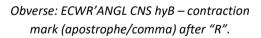
Further Examples of an Unusual Lettering Variant, Edward I

Rob Page

From the well-known Edwardian Pennies website of Rod Blunt (<u>link</u>) we learn that "the mint at Lincoln was active between 1280 and 1281, during the initial recoinage, and struck coins of types 3c, 3d, 3f and 3g. Unlike the other provincial mints opened for the initial recoinage, it didn't participate in the later recoinage of 1300. With the exception of errors, the only reverse legend found on Lincoln pennies is CIVITAS LINCOL. The mint signature is almost always followed by a contractive mark indicating the shortening of the city's name. The legend is divided as indicated below by the arms of the cross".

The coin shown below was recently purchased by the writer, weighs 1.33 gm, and is probably a class 3d, or perhaps better described as a class 3cd – this being the common designation for coins where it is difficult to tell whether they are class 3c or 3d. Unusually, it does not have the contractive mark at the end of the legend, but more unusual is the obverse legend which should read EDWA R ANG DNS hyB, with maybe a contractive mark or two.







Reverse: CIVI TAS LIN COL – no contraction marks.

As can be clearly seen, the obverse legend has "C"s where it should have "D"s; the implication being that "D" is normally formed with a single punch which has been inverted in this case.

This brief note is being published on the blog as a record of a possibly unrecorded variant for Lincoln; the author would be pleased to learn of any other examples.

November Update

Since publishing the original article images of a further example of this Lincoln variant have kindly been supplied by Jonathan Morris.



This is a finer example than the one originally published, and appears to be from the same dies. Interestingly, Jonathan Morris also supplied images of a class IXa1 of London which also shows the same "C for D" error on the obverse. The class three coins were issued in 1280/81 but the class IX not until c.1300 – so this similar lettering error has been repeated 20 years later, perhaps by a different die-cutter. One wonders whether this error will show up on any other classes.



Note that the class 9 coin above only has the first D reversed, not both Ds as in the class 3 examples.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: With thanks to Jonathan Morris for his images.

