went for pyx trial.



**so-called medium tail variety, no stops in BP and weak dragon claws**

**768** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1879 M, so-called medium tail, young head of third style left, letter M below near neck, ww buried in truncation in relief, some doubling of legend, with some letters out of alignment, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, absent tail spur with "medium" tail, three strand terminal to tail, shorter strand to left curves outward, dragon claws of 4/4 arrangement but with two upper arm claws detached, two lower claws weak, date in exergue, die flaw in date, weak BP to upper right, incomplete B and stops absent, 7.98g (McD 157a; QM 89 S; Marsh 101; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *Attractively toned, some light bagmarks, a pleasing extremely fine on par with the Quartermaster coin.* £800-1000

This coin demonstrates the traits of the "medium" tail, which would seem to be a weaker rendition of the long tail when transferred from the master die. It is not the strike of the actual coins that is weak, but the engraving process of the dies used to strike these coins, the detail is therefore different giving the "medium" tail characteristics, a variation on the long tail. Calendar year mintage 2,740,000 presumably all St George reverse of which 594 went for pyx trial.



**last stop in B.P. larger with short dragon claws**

**769** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1879 M, so-called medium tail, struck with an off-centre die axis, young head of third style left, letter M below near neck, ww buried in truncation in relief, with some letters out of alignment, *rev* die axis at 8 o'clock rotation, St George slaying dragon with sword, absent tail spur with "medium" tail, three strand terminal to tail, shorter strand to left curves outward, dragon claws of 4/4 arrangement but short and stubby, date in exergue, die flaw in date, weak B.P. to upper right, last stop larger, incomplete B, 7.97g (McD 157a; QM 89 S; Marsh 101; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *Surface marks, nicks and hairlines, rim nick on reverse, very fine, reverse better and unusual.* £300-400

For further information on the medium tail see footnote to lot 768  
Calendar year mintage 2,740,000 presumably all St George reverse of which 594 went for pyx trial.



**complete B.P. small stops and thin dragon claws**

**770** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1880 M, horse with long tail, young head of third style left, letter M below, ww buried in truncation in relief, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, one single strand hair spur in upper curve of tail, three strand terminal with shorter strand to left curving towards, dragon claws of 4/4 arrangement some very thin, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 159; QM 94 S; Marsh 102; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *Dig on 1 of date, light bagmarks and other hairlines, brilliant, good extremely fine and on par with the Quartermaster example.* £400-600

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 22 March 1990  
Calendar year mintage 3,052,800 which includes shield reverse design pieces, 654 of this total went for pyx trial.





**so-called medium tail variety**

- 771 ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1880 M, horse with medium tail, young head of third style left, letter M below touches neck, ww buried in truncation in relief, some letters in legend out of alignment, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, absent tail spur with “medium” tail, three strand terminal to tail, shorter strand to left curves outward, dragon claws of 4/4 arrangement but weak and some detachment, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right with weak stops, 7.99g (McD 159a; QM -; Marsh 102; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *With nicks and light bagmarks, good extremely fine and very rare, no example present in the Quartermaster collection.* £800-1000

Calendar year mintage 3,052,800 which includes shield reverse design pieces, 654 of this total went for pyx trial.



**very low letter “M” mintmark**

- 772 ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1881 M, horse with medium tail, young head of third style left, letter M below very low, ww buried in truncation in relief, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, absent tail spur with “medium” tail, three strand terminal to tail, shorter strand to left curves outward, dragon claws of 4/4 arrangement with some detachment, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 159a; QM -; Marsh 102; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *Light bagmarks, otherwise brilliant, practically as struck and unusual with the low mint letter.* £400-600

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 10 July 1993

Calendar year mintage 2,324,800 which includes shield reverse design pieces, 503 of this total went for pyx trial.



**short tail variety, long attached dragon claws and no BP variety**

- 773 ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1881 M, short tail and no BP variety, young head of third style left, letter M below, ww buried in truncation in relief, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, with two single strand spurs in upper curve of tail, dragon claws of 3 / 4 arrangement long attached and distinct, date in exergue, no BP to upper right, 7.99g (McD 161a; QM 98 S; Marsh 103B R; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *Brilliant with some light hairlines and nick on cheek, practically as struck and finer than the Quartermaster coin, very rare.* £1000-1200

ex Kurt Jaggard Coins, Sydney, Australia, purchased 30 May 2002

Calendar year mintage 2,324,800 which includes shield reverse design pieces, 503 of this total went for pyx trial.



**a fourth tail variety – thick multi-strand spur of hair in upper curve of tail**

- 774 G Victoria**, Sovereign, 1882 M, horse with “medium” tail, young head of third style left, letter M below, ww buried in truncation in relief, some letters in legend out of alignment, last letter I and G doubled, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with medium tail with more short tail characteristics, one thicker spur made up of multiple strands of hair, dragon claws of 3 / 4 arrangement long attached and distinct, date in exergue, tiny incomplete BP to upper right, stops absent, 7.99g (McD 163a; QM 103 S; Marsh 104; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *With light bagmarks and hairlines, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine, appears to be on par with the Quartermaster collection.* £500-700

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 12 November 1990

This variety is not detailed in any of the publications, but was present in the Quartermaster collection and is a variation on the so-called medium tail, representing a transitional die between the long and short tails with more characteristics towards being a short tail type such as the dragon claws. The larger thicker spur is the main defining characteristic.

Calendar year mintage 2,093,850



**mere trace of BP in exergue and dragon claws 3/4, long and attached**

- 775 G Victoria**, Sovereign, 1882 M, horse with “medium” tail, young head of third style left, letter M below, ww buried in truncation in relief, some letters in legend out of alignment, last EG doubled, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with medium tail with more short tail characteristics, one thicker spur made up of multiple strands of hair, dragon claws of 3 / 4 arrangement long attached and distinct, date in exergue, figure 2 slightly rotated right, a mere trace of BP only, 7.98g (cf McD 163/163a; QM 102 S; Marsh 104; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *With light bagmarks and hairlines, otherwise brilliant extremely fine / good extremely fine, appears to be finer than the Quartermaster collection example, which may also have the trace BP rather than none, rare.* £500-700

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 12 November 1990

Calendar year mintage 2,093,850



**W.W. complete on truncation**

- 776 G Victoria**, Sovereign, 1882 M, second young head of third style left, letter M below low down, w.w. complete on truncation in relief with stops, some letters in legend doubled, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, one thicker spur made up of multiple strands of hair, dragon claws of 3 / 4 arrangement long attached and distinct, date in exergue, incomplete BP, stops absent, 7.98g (McD 163b; QM 104 R; Marsh 104; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *With light bagmarks mainly on reverse, otherwise brilliant practically as struck and appears to be finer than the Quartermaster collection example, rare.* £800-1000

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased c.1997

Calendar year mintage 2,093,850



**short horse tail with two spurs of hair in upper curve**

777 ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1883 M, first young head of third style left, letter M below low down, ww buried in truncation in relief, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, two well defined separate spurs of hair in upper curve of tail, dragon claws of 3 / 4 arrangement long attached and distinct, date in exergue, incomplete BP, stops absent, 7.98g (McD 165a; QM 107 C; Marsh 105; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *With light bagmarks, nicks and hairlines, extremely fine / good extremely fine, appears to be on par with the Quartermaster collection example, with a better looking reverse.* £400-600

ex Monetarium, Kogarah, Australia, purchased 17 March 2003

Calendar year mintage 1,623,000

This coin marks the appearance of a new reverse die at Melbourne with the short tail and two spurs of hair in the curve. It is well defined and looks fresh even today, it seems that the same care in engraving was not applied to the initials in the exergue however.



**incomplete BP, stops absent**

778 ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1883 M, second young head of third style left, letter M below low down, w.w. complete on truncation in relief with stops, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, two wispy separate spurs of hair in upper curve of tail, date in exergue, dragon claws of 3 / 4 arrangement long attached and distinct, incomplete BP, stops absent, 7.99g (McD 165b; QM 108 C; Marsh 105; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *With light bagmarks and scuffs, obverse rim nick, otherwise good extremely fine, appears to be on par with the Quartermaster collection example.* £300-500

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 18 July 1990

Calendar year mintage 1,623,000

This coin is a variation on the short tail type in the lot above, the tail is more "wispy" and with thinner definition in its strands though of the same basic make up. Incidentally the calendar year mintages for both 1882 and 1883 are the only two years of production at the Melbourne mint where mintage of St George reverse is separately known to that of the shield reverse, though of course these figures are not necessarily representative of what the dates were on those coins struck within that calendar year. This is especially true with Colonial Branch Mints, as there could be long delays in receiving dies for striking from Great Britain.



**short horse tail with one spur of hair in upper curve**

779 ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1884 M, second young head of third style left, letter M below low down, w.w. complete on truncation in relief with stops, D G of legend doubled, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, one single strand spur of hair in upper curve of tail, dragon claws of 3 / 4 arrangement long attached and distinct, date in exergue, date figures out of line, tiny BP with stops absent, 7.98g (McD 167b; QM 111 S; Marsh 106; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *With light bagmarks, tone spot on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine, appears to be on par with the Quartermaster collection example.* £300-500

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 18 July 1990

Calendar year mintage 2,942,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces, 630 of this total went for pyx trial.

This coin is another version of the short tail type, the tail is well defined with only one spur of hair in the upper curve of the tail.





**"M" mintmark nearer to neck**

**780** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1884 M, first young head of third style left, letter M below nearer neck, ww buried in truncation in relief, last F of legend doubled, light die flaw in latter part of queen's name, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, one weak strand spur of hair in upper curve of tail, dragon claws of 3 / 4 arrangement long some detachment, date in exergue, only a mere trace of BP to right, 7.98g (McD 167a; QM 110 S; Marsh 106; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *With light bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine, appears to be on par with the Quartermaster collection example.* £300-500

Calendar year mintage 2,942,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces, 630 of this total went for pyx trial.



**"M" mintmark further from neck**

**781** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1884 M, first young head of third style left, letter M below lower down, ww buried in truncation in relief, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, one single strand spur of hair in upper curve of tail, dragon claws of 3 / 4 arrangement long attached and distinct, date in exergue, tiny BP with stops absent, 7.98g (McD 167a; QM 110 S; Marsh 106; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *With light surface marks, good extremely fine.* £300-500

ex Reserve Bank of Australia Sale, Downies, November 2005, lot 1978, purchased through Winsor and Sons, December 2005  
Calendar year mintage 2,942,000 which includes shield reverse design pieces, 630 of this total went for pyx trial.



**incomplete BP without stops**

**782** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1885 M, first young head of third style left, letter M below, ww buried in truncation in relief, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, one single strand spur of hair in upper curve of tail, dragon claws of 3 / 4 arrangement long attached and distinct, date in exergue, incomplete B with a trace only of P in exergue, 7.97g (McD 169a; QM 114 R; Marsh 107; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *With light surface marks, dig on cheek, good very fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 2,966,500 which includes shield reverse design pieces, 643 of this total went for pyx trial.



- 783** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1885 M, first young head of third style left, letter M below, ww buried in truncation in relief, first D doubled, second R die flawed on lower right foot, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, one single strand spur of hair in upper curve of tail, dragon claws of 3 / 4 arrangement long attached and distinct, date in exergue, 5 die flawed shut at top, incomplete B without P in exergue, 7.98g (McD 169a; QM 114 R; Marsh 107; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *With surface marks, scratch on neck, dig by first T in legend, good very fine.* £300-350

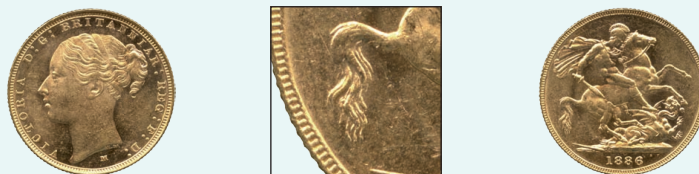
ex Reserve Bank of Australia Sale, Downies, November 2005, lot 2001, purchased through Winsor and Sons, December 2005  
Calendar year mintage 2,966,500 which includes shield reverse design pieces, 643 of this total went for pyx trial.



**W.W. complete on truncation"**

- 784** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1885 M, second young head of third style left, letter M below low down, w.w. complete on truncation in relief with stops, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, one single strand spur of hair in upper curve of tail, dragon claws of 3 / 4 arrangement long attached and distinct, date in exergue, only a mere trace of BP to right, 7.98g (McD 169c; QM 115 R; Marsh 107; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *With light bagmarks and nicks, otherwise, good extremely fine.* £400-600

Calendar year mintage 2,966,500 which includes shield reverse design pieces, 643 of this total went for pyx trial.



**short single strand with shorter one above in upper tail curve**

- 785** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1886 M, second young head of third style left, letter M below low down, w.w. complete on truncation in relief with stops, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, one short single spur of hair in upper curve of tail, smaller shorter strand above, dragon claws of 3 / 4 arrangement, long claws with second on lower arm detached, date in exergue, BP to right, incomplete P stops absent, 7.99g (McD 171; QM 117 S; Marsh 108; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *With light bagmarks and a little weak on high points, otherwise, good extremely fine, appears to be on par with the Quartermaster collection example.* £400-600

ex Steinbergs of Vermont, purchased 2 July 2001  
Calendar year mintage 2,901,500 which includes shield reverse design pieces, 631 of this total went for pyx trial.



**short tail, trace of spur of hair**

**786 g Victoria**, Sovereign, 1887 M, second young head of third style left, letter M below low down, w.w. complete on truncation in relief with stops, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with short tail, trace stub spur of hair in tail, date in exergue, the figure 7 with an extra serif foot at top right of 7, dragon claws of 3 / 4 arrangement long attached and distinct, BP to right, incomplete P stops absent, 7.98g (McD 173; QM 119 S; Marsh 109; KM 7; Fr 16; S 3857). *With light bagmarks and a little weak on high points, otherwise, very attractive good extremely fine, appears to be finer than the Quartermaster collection example.* £400-600

Calendar year mintage 2,901,500 which includes shield reverse design pieces, 631 of this total went for pyx trial.

The Sydney mint St George Sovereign of 1887 in Lot 693 also has this 7 with the extra serif foot at top. The same punch must have been used to prepare both dies at the Royal Mint in London.

### **Melbourne Mint Victoria Jubilee Type Sovereigns**

The Golden Jubilee of Victoria's reign occurred in 1887, bringing a change to the coinage with a more up to date and mature portrait of the Queen wearing a tiny crown with veil. Both the Sydney and Melbourne mints seamlessly swapped over to the new design, with the same quirks as the London mint pieces, in that there are two varieties of legend spacing in relation to the bust which has its own variations on the initials on the truncation. The reverses also venture through two different types of tail.

The standard full description for a Jubilee type Sovereign of Queen Victoria is as follows:-



**Victoria (1837-1901)**, Sovereign, 1887 M, Melbourne mint, engraved by Joseph Edgar Boehm, Jubilee tall veiled bust left with older features, veil with two rows of crenellations, with small Imperial crown, large fleurs inside, top cross on field intrudes the border, wearing 13 pearl necklace, brooch at front with relief jewel, half a garter star at base of bust under sash, decorated border to dress bust, J.E.B. on edge of truncation into field with stops, angled J, first type legend further from crown, two pearl drop ear ring, VICTORIA D:G: BRITT: REG: F: D:, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim both sides, outer rim blends with teeth, *rev* struck en médaille, after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, streamer to helmet, complete hem to cape, extra mane hair above hand holding rein, horse with short tail, three strand end to tail, two spurs of extra hair on curve of tail, dragon with three claws to left and three to right arm, trace of fourth claw, all attached, broken lance on groundline to left, *WWP* in relief under lance, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, edge milled



## Unique Silver Striking of an 1887 Melbourne Mint Sovereign



- 787 Victoria (1837-1901), Pattern Sovereign, 1887 M**, struck in silver, engraved by Joseph Edgar Boehm, Jubilee tall veiled bust left with older features, veil with two rows of crenellations, with small Imperial crown, large fleurs inside, top cross of crown touches linear circle, wearing 14 pearl necklace, brooch at front with relief jewel, almost full garter star at base of bust under sash, decorated border to dress bust, prominent and robust J.E.B. fully on truncation, hooked J doubled, repositioned second legend closer to crown, two pearl drop ear ring, VICTORIA D:G: BRITT: REG: F: D:, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised prominent rim both sides, *rev* struck en médaille, after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, no streamer to helmet as young head reverses, extra mane hair above hand holding rein, horse with short tail, three strand end to tail, no extra hair on curve of tail, dragon with three claws to upper and four to lower arm, shorter fourth claw, all attached, broken lance on ground-line to left, *WWP* in relief under lance, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, 7 of date with upper right serif with foot, tiny BP without stops to upper right, edge plain, 4.66g, 21.8mm (McD 175c and note *this coin*; QM -). *Very attractively toned, mint state proof and the only known specimen, unique.* £20,000-30,000

ex A H F Baldwin collection

ex Spink Australia Sale 2, 2 November 1978, lot 613

ex Noble Numismatics Sale 70, 9-11 July 2002, lot 123,2 sold for \$26,500

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates lists this coin in proof quality at a valuation of AU\$190,000 (or £128,000) the same as many of the gold proof Sovereigns.



**small J.E.B. fully on truncation with a right-angled "J"**

- 788 9 Victoria, Sovereign, 1887 M**, Jubilee style bust left, small J.E.B. fully on truncation with an angled J, necklace of 13 pearls, first type legend further from crown, cross on crown crosses linear circle, raised die flaw in ITT of legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with streamer, complete hem to cape bar one intrusion, horse with short tail, two small spurs of extra hair at upper curve, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, B.P. complete to upper right, 7.99g (McD 175; QM 126 S; Marsh 131A R; KM 10; Fr 20; S 3867). *A little weak of strike, a few tiny light surface marks, otherwise toned, as struck and far superior to the Quartermaster example, rare.* £400-600

Calendar year mintage 940,000



**larger J.E.B. fully on truncation with a right-angled "J"**

- 789** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1887 M, Jubilee style bust left, J.E.B. fully on truncation with an angled J, first type legend further from crown, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with more wispy streamer, weak hem to cape, horse with short tail, two small spurs of extra hair at upper curve, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, B.P. complete to upper right, 7.98g (McD 175a; QM 127 C; Marsh 131; KM 10; Fr 20; S 3867A). *A number of light hairlines and surface marks, some bagmarks, extremely fine and on par with the Quartermaster example.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 940,000



- 790** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1887 M, struck with an of-centre die axis, Jubilee style bust left, J.E.B. fully on truncation with an angled J, first type legend further from crown, *rev* die axis off by about 45 degrees, St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with streamer, horse with short tail, two small spurs of extra hair at upper curve, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, B.P. complete to upper right, 7.96g (cf McD.175a; QM 127 C; Marsh 131; KM 10; Fr 20; S 3867A). *A little weak of strike, heavily scuffed and surface marked, good fine to almost very fine and very unusual.* £300-350

ex Robert Reed collection, Los Angeles, USA, c.1990  
Calendar year mintage 940,000



**first type legend further from crown**

- 791** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1887 M, Jubilee style bust left, J.E.B. fully on truncation with an angled J, first type legend further from crown, raised die flaw from rim down into crown and into veil, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with streamer, raised die flaw to weak hem to cape, horse with short tail, two small spurs of extra hair at upper curve, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, B.P. complete to upper right, 7.99g (McD 175a; QM 127 C, *this coin*; Marsh 131; KM 10; Fr 20; S 3867A). *Lightly hairlined, good extremely fine.* £350-450

ex Reserve Bank of Australia, Downies, 29-30 November 2005, lot 2050  
ex Quartermaster collection, Monetarium, 4 June 2009, lot 127  
Calendar year mintage 940,000



**second type legend closer to crown**

**792** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1887 M, Jubilee style bust left, J.E.B. on edge of truncation with an angled J, the letters intrude the field, second type legend with G: closer to crown, the top cross clear of the border circle, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with streamer, complete hem to cape, horse with short tail, two small spurs of extra hair at upper curve, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, B.P. complete to upper right, 7.98g (McD 175b; QM 128 S; Marsh 131; KM 10; Fr 20; S 3867B). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise practically as struck.* £400-600

Calendar year mintage 940,000



**J.E.B. on edge of truncation, very die flawed**

**793** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1887 M, Jubilee style bust left, J.E.B. on edge of truncation with an angled J, the letters intrude the field, die flaw from rim onto bust through jewel and letter B and onto veil, second type legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, complete hem to cape with some die flaws, horse with short tail, two small spurs of extra hair at upper curve, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, B.P. complete to upper right, 7.98g (McD 175b; QM 128 S; Marsh 131; KM 10; Fr 20; S 3867B). *Once polished with associated hairlines, now with a red tone, good very fine, reverse better and a spectacular die flaw.* £300-400

ex A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd, purchased August 2007  
Calendar year mintage 940,000



**J.E.B. fully on truncation**

**794** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1888 M, Jubilee style bust left, J.E.B. fully on truncation with an angled J, first type legend further from crown, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, hem of cape complete, horse with short tail, two small spurs of extra hair at upper curve, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, last 8 of date higher, B.P. to upper right, no final stop, 7.98g (McD 177; QM 133 R; Marsh 132; KM 10; Fr 20; S 3867A). *Some light bagmarks, good very fine and finer than the Quartermaster example.* £300-350

ex A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd sourced via Paul Davies Ltd, September 2006  
Calendar year mintage 2,830,000 of which 612 went for pyx trial.





**J.E.B. on edge of truncation**

- 795** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1888 M, Jubilee style bust left, J.E.B. on edge of truncation with an angled J, the letters intrude the field, second type legend with G: closer to crown, some die flaws in legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, weak hem to cape, horse with short tail, two small spurs of extra hair at upper curve, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, B.P. to upper right, no final stop, 7.99g (McD 177a; QM 134 S; Marsh 132; KM 10; Fr 20; S 3867B). *Some light bagmarks, spot by elbow on reverse, toned, otherwise practically as struck and more attractive than the Quartermaster example.* £350-450

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 12 November 1990  
Calendar year mintage 2,830,000 of which 612 went for pyx trial.

## The Extremely Rare 1888 Melbourne Proof Sovereign with second legend



- 796** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1888 M, Jubilee style bust left, J.E.B. on edge of truncation with an angled J, the letters intrude the field, second type legend with G: closer to crown, the top cross clear of the border circle, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, complete hem to cape, horse with short tail, two small spurs of extra hair at upper curve, dragon with all claws attached, three to upper arm, four to lower arm, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, B.P. complete to upper right, 7.98g (cf McD.177b; QM -; Marsh -; KM 10; Fr 20; cf S 3867B). *Toned as struck FDC and of the highest rarity, a beautiful coin.* £30,000-40,000

ex Paul Davies Ltd, purchased before 2005

For another example of one of these rare proofs of this second legend type see KJC Inaugural Monetary Auction, 10 June 2005, lot 809. These were struck in reaction to a request from the new Deputy Master, George Anderson, who wanted to mount a display of coins at the 1888 International Exhibition in Melbourne, following in the tradition of a display at the 1880 Exhibition by his predecessor. He made a request to the Royal Mint London to supply these proofs which was at first refused because C W Fremantle in London envisaged the request as a restrike of what had already been struck in 1880. However, Anderson reassured the mint he merely wanted examples of what may already be available in stock from 1880, rather than fresh strikes and other current productions as and when the mint could strike for them. Fremantle was happier with this second request and supplied Melbourne with specimen proof strikings from this date forward as long as they paid the face value for them. This started with the Colonial coins of 1888, including examples like this 1888 Proof Sovereign. For further reading on the subject of special strikings made by the mint for exhibition in Australia see the Journal of the Numismatic Association of Australia, volume 2, article by John Sharples "The Numismatic Collection of the Museum of Victoria" available online at the Association website. The McDonald publication for 2012 only lists the 1888M with the first type legend, probably a misprint as this proof of the second legend was listed as McD177a. Nevertheless the 1888M Proof is a major rarity and the variety listed by McDonald has a valuation in Proof quality of AU\$180,000 (or £121,000)



**thick hair spur on short horse tail**

**797 G Victoria**, Sovereign, 1889 M, Jubilee style bust left, J.E.B. on edge of truncation with an angled J, the letters intrude the field, second type legend with G: closer to crown, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, complete hem to cape, horse with short tail, with thick spur of extra hair at upper curve, dragon with all claws attached, four claws to each arm, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, B.P. to upper right, no final stop, 7.99g (McD 179a; QM 137-8 C; Marsh 133; KM 10; Fr 20; S 3867B). *Some light bagmarks, brilliant, good extremely fine and finer than the Quartermaster example.* £350-450

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 5 December 1989  
Calendar year mintage 2,732,000 of which 590 went for pyx trial.



**all dragon claws attached 4/4**

**798 G Victoria**, Sovereign, 1889 M, Jubilee style bust left, J.E.B. fully on truncation with an angled J, first type legend further from crown, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, hem of cape complete, horse with short tail, with thick spur of extra hair at upper curve, dragon with all claws attached, four claws to each arm, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, last 8 of date higher, B.P. to upper right, no final stop, 7.98g (McD 179; QM 136 S; cf Marsh 132; KM 10; Fr 20; S 3867A). *Some light bagmarks, extremely fine / good extremely fine and scarce.* £300-350

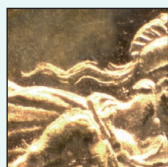
ex Spink and Son, purchased November 2003  
Calendar year mintage 2,732,000 of which 590 went for pyx trial.



**two extra spurs of hair on short horse tail and one dragon claw detached 3 / 4**

**799 G Victoria**, Sovereign, 1890 M, Jubilee style bust left, second type legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, complete hem to cape, horse with short tail, two spurs of extra hair at upper curve, dragon with one lower claw detached, three to upper arm, four to lower arm, M mint mark to right of centre of ground, date in exergue, B.P. to upper right, no final stop, 7.99g (McD 181; QM 142 S; Marsh 134; KM 10; Fr 20; S 3867B). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise practically as struck and scarce.* £350-450

Calendar year mintage 2,473,000 of which 537 went for pyx trial.



**longer strands in streamer, long tail of horse and curvy dragon claws**

- 800** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1891 M, long tail reverse, Jubilee style bust left, second type legend, die flaws at both letter D's in legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, longer individual strands in helmet streamer, heavier engraved rendition of cape, horse with long tail, with one light spur of extra hair at upper curve, dragon with four curved claws to each arm, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, B.P. to upper right, no final stop, 7.99g (McD 183a; QM 145 S; Marsh 135; KM 10; Fr 20; S 3867C). *Some light bagmarks, spot in legend, good extremely fine and scarce.* £350-450

Calendar year mintage 2,749,000 of which 592 went for pyx trial.



**dragon claws with one detached**

- 801** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1891 M, short tail reverse, Jubilee style bust left, second type legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, complete hem to cape, horse with short tail, two spurs of extra hair at upper curve, dragon with one lower claw detached, three to upper arm with trace of a fourth, four to lower arm, M mint mark, date in exergue, B.P. to upper right, no final stop, 7.97g (McD 183; QM 144 S; Marsh 135; KM 10; Fr 20; S 3867B). *Surface marks, good very fine to extremely fine and scarce.* £300-400

ex Reserve Bank of Australia Sale, Downies, November 2005, lot 2129, purchased through Winsor and Sons, December 2005

Calendar year mintage 2,749,000 of which 592 went for pyx trial.



**full B.P. in exergue**

- 802** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1892 M, long tail reverse, Jubilee style bust left, second type legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, longer individual strands in helmet streamer, horse with long tail, with one spur of extra hair at upper curve, dragon with four curved claws to each arm, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, full B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 185; QM 147 C; Marsh 136; KM 10; Fr 20; S 3867C). *Some light bagmarks, nicks and scuffs, otherwise brilliant, good extremely fine and scarce.* £350-450

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 12 November 1990

Calendar year mintage 3,488,000 of which 750 went for pyx trial. This is the highest calendar year output for the Melbourne mint in the Jubilee issue.



- 803** ♀ **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1893 M, long tail reverse, Jubilee style bust left, second type legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, with one light spur of extra hair at upper curve, dragon with four curved claws to each arm, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, full B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 188; QM 150 S; Marsh 137; KM 10; Fr 20; S 3867C). *Some light bagmarks, good extremely fine and on par with the Quartermaster collection example, scarce.* £350-450

ex Charles Stueve, Abbeygate Coins, Westhampton Beach, New York, c.1990

Calendar year mintage 1,649,000 of which 352 went for pyx trial.

See footnote to Lot 707 for more information about the use of the Jubilee head type for 1893 at the Branch Mints. There were less 1893 dated Jubilee Sovereigns struck at Melbourne than there were of the old head dated 1893.



## Melbourne Mint Victoria Old Head Type Sovereigns

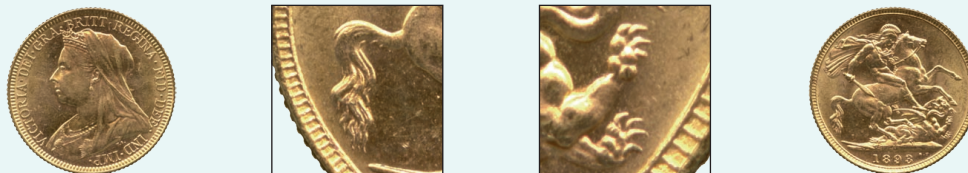
The old head type design commenced on the coinage in 1893 after a gestation of just over two years. This was a direct reaction to public criticism of the Jubilee type design, culminating in comment from the Queen herself on her own displeasure of the small crowned bust. The British Royal Mint introduced the new design on coinage dated from 1893 and whole proof sets containing all the designs were available to purchase.

For more information on the design process of the old head see part one of the Bentley Collection, before Lot 335. At this time the only Colonial Branch Mints in operation were the Sydney and Melbourne mints. They received the new design much later in the year and had already struck many Sovereigns of the older Jubilee type design in both mints. Sydney in fact struck more of the old design than the new old head for coins dated 1893, Melbourne vice versa. The full description of such a coin is as follows.



**Victoria (1837-1901)**, Sovereign, 1896 M, Melbourne Branch Mint, engraved by Thomas Brock, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, VICTORIA D:G: BRITT: REG: F: D: IND: IMP:, toothed border surrounding, *rev* struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, three strand streamer on helmet, horse with long tail, three strand end to tail, one spur of extra hair on curve of tail, dragon with four claws on each arm, broken lance on ground-line to left, *WWP* in relief under lance, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim, edge milled

### The 1893 M Old Head Sovereign muled with the reverse of the 1893 M Jubilee head issue



**one extra spur of hair in upper curve of tail and four long curved claws on each arm**

**804 ♀ Victoria (1837-1901)**, Sovereign, 1893 M, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, toothed border surrounding, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, one spur of extra hair on curve of tail, dragon with four curved claws attached on each arm, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim, 8.00g (McD 190; QM 152 S; Marsh 153; KM 13; Fr 24; S 3875). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine and appears to be finer than the Quartermaster coin, scarce.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 14 August 1992

Calendar year mintage 1,914,000 of which 400 went for pyx trial. This coin shares the same reverse die as the Jubilee head issue and is technically a mule.



**four short claws on each arm**

- 805** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1894 M, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, trace of a weak spur of extra hair on curve of tail, dragon with short claws of a 4/4 arrangement, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 192; QM 154 C; Marsh 154; KM 13; Fr 24; S 3875). *Some light bagmarks, scratch on cheek, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 5 December 1989  
Calendar year mintage 4,166,000 of which 874 went for pyx trial.



- 806** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1895 M, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, one spur of extra hair on curve of tail, dragon with short claws of a 4/4 arrangement, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 8.00g (McD 194; QM 157 C; Marsh 155; KM 13; Fr 24; S 3875). *A softer strike in a more yellow coloured gold, otherwise good extremely fine, previously graded by PCGS as MS66, appears to be finer than the Quartermaster coin.* £300-400

ex American Heritage Minting, Jenkintown, Pennsylvania, USA, purchased July 2002  
Calendar year mintage 4,165,000 of which 869 went for pyx trial.



**four curved claws on each arm**

- 807** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1896 M, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, one distinct spur of extra hair on curve of tail, dragon with more curved claws of a 4/4 arrangement, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 196; QM 159 C; Marsh 156; KM 13; Fr 24; S 3875). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine and appears to be finer than the Quartermaster coin.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 29 August 1990  
Calendar year mintage 4,456,000 of which 932 went for pyx trial.



- 808** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1897 M, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, one distinct spur of extra hair on curve of tail, dragon with more curved claws of a 4/4 arrangement, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 198; QM 162 C; Marsh 157; KM 13; Fr 24; S 3875). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine and appears to be finer than the Quartermaster coin.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 29 June 1990  
Calendar year mintage 5,129,500 of which 1,065 went for pyx trial.

## A proof-like and frosted 1897 Melbourne Sovereign



- 809** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1897 M, old veiled bust left, very sharply defined T.B. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, one distinct spur of extra hair on curve of tail, very sharply defined curved dragon claws, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g, 22mm (McD 198; cf QM 162 C; Marsh 157; KM 13; Fr 24; S 3875). *Proof-like, struck from dies with a frosted design and legend, if not struck from proof dies, this must be a very early striking with a currency style rim and edge, scuffed in the fields otherwise brilliant as struck and very unusual.* £400-600

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 12 November 1990

Calendar year mintage 5,129,500 of which 1,065 went for pyx trial. These unusually prooflike pieces tend to appear from the Sydney mint for 1893 only and the Melbourne Mints for each year of the old head series. According to McDonald there are proof specimens struck for every year of the Melbourne mint, which concurs with the agreement between the Deputy Master Anderson and the Royal Mint London to supply proof specimens each year, as detailed by John Sharples in his article on the Museum of Victoria in the Journal of the Numismatic Association of Australia, volume 2. McDonald values each year in Proof condition at \$180,000 (or £121,000) each for 2012.



- 810** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1898 M, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, one weak spur of extra hair on curve of tail, dragon with weaker curved claws of a 4/4 arrangement, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, raised die flaw to right of initials, 7.98g (McD 200; QM 164 C; Marsh 158; KM 13; Fr 24; S 3875). *Some light bagmarks, dig in hair, otherwise good extremely fine and appears to be on par with the Quartermaster coin.* £300-350

ex Ebay purchase, 2 April 2003

Calendar year mintage 5,508,000 of which 1,138 went for pyx trial.





- 811** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1899 M, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, raised die flaw on C of queen's name, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, one weak spur of extra hair on curve of tail, dragon with curved claws of a 4/4 arrangement, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, last sop more distant, 7.98g (McD 202; QM 166 C; Marsh 159; KM 13; Fr 24; S 3875). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 13 August 1992

Calendar year mintage 5,578,000 of which 1,157 went for pyx trial. This year represents the highest calendar year output of an old head design at the Melbourne mint. In fact it is the highest output ever from this mint for any gold Sovereign from 1872-1931.



- 812** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1900 M, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, very weak spur of extra hair on curve of tail, dragon with curved claws of a 4/4 arrangement, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 205; QM 169 C; Marsh 160; KM 13; Fr 24; S 3875). *Some light bagmarks, softly struck, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased October 1990

Calendar year mintage 4,305,000 of which 904 went for pyx trial.



- 813** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1901 M, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, heavy die flaw across FID: DEF: of legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, horse with long tail, one spur of extra hair on curve of tail, dragon with curved claws of a 4/4 arrangement, M mint mark at centre of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 208; QM 172 C; Marsh 161; KM 13; Fr 24; S 3875). *Some light bagmarks, a little weak of strike, otherwise brilliant good extremely fine and appears to be finer than the Quartermaster coin.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 3,986,000 of which 1,701 went for pyx trial. 1901 marks the year that the highest ever number of such pieces were set aside for this purpose.

Queen Victoria died on 22 January 1901

**The Reign of King Edward VII (1901-1910)**  
**House of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha**

**Born:** 9 November 1841

**Accession:** 22 January 1901

**Married:** Alexandra of Denmark 10 March 1863

**Coronation:** Saturday, 9 August 1902

**Children:** three sons, three daughters

**Died:** 6 May 1910, aged 68



- 814** 9 **Edward VII (1901-1910)**, Sovereign, 1902 M, Melbourne mint, engraved by George William De Saulles, bare head facing right, *des.* below, toothed border and raised rim, EDWARDVS VII D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, *rev* struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, cloak with practically complete hemline, two thick stand helmet streamer, horse with long tail, ending in three strands, with one spur higher up at curve, broken lance on ground-line to left, *WWP* in relief under lance, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim, edge milled, 7.99g (McD 211; QM 178 (part); KM 15; Fr 33; Marsh 186; S 3971). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 4,265,000 of which 2,157 went for pyx trial. This marks the highest calendar year mintage at the Melbourne mint in the reign of King Edward VII.



- 815** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1903 M, bare head facing right, *des.* below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 214; QM 179 (part); KM 15; Fr 33; Marsh 187; S 3971). *Some light bagmarks across face, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 6 February 1990  
 Calendar year mintage 3,520,000 of which 1,780 went for pyx trial.



- 816** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1904 M, bare head facing right, Des. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 217; QM 180 (part); KM 15; Fr 33; Marsh 188; S 3971). *Streak of tone on reverse with a few light bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 6 February 1990  
Calendar year mintage 3,742,000 of which 1,897 went for pyx trial.



- 817** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1905 M, bare head facing right, Des. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 220; QM 181 (part); KM 15; Fr 33; Marsh 189; S 3971). *A few light bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine, a little weaker on the reverse.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased c.1998  
Calendar year mintage 3,632,000 of which 1,838 went for pyx trial.



- 818** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1906 M, bare head facing right, Des. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 223; QM 182 (part); KM 15; Fr 33; Marsh 190; S 3971). *A few light bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-350

ex David L Cannon collection, Cincinnati, Ohio, USA, purchased 19 September 1989  
Calendar year mintage 3,656,000 of which 1,853 went for pyx trial.



- 819** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1907 M, bare head facing right, Des. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 226; QM 183 (part); KM 15; Fr 33; Marsh 191; S 3971). *A few light bagmarks, hairline scratch on the reverse, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased c.1998  
Calendar year mintage 3,331,000 of which 1,691 went for pyx trial.





- 820** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1908 M, bare head facing right, des. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 229; QM 184 (part); KM 15; Fr 33; Marsh 192; S 3971). *A few light bagmarks and other surface marks, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased c.1998  
Calendar year mintage 3,078,500 of which 1,648 went for pyx trial.



- 821** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1909 M, bare head facing right, des. below, raised die flaw to right of second R in legend from rim to head, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 232; QM 185 (part); KM 15; Fr 33; Marsh 193; S 3971). *A few light bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-350

ex David L Cannon collection, Cincinnati, Ohio, USA, purchased 19 September 1989  
Calendar year mintage 3,028,000 of which 1,538 went for pyx trial.



- 822** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1910 M, bare head facing right, des. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 235; QM 186 (part); KM 15; Fr 33; Marsh 194; S 3971). *A few light bagmarks and hairlines, otherwise extremely fine to good extremely fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 3,053,000 of which 1,547 went for pyx trial.  
King Edward VII died on 6 May 1910

**The Reign of King George V (1910-1936)**  
House of Windsor

Born: 3 June 1865

Accession: 6 May 1910

Married: Mary of Teck, 6 July 1893

Coronation: Thursday, 22 June 1911,  
second Coronation as Emperor of India at  
the Delhi Durbar, Tuesday, 12 December 1911

Children: five sons, one daughter

Died: 20 January 1936, aged 70



**823** *g* **George V (1910-1936)**, Sovereign, 1911 M, Melbourne mint, designed by Edgar Bertram Mackennal, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, toothed border and raised rim, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, *rev* struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with three strand streamer, horse with long tail, ending in three strands, with one spur higher up at curve, broken lance on ground-line to left, *WWP* in relief under lance, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim, edge milled, 7.99g (McD 238; QM 187; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 229; S 3999). *Scratch in field by forehead, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-400

ex VP Coins, Maryborough, Queensland, 8 October 2001  
Calendar year mintage 2,850,000 of which 1,451 went for pyx trial.



- 824** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1911 M, struck with an off-centre die-axis, obverse a little off-centre with a thick rim, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, *rev* struck at a 45 degree die axis, St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 238; QM 187; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 229; S 3999). *Surface marks and hairlines, good very fine and unusual.* £300-400

ex Paul Davies Ltd, purchased June 2008

Calendar year mintage 2,850,000 of which 1,451 went for pyx trial.



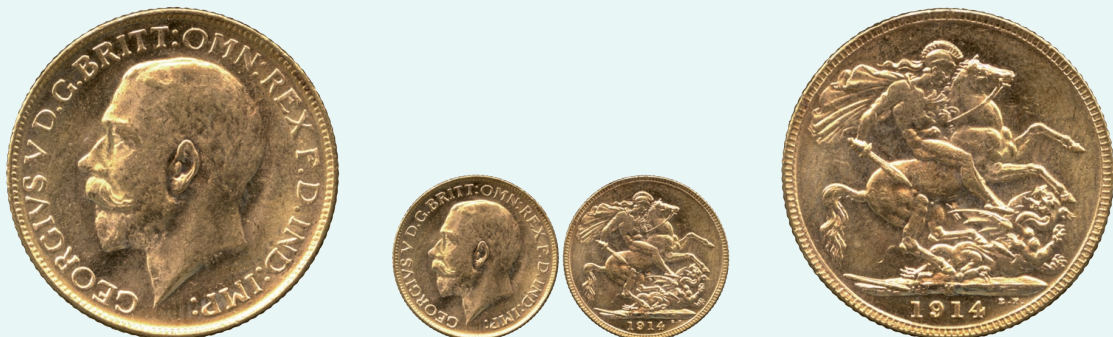
- 825** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1912 M, head left, B.M. on truncation, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 241; QM 188; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 230; S 3999). *Surface marks, three small nicks on head, good extremely fine.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 2,468,000 of which 1,257 went for pyx trial.



- 826** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1913 M, head left, B.M. on truncation, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 244; QM 189; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 231; S 3999). *Surface marks and nicks, small scratch on neck, slightly weaker strike on reverse with an uneven tone, otherwise extremely fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 2,322,000 of which 1,180 went for pyx trial.



- 827** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1914 M, head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weaker and smaller, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 247; QM 190; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 232; S 3999). *Softly struck, some residual dirt in the milling, attractively toned practically as struck.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 2,011,000 of which 1,029 went for pyx trial.





- 828 Ɔ **George V**, Sovereign, 1915 M, head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weaker and smaller, die flaw from tip of neck, other light flaws at first D and second T of legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 250; QM 191; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 233; S 3999). *Softly struck, some surface marks, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 1,637,000 of which 839 went for pyx trial.



- 829 Ɔ **George V**, Sovereign, 1916 M, head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weaker and smaller, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 253; QM 192; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 234; S 3999). *Softly struck, surface marks and nicks, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 1,272,000 of which 634 went for pyx trial.



- 830 Ɔ **George V**, Sovereign, 1917 M, head left, B.M. on truncation, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 256; QM 193; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 235 S; S 3999). *Well struck, some surface marks and hairlines, otherwise extremely fine to good extremely fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 934,000 of which 469 went for pyx trial.



- 831 Ɔ **George V**, Sovereign, 1918 M, head left, B.M. on truncation, light raised die flaw at first D of legend, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 259; QM 194; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 236; S 3999). *Reverse rim nick, black spot on dragon shoulder, some bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 4,907,000 of which 2,493 went for pyx trial. This represents the highest calendar year output of Sovereigns for the Melbourne mint in the reign of George V.



- 832 Ɔ **George V**, Sovereign, 1919 M, head left, B.M. on truncation, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 262; QM 195; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 237 S; S 3999). *Light surface marks, good extremely fine and rare.* £400-600

Calendar year mintage 514,000 of which 257 went for pyx trial.

## The Very Rare 1920 Melbourne Mint George V Sovereign



**833** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1920 M, head left, B.M. on truncation, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 265; QM 197 R; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 238 R2; S 3999). *Light surface marks and nicks, good extremely fine and very rare.* £4000-5000

ex Winsor and Sons, Jamberoo, NSW Australia, purchased c.2004

Calendar year mintage 530,000 of which 266 went for pyx trial.

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates AUNC quality 1920M Sovereign at a valuation of AU\$11,750 (or £7,900)

## The Extremely Rare 1921 Melbourne Mint George V Sovereign



**834** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1921 M, head left, B.M. on truncation, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 268; QM 200 R3; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 239 R3; S 3999). *Light surface marks, good extremely fine, compares well with the Quartermaster collection coin and is less surface marked, therefore perhaps better, extremely rare.* £10,000-12,000

ex Noble Numismatics Sale 66, 28 March 2001, lot 1302

Calendar year mintage 240,000 of which 121 went for pyx trial.

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates AUNC quality 1921M Sovereign at a valuation of AU\$38,000 (or £25,600)

## The Very Rare 1922 Melbourne Mint George V Sovereign



- 835** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1922 M, head left, B.M. on truncation, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, light die flaw from date figures to ground line, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 271; QM 203 R2; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 240 R2; S 3999). *Light surface marks and nicks, short light scratch on rump of horse, otherwise good extremely fine, appears to be on par with the Quartermaster collection coin, very rare.* £7000-9000

ex Jaggards, Sydney, Australia, purchased 13 June 2001

Calendar year mintage 608,000 of which 306 went for pyx trial.

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates AUNC quality 1922M Sovereign at a valuation of AU\$23,000 (or £15,500)



- 836** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1923 M, head left, B.M. on truncation, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 274; QM 206 C; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 241 R; S 3999). *Light surface marks and nicks, a little residual dirt in obverse legend, good extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 13 June 1997

Calendar year mintage 510,870 of which 259 went for pyx trial.





- 837** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1924 M, head left, B.M. on truncation, slight raised die flaw in part of king's name, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 277; QM 209 C; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 242 R; S 3999). *Some obverse rim nicks, light surface marks, otherwise practically as struck* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased December 1990  
Calendar year mintage 278,000 of which 140 went for pyx trial.



- 838** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1925 M, head left, B.M. on truncation, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 280; QM 212 C; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 243; S 3999). *A few tiny marks otherwise good extremely fine, practically as struck.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 3,310,000 of which 1,662 went for pyx trial.



- 839** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1926 M, head left, B.M. on truncation, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 283; QM 215 S; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 244 R; S 3999). *Reverse rim nick, some light surface marks, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 13 June 1997  
Calendar year mintage 211,000 of which 107 went for pyx trial. This is the lowest calendar year output for the Melbourne mint under George V. However there are no examples known of 1927 dated Melbourne mint sovereigns, though output continued in the calendar year for 1927 to the tune of 310,000 pieces. Therefore probably most, if not all were dated 1926, of these 156 went for pyx trial. This explains why the 1926 M is not such a rare date as other years with higher calendar year outputs. Strangely, Marsh lists a 1927 M as number 245 rated R2, probably as an assumption of existence as it is almost certain he never saw a specimen.

## The Rare 1928 Melbourne Mint George V Sovereign



**840 g George V, Sovereign, 1928 M, head left, B.M. on truncation, rev St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 287; QM 218 R; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 246 R2; S 3999). *Light surface marks, brilliant good extremely fine and rare.* £2000-2500**

Calendar year mintage 413,000 of which 208 went for pyx trial.

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates AUNC quality 1928M Sovereign at a valuation of AU\$5,250 (or £3,500)

## The Rare 1929 Melbourne Mint George V Sovereign



**841 g George V, Sovereign, 1929 M, second smaller head left, BM on truncation, no stops, linear outer circle with grained border teeth compartments and rim both sides, rev slightly smaller design therefore with a deeper exergue, St George slaying dragon with sword, no WWP initials under lance anymore, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 289; QM 220 R; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 247 R3; S 4000). *Spot in obverse field, hairlined, otherwise toned, good extremely fine and rare.* £2000-2500**

ex Noble Numismatics Sale 66, 28 March 2001, lot 1320

Calendar year mintage 436,719 of which 219 went for pyx trial.

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates AUNC quality 1929M Sovereign at a valuation of AU\$5,200 (or £3,500)



## The Extremely Rare Proof 1929 Melbourne Mint George V Sovereign



- 842** 9 **George V**, Proof Sovereign, 1929 M, second smaller head left, BM on truncation, *rev* smaller St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g, 22.1mm (McD 289; QM -; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh -; S 4000). *Lightly toned, as struck and of the highest rarity, there being no specimen in the Quartermaster collection.* £30,000-40,000

The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates Proof quality 1929M Sovereign at a valuation of AU\$195,000 (or £131,000)



- 843** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1930 M, second smaller head left, BM on truncation, *rev* smaller St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 291; QM 222 S; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 248 R; S 4000). *Small dig on second O in legend and other light marks, otherwise proof-like, practically as struck and scarce.* £300-400

Calendar year mintage 77,547 of which 41 went for pyx trial.



- 844** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1931 M, second smaller head left, BM on truncation, *rev* smaller St George slaying dragon with sword, M mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 293; QM 224 S; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 249 R2; S 4000). *Some light marks and nicks, otherwise practically as struck and scarce.* £400-600

ex Charles Stueve, Abbeygate Coins, Westhampton Beach, New York, c.1990

Calendar year mintage 57,779 of which 30 went for pyx trial. This is the smallest and final calendar year output of gold sovereigns at the Melbourne mint. It is not a great rarity today, as usually last issues of a coin become somewhat symbolic and were probably kept as souvenirs of the Melbourne mint.



## The Perth Mint



### **The Reign of Queen Victoria (1837-1901)** **House of Hanover**

**Born:** 24 May 1819

**Accession:** 20 June 1837

**Married:** Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha  
10 February 1840

**Coronation:** Thursday 28 June 1838

**Children:** four sons, five daughters

**Died:** 22 January 1901, aged 81

### **Perth Mint Victoria Old Head Type Sovereigns**

Gold was first discovered in Western Australia around Hall's Creek in 1884 and gold mines became established at Kimberley in 1886. Production increased until in 1892 over £226,000 was produced from the Western goldfields alone. That year a new goldmine was discovered at Coolgardie and in the next two years the production of gold increased to over one million pounds in value. The Colony in Western Australia had been granted Government in 1890, with John Forrest as the first Premier and Treasurer and it was he who was instrumental in establishing the Perth mint to follow suit with the Sydney and Melbourne branches.

Permission was granted for a mint from London in 1894, as long as certain conditions were adhered to. The Perth mint Bill went through Assembly in July 1895 and a design with requirements for the new two storey building to house the Mint was prepared by Horace Seymour, the Deputy Master of the Royal Mint in London. The drawings by the Public Works Department were contracted and signed off 12 June 1896 with builders for a sum of £22,000 to be completed in 12 months, but this was put on hold till the architect returned in 1897 and a renegotiation was necessary with a new completion date of 1 January 1898. A Proclamation for the new Mint was ratified by Queen Victoria 13 October 1897, that all gold coins to be struck would carry the mint letter P.

However, as usual with all large building projects, there were some delays, and the Perth mint building was finally completed 17 October 1898. The keys were handed over for the empty building officially to the Deputy Master John Francis Campbell in November 1898, at which point the fitting of the minting machinery commenced. The mint was ready to go as of June 1899 and the very first Perth mint Sovereign was struck 20 June 1899 and presented to the Governor, Sir Gerard Smith.

When the Perth mint ceased minting Imperial type gold Sovereigns dated 1931, the total quantity of all Sovereigns at this branch mint stood at 106,384,197 pieces, including those sent for pyx trial assay. This figure is quoted by Capt J J Cullimore Allen, along with the individual year totals of coins issued. When added the individual totals equal the overall quantity.



- 845** 9 **Victoria (1837-1901)**, Sovereign, 1899 P, Perth mint, engraved by Thomas Brock, old veiled bust left, T.B. below, VICTORIA D:G: BRITT: REG: F: D: IND: IMP:, toothed border surrounding, *rev* struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, three strand streamer on helmet, horse with long tail, three strand end to tail, one spur of extra hair on curve of tail, dragon with four short curved claws on each arm, broken lance on ground-line to left, *WWP* in relief under lance, P mint mark at bottom of ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim, edge milled, 7.99g (McD 203; QM 167 S; Marsh 171 R; KM 13; Fr 25; S 3876). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise weak extremely fine / good extremely fine and rare.* £400-600

ex Monetarium, Kogarah, Australia, purchased 17 March 2003  
Calendar year mintage 690,992.



- 846** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1900 P, old veiled bust left, raised die flaw in part of queen's name, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 206; QM 170 S; Marsh 172; KM 13; Fr 25; S 3876). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine and appears to be finer than the Quartermaster example, scarce.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 23 April 1993  
Calendar year mintage 1,886,089



- 847** 9 **Victoria**, Sovereign, 1901 P, old veiled bust left, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right more rounded distinctive stops, 7.98g (McD 209; QM 173 S; Marsh 173; KM 13; Fr 25; S 3876). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine and appears to be on par with the Quartermaster example, scarce.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 29 June 1990  
Calendar year mintage 2,889,333  
Queen Victoria died on 22 January 1901

**The Reign of King Edward VII (1901-1910)**  
**House of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha**

**Born:** 9 November 1841

**Accession:** 22 January 1901

**Married:** Alexandra of Denmark 10 March 1863

**Coronation:** Saturday, 9 August 1902

**Children:** three sons, three daughters

**Died:** 6 May 1910, aged 68



**848 9 Edward VII (1901-1910), Sovereign, 1902 P, Perth mint, engraved by George William De Saulles, bare head facing right, des. below, toothed border and raised rim, EDWARDVS VII D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:; rev struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, cloak with complete hemline, two stand helmet streamer, horse with long tail, ending in three strands, with one spur higher up at curve, broken lance on ground-line to left, WWP in relief under lance, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim, edge milled, 8.00g (McD 212; QM 178 (part); KM 15; Fr 34; Marsh 195; S 3972). *Some light bagmarks, otherwise attractively toned good extremely fine.* £300-350**

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 23 April 1993  
 Calendar year mintage 4,289,122





- 849** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1903 P, bare head facing right, Des. below doubled, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 215; QM 179 (part); KM 15; Fr 34; Marsh 196; S 3972). *Some light bagmarks, black spot on ground-line, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 4,674,783



- 850** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1904 P, bare head facing right, Des. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 218; QM 180 (part); KM 15; Fr 34; Marsh 197; S 3972). *Rim nick on the reverse, some surface marks and hairlines, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 2 June 1995  
Calendar year mintage 4,506,756



- 851** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1905 P, bare head facing right, Des. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, some light die flaws around date and initials, 7.98g (McD 221; QM 181 (part); KM 15; Fr 34; Marsh 198; S 3972). *A few light bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 23 April 1993  
Calendar year mintage 4,876,193



- 852** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1906 P, bare head facing right, Des. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 224; QM 182 (part); KM 15; Fr 34; Marsh 199; S 3972). *A few light bagmarks, a pleasing extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased c.1998  
Calendar year mintage 4,829,817



- 853** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1907 P, bare head facing right, Des. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 227; QM 183 (part); KM 15; Fr 34; Marsh 200; S 3972). *A few light bagmarks and dig under chin in field, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 6 February 1990  
Calendar year mintage 4,972,289. This calendar year represents the pinnacle of Perth mint Sovereign production.



- 854** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1908 P, bare head facing right, Des. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 230; QM 184 (part); KM 15; Fr 34; Marsh 201; S 3972). *A few light surface marks and nicks, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 23 April 1993  
Calendar year mintage 4,875,617



- 855** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1909 P, bare head facing right, Des. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 233; QM 185 (part); KM 15; Fr 34; Marsh 202; S 3972). *A few light bagmarks, very softly struck otherwise good extremely fine for a weak strike.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 4,524,241



- 856** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1910 P, bare head facing right, Des. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 236; QM 186 (part); KM 15; Fr 34; Marsh 203; S 3972). *A few light nicks and hairlines, otherwise unevenly toned, good extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 23 April 1993  
Calendar year mintage 4,690,625  
King Edward VII died on 6 May 1910



## The Reign of King George V (1910-1936) House of Windsor

**Born:** 3 June 1865

**Accession:** 6 May 1910

**Married:** Mary of Teck, 6 July 1893

**Coronation:** Thursday, 22 June 1911,  
second Coronation as Emperor of India at  
the Delhi Durbar, Tuesday, 12 December 1911

**Children:** five sons, one daughter

**Died:** 20 January 1936, aged 70



**857** 9 **George V (1910-1936), Sovereign, 1911 P, Perth mint, designed by Edgar Bertram Mackennal, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, toothed border and raised rim, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, rev struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with three strand streamer, horse with long tail, ending in three strands, with one spur higher up at curve, broken lance on ground-line to left, *WWP* in relief under lance, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, lightly die flawed figures, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim, edge milled, 7.99g (McD 239; QM 187; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 250; S 4001). A few tiny bagmarks, otherwise good extremely fine.** £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 23 April 1993  
Calendar year mintage 4,373,165



**858** 9 **George V, Sovereign, 1912 P, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, rev with die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 242; QM 188; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 251; S 4001). A few surface marks and nicks, otherwise good extremely fine.** £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 23 April 1993  
Calendar year mintage 4,278,144





- 859** Ɔ **George V**, Sovereign, 1913 P, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, *rev* with die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 8.00g (McD 245; QM 189; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 252; S 4001). *A few light surface marks, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Noble Numismatics Sale 66, 28 March 2001, lot 1297  
Calendar year mintage 4,635,287



- 860** Ɔ **George V**, Sovereign, 1914 P, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and small, *rev* with die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 248; QM 190; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 253; S 4001). *A few light hairlines and surface marks, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 23 April 1993  
Calendar year mintage 4,815,996



- 861** Ɔ **George V**, Sovereign, 1915 P, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and small, *rev* with die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 251; QM 191; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 254; S 4001). *Some bagmarks and surface marks with nicks, red tone, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 23 April 1993  
Calendar year mintage 4,373,596



- 862** Ɔ **George V**, Sovereign, 1916 P, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and small, *rev* with die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 254; QM 192; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 255 S; S 4001). *A few light surface marks, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 23 April 1993  
Calendar year mintage 4,096,771



- 863** *G* **George V**, Sovereign, 1917 P, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and small, *rev* with die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, filled in upper part, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 257; QM 193; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 256 S; S 4001). *A few light surface marks, some spots, otherwise practically as struck.* £300-400

ex Ebay purchase, 21 August 2001  
Calendar year mintage 4,110,286



- 864** *G* **George V**, Sovereign, 1918 P, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and small, *rev* with die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 260; QM 194; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 257; S 4001). *A few light surface marks, otherwise practically as struck.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased c.1997  
Calendar year mintage 3,812,884



- 865** *G* **George V**, Sovereign, 1919 P, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop absent, *rev* with die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 263; QM 195; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 258; S 4001). *A few light surface marks, otherwise good extremely fine, practically as struck.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased October 1991  
Calendar year mintage 2,995,216



- 866** *G* **George V**, Sovereign, 1920 P, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and small, *rev* with die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 8.00g (McD 266; QM 198; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 259; S 4001). *A few light surface marks, unevenly toned, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased c.1997  
Calendar year mintage 2,421,196



- 867** *G* **George V**, Sovereign, 1921 P, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop absent, *rev* with die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 269; QM 201; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 260; S 4001). *Blemish by mouth with some hairlines, otherwise practically as struck.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 23 April 1993  
Calendar year mintage 2,314,360



- 868** *G* **George V**, Sovereign, 1922 P, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop absent, *rev* with die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 272; QM 204; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 261; S 4001). *A few light surface marks and a little softly struck, otherwise practically as struck.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 23 April 1993  
Calendar year mintage 2,298,884



- 869** *G* **George V**, Sovereign, 1923 P, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and small, *rev* with die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 275; QM 207; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 262; S 4001). *A few light surface marks, otherwise uncirculated.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased October 1991  
Calendar year mintage 2,124,154



- 870** *G* **George V**, Sovereign, 1924 P, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop very weak and small, *rev* with die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 278; QM 210; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 263; S 4001). *A few light surface marks, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 23 April 1993  
Calendar year mintage 1,464,416





- 871** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1925 P, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop absent, parts of legend lightly die flawed, *rev* with die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 281; QM 213 S; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 264 S; S 4001). *A few light surface marks, dark tone, otherwise good extremely fine and scarce.* £400-600

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 23 April 1993  
Calendar year mintage 1,837,901

## The Rarest Currency George V Perth Mint Sovereign the 1926 P



- 872** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1926 P, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and small, *rev* with die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 284; QM 216 S; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 265 R; S 4001). *A few light surface marks, light tone, otherwise good extremely fine and the rarest date to find for the George V Perth mint series.* £1500-2000

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 4 November 2000  
Calendar year mintage 1,313,578  
The McDonald catalogue for 2012 rates AUNC quality 1926P Sovereign at a valuation of AU\$3,600 (or £2,400)



- 873** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1927 P, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and small, parts of legend lightly die flawed, *rev* with die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 286; QM 217 S; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 266 S; S 4001). *Lightly toned, practically as struck and scarce.* £400-600

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased October 1991  
Calendar year mintage 1,383,544



- 874** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1928 P, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop very weak and small, parts of legend lightly die flawed, *rev* with die axis slightly off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 288; QM 219 S; KM 29; Fr 40; Marsh 267 S; S 4001). *A few light marks, practically as struck and scarce.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 23 April 1993  
Calendar year mintage 1,333,417



- 875** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1929 P, second smaller head left, BM on truncation, no stops, linear outer circle with grained border teeth compartments and rim both sides, *rev* slightly smaller design therefore with a deeper exergue, St George slaying dragon with sword, no WWP initials under lance anymore, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 290; QM 221; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 268 S; S 4002). *A few light surface marks, extremely fine to good extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 23 April 1993  
Calendar year mintage 1,606,625



- 876** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1930 P, second smaller head left, BM on truncation, some light die flaws in legend, *rev* smaller St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (McD 292; QM 223; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 269 R; S 4002). *A few light surface marks, otherwise uncirculated.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased October 1991  
Calendar year mintage 1,915,352



- 877** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1931 P, second smaller head left, BM on truncation, some light die flaws in legend, *rev* smaller St George slaying dragon with sword, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 8.00g (McD 294; QM 225; KM 29; Fr 39; Marsh 270 S; S 4002). *A few light surface marks, otherwise good extremely fine.* £300-400

ex Ebay purchase from Queensland, Australia, 21 August 2001  
Calendar year mintage 1,173,568. This is the lowest and final calendar year output for Sovereigns during the reign of George V.

## The Extremely Rare 1931 Perth Mint Proof Sovereign



**878 G George V**, Proof Sovereign, 1931 P, second smaller head left, BM on truncation, no stops, linear outer circle with grained border teeth compartments and rim both sides, *rev* slightly smaller design therefore with a deeper exergue, St George slaying dragon with sword, no *WWP* initials under lance, P mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (McD 294 and note; QM -; KM -; Fr 39; Marsh -; S 4002). *Mint state and of the highest rarity.* £30,000-40,000

ex Mr Agnew collection, Director of Channon Consolidated Goldfields, c.1931

ex Agnew Family collection, sold to Spink and Son privately c.1994

ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)

No doubt these proofs were struck to mark the end of the production of gold Sovereigns at the Perth mint and were a VIP gift to prominent people involved in the mining and minting process. The cataloguer was present when this coin changed hands, c.1994, and the grandfather of the vendor was one of the Agnew family who was a Director of Channon Consolidated Goldfields at the time of the coins issue. This company was a conglomerate first formed in 1887 and eventually bought out by Hanson plc in 1988.

This coin is mentioned in the footnote of the McDonald publication and is apparently one of only two specimen proofs in private hands. The McDonald catalogue gives this proof coin of 1931 at Perth a valuation of AU\$210,000 (or £141,150).



## CANADA

### Ottawa, Canada Mint

Following the discovery of gold deposits in the Yukon in 1900, the Canadian Government requested a right to coin the gold into Sovereigns. The new mint would have to be a Branch of the Royal Mint and in 1901 the Canadian House of Commons allowed funding for a branch at Ottawa and Royal assent was received. This caused some consternation, as gold was not common in trade as a whole and was really only seen on the western side of the country. Building did not actually start until 1905 and took nearly three years, opening 2 January 1908 with the economist James Bonar (1852-1941) as Deputy Master. Production from then onwards was sporadic at best, until an end in 1919 with less than one million gold Sovereigns struck in total and no half-sovereigns. The Branch Mint status was retained until the last year that British Imperial Sovereigns were struck in Australia in 1931, when it became the Royal Canadian Mint in its own right. The total output of gold Sovereigns issued in the entire period was a mere 627,834 pieces, including 318 pieces for pyx trial; miniscule compared to Australian branch mints.



### **The Reign of King Edward VII (1901-1910)** House of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha

**Born:** 9 November 1841

**Accession:** 22 January 1901

**Married:** Alexandra of Denmark 10 March 1863

**Coronation:** Saturday, 9 August 1902

**Children:** three sons, three daughters

**Died:** 6 May 1910, aged 68



The Extremely Rare 1908 Canada Sovereign  
Struck to a Satin Specimen Finish



**879 g Edward VII (1901-1910),** Satin Finish Proof Sovereign, 1908 C, Ottawa, Canada mint, engraved by George William de Saulles, bare head facing right, Des. below, toothed border and raised rim, EDWARDVS VII D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, *rev* struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, cloak with complete hemline, two stand helmet streamer, horse with long tail, ending in three strands, with one spur higher up at curve, broken lance on ground-line to left, *WWP* in relief under lance, C mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim, edge milled, 8.00g (KM 14; Fr 1; Marsh 183 R6; S 3970). *One tiny spot after VII of legend, otherwise superb with a wonderful satin finish, mint state and extremely rare.* £4000-5000

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 19 September 1992

Calendar year mintage 636 pieces including 10 which were sent for pyx trial.

All the 1908 Canada specimens were struck to this satin finish in commemoration of the inauguration of the Ottawa Mint.



## The Excessively Rare 1909 Canada Sovereign Struck to a Satin Specimen Finish



**880** 9 **Edward VII**, Satin Finish Proof Sovereign, 1909 C, bare head facing right, des. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, C mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (KM 14; Fr 1; Marsh -; S 3970). *One tiny spot after D: G: of legend, one very small rim bruise, otherwise superb with a wonderful satin finish, mint state and of the highest rarity.* £6000-8000

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 19 September 1992

This amazing coin was struck with the same proof satin finish as the 1908 pieces and was therefore probably struck at the beginning of the run of 1909 dated Sovereigns. It stands out when comparing the coin side by side with a regular 1909 currency piece and clearly matches the finish on the 1908 Sovereign in the previous lot.



**881** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1909 C, bare head facing right, des. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, C mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (KM 14; Fr 1; Marsh 184 R2; S 3970). *Some very light surface marks, otherwise good extremely fine and very rare.* £400-500

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 27 January 1994

Calendar year mintage 16,273 pieces including 27 which were sent for pyx trial.



**882** 9 **Edward VII**, Sovereign, 1910 C, bare head facing right, des. below, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, C mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (KM 14; Fr 1; Marsh 185 R2; S 3970). *Some very light surface marks, otherwise as struck and very rare.* £500-600

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 22 March 1990

Calendar year mintage 28,012 pieces including 8 which were sent for pyx trial.

King Edward VII died on 6 May 1910



**The Reign of King George V (1910-1936)**  
House of Windsor

**Born:** 3 June 1865

**Accession:** 6 May 1910

**Married:** Mary of Teck, 6 July 1893

**Coronation:** Thursday, 22 June 1911,  
second Coronation as Emperor of India at  
the Delhi Durbar, Tuesday, 12 December 1911

**Children:** five sons, one daughter

**Died:** 20 January 1936, aged 70



**The Extremely Rare Specimen Striking of the First Canadian Sovereign of George V**



**883** *G* **George V (1910-1936)**, Specimen Sovereign, 1911 C, Ottawa, Canada mint, struck to a specimen satin finish, designed by Edgar Bertram Mackennal, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, toothed border and raised rim, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, *rev* struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with three strand streamer, horse with long tail, ending in three strands, with one spur higher up at curve, broken lance on ground-line to left, *WWP* in relief under lance, C mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim, edge milled, 7.98g, 21.9mm (KM 20; Fr 2; Marsh -; cf S 3997). *Listed by KM with no valuation, slight red patches of tone on rump of horse and reverse rim, otherwise mint state as struck, previously graded by PCGS as SP67, and of the highest rarity.* £8000-10,000

ex Proof Positive Coins, Nova Scotia, Canada, 3 August 2002

PCGS show a total of 11 pieces in specimen grade on their population report.



- 884** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1911 C, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, C mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 8.00g (KM 20; Fr 2; Marsh 221 S; S 3997). *Some nicks in obverse field and over St George helmet, otherwise good extremely fine, practically as struck.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 14 August 1992  
Calendar year mintage 256,946 pieces including 102 which were sent for pyx trial.



- 885** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1913 C, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, C mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (KM 20; Fr 2; Marsh 222 R4; S 3997). *Some light hairlines, light streak of tone under neck on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine, rare.* £1200-1500

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 31 July 1990  
Calendar year mintage 3,715 pieces including 2 which were sent for pyx trial.



- 886** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1914 C, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, C mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (KM 20; Fr 2; Marsh 223 R3; S 3997). *Some light surface marks both sides, scratch below chin, otherwise good extremely fine, scarce.* £500-600

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 6 April 1990  
Calendar year mintage 14,891 pieces including 9 which were sent for pyx trial.



## The Key Date to the Canadian Sovereign Series the George V 1916 C



- 887** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1916 C, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, C mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (KM 20; Fr 2; Marsh 224 R5; S 3997). *A few very tiny light marks, otherwise as struck and extremely rare, the key date.* £10,000-12,000

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 6 April 1990  
Calendar year mintage 6,111 pieces including 8 which were sent for pyx trial.



- 888** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1917 C, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, C mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (KM 20; Fr 2; Marsh 225 R; S 3997). *Tiny spot near B of legend, otherwise practically as struck.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 6 April 1990  
Calendar year mintage 58,845 pieces including 30 which were sent for pyx trial.



- 889** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1918 C, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, C mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (KM 20; Fr 2; Marsh 226 S; S 3997). *Once cleaned with some heavy bagmarks and scuffs, otherwise extremely fine, scarce.* £300-350

ex David L Cannon collection, Cincinnati, Ohio, 19 September 1989  
Calendar year mintage 106,516 pieces including 54 which were sent for pyx trial.



- 890** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1919 C, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, C mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (KM 20; Fr 2; Marsh 227 S; S 3997). *Some light surface marks both sides, patchy red tone, otherwise good extremely fine, scarce.* £300-350

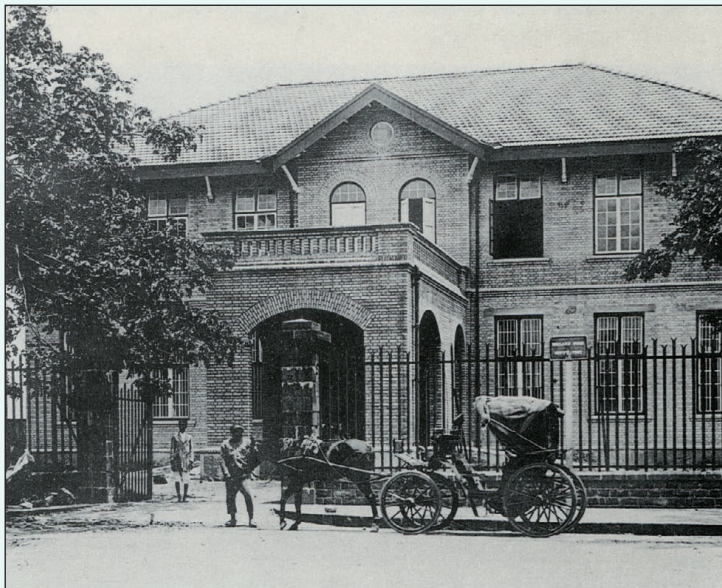
ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 17 August 1996  
Calendar year mintage 135,889 pieces including 68 which were sent for pyx trial.



## BRITISH INDIA

### Bombay, India Mint (now Mumbai)

The Bombay Branch Mint had been proposed since the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century and was prompted by an active export trade, which demanded to finance heavy movements of coin and also for disbursements to Indian troops. Building and installation commenced from 21 December 1917 and the new mint struck its first Sovereigns 15 August 1918 with the last on 22 April 1919, closing in May 1919. In just over eight months of output it issued more Imperial type Sovereigns than the Ottawa branch mint did in its entire tenure from 1908-1919. The gold blanks were supplied by the domestic Indian mints at Bombay and Calcutta and the face value of a gold Sovereign was set at a direct exchange value of 15-Rupees which is why the Bentley Collection also contains gold 15-Rupees dated to this significant year.



### The Reign of King George V (1910-1936) House of Windsor

Born: 3 June 1865

Accession: 6 May 1910

Married: Mary of Teck, 6 July 1893

Coronation: Thursday, 22 June 1911,  
second Coronation as Emperor of India at  
the Delhi Durbar, Tuesday, 12 December 1911

Children: five sons, one daughter

Died: 20 January 1936, aged 70

The Extremely Rare Specimen Striking  
of the First Indian Imperial Sovereign of George V



**891** 9 **George V (1910-1936)**, Specimen Sovereign, 1918 I, Bombay, India Mint, struck to a specimen satin finish, well defined striking, designed by Edgar Bertram Mackennal, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, toothed border and raised rim, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, *rev* struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with three strand streamer, horse with long tail, ending in three strands, with one spur higher up at curve, broken lance on ground-line to left, *WWP* in relief under lance, I mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim, edge milled, 7.98g (KM 525A; Fr 1609; Marsh -; cf S 3998). *Listed in KM without a valuation, toned as struck and of the highest rarity.* £8000-10,000

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 17 August 1996



**892** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1918 I, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, I mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (KM 20; Fr 2; Marsh 228; S 3997). *Toned as struck.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 18 April 1994  
Total mintage of gold Sovereigns 1,295,372 pieces.





- 893 ♀ **George V**, Fifteen Rupees, 1918, crowned bust left, GEORGE V KING EMPEROR thick toothed border, *rev* struck en médaille, horizontal line at centre 15 RUPEES INDIA 1918, beaded border surrounding, outer pattern with floral ornamentation, 7.99g, 22.1mm (KM 525; Fr 1608). *Some weakness in striking, otherwise toned as struck.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 17 August 1996



- 894 ♀ **George V**, Proof Fifteen Rupees, 1918, restrike (c.1955), crowned bust left, GEORGE V KING EMPEROR, thick toothed border, *rev* struck en médaille, horizontal line at centre 15 RUPEES INDIA 1918, beaded border surrounding, outer pattern with floral ornamentation, 8.00g, 22.2mm (KM 525; Fr 1608a). *Hairlined, brilliant fields and obverse design, reverse design and letters frosted, otherwise as struck.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 17 August 1996



- 895 ♀ **George V**, Proof Fifteen Rupees, 1918, restrike (c.1968-1970), crowned bust left, GEORGE V KING EMPEROR, thick toothed border, *rev* struck en médaille, horizontal line at centre 15 RUPEES INDIA 1918, beaded border surrounding, outer pattern with floral ornamentation, 8.00g, 22.3mm (KM 525; Fr 1608a). *Very yellow coloured gold, design and fields all brilliant with hairlines, otherwise as struck.* £300-400

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 17 August 1996



## SOUTH AFRICA

The Bentley Collection contains a run of the gold “Ponds” of the Transvaal – The Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek (ZAR), both those first issued under President Thomas Burgers and the later issues from Paul Kruger. This collecting pattern follows the influence of the publication *Sovereigns of the British Empire* by Capt J J Cullimore Allen in 1965, which included the earlier South African gold pieces that were not Sovereigns. They were included for sake of completeness as they had emanated from the same mint at Pretoria.

The first coin ever struck for the South African government was the Thomas Francois Burgers (1834-1881) gold “Ponds” minted from gold from the initial source discovered in South Africa, with the effigy of Burgers, who was President from 1872-1877. They were a coin of great pride and endeavour. Burgers himself having visited the goldfields in early 1874, purchased a quantity of alluvial gold. This gold was despatched to the Republic’s Consul-General in London, Mr J J Pratt, along with designs for Burger’s portrait and the



reverse coat of arms. Burgers had already declared British sterling as the currency for the Zuid Afrikaanse Republiek (ZAR) and therefore requested that this gold be turned into Staatsponden with the same intrinsic value as the British sovereign. Burgers hoped that finished coins would be available when the Volksraad next met in May of 1874. However, the alluvial gold only reached London in the middle of May and first had to be refined by Johnson and Matthey. The working dies were engraved by Leonard Charles Wyon with the blessing of the Royal Mint. The gold and the dies were transported to Birmingham for striking of the coins by Ralph Heaton and Sons. It was hoped at least a few finished coins might accompany Mrs Burgers and family on their way home from England at Southampton in early July, however the obverse die had broken, rendering such a delivery impossible. Eventually a total of 695 pieces were received by Pratt on 25 July, which were despatched to South Africa in early August 1874 as there were concerns over the copper tint of the coins. Since the breakage, a new die had been engraved, on which the President’s beard was rendered in a more coarse style and employed to mint a total of 142 coins.

This group of 142 pieces was sent 20 September minus four pieces, it seems, which were kept back for Mr Pratt, Mr Wyon, Messrs. Johnson Matthey and Messrs. Heaton. This second group of fine beard coins reached South Africa 23 October 1874. The first had arrived in mid-September all much later than President Burgers had originally anticipated, and at a much greater cost as the price of manufacture exceeded the face value of the coins. President Burgers first produced the coins at the meeting of the Volksraad on Tuesday, 22 September 1874, as an item off the agenda. He announced the coins as the first ever struck for South Africa and handed £50 worth to the Chairman of the meeting, to loud cheers, however the fact his effigy appeared on the coin did not seem to go down well with some members, to the extent Burgers claimed his effigy appeared against his wishes. Later the Executive Council presented President Burgers with one of the Staatsponden and the Volksraad did the same. Burgers himself bought a further eight specimens to give to his family. Designs were prepared for a series of other denominations, but the Volksraad seems to have voted against any further coin issues. A fuller account of all the events of this time and facsimile copies of original correspondence are to be found in *South Africa’s First Gold Coin* by Matthy Esterhuysen.

The South African Republic coinage was first recorded in print in an anonymous article in the Numismatic Chronicle published in London in 1900, no author’s name was given as the subject matter was controversial because of the Boer War. This narrative had resulted from a presentation given at one of the Society meetings back in 1894, and it later became apparent the author was Sir Augustus Prevost.

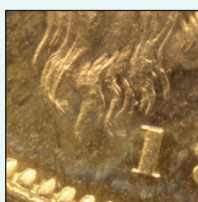
A total of 837 gold Staatsponden were struck of both varieties bearing the effigy of Burgers

### Reference guide

Hern	Hern, <i>Handbook on South African Coins and Patterns</i>
Kaplan	Stan Kaplan, <i>The coins of South Africa</i> by Alec Kaplan
Esterhuysen	Matthy Esterhuysen, <i>South Africa’s First Gold Coin</i> , published by Purnell 1976

## Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek Issues

### Very Rare South Africa 1874 Fine Beard Pond



**fine beard points**



**896** 9 ZAR, President Thomas Francois Burgers (1872-1877), Gold Pond, 1874, spread date, fine point bearded bust of Burgers left, date below, THOMAS FRANÇOIS BURGERS, toothed border both sides, *rev* struck with inverted die axis, oval shield of arms divided in three, lion passant to upper left, Boer with rifle to upper right, ox wagon at bottom, with an escutcheon of an upright anchor, all upon frame surmounted by eagle, three "vierkleur" flags either side, three full flagpoles visible each side, the lower left pole appears disjointed, motto on scroll below in larger letters EENDRAGT MAAKT MAGT, large stop below, ZUID AFRIKAANSCH REPUBLIEK, edge milled, 7.99g, 22.3mm (Hern B1; KM 1.2; Fr 1; Kaplan 2). *Lightly toned, mint state and very rare.* £40,000-50,000

ex Knightsbridge Coins, London, purchased on advice of Randy Weir 15 October 1999

Mintage 695 pieces according to Esterhuysen and Hern.

The dies for this extremely rare issue were engraved by Leonard C Wyon and resulting gold coins struck by Ralph Heaton and Sons of Birmingham, who had the order to produce these coins from gold mined in the Lydenburg district. This was the first source of gold mined in South Africa

The specimen here is a particularly fine one and appears to compare very well with one sold by DNW as MS65 in November 2011 for a hammer price of £70,000.



Excessively Rare Pattern 1874 Fine Beard Pond  
Struck in White Metal on a thick flan



- 897 **ZAR**, President Thomas François Burgers (1872-1877), Pattern Pond, struck in white metal on a thick flan, 1874 closer date, fine point bearded bust of Burgers left, date below, THOMAS FRANÇOIS BURGERS, larger teeth in toothed border both sides, *rev* struck with inverted die axis, oval shield of arms with escutcheon and frame surmounted by eagle, three “vierkleur” flags either side, three full flagpoles visible each side, the lower left pole appears disjointed, motto on scroll below in larger letters EENDRAGT MAAKT MAGT, large stop below, ZUID AFRIKAANSCH REPUBLIEK, edge milled, 2.06g, 22.5mm, thickness 3mm (Hern B10; KM Pn21; cf Kaplan 2). *Some light corrosion evident in hair and on rim, otherwise as struck and excessively rare.* £8000-10,000



## Extremely Rare South Africa 1874 Coarse Beard Pond



coarse beard points



898 9 ZAR, President Burgers, Gold Pond, 1874, closer date, 8 doubled, short coarse bearded bust of Burgers left, date below, THOMAS FRANÇOIS BURGERS, toothed border and raised rim both sides, *rev* struck with inverted die axis, oval shield of arms divided in three, lion passant to upper left, Boer with rifle to upper right, ox wagon at bottom, with an escutcheon of an upright anchor, all upon frame surmounted by eagle, three “vierkleur” flags either side, three full flagpoles visible each side, the lower left pole appears disjointed, motto on scroll below EENDRAGT MAAKT MAGT, stop below, ZUID AFRIKAANSCH REPUBLIEK, edge milled, 7.99g, 22.3mm (Hern B2; KM 1.1; Fr 1a; Kaplan 1). *With attractive red tone, with only a touch of wear in the toning to highest points, otherwise as struck and extremely rare.* £80,000-100,000

ex Knightsbridge Coins, London, purchased on advice of Randy Weir, 15 October 1999

Mintage 142 pieces according to Hern and Cullimore Allen, Krause gives 174 as the total.

The specimen here is a particularly fine one and appears to compare very well with one sold by DNW as MS64 in November 2011 for a hammer price of £180,000.

Extremely Rare Pattern Struck in Bronze of the 1874 Coarse Beard Pond



- 899 **ZAR**, President Burgers, Pattern Pond, struck in bronze, 1874, spread date, weak serifs in date, short coarse bearded bust of Burgers left, date below, THOMAS FRANÇOIS BURGERS, toothed border and raised rim both sides, *rev* struck with inverted die axis, oval shield of arms divided in three, lion passant to upper left, Boer with rifle to upper right, ox wagon at bottom, with an escutcheon of an upright anchor, all upon frame surmounted by eagle, three "vierkleur" flags either side, only two full flagpoles visible each side, the third lowest flagpole behind flag with only tip showing, motto on scroll below EENDRAGT MAAKT MAGT, stop below, ZUID AFRIKAANSCH REPUBLIEK, edge milled, 4.16g, 22.1mm (Hern B7/6; KM Pn19; cf Kaplan 1). *A few light hairlines, tiny short scratch by pellet stop, with a bluish tone, otherwise practically as struck and extremely rare.* £10,000-12,000

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 10<sup>th</sup> June 1993.

The specimen here is a particularly fine one and appears to compare better than the one sold by Dix Noonan and Webb graded good extremely fine in November 2011 for a hammer price of £22,000



## The Very Rare Erroneous Design Double Shaft 1892 Pond



double shaft wagon



**900 g ZAR**, President Stephanus Johannes Paulus Kruger, Gold Pond, 1892, double shaft variety, bearded bust of President Kruger left, O.S. artist initials raised on truncation, fine toothed border and rim both sides, ZUID AFRIKAANSCH REPUBLIEK, *rev* struck en médaille, oval shield of arms divided in three, lion passant to upper left, Boer with rifle to upper right, ox wagon at bottom with two shafts and wheels of same size, with an escutcheon of an upright anchor, all upon frame surmounted by large eagle, overlapping three “vierkleur” flags either side, motto on scroll below EENDRAGT MAAKT MAGT, floral emblems below, 1 POND \* 1892 \* surrounds upper portion, stops are mullets, edge milled, 7.99g, 21.9mm (Hern Z44; KM 10.1; Fr 2; Kaplan 11). *A few trifling marks and nicks both sides, otherwise as struck and extremely rare.* £6000-8000

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 14 August 1992

Mintage issued 15,650 of which most were recalled and melted down to be reissued as single shaft reverse coins. These dies were engraved by Otto Schultz and the coins struck by the Berlin Mint (Germany), who unfortunately took the design of the ox wagon to be not unlike that in common use in the American west pulled by a horse, which have twin shafts. These American wagons also had the wheels front and back of similar size, however, the traditional African ox wagon has smaller front wheels and one central shaft to lash the oxen to. These were major errors and went unnoticed until after issue of the coin. It is significant to note a similar error occurred on the design of postage stamps for 1894 with a two shaft wagon. Stamp issues of 1869-1893 are all depicted with the traditional single shaft ox wagon.

This error of design was coupled with an unfortunate coincidence on the obverse. The engraver's initials, OS, form the word “ox” in Dutch or Afrikaans, effectively branding the President, who had already objected to the inclusion of the initials anyway, as explained in the Numismatic Chronicle account of the Coinage of the South African Republic published anonymously in 1900. Many of the first issue coins were withdrawn from circulation and melted down. Upon the subsequent order to the Berlin Mint, changes were made to the design of the wagon and the initials were dropped from the obverse effigy.



## The Extremely Rare Single Shaft Pond of 1892



**single shaft wagon, smaller front wheel**

**901 9 ZAR**, President Kruger, Gold Pond, 1892, single shaft variety, bearded bust of President Kruger left, plain truncation, *rev* Transvaal Arms with ox wagon with correct single shaft and smaller front wheel, arms surmounted by large eagle, overlapping three “vierkleur” flags either side, motto on scroll below, 7.98g, 21.9mm (Hern Z45; KM 10.2; Fr 2; Kaplan 12). *Some tiny light surface marks, otherwise as struck and rare.* £20,000-25,000

ex Spink Auction 1237, 22 March 2000, lot 721

Mintage is combined in records with that of 1893 date at 61,926 pieces issued over two years, the majority presumably dated 1893.

This coin is the correct reverse for the Arms of the South African Republic, it was struck to replace the erroneous issue in the preceding lot. However it is the rarer type today for the 1892 dated gold Pond.

The specimen here is a particularly fine one and appears to compare better than the one sold by Heritage (graded MS61) in January 2012 for a hammer price of US\$37,500.



**902 9 ZAR**, President Kruger, Gold Pond, 1893, bearded bust of President Kruger left, *rev* Transvaal Arms with “vierkleur” flags either side, 7.99g (Hern Z46; KM 10.2; Fr 2; Kaplan 13). *Some tiny light marks, otherwise as struck and rare.* £5000-6000

ex Knightsbridge Coins, London, purchased on advice of Randy Weir, 15 October 1999

Mintage is combined in records with that of 1893 date at 61,926 pieces issued over two years.

The specimen here is a particularly fine one and appears to be much better than the one sold by Heritage (graded XF45) in January 2011 for a hammer price of US\$16,000.



**903** 9 ZAR, President Kruger, Gold Pond, 1894, bearded bust of President Kruger left, *rev* Transvaal Arms with “vierkleur” flags either side, 8.00g (Hern Z47; KM 10.2; Fr 2; Kaplan 14). *Some tiny light marks, otherwise as struck and scarce.* £5000-6000

ex Knightsbridge Coins, London, purchased on advice of Randy Weir, 15 October 1999

Mintage issued 317,723 pieces.

The specimen here is a particularly fine one and appears to compare well with the one sold by Heritage (graded MS62) in January 2011 for a hammer price of US\$12,000.



**904** 9 ZAR, President Kruger, Gold Pond, 1895, bearded bust of President Kruger left, *rev* Transvaal Arms with “vierkleur” flags either side, 7.99g (Hern Z48; KM 10.2; Fr 2; Kaplan 15). *Some tiny light marks, otherwise good extremely fine and rare.* £4000-5000

ex Reserve bank of Australia sale, Downies, November 2005, lot 37, via Winsor and Sons, Jamberoo, NSW Australia, December 2005

Mintage issued 336,000 pieces.



**905** 9 ZAR, President Kruger, Gold Pond, 1896, bearded bust of President Kruger left, *rev* Transvaal Arms with “vierkleur” flags either side, 7.98g (Hern Z 49; KM 10.2; Fr 2; Kaplan 16). *Hairline scratch under the bust and a few tiny marks, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine and scarce.* £3000-4000

ex Spink Auction 1237, 22 March 2000, lot 722

Mintage issued 235,000 pieces.



**906** 9 ZAR, President Kruger, Gold Pond, 1897, bearded bust of President Kruger left, *rev* Transvaal Arms with “vierkleur” flags either side, 7.98g (Hern Z 50; KM 10.2; Fr 2; Kaplan 17). *A few bagmarks, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine and scarce.* £3000-4000

ex Spink Auction 1237, 22 March 2000, lot 723

Mintage issued 310,980 pieces.





**907 g ZAR**, President Kruger, Gold Pond, 1898, slightly larger bearded bust of President Kruger left, *rev* Transvaal Arms with “vierkleur” flags either side, 7.98g (Hern Z 51; KM 10.2; Fr 2; Kaplan 18). *A few tiny marks, previously graded by NGC as MS64, otherwise as struck and rare.* £2000-3000

ex Steinbergs, Vermont, USA, purchased 8 July 2001  
Mintage issued 136,870 pieces.

### The Extremely Rare 99 counterstamp 1898 gold Pond



**908 g ZAR**, President Kruger, Gold Pond, 1898, with “99” counterstamp incuse below bust, slightly larger bearded bust of President Kruger left, *rev* Transvaal Arms with “vierkleur” flags either side, 7.98g, 21.9mm (Hern Z 52; KM 10.2; Fr 2; Kaplan 19 RRRR). *A few tiny spots and light surface marks, good extremely fine and extremely rare, one of the great rarities in the South African series.* £40,000-50,000

ex Knightsbridge Coins, London, purchased on advice of Randy Weir, 15 October 1999  
Mintage issued 130 pieces

The only rarer currency gold coin of South Africa is the single 9 incuse counterstamp which is unique and not present in the Bentley Collection. 1898 dies had to be used in the calendar year 1899 and it was decided to stamp these with, at first, the single 9 incuse stamp, but latterly the twin 9 stamp as demonstrated here.





**909 9 ZAR**, President Kruger, Gold Pond, 1900, slightly larger bearded bust of President Kruger left, *rev* Transvaal Arms with “vierkleur” flags either side, 8.00g (Hern Z 53; KM 10.2; Fr 2; Kaplan 20). *A few light marks and nicks, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine.* £1500-2000

ex Knightsbridge Coins, London, purchased on advice of Randy Weir, 15 October 1999  
Mintage issued 788,000 pieces.

## Extremely Rare Obverse Brockage of a President Kruger Gold Pond



**910 9 ZAR**, President Kruger, Gold Pond, undated, c.1898-1900, obverse brockage, slightly larger bearded bust of President Kruger left, legend and design doubled with a high rim, *rev* incuse impression of the obverse design in reverse, 7.99g (KM 10.2; Fr 2). *Some light bruises, otherwise toned as struck and a good on target brockage of highest rarity.* £8000-10,000

ex DNW auction, 17 December 2007, lot 375 and back cover illustration

A true one-off. A brockage occurs when the striking process goes awry. When a coin is struck one die is static and fixed in position, usually the obverse, as is the case here c.1898-1900. The glitch in the process occurs with the feeding in of the coin blanks. A blank flan previous to the brockage we have here would have entered the striking chamber and, not seated quite on target, it would be unable to exit easily after striking. The blank adhered to the moving reverse die. The next blank gold flan to be struck, our soon-to-be-brockage coin, will have entered the chamber and the reverse die with the previous coin stuck to it will have struck this new flan with an incuse obverse impression on its reverse, it receiving the obverse impression from the lower die as usual. At this point the problem in the process is usually discovered. Brockages are often spectacular and occur in gold coinage with much less frequency than the silver and copper, due to the higher quality control in working with gold. For another brockage in the British gold Sovereign series dated 1856, see part one of Bentley Collection, Lot 76, which sold for £15,000.

This concludes the output of regular “Kruger” ponds, after what Cullimore Allen claims totals 2,203,265 pieces. However, on adding all the individual figures given plus one for the unique single 9 counterstamp we make a total of 2,202,280 pieces. Perhaps the discrepancy is explained by the “blank” issue ponds with or without rim as offered over the next seven lots. These were partly prepared coins which were hurriedly removed from the mint at Pretoria in 1900 when the British occupied the area as part of the conflict of the Boer War of 1899-1902.

### A Very Rare Blank Gold Pond with Rim



**911 g ZAR**, blank Gold Pond, undated, with raised rim both sides, 7.99g, 21.6mm (Hern Z56; Kaplan 22).  
*Slight surface marks, otherwise as struck and very rare.* £600-800

ex Knightsbridge Coins, London, purchased on advice of Randy Weir, 15 October 1999

### A Very Rare Blank Gold Pond with Rim



**912 g ZAR**, blank Gold Pond, undated, with raised rim both sides, 7.99g, 22.1mm (Hern Z56; Kaplan 22).  
*With concentric turning circles across surfaces on both sides, as struck and very rare.* £600-800

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 23 April 1993

### A Hand Inscribed Blank Gold Pond with Rim



**913 g ZAR**, blank Gold Pond, hand-engraved inscriptions, dated 1900 by hand, with raised rim both sides,  
COINED / BY BOERS / AT / MACHADODORP / 1900, place name with twin curved lines above and below,  
*rev blank*, 7.94g, 21.6mm (cf Hern Z56; Kaplan 22). *Very fine, as made and very rare.* £600-800

ex W V Royle Baldwin collection, purchased via A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd, 2006

### A Hand Inscribed Blank Gold Pond with Rim



- 914 9 ZAR**, blank Gold Pond, hand-engraved inscriptions, dated 1900 by hand, with raised rim both sides, KRUGERS / LAST COIN / 1900, first word in a curving arc, surrounded by curved lines and decoration, further decoration either side of date, *rev* blank, 7.96g, 21.6mm (cf Hern Z56; Kaplan 22). *Extremely fine, as made and very rare.* £1000-1500

ex Morton and Eden auction, 10 June 2009, lot 232, purchased via A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd

This lot is accompanied by a contemporary letter dated 3 October 1900 on note paper from the Victoria Club, Maritzburg, signed by Lt Col R Sandwith which reads "This gold disc represents one of Oom Paul's last attempts at coining – it was made out of stolen gold" the letter goes on to record the provenance of the piece as being from Mr Wolmarans of the late Transvaal Executive at Delagon Bay. The letter concludes "They were struck about July or Aug. 1900 at Machadodorf" with a postscript anticipating the possibility of future forgery.

### A Hand Inscribed Blank Gold Pond with Rim



- 915 9 ZAR**, blank Gold Pond, hand-engraved inscriptions, dated 1900, with raised rim both sides, \*BRITISH OCCUPATION\* around upper half in arc, OF / MACHADODORP in two lines at centre, linear curve ruled above and below, AUGUST 28<sup>th</sup> 1900 in arc around lower half, asterisk at left and right, *rev* blank, 7.73g, 21.6mm (cf Hern Z56; Kaplan 22). *Almost very fine, otherwise as made and very rare.* £600-800

ex A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd, 2007

### A Blank Gold Pond without Rim Hand Inscribed Both Sides



- 916 9 ZAR**, blank Gold Pond, hand-engraved inscriptions both sides, dated 1900, rimless both sides, SOVEREIGN ISSUED around upper half in arc, BY / KRUGER / PRETORIA / 1900 in four lines, *rev* SENT HOME around upper half in arc, BY / F. S. MAUDE., 7.79g, 22.1mm (cf Hern Z55; Kaplan 21). *Pierced good very fine, otherwise as made and very rare.* £600-800

ex W V Royle Baldwin collection, purchased via A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd, 2006



## A Hand Inscribed Blank Gold Pond without Rim



**917 g ZAR**, blank Gold Pond, hand-engraved inscription in Gothic script, undated, rimless both sides, "Kruger's / Last / Issue", 7.95g, 22.1mm (cf Hern Z55; Kaplan 21). *With concentric turning circles across surfaces both sides, as made and very rare.* £800-1000

ex W V Royle Baldwin collection, purchased via A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd, 2006

## The Very Rare Gold Veldt Pond of 1902



**918 g ZAR**, Gold Veldt Pond, 1902, struck by hand at Pilgrims Rest, late 1902 by P J Kloppers acting Mint Master, ZAR in script, date below, *rev* inverted die axis, EEN / POND in two lines, raised rim both sides, edge thickly milled, 8.33g, 22.7mm (Hern Z54; KM 11; Fr 4; Kaplan 23). *Lightly toned, practically as struck and extremely rare.* £20,000-25,000

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 31 July 1993

Mintage of 986 pieces struck by hand in a dormant workshop on the Transvaal Gold Mining Estate by P J Kloppers, a former head teacher at the De Kaap Government School. This issue was produced on the recommendation of General Christian Muller, the assistant-commandant-general, and authorised by Schalk Burger, acting President of the Republic after Paul Kruger had left the country on 19 October 1900.

The specimen here is a particularly fine one and appears to compare well with the one sold by Heritage (graded MS64) in January 2012 for a hammer price of US\$42,500

## Branch Mint of the Royal Mint at Pretoria South Africa

With the Unification of South Africa into a Dominion under the establishment of British rule, the Pretoria mint became a further Branch mint of the Royal Mint. Gold sovereigns of the Imperial design were issued, dating from 1923 to 1932 inclusive, the latter year being the last date issued by any branch mint. There were no more gold Sovereigns issued from branch mints and the next gold Sovereign was struck in London as a commemorative issue in 1937, for the Coronation of King George VI (1936-1952). Gold was struck once again at Pretoria under the Union of South Africa in 1952, when a proof issue of the "Pound" was struck for sets of coins which then continued yearly into the start of the reign of Queen Elizabeth II. The Bentley Collection does not contain any of these later coins. Once a former branch mint loses its Royal Mint affiliation, it also loses the right to strike gold Sovereigns, therefore later production must have gold denominations of an alternative name.

The Pretoria Branch Mint for South Africa was the last such mint established and opened for turning locally mined gold into coin in 1923. The first Deputy Master was R G J Pearson who had been Assistant Assayer at Melbourne Branch in Australia from 1897 to 1907 and afterwards Assayer at Ottawa, Canada. In Pretoria he presided over the refining of more than 20 million ounces of gold.



### The Reign of King George V (1910-1936) House of Windsor

Born: 3 June 1865

Accession: 6 May 1910

Married: Mary of Teck, 6 July 1893

Coronation: Thursday, 22 June 1911,  
second Coronation as Emperor of India at  
the Delhi Durbar, Tuesday, 12 December 1911

Children: five sons, one daughter

Died: 20 January 1936, aged 70

## The Very Rare 1923 South Africa Proof Sovereign



**919** *G* **George V (1910-1936)**, Proof Sovereign, 1923 SA, Pretoria, South Africa mint, designed by Edgar Bertram Mackennal, bare head left, BM on truncation, no stops as the initials are placed too low on the truncation, toothed border and raised rim, GEORGIVS V D: G: BRITT: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP:, *rev* struck en médaille, engraved after Benedetto Pistrucci, St George slaying dragon with sword, helmet with three strand streamer, horse with long tail, ending in three strands, with one spur higher up at curve, broken lance on ground-line to left, *WWP* in relief under lance, SA mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, finely toothed border within twin linear concentric circles and raised rim, edge milled, 7.99g, 22.2mm (Hern S338; KM 21; Fr 5; Marsh -; S 4004). *Small spot of red wax by rear leg of horse, otherwise brilliant as struck and rare.* £800-1000

ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)

Mintage 655 pieces as part of the proof sets of all denominations dated for the initial year of operation of the Imperial Pretoria Mint.



## The Extremely Rare 1923 South Africa Currency Sovereign



**920 G George V, Sovereign, 1923 SA, Pretoria, South Africa mint, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, rev die axis a touch off-centre, St George slaying dragon with sword, SA mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 8.00g (Hern S338 and note; Kaplan 100 RRRR; KM 21; Fr 5; Marsh 287 R6; S 4004).** *Small red spot behind neck and some other tiny red spots both sides, otherwise brilliant proof-like as struck and extremely rare.* £5000-7000

ex "A small group of coins from the family of Raoul Robellaz Kahan", Glendinings, 9 December 1992, lot 457 or 458 purchased via Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, 14 November 1994  
Calendar year mintage 719 pieces.

A small group of coins from the family of Raoul Robellaz Kahan, a long term employee of the Royal Mint in the Branch Mint at Perth Australia, and later Deputy Master for one year at the Bombay Mint (India), 1918-1919, during the striking of the Sovereigns and the 15-Rupee pieces (offered in Lots 891-895).

Kahan was later responsible for the construction of the Rand Refinery, Germiston (South Africa), which received its first consignment of gold in December 1921. By 1924 the Transvaal Chamber of Commerce had received over 10,000 ounces of fine gold. This is why he would have had access to 1923 SA Sovereigns at source and is probably the mint official mentioned in Hern's note above this listing, who obtained a number of brand new 1923 SA Sovereigns in proof-like preservation.

The low mintage of 1923SA Sovereigns was dictated entirely by how much gold was brought in to refine in its first months of operation. Only enough gold came in to mint up to 719 pieces for currency circulation in the calendar year 1923. Sources vary in their quotes for the mintage, some say incorrectly as few as 64, which has been arrived at by taking 719 totalled here minus the 655 proofs, which is wrong. Marsh quotes 406 pieces. The 719 figure comes from earlier sources and is later quoted in the South African based publications.

It is significant to note that the Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, 16-17 November 2000, lot 525, did not contain an example of the 1923 SA currency Sovereign, the only other coin not present in that collection in currency was the 1920 Sydney.



## The Extremely Rare 1924 South Africa Currency Sovereign



- 921** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1924 SA, Pretoria, South Africa mint, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and small, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, SA mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (Hern S339; Kaplan 101 RRR; KM 21; Fr 5; Marsh 288 R5; S 4004). *Some hairlines on reverse, a little scuffed on neck, otherwise good extremely fine and extremely rare.* £4000-5000

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 9 November 1991

Calendar year mintage 3,184 pieces. Again sources disagree on the number struck and again we have quoted the earlier source with the higher number from *Sovereigns of the British Empire* by Capt J J Cullimore Allen with which Hern agrees. Marsh quotes the number at 2,660.



- 922** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1925 SA, Pretoria, South Africa mint, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and small, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, small raised die flaw from tip of lance, SA mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (Hern S340; Kaplan 102; KM 21; Fr 5; Marsh 289; S 4004). *Some nicks on neck, red tone, practically as struck.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 10 June 1991

Calendar year mintage 6,086,264 pieces.



- 923** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1926 SA, Pretoria, South Africa mint, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop weak and small, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, SA mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (Hern S341; Kaplan 103; KM 21; Fr 5; Marsh 290; S 4004). *Slightly streaky tone both sides, a few light marks, good extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 10 June 1991

Calendar year mintage 11,107,611 pieces.



- 924** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1927 SA, Pretoria, South Africa mint, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop absent, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, SA mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (Hern S342; Kaplan 104; KM 21; Fr 5; Marsh 291; S 4004). *Slightly streaky tone both sides, some bagmarks, good extremely fine.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 10 January 1991  
Calendar year mintage 16,379,704 pieces.



- 925** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1928 SA, Pretoria, South Africa mint, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, latter stop absent, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, SA mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (Hern S343; Kaplan 105; KM 21; Fr 5; Marsh 292; S 4004). *A few light bagmarks, otherwise practically as struck.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 24 May 1990  
Calendar year mintage 18,235,057 pieces. This represents the highest mintage from the Pretoria mint of Imperial type gold Sovereigns.

## The Excessively Rare South African Matt Proof Sovereign of 1928



- 926** 9 **George V**, Matt Proof Sovereign, 1928 SA, Pretoria, South Africa mint, bare head left, B.M. on truncation, distinct and clear, *rev* St George slaying dragon with sword, SA mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g, 22mm (Hern S343 proof; Kaplan -; KM 21; Fr 5; Marsh -; S 4004). *Light hairline from head to legend to rim, a few tiny nicks on head, wispy hairline on reverse above lance, otherwise an impressive coin toned with the matt satin finish and otherwise as struck, probably unique, Hern lists this coin as the only specimen known.* £15,000-20,000

ex An Important Collection of Gold Sovereigns 1816-2000, offered as one lot, Sothebys, November 2000, lot 525 (part)  
This satin matt proof piece was probably struck to mark the end of the larger bust design of George V, before the change to the small head design from 1929, see the next lot for a proof of the small head.



## The Excessively Rare South African Proof Sovereign of 1929 Small Head



- 927** *g* **George V**, Proof Sovereign, 1929 SA, Pretoria, South Africa mint, second smaller bare head left, BM on truncation, no stops, linear outer circle with grained border teeth compartments and rim both sides, *rev* slightly smaller design therefore with a deeper exergue, St George slaying dragon with sword, no WWP initials under lance anymore, SA mint mark on ground, date in exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.98g (Hern -; Kaplan -; KM 21; Fr 5; Marsh -; S 4005). *Mint state, toned as struck and probably unique, not recorded by Hern, excessively rare.* £12,000-15,000

ex Spink and Son, c.1996, via Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada

This specimen of the 1929 proof was probably struck to mark the start of the small head design from this year at the Pretoria mint.



- 928** *g* **George V**, Sovereign, 1929 SA, Pretoria, South Africa mint, second smaller bare head left, BM on truncation, no stops, *rev* smaller St George slaying dragon with sword, SA mint mark on ground, date in deeper exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (Hern S344; Kaplan 106; KM 21; Fr 5; Marsh 293; S 4005). *A few tiny nicks at top of head, otherwise practically as struck.* £300-350

Calendar year mintage 12,024,107 pieces.





- 929** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1930 SA, Pretoria, South Africa mint, second smaller bare head left, BM on truncation, no stops, *rev* smaller St George slaying dragon with sword, SA mint mark on ground, date in deeper exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (Hern S345; Kaplan 107; KM 21; Fr 5; Marsh 294; S 4005). *A few tiny marks with an uneven tone, otherwise practically as struck.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 10 June 1991  
Calendar year mintage 10,027,756 pieces.



- 930** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1931 SA, Pretoria, South Africa mint, second smaller bare head left, BM on truncation, no stops, light raised die flaw at M to rear of neck, *rev* smaller St George slaying dragon with sword, SA mint mark on ground, date in deeper exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 8.00g (Hern S346; Kaplan 108; KM 21; Fr 5; Marsh 295; S 4005). *A few tiny marks, otherwise practically as struck.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 10 June 1991  
Calendar year mintage 8,511,792 pieces.



- 931** 9 **George V**, Sovereign, 1932 SA, Pretoria, South Africa mint, second smaller bare head left, BM on truncation, no stops, *rev* smaller St George slaying dragon with sword, SA mint mark on ground, date in deeper exergue, tiny B.P. to upper right, 7.99g (Hern S347; Kaplan 109; KM 21; Fr 5; Marsh 296; S 4005). *A few light bagmarks, otherwise as struck.* £300-350

ex Randy Weir Numismatics, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, purchased 27 September 1990  
Calendar year mintage 1,066,680 pieces. This marks the last year of operation for minting gold Sovereigns of the Imperial type at any of the Branch Mints, a total of 83,442,874 Sovereigns were struck from 1923-1932 under King George V.

## End of Sale

Part three of the Bentley Collection will be offered in May 2013.

A hardbound edition of the three parts of the Bentley Collection will be issued for sale sometime after the conclusion of this third auction. The proposed price of this special edition will be £50 plus postage and packing for which advance orders are being taken now.

## Bibliography

### Abbreviated references used in the cataloguing:-

DM	Douglas-Morris, <i>Captain K J Douglas-Morris Collection of British Gold Coins</i> , sold by Sothebys, 26 November 1974
Esterhuysen	Matthy Esterhuysen, <i>South Africa's First Gold Coin</i> , published by Purnell 1976
Fr	A Friedberg, <i>Gold Coins of the World</i>
Hern	Hern, <i>Handbook on South African Coins and Patterns</i>
Kaplan	Alec Kaplan, <i>The coins of South Africa</i> , published by Stan Kaplan
KM	Krause and Mishler, <i>Standard Catalog of World Coins</i> , 19 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Editions, published by Krause Publications
Marsh	Michael A Marsh, <i>The Gold Sovereign</i> , Golden Jubilee Edition, Cambridge (publications), 2002
McD	Greg McDonald – <i>the Pocket Guide to Australian Coins and Banknotes</i> , 19 <sup>th</sup> Edition 2012, valuations in Australian Dollars.
MCE	<i>Milled Coinage of England 1662-1946</i> , gold section by D G Liddell, published Spink & Son, 1950
Montagu	<i>Mr Montagu's Collection of Coins from George I to Victoria</i> , Spink & Son Catalogue, published as a fixed price list, London 1891
Murdoch	<i>John G Murdoch Collection, Third Portion George I to Victoria</i> , Sothebys, 15 March 1904
Nobleman	<i>Baron Ferrari Philipe de la Renotièrre as "A Nobleman" recently deceased</i> , Sothebys, 27 March 1922
QM	<i>The Quartermaster collection</i> – auction catalogue, 4 June 2009, issued by Monetarium (Australia) Pty Ltd, Kogarah, NSW, with expert cataloguing by Winsor & Sons of Jamberoo, NSW, Australia.
S	<i>Spink Standard Catalogue of British Coins</i> , edited by P Skingley, 2012 edition
WR	A Wilson and M Rasmussen, <i>English Pattern Trial and Proof Coins in Gold</i> , Alexander Publishing, 2000

### Other references cited in footnotes and for further reading:-

*Royal Sovereign 1489-1989*, edited by G P Dyer, Royal Mint Publication, 1989  
*The History of the Gold Sovereign*, by Sir Geoffrey Duveen and H G Stride, published Oxford University Press, 1962  
*Sovereigns of the British Empire*, by Captain J. J. Cullimore Allen O.B.E. published Spink & Son, 1965  
*The Pound Sterling – A History of English Money*, by Sir Albert Feavearyear, edited by E Victor Morgan, published at Oxford Clarendon Press, 1963  
*The History of the Currency*, by W A Shaw MA, published by Clement Wilson, 1896  
"The Numismatic Collection of the Museum of Victoria" article by John Sharples, in the Journal of the Numismatic Association of Australia, vol.2  
"The Coinage of the South African Republic" anonymous article, chapter XIV, Numismatic Chronicle 1900, 3<sup>rd</sup> Series, vol.20  
Journal of the Numismatic Society, London, published by Bernard Quaritch

## Highlights of The BENTLEY Collection

All three parts will contain portions of the most comprehensive assemblage ever formed of the die number shield sovereign series of Queen Victoria 1863-1874.

### Part One

London Royal Mint Sovereigns including Patterns and Proofs of 1816-1817, 1825 first type proof, early Victorian shield including the 1869 24 carat piece and later St George reverse rarities of the various busts.

Rare currency pieces of 1823, 1828, 1836 with N in the shield, narrow shields of 1838 and 1843, the 1841 with unbarred A's, 1863 die number 22 with 827 on truncation. Some extremely rare Queen Elizabeth II proofs and specimens.

### Part Two

London Royal Mint issues including further patterns and proofs from George III to Victoria. One of the finest 1859 Ansell Sovereigns available to collectors made from brittle Australian gold strengthened at the Mint by the chief Chemist Mr G F Ansell.

Australian Mint issues in high grade including as complete a currency collection of all dates and mint combinations with a few proofs and off-metal strikes. The highlights of this section being:-

An assemblage of the Sydney Mint Australia type by date along with an Adelaide Pound

Extremely rare George V date and mint combinations in high grade, including for Melbourne 1920, 1921, 1922, 1928 and 1929M Proof.

The most valuable coin in the whole collection, a veritable jewel in the crown, the 1920 Sydney Sovereign along with high grade currency rarities and a specimen strike of the 1926 S. A 1931 Perth Specimen strike.

Canadian rarities include the Edward VII 1908C, as well as an example of the 1909C mule with a satin finish obverse from a 1908C, and a George V 1916 C in high grade. Bombay, India Mint 1918 specimen striking.

Pretoria, South Africa high grade currency 1923 and 1924, an extremely rare 1928SA proof and a specimen with history of the 1929SA.

Other earlier extremely rare South African Ponds, including the fine and coarse beard Burgers pieces in high grade, the 99 overstamp in highest grade and a 1902 Veld Pond.

### Part Three

London Royal Mint issues – the highlight being the George III 1819 Sovereign – the finest specimen known in a private collection, along with other George III to Victoria patterns, proofs and trial strikes. Other highlights being the George IV 1830 Proof, William IV first bust proofs of 1831 and 1832. Victorian pattern and proof shield sovereigns of 1837, 1838, 1870 and 1880. St George reverse proofs and patterns of 1871, 1880 and 1887 of young and Jubilee heads.

A superb 1841 Sovereign with barred A's and the 1863 with 827 on the truncation.

The George VI Matt gold Proof Set of four coins – only two sets in private hands.

Queen Elizabeth II 1958 specimen, 1959 proof and 1965 Matt Proof pieces.

# Information for Bidders

## Admission

Admission to our Public Auction is free; by registering for the auction you are agreeing to abide by the conditions set out in our printed catalogue and on our website.

## Examination of Lots

You are encouraged to view the lots before sale and attend the auction in person. Viewing of the lots may be done by appointment in the week prior to the auction at our offices or on an official viewing day.

The catalogue is printed with estimates alongside each lot. This is intended as a price guide for interested bidders. It is our opinion of the value of the lot but bidders should rely on their own judgement of the value. Bidders should be prepared for prices to rise if there is competition for the lot. All lots can achieve hammer prices both above and below the published pre-sale estimate. Usually each lot is reserved at 80% of the lower estimate and bids below this are unlikely to be accepted.

## Bidding at the Auction

Bidding may be carried out by you in person or by a representative of your choice (please ask us for further information). Please collect your bidding number from the registration table at the auction room. You should arrive in plenty of time for the lots you are interested in. A time guide is printed at the front of the catalogue and approximately 200 lots are sold per hour. However bidders are reminded that this is a guide only and Baldwin's will not be responsible if you miss your lot.

If you do not have an account with us, we may ask you for a reference from a bank or other credit referee (eg another dealer or auction house) and you may be asked to leave a deposit before bidding.

## Absentee Commission Bids

If you are unable to attend the Auction personally, you may place a commission bid through us and we will try and purchase the lot for you at the lowest price possible. You must complete a Commission Bid Form found in this catalogue which must include your highest bid for each lot. All commission bids must be submitted in writing either by

post, email or fax to Baldwin's offices to arrive not later than 24 hours before the auction. We do not accept bids left by telephone. Please include your street address in emails.

Commission bids received less than 24 hours before the auction will only be accepted at our discretion and we cannot guarantee that the commission bid will be placed.

We do not charge for these services and therefore we will not be liable for errors in executing commission bids.

We offer a state-of-the-art Live Bidding system over the internet via [www.the-saleroom.com/baldwins](http://www.the-saleroom.com/baldwins). This service is free and requires you only to register your details, together with a valid credit card for verification. You may either bid live, making use of the audio and video, or leave commission bids on the website which will be automatically executed on your behalf. These commission bids cannot be seen by the auctioneer. Invoices will be mailed to you after the auction in the usual way

## Purchase Price

The price paid by the bidder is the hammer price plus 20% buyer's premium (plus VAT). Lots exported outside of the European Union may not be subject to VAT. Please ask for further information from us where this may apply to you.

You are encouraged to arrange your own collection/shipment. Alternatively lots will be sent by Royal Mail, recorded and insured delivery. Postage and insurance will be charged as additional costs.

## Payment

An invoice will be supplied on request during and after the Auction showing the total amount due to us. You must pay in full before the lot(s) can be delivered to you.

## Guarantee

We are a member of the International Association of Professional Numismatists and therefore, as a buyer, you will benefit from a guarantee for all lots against forgeries as required by IAPN's rules of membership. Please see the Conditions of Sale for details of the terms of our guarantee

## Methods of Payment

- **Sterling (£) bank transfer to:**

National Westminster Bank  
P O Box 113  
2a Charing Cross Road  
London WC2H 0PD  
Account name      **A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd**  
Account number    24525146  
Sort code            60 40 05  
IBAN                  GB80NWBK60400524525146  
Swift code           NWBKGB2L

Please include your name and invoice number when sending instructions to the bank and inform Baldwin's of your payment in order to speed-up the delivery of your purchases

- **Sterling (£) cash, banker's draft or a personal cheque from a UK bank** made payable to **A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd**. Seven [7] business days' clearance is required for personal cheques
- **Credit/Debit Card** payments are subject to a 2% surcharge - including Mastercard, Visa, America Express and all non-UK cards. There is no surcharge for UK debit cards.
- **United States dollars (US\$)** are accepted either in cash or by a personal cheque made payable to **A H Baldwin & Sons Ltd**. Please ask for our current exchange rate. Ten [10] business days' clearance is required for US\$ personal cheques
- **Euros (€)** are accepted in cash only and are subject to a £10 surcharge. Please ask for our current exchange rate
- Cash payments are subject to maximum limits imposed by law.



# CONDITIONS OF SALE

## 1. APPLICATION AND CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIP

- 1.1. By making a bid, a Bidder acknowledges his acceptance of these Conditions and will be bound by them.
- 1.2. Baldwin's acts as agent for the Seller for the sale of a Lot to the Buyer unless Baldwin's is the owner of the Lot. As such, Baldwin's is not responsible for any default by the Seller or the Buyer.
- 1.3. The contract for the sale of a Lot is between the Seller and the Buyer and is subject to these Conditions and the Seller's Conditions.

## 2. PRE-SALE AND DESCRIPTIONS

- 2.1. Statements made by us in a Catalogue, during the course of the Auction or elsewhere, describing a Lot including its authorship, origin, age, size, condition, genuineness, authenticity or value are intended as a guide for interested Bidders. These are statements of opinion only and should not be relied on as statements of fact. Illustrations of the Lots are for general identification only.
- 2.2. Lots by their nature are usually aged and varied in condition. The absence of any description of a defect, damage, modification or restoration in any Catalogue does not imply that there are none.
- 2.3. Coins are graded to accepted UK standards to the best ability of our specialists. You acknowledge that the grading of coins is subjective and may vary from specialist to specialist, as the process is by nature an art and not a science. For this reason, we do not automatically accept and are not bound by the opinions of third party coin grading services for any purposes including before and after the sale of a Lot.
- 2.4. If you are interested in a Lot, we strongly recommend that you view it in person before the Auction and form your own opinion of the description of the Lot.
- 2.5. We reserve the right to change any aspect of the published description of a Lot prior to the auction. Any change may be published on our website, displayed at the auction, announced by the auctioneer prior to the sale and/or communicated in any other manner.
- 2.6. All copyright in Catalogues including images belongs to Baldwin's.

## 3. ABSENTEE COMMISSION BIDS

- 3.1. If you are unable to attend the Auction personally, you may submit a Commission Bid and we will endeavour to purchase the Lot on your behalf for the lowest price possible. You must submit this in writing using the Commission Bid Form and send it to us by post, fax, email or delivery to our offices at least 24 hours prior to the Auction.
- 3.2. For all Commission Bids, you must supply your name and address, contact telephone number and email. You must also provide the Lot number and description of the Lot, the amount of your Bid and any other information requested in the Commission Bid Form or by us. It is your responsibility to provide the correct information and to ensure that we have received your Commission Bid.
- 3.3. We do not charge for this service and therefore we will not incur any liability for executing (or failing to execute) the Commission Bid.
- 3.4. If you submit a Commission Bid verbally (whether by telephone or otherwise), we shall not be responsible for any misunderstandings (by either us or our agents or you) in relation to your Bid. All bids made in this way must be confirmed in writing before the auction.
- 3.5. If we receive two Commission Bids for equal value for the same Lot, the Bid received first by us shall take precedence.
- 3.6. "Buy" commissions [and unlimited Commission Bids] will not be accepted.

## 4. AUCTION SALE

- 4.1. Before the auction, all potential Bidders must notify their name and address to the auctioneer and if required provide proof of identity to our satisfaction and bank or other credit references.
- 4.2. The highest Bidder for each Lot shall be the Buyer. If there is a dispute, the auctioneer shall have absolute discretion to determine the dispute including re-offering the disputed Lot for sale.
- 4.3. A Bidder must submit a bid for an entire Lot and each lot constitutes a separate sale. The auctioneer shall however have an absolute discretion to divide any Lot, to combine any two or more Lots, or to withdraw any Lot from the auction without giving any reason (including after the hammer has fallen). Bidding shall be regulated at the absolute discretion of the auctioneer. The auctioneer has the right to refuse any bid.

- 4.4. Subject to Condition 4.2, the contract for the sale of the Lot is concluded on the fall of the hammer.
- 4.5. All Lots are offered for sale subject to any Reserve.
- 4.6. You cannot cancel your purchase of a Lot once the hammer has fallen.

## 5. PAYMENT

- 5.1. The Purchase Price payable by a Buyer is the Hammer Price plus a Buyer's Premium of 20% of the Hammer Price. VAT is payable in addition unless the Lot is exempt or zero-rated.
- 5.2. The symbol 'G' appearing next to a lot in this catalogue denotes the item is 'Investment Gold' and, therefore, a VAT-registered trader can submit a claim to H M Revenue and Customs to recover the VAT element of the Buyers' Premium.
- 5.3. Any lot marked with a dagger (†) is subject to import VAT at 5%, this will be added to the hammer price and is payable by the buyer if resident in the EU. If the lot is being exported outside the EU, this import VAT can be waived or refunded on proof of export.
- 5.4. The Buyer of a Lot shall pay the Purchase Price in full before the Lot can be delivered to the Buyer.
- 5.5. Except where Condition 5.4 applies, any part of the Purchase Price outstanding after the Auction shall be payable by you within 14 days of the date of the auction, the due date.
- 5.6. The Purchase Price is payable by you in full. You are not entitled to set-off any amounts that you claim are due from us or anyone else or make any other deductions.
- 5.7. Unless we have agreed in writing otherwise, you shall act on your own account as principal in respect of the sale and therefore if you accept a commission from a third party to bid on their behalf, you do so at your own risk and will remain personally liable (jointly with your principal) to us for the Purchase Price in accordance with these Conditions.
- 5.8. The methods of payment and surcharges are set out in the Catalogue.
- 5.9. If the Purchase Price has not been settled within 30 days of the auction date a £50 late payment fee will be added and interest will be charged at 2% per month from the due date of payment to the date that cleared funds are received whether that is before or after any legal judgment. This is without prejudice to any other rights that we have for non-payment.
- 5.10. If you fail to comply with your obligations under these Conditions, the Lot, in respect of such non-compliance, may at our discretion be put up for sale at auction or privately and resold. In this case, you will be liable in full and will indemnify us for all losses, costs and expenses (including legal costs) incurred as a result, including the costs of the resale and the amount (if any) by which the Hammer Price obtained on the resale is less than the Hammer Price obtained on the original sale of the Lot to the Buyer.

## 6. RISK, TITLE AND DELIVERY

- 6.1. The risk of damage/loss to the Lot will pass to the Buyer on the fall of the hammer. Title in a Lot will not pass to the Buyer until the Purchase Price has been paid in full.
- 6.2. Unless agreed by us, you should collect the Lot within 7 days of the date of the auction. We reserve the right to charge for storage and to resell by auction or privately without notice to you, if a Lot is not collected. Alternatively we will send the Lot to you by recorded post. Postage and insurance costs will be charged as additional costs.
- 6.3. Except in relation to Forgeries, you must satisfy yourself that the correct Lot has been delivered to you at the time of collection/delivery. We will not be responsible for any discrepancy which might be discovered after the Lots have been collected. If we have shipped the Lot to you, we will not be responsible for any discrepancies if you fail to notify us within 24 hours of receipt.
- 6.4. It is the Buyer's responsibility to obtain any necessary import, export or other licences required in relation to a Lot.

## 7. GUARANTEE FOR FORGERIES

- 7.1. Baldwin's is a member of the International Association of Professional Numismatists and in accordance with the conditions of membership, provide a guarantee to the Buyer for all Lots against Forgeries on the terms set out in these Conditions ('Guarantee').
- 7.2. For the purposes of these Conditions, a 'Forgery' means an imitation that has been created with the fraudulent intent to deceive in respect of the authorship, origin, date, age, period and the correct

description does not correspond with the description in the Catalogue and as a result has a value significantly less than it would have been had it been genuine.

7.3. You must notify us in writing within one month of you becoming aware that the Lot may be a Forgery. The Lot must be returned to us in the same condition as at the time of sale and you must submit evidence that the Lot is a Forgery, the onus being on you to prove that it is a Forgery.

7.4. You acknowledge that:

(a) we reserve the right to re-assess the Lot or engage at our expense any expert or authority considered by us at our sole discretion to have the necessary expertise to undertake a re-assessment of the Lot;

(b) following our re-assessment of the Lot, you agree to be bound by our decision as to whether or not the Lot is a Forgery.

7.5. You shall not be entitled to a refund for a Forgery if:

(a) the grounds for claiming that the Lot is a Forgery is based primarily on a difference of opinion between us and a third party providing coin grading services;

(b) the grounds for claiming that the Lot is a Forgery is by reason of any damage and/or restoration and/or modification work of any nature;

(c) the description of the Lot in the catalogue was in accordance with generally accepted opinions of numismatic specialists as at the date of publication or the catalogue indicated that there was a conflict of opinion.

(d) it has been proved that the Lot is a Forgery by applying a method that was unavailable or not generally applied within the industry of numismatics as at the date of publication of the catalogue or was disproportionately expensive, in both cases as determined in our absolute discretion.

7.6. If we agree that the Lot is a Forgery then subject to:

(a) you being able to confirm in writing that you can transfer legal and beneficial title to the Lot to us or as directed by us free from all encumbrances or third party claims of any nature; and

(b) the exclusions in Condition 7.7,

then the sale of the Lot will be rescinded so that it is cancelled and we will refund the Purchase Price to you in full.

7.7. Your right to return the Lot and receive a refund of the Hammer Price under the Guarantee is your sole remedy against us, our agents and sub-contractors and/or the Seller for a Forgery. You will not be entitled to claim interest on the amount due to you. Neither we, our agents or sub-contractors nor the Seller shall be liable for costs, expenses, damages or any other liability however it arises relating to a Forgery.

7.8. In accordance with the restriction in Condition 10.2, the benefit of the Guarantee is personal to the original Buyer and is not transferable to a new owner of the Lot or any other person.

## 8. EXCLUSION OF LIABILITY

8.1. Except where these Conditions expressly state otherwise, no warranty is given to a Buyer concerning a Lot and each Lot is sold as shown with all faults, imperfections, errors of description (including authorship, origin, age, size, condition or value) or lack of authenticity or genuineness and neither we nor the Seller nor any of our agents or sub-contractors will be liable for any damages, costs, expenses or any other liability arising out of the same whether or not caused by negligence.

8.2. Our maximum liability under these Conditions is the amount of the Purchase Price paid by you.

8.3. Neither we nor any of our agents or sub-contractors shall be liable, whether in tort (including negligence or breach of statutory duty), contract, misrepresentation or otherwise:

(a) for loss of profits or business, depletion of goodwill and/or similar losses; loss of contracts; or

(b) any special, indirect, consequential or pure economic loss, costs, damages, charges or expenses.

8.4. We shall not be liable to you or be deemed to be in breach of these Conditions by reason of any delay in performing, or any failure to perform, any of our obligations in the Conditions, if the delay or failure was due to any cause beyond our reasonable control.

8.5. Nothing in these Conditions excludes or limits our liability for any matter which it would be illegal for us to exclude or attempt to exclude under English law or for our fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation.

## 9. DATA PROTECTION

9.1. By agreeing to these Conditions, a Bidder acknowledges and agrees that we will use personal information of a Bidder for the purpose of the auction and ancillary matters, including providing a Buyer's personal details to any other person where necessary to enforce our rights under these Conditions.

## 10. GENERAL

10.1. These Conditions and the Seller's Conditions constitute the entire agreement between us. All other terms, warranties and representations, express or implied by statute or otherwise are excluded to the fullest extent permitted by law. No variation to these Conditions shall be legally binding unless agreed in writing by us.

10.2. All rights and benefits granted to a Bidder under these Conditions are personal to him and may not be assigned or in any other way transferred to any other person. Any such assignment or transfer will be invalid and unenforceable against us.

10.3. A notice required or permitted to be given by either of us to the other under these Conditions shall, in the case of a Bidder, be to the last address notified to us and in the case of Baldwin's, shall be to its registered office.

10.4. No failure or delay by us in exercising any of our rights under these Conditions shall be deemed to be a waiver of that right, and no waiver by us of any breach of these Conditions by you shall be considered as a waiver of any subsequent breach of the same or any other provision.

10.5. We may perform our obligations and exercise our respective rights through any of our group companies or assign our rights under these Conditions.

10.6. If any provision of these Conditions is held by any court or other competent authority to be invalid or unenforceable in whole or in part, the validity of the other provisions and the remainder of the provision in question shall not be affected.

10.7. English law shall apply to these Conditions and we both agree to the English courts having exclusive jurisdiction.

## 11. INTERPRETATION

11.1. In these Conditions:

'Baldwin's', 'auctioneer', 'us' or 'we' means A H Baldwin & Sons Limited;

'Bidder' and 'you' means a person making, attempting to make or considering making a bid for a Lot including a Buyer;

'Buyer' means the person who makes the highest bid for a Lot which is accepted by the auctioneer and if the person is acting as an agent, will be a reference to its principal only if Baldwin's has accepted the agency in writing;

'Catalogue' means a catalogue, price list or other publication or price list;

'Commission Bid' means an instruction from a Bidder to us to bid on their behalf at the auction;

'Conditions' means these conditions of sale and any other additional terms notified to Bidders in writing in a Catalogue or otherwise (which includes notices displayed at the Auction) or as agreed in writing between Baldwin's and the Bidder;

'Guarantee' has the meaning set out in Condition 7.1;

'Hammer Price' means the amount of the highest bid for a Lot accepted by the auctioneer;

'including' or 'include' mean including without limitation and include without limitation, respectively;

'Lot' means any item deposited with us for sale at auction including items described against any Lot number in a Catalogue;

'Purchase Price' means the Hammer Price plus buyer's premium and VAT where applicable;

'Reserve' means a confidential price below which the auctioneer will not sell a Lot or will re-purchase on behalf of the Seller or for the account of Baldwin's. Unless otherwise specified at the time of Lot consignment, this will be set at approximately 80% of the Lot estimate at complete discretion of the auctioneer;

'Seller's Conditions' means the terms and conditions of sale between Baldwin's and a Seller for the sale of a Lot as displayed in the auction room, on our website or available from Baldwin's.

11.2. Headings in these Conditions are for convenience only and shall not affect their interpretation.



**BALDWIN'S**  
*The Name for Numismatics*



**APEX**  
*The Name for Philatelics*

## Forthcoming Auctions:

### September 2012

**Baldwin's Islamic Coin Auction 22**, Specialist Auction of Islamic Coins

**London**, 25 September 2012

**Baldwin's Auction 75**, Ancient and World Coins and Military and Commemorative Medals  
*The Official Coinex Auction*

**London**, 26 September 2012

**Baldwin's Auction 76**, The Bentley Collection (Part 2), British Sovereigns  
*The Official Coinex Auction*

**London**, 27 September 2012

**Baldwin's Auction 77**, British Coins including 101 rarities from the Brussels Hoard  
*The Official Coinex Auction*

**London**, 27 September 2012

### October 2012

**Apex Philatelic, Postal Auction 118**, General Stamps

**Postal**, 4 October 2012

**Baldwin's Islamic Coin Auction 23**, Specialist Auction of Islamic Coins

**London**, October 2012

### November 2012

**Baldwin's Autumn Argentum Auction**, Coins and Medals  
British and World Coins, Commemorative Medals, in conjunction with the London Coin Fair, Holiday Inn

**London**, 3 November 2012

**Apex Philatelic, Public Auction 119**, General Stamps

**Lingfield**, 11 November 2012

### December 2012

**Apex Philatelic, Postal Auction 120**, General Stamps

**Postal**, 6 December 2012

### January 2013

**Baldwin's The New York Sale XXX**, Ancient and World Coins

**New York**, 9 January 2013

**Baldwin's The New York Sale XXXI**, Russian Coins and Medals

**New York**, 10 January 2013

**Apex Philatelic, Postal Auction 121**, General Stamps

**Postal**, 17 January 2013

### February 2013

**Baldwin's Spring Argentum Auction**, Coins and Medals  
British and World Coins, Commemorative Medals, in conjunction with the London Coin Fair, Holiday Inn

**London**, 2 February 2013

### March 2013

**Apex Philatelic, Public Auction 122**, General Stamps

**Lingfield**, 17 March 2013

### April 2013

**Baldwin's Hong Kong Coin Auction 54**, Far Eastern and World Coins, Medals and Banknotes

**Hong Kong**, 5 April 2013

**Apex Philatelic, Postal Auction 123**, General Stamps

**Postal**, 25 April 2013

### May 2013

**Baldwin's Auction 77**, The Bentley Collection (Part 3), British Sovereigns  
**Baldwin's Auction 78**, British and World Coins and Medals

**London**, 7 May 2013

**London**, 8 May 2013

### June 2013

**Baldwin's Summer Argentum Auction**, Coins and Medals  
British and World Coins, Commemorative Medals, in conjunction with the London Coin Fair, Holiday Inn

**London**, 1 June 2013

[N.B: These dates are provisional only and may be subject to change. Additional dates may be added later.]

For enquiries with items for direct purchase or inclusion in one of our auctions please contact us  
at [coins@baldwin.co.uk](mailto:coins@baldwin.co.uk) or on +44 (0)20 7930 6879.

**A. H. Baldwin & Sons Ltd**, 11 Adelphi Terrace, London, WC2N 6BJ

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7930 9808, Fax: +44 (0)20 7930 9450, email: [auctions@baldwin.co.uk](mailto:auctions@baldwin.co.uk), website: [www.baldwin.co.uk](http://www.baldwin.co.uk)



The  
**BENTLEY**  
Collection



**BALDWIN'S**  
A Noble Investments (UK) PLC Company