# AUCTION 93

A VERY IMPORTANT COLLECTION OF COINS OF THE GERMANIC MIGRATION

24 May 2016

Numismatica Ars Classica nac ag zürich - london

## **AUCTION 93**

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# A Very Important Collection of Coins of the Germanic Migration

Hotel Baur au Lac Talstrasse 1, 8001 Zurich Tel. + 41 (0) 44 220 50 20

### NUMISMATICA ARS CLASSICA NAC AG

#### www.arsclassicacoins.com

Niederdorfstrasse 43 CH – 8001 Zurich

Tel. +41 (0) 44 261 1703 Fax +41 (0) 44 261 5324 zurich@arsclassicacoins.com 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Genavco House 17 Waterloo Place London SW1Y 4AR – UK Tel. +44 (0) 20 7839 7270 Fax +44 (0) 20 7925 2174 info@arsclassicacoins.com

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- 6. Payment is in Swiss Francs and is immediately due upon adjudication of the lot and has to be paid with the release of the object to the Buyer, unless otherwise agreed before the sale. Late payments will incur a monthly default interest of 1%. Title in a lot will not pass to the Buyer until NAC has received full payment on his account. NAC will generally not release a lot to a Buyer before payment. Earlier release of the lot does not affect its title nor the Buyer's obligation to pay. If the Buyer has failed to make immediate payment and within 5 days after receipt of a registered, written reminder by NAC to the buyer, NAC may in its sole discretion cancel the sale of the lot.
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Du fait de la participation à la vente aux enchères, les conditions suivantes sont réputées être acceptées :

- 1. Les enchères sont effectuées en Francs Suisses. L'adjudication est réalisée après trois appels consécutifs du plus offrant dont l'offre a été acceptée par le commissaire priseur et qui constitue une obligation. La mise à prix est effectuée en règle générale à 80 %, dans la mesure où il n'y a pas d'offres disponibles et plus élevées. Les offres formulées par écrit sont prioritaires. Chaque enchérisseur s'engage personnellement en ce qui concerne les acquisitions réalisées par ses soins. Il ne peut pas faire valoir le fait d'avoir agi pour le compte d'une tierce personne.
- 2. Les demandes d'enchères par téléphone ou par écrit (également par moyen électronique) pour les personnes intéressées et non présentes sont réceptionnées jusqu'à 24 heures avant le début de la vente aux enchères. Les enchérisseurs par téléphone acceptent que la communication téléphonique puisse être enregistrée. La salle des ventes n'assume aucune responsabilité quant aux enchères effectuées par téléphone, électronique ou par écrit.
- 3. Les enchérisseurs sont priés de se légitimer avant la vente aux enchères et de se faire enregistrer à l'issue de la vente. La salle des ventes peut exiger une référence bancaire et/ou une garantie. La salle des ventes a le droit de ne pas laisser une personne participer à la vente aux enchères.
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- 5. Une commission de 20.0% est perçue sur le prix d'adjudication. Les acquéreurs qui souhaitent participer aux enchères par téléphone ou en ligne avec nos facilités Live Internet paieront un frais supplémentaire de 1,5%. La taxe à la valeur ajoutée suisse d'un montant de 8,0 % sera perçue sur le prix définitif (prix d'adjudication plus supplément et sur tous les autres montants facturés à l'acquéreur par la salle des ventes). Les pièces de monnaie en or (AV) sont dispensées de la TVA.
  - En cas d'exportation de l'objet adjugé vers l'étranger, l'acquéreur se voit restituer la TVA lorsqu'il est en mesure de présenter une déclaration d'exportation réglementaire, en bonne et due forme, des autorités douanières suisses.
- 6. Le prix total en francs suisses est exigible immédiatement après adjudication et doit être acquitté lors de la remise de l'objet adjugé. Pour les paiements effectués ultérieurement un intérêt moratoire de 1% par mois sera facturé. La transmission de la propriété à l'acquéreur a lieu seulement à paiement intégral. En général, NAC ne remets l'objet adjugé à l'acquéreur pas avant paiement. Une éventuelle remise de l'objet n'a cependant pas de l'influence ni sur la propriété du vendeur ni sur l'obligation de l'acquéreur de payer.
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- 8. La salle des ventes garantit l'authenticité des monnaies sans réserve et sans limitation dans le temps. Toutes les indications mentionnées dans le catalogue sont rassemblées en toute conscience et en toute bonne foi.
- 9. Les objets mis aux enchères le sont pour le compte de tierces personnes ou bien sont la propriété de la salle des ventes. L'acquéreur (enchérisseur) n'a aucun droit d'obtenir communication du nom de la personne qui met en vente et se déclare en accord avec le fait que la salle des ventes perçoive une provision de cette dernière.
- 10. Les présentes conditions font partie intégrante de tout contrat de vente conclu dans le cadre de la vente aux enchères. Les modifications ne sont valables que par écrit. Le fait que des parties des présentes conditions de vente aux enchères venaient à ne plus correspondre, ou du moins plus intégralement, à la situation juridique en vigueur, n'affecte en rien les autres parties, ni dans leur contenu, ni dans leur validité. La version en langue allemande constitue la référence des présentes conditions de vente aux enchères.
- 11. La relation contractuelle entre les parties en cause est soumise, dans toutes ses composantes, au droit Suisse. La compétence juridique est fixée au siège de la salle des ventes à 8001 Zurich, et le for juridique exclusif est Zurich.

#### Condizioni di vendita

La partecipazione all'asta comporta l'accettazione delle seguenti condizioni:

- 1. La valuta in cui viene condotta l'asta è il Franco Svizzero. L'aggiudicazione al miglior offerente, individuato dal banditore, avviene dopo la terza chiamata e comporta per l'aggiudicatario l'acquisto con tutti i relativi obblighi di legge. Le offerte partono generalmente dall' 80% del prezzo di stima a meno che una o più offerte d'importo maggiore siano state presentate. Le offerte scritte hanno la precedenza. Il partecipante all'asta è personalmente responsabile per l'acquisto effettuato e non può pretendere di avere agito per conto di terzi.
- 2. I partecipanti all'asta non presenti in sala possono presentare offerte telefonicamente, in forma scritta, o per via elettronica fino a 24 ore prima dell'inizio dell'asta. Chi trasmette la propria offerta telefonicamente presta il proprio consenso all'eventuale registrazione della telefonata. La casa d'asta non assume alcun tipo di responsabilità per le offerte trasmesse in forma scritta, elettronica o telefonica.
- 3. I partecipanti, per concorrere all'asta, dovranno esibire un documento d'identità e registrarsi. La casa d'asta si riserva il diritto di richiedere referenze bancarie o un deposito cauzionale per permettere la partecipazione all'asta. La casa d'asta si riserva inoltre il diritto di non permettere a un soggetto la partecipazione all'asta.
- 4. Il banditore d'asta ha facoltà di aumentare o rifiutare un'offerta secondo la propria discrezionalità e senza necessità di fornire una motivazione. Il banditore si riserva inoltre il diritto di unire, separare, cambiare la sequenza prevista o di eliminare e/o ritirare dall'asta determinati lotti.
- 5. Al prezzo d'aggiudicazione va aggiunta una commissione del 20.0%. Gli offerenti che parteciperanno all'asta per telefono o 'live' attraverso internet pagheranno un costo supplementare dell'1,5%. L'imposta svizzera sul valore aggiunto, pari attualmente al 8,0%, viene applicata sul prezzo finale (prezzo d'aggiudicazione più commissione ed ogni altro importo imputabile al compratore dalla casa d'aste). Le monete in oro (AV) sono esonerate dal pagamento dell'IVA.
  - In caso d'esportazione dell'oggetto acquistato all'asta verso un paese estero, il compratore ha diritto al rimborso dell'IVA dietro consegna di una valida dichiarazione d'esportazione dell'ufficio doganale della Confederazione Elvetica.
- 6. Il pagamento è da effettuarsi in Franchi Svizzeri immediatamente all'aggiudicazione del lotto, a meno che concordato diversamente prima dell'asta. In caso di ritardato pagamento il tasso d'interesse moratorio applicabile è pari all'1% mensile. La proprietà del lotto non passerà al compratore fino a che la NAC non riceverà il pagamento a saldo dell'acquisto. Generalmente la NAC non rilascia un lotto al compratore prima di ricevere il pagamento di tale. La consegna anticipata di un lotto non incide sulla proprietà di tale ne' sull'obbligo di pagamento da parte del compratore. Se il compratore no paga subito e nel caso in cui egli non effettui il pagamento entro 5 giorni dalla ricezione di una raccomandata, scritta da NAC come avviso di mancato pagamento, la NAC si riserverà la facoltà di cancellare la vendita di tale lotto.
- 7. I costi ed il rischio della spedizione sono a carico del destinatario. Qualunque imposta e contributo legalmente dovuto nel paese d'esportazione è a carico dell'acquirente (compratore in sede d'asta) su cui ricade la responsabilità per la conoscenza delle norme vigenti in materia doganale e di valuta. La casa d'aste non assume alcuna responsabilità per l'eventuale violazione di tali prescrizioni.
- 8. La casa d'asta offre una garanzia incondizionata e senza riserva di tempo sull'autenticità delle monete. Le indicazioni e descrizioni contenute nel catalogo sono opinioni soggettive e sono espresse in buona fede.
- 9. Gli oggetti offerti vengono messi all'asta per conto di terzi o sono di proprietà della casa d'asta. L'acquirente (compratore in sede d'asta) non ha il diritto di conoscere l'identità del consegnatario dell'oggetto e prende atto che alla casa d'asta potrebbe venir corrisposta dal consegnatario una commissione per la vendita.
- 10. Le condizioni sopra menzionate costituiscono parte integrante di ciascun contratto individuale di vendita concluso nell'asta. Eventuali modifiche saranno ritenute valide solo se fatte in forma scritta. Nel caso in cui una parte delle presenti Condizioni di Vendita dovesse essere non più totalmente conforme alla vigenti disposizioni di legge, cioè non avrà effetto sulla validità delle parti restanti. L'unica versione di testo delle Condizioni di Vendita che ha valore legale è quella in lingua tedesca.
- 11. Il rapporto contrattuale fra le parti è regolato in tutti i suoi aspetti dal diritto della Confederazione Elvetica. Il luogo d'adempimento è la sede della casa d'aste a Zurigo (8001). Il foro competente è esclusivamente quello di Zurigo.

#### US IMPORT RESTRICTIONS ON COINS OF ITALIAN AND GREEK TYPE

None of the coins offered in this sale are subject to any kind of US import restrictions, since we are in possession of the necessary documentation for importation into the United States.

Nevertheless, Numismatica Ars Classica NAC AG endeavours to provide its American clients with the best service possible and we will therefore take it upon ourselves whenever possible to carry out all of the customs formalities for importation into the USA and will then ship the lots to each individual client from within the United States.

#### TIME TABLE ZEITTAFEL ORDRE DE VENTE ORDINE DI VENDITA

Monday, 23 May 2016

11:15 - 13:30

1087 - 1353

#### **EXHIBITIONS AUSSTELLUNG EXPOSITION ESPOSIZIONI**

#### **London** – At our premises

25 April - 6 May 2016

Monday to Friday 9:30 – 17:30 Saturday & Sunday by appointment only

Zurich		
At the Zurich premises (2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor):	Thursday, 19 May 2016 Friday, 20 May 2016 Saturday, 21 May 2016	09:30 – 17:30 09:30 – 17:30 By appointment
At the Hotel Baur au Lac, Talstrasse 1, 8001 Zurich:	Sunday, 22 May 2016 Monday 23 May 2016	09:30 - 18:00 09:00 - 11:30

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Die Auktion erfolgt unter Mitwirkung eines Beamten des Stadtammannamtes Zürich 1. Jede Haftung des anwesenden Beamten, der Gemeinde und des Staates für Handlungen des Auktionators entfällt.

Gradi di conservazione	Grades of preservation	Erhaltungsgrad	Degrés de conservation	Grados de Conservación
Fdc Fior di conio	Fdc Uncirculated	Stempelglanz	Fleur de coin (FDC)	FDC
Spl Splendido	Extremely fine	Vorzüglich	Superbe	EBC
BB Bellissimo	Very fine	Sehr schön	Très beau	MBC
MB Molto bello	Fine	Schön	Beau	BC

#### **Foreword**

Never has it been so easy for me to write a foreword to a catalogue where the collector has decided to remain anonymous; indeed, no word could better describe the spirit and the competence of the collector than the coins themselves.

Coins of the Germanic populations are at the same time both fascinating and enigmatic and their attributions often present small stylistic or epigraphic nuances that only a true expert can decipher.

The subtlety and intricacy in interpreting these coins therefore presents a real feat to whoever decides to take on such a collection, an undertaking that requires not only continued and updated research, but also a particular sense of intuition.

The collection that we present in this catalogue was assembled with continued passion and competence over the course of more than thirty years, with coins acquired from the most important collections sold in this field such as Garret, Lacam, De Wit and Dreesman. The result is an extraordinary collection in which not only all of the coinages of the Germanic migration are represented, but also where the Ostrogothic, Vandal and Lombard part is preponderant. This part is arguably the most important series to be offered at auction in the history of numismatics.

There are countless important coins in this sale, therefore we will limit ourselves to mentioning only a small selection including the lots formerly belonging to the Lacam collection, which are unrecorded in all major reference works, but published by Lacam in his 1983 work. Especially rare and noteworthy are the solidus issued by Sigismund, king of the Burgundians (lot 1252) and a tremissis minted at Aosta by the moneyer Betto (1258), the first coin to bear the name of the city on its reverse. The coins of the Lombards are certainly the most interesting part of the collection. Indeed, this series includes issues from both the pseudo-imperial period, minted in the transalpine region (lots 1259-1260) and the regal period with the names of the various rulers. Among these, it is important to mention the solidus in the name of Constans II, probably minted at Spoletum (lot 1283); the series of tremisses of Lucca (lots 1293-1295); the tremisses attributed to Aripert II and Liutprand (lots 1299-1310); the series of tremisses bearing the names of the moneyers (lots 1311-1313) and the exceptionally rare tremisses of Ratchis (lots 1314-1317) and Aiustulf (lot 1316). Finally, the duchy of Beneventum is also well represented with fascinating coins such as lot 1323, an imitation of a solidus of Constantine IV; the series of solidi and tremisses issued by Liutprand (lots 1328-1330); and the solidus and tremisses of the interregnum (lot 1331-1332).

I would like to conclude this foreword with a few words about the collector.

First of all, the catalogue is his work, in that his detailed notes and attributions were of precious help to us in its production. I would like to add that we almost immediately found ourselves on the same wavelength. After all, he is a true collector and, other than being a commercial company that conducts auctions, NAC is made up of numismatists who love coins and know immediately how to recognise other people who share this passion.

It is a great honour for NAC to auction this collection and we hope that this catalogue will become not only a useful tool for classifying coins of this period, but also a point of reference for collectors wishing to embark on collecting this difficult and fascinating coinage.

I cannot finish this foreword without thanking Professor Alfredo Maria Santoro from the Università degli Studi di Salerno for having written some of the historical notes which enrich and enlighten this catalogue.

## Migration of the German Tribes The Vandals

The Vandals were the first of a large number of Germanic tribes who invaded the Roman Empire during the late 4th century and early 5th century. King Godesigel, together with other tribes, invaded Italy but they were defeated by the Roman general Flavius Stilicho at Fiesole. They therefore moved on to Gaul, defeated the Frankish foederati in the Roman army, and settled in Narbonensis. Soon after, they decided to move into Spain and were fully established there by 411 and became pirates under Gunderic.





1087 Pseudo-imperial coinage. In the name of Honorius, 393-423. Siliqua, Carthage circa 440-490, AR 1.42 g. D N HONORI – VSPF AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. [VRBS] ROIIA Roma seated l. on cuirass, holding Victory on globe in r. hand and spear in l.; in exergue, [RVPS]. BMC Vandals 6-9 (Gaiseric). MIB –. MEC I, 1. Morrison-Schwarts, ANSMN 27, 62 var.

Old cabinet tone and good very fine

250

Ex Leu-NFA 16 October 1984, Garrettt part II, 478, and Leu 86, 2003, 1060 sales.

This coin imitates issues of Honorius from Ravenna and was probably struck by Gaiseric (428-477). He was an incredible king: he soon defeated the Suevi in 429, conquered Africa and the important city of Carthage, but Gaiseric was above all famous for his sack of Rome in 455. During his reign, the Vandals maintained themselves as a Germanic aristocracy above the local population and with separate laws, but their Arianism made them unpopular. After the death of Gaiseric, the Vandals controlled much of Africa and all the islands in the western Mediterranean.

#### Gunthamund, 484-496



1088 Half siliqua, Carthage 484-496, AR 1.04 g. D N RXG – VNTHA Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. DN within wreath. BMC Vandals 3-7. MIB 3. MEC I, 8.

Rare. Dark tone, slightly rough surface, otherwise good very fine

Ex New York sale XI, 2006, 405.

Gunthamund was the grandson of Gaiseric and was a tolerant king. He attempted reconciliation with the Catholics, building new churches and recalling bishops in his kingdom. He also tried to conquer Sicily without success.

1089 Half siliqua, Carthage 484-496, AR 1.04 g. DN RXG – [N]THA Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. DN within wreath. BMC Vandals 3-7. MIB 3. MEC I, 8.

Ex New York sale XI, 2006, 406.

Rare. Light tone and good very fine

250

#### Thrasamund, 496-523



1090



DH

1090 Half siliqua, Carthage 496-523, AR 0.92 g. DN RG THRA – SAMVNDV[S] Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. DN within wreath. BMC Vandals 12. MIB 6a. MEC I, 17.

Rare. Old cabinet tone and very fine

Ex New York sale XI, 2006, 407.

Thrasamund was the brother of Gunthamund and resumed the persecutions of the Christians. He also continued the wars against the Moors but he lost most of them. His wife was Amalafrida, sister of Theoderic, king of the Ostrogoths.

#### Hilderic, 523-530









Half siliqua, Carthage 523-530, AR 1.18 g. DN HILDI - [RIXREX] Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. FELIX - KARTG Carthago standing facing. BMC Vandals 3. MIB 8. MEC I, 21.

Rare. Obverse slightly off-centre, otherwise about extremely fine

600

Ex New York sale XI, 2006, 408.

Hilderic was probably one of the weakest Vandalic kings, losing large amounts of territory to the Moors. He stopped persecuting the Christians thus pleasing the Byzantines but upsetting the Vandals. He was deposed by Gelimer, nephew of Thrasamund.

#### Semi-Autonomous coinage of Carthage, c. 480-533









21 Nummi circa 480-533, Æ 5.78 g. KART - HAGO Soldier standing facing, holding spear in l. hand. Rev. Horse head I.; in exergue, XXI. BMC Vandals 17. MIB 23. MEC I, 45.

In unsually good condition for the issue. Light brown-green patina and good very fine

450

Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, De Wit, 95.



1093





21 Nummi circa 480-533, Æ 7.07 g. [KA]RT - HAGO Soldier standing facing, holding spear in l. hand. Rev. Horse head I; in exergue, XXI. BMC Vandals 17. MIB 23. MEC I, 45.

> Dark patina, minor areas of weakness, otherwise very fine 200

Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, De Wit, 96.



1094





1094

21 Nummi circa 480-533, Æ 7.95 g. KART - [H]AGO Soldier standing facing, holding spear in l. hand. Rev. Horse head I; in exergue, XXI. BMC Vandals 17. MIB 23. MEC I, 45.

Dark green patina and very fine 250

Ex J. Elsen sale 86, 2005, 735.

#### **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage**

Odovacar, 476-493







TO TO THE TOTAL OF THE TOTAL OF

1095 *In the name of Zeno, 474-491.* Solidus, Roma 476-493, AV 4.43 g. DN ZENO P – ERP F AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVCCC: Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star, and in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. Lacam pl. 50, 1. RIC 3651.

Ex Lanz sale 97, 2000, 1084.

Odovacar was the most unusual of the Barbarian kings in the West in that his power relied not on his own tribe but rather on a heterogeneous group of mercenaries. He was a Scirian, a minor Germanic tribe originally from Scythia, and his father was a vassal of Attila. In the meanwhile, Orestes, Magister Militum and Patrician of Julius Nepos, had become too ambitious, driven Nepos out of Italy and proclaimed his young son emperor with the name Romulus Augustus. But the Eastern emperor Zeno charged Odovacar with the task of recuperating the western regions and soon afterward Orestes was killed, and his young son was deposed and retired to a villa in Campania. This was the moment in which Odovacar assumed the title of king of Italy (Rex Gentium, 476). He was granted the title of Patrician by the emperor Zeno, who was the ruler in whose name all of Odovacar's coins were struck, and managed to retain control of Italy, Sicily, and parts of Provence, Noricum and Rhaetia. Odovacar resumed coinage with Zeno's name, as usual without mintmarks, for the coins struck in Rome.











1096 In the name of Zeno, 474-491. Solidus, Roma 476-493, AV 4.43 g. DN ZENO P – ERP F AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTOR – I – A AVCCC Γ Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star, and in exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals –. Kraus 2. Lacam pl. 58, 77 (Theoderic). RIC 3654 (this coin illustrated). Kent pl. VIII, 18 (Theoderic). Metlich p. 11, fig. 3 (this coin illustrated). Extremely rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Good extremely fine

Ex Schulman 19 January 1931, 715; Leu-NFA 16 October 1984, Garrett part II, 490, and M. Dürr - R. Michel 8 November 1999, Lacam, 238 sales.

Lacam has revolutionised the study of the coinage of this period and has ascribed this issue, with  $\Gamma$  at the end of the reverse legend, to Theoderic, striking at a mint in Roman Campania (see pl. 222, Classe II and pp. 929-930). However, it is important to note that this coin is struck from the same obverse die as a specimen which Lacam ascribes to Odovacar (pl. 194, 4 and p. 787). The reverse differs from ours by having  $\Gamma$  and COMOB in the exergue. If Lacam is correct in his organisation of the coinage of Odovacar and Theoderic, this die-link has important consequences for their internal chronologies.





1097





In the name of Zeno, 474-491. Solidus, Roma 476-493, AV 4.36 g. DN ZENO P - ERP F AVG Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTOR – I – A AVCCC  $\Gamma$  • Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star, and in exergue, • COMOB •. BMC Vandals -. Kraus -. Lacam pl. 50, 16 (this coin). RIC 3656.

Very rare. Minor area of weaknees on obverse, otherwise good very fine

Ex M. Dürr - R. Michel sale 8 November 1999, Lacam, 231.

To this day the reasons behind the appearance of dots around COMOB and at the end of the legend remain unclear. Probably the letter  $\Gamma$  indicated the officina or the year; however the problem of interpreting such numerals stems from possible links with the Roman folles of Zeno.









In the name of Zeno, 474-491. Tremissis, Roma 476-493, AV 1.48 g. DN ZENO P - ERP F AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed and bust r. Rev. Cross within wreath; in exergue, COMO[B]. BMC Vandals 14. Kraus 15. Lacam - (cfr. pl. 53, 59). RIC 3661.

Extremely rare. Irregular flan, otherwise good extremely fine 1'000

Ex Nomisma sale 22, 2002, 465.





1099





1099 In the name of Zeno, 474-491. Tremissis, Roma 476-493, AV 1.40 g. DN ZENO - PERP F AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Cross within wreath; in exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals 5-7 var. Kraus 10-12 var. Lacam -. Hahn 1988, "Die Münzstätte Rom unter den kaisern Julius Nepos, Zeno, Romulus und Basiliscus (474-491)", in RIN vol. XC, 25 (this coin). RIC -.

Very rare. Minor edge marks and slightly bent, otherwise very fine

Ex Hess-Leu 28, 1965, 602; Peus 287, 1975, 126, and M. Dürr - R. Michel 8 November 1999, Lacam, 253 sales.

The large head is a particular characteristic which stylistically links this coin with the tremisses and siliquae issued by the n





1100





1100 In the name of Zeno, 474-491. Solidus, Ravenna 476-493, AV 4.42 g. DN ZENO – PERP F AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif, Rev. VICTORI – A AVCCC Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star, and in exergue, CONOBRV. BMC Vandals 2. Kraus 5. Lacam pl. 51, 27. RIC 3634.
Very rare. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc
3'500

Ex M. Dürr - R. Michel sale 8 November 1999, Lacam, 234.

The mint of Ravenna used the oriental mintmark CONOB but with the extension of RV. Under Odovacar Ravenna became more important than the other cities because he chose it as his capital. Nevertheless, all the solidi of Ravenna had a crude style compared with the others' coins.

Solidi produced in Ravenna are characterised on the obverse by a portrait with pronounced eyes and the letter R supported by two vertical bars. Furthermore, the Victory on the reverse presents a different hairstyle.









1101 *In the name of Zeno, 474-491.* Tremissis, Ravenna 476-493, AV 1.46 g. DN ZENO – [P]ERP AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Cross within wreath; in exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals 15 var. Kraus 16 var. Lacam 60, 97 var. (Bononia). RIC 3637 var. Rare. About extremely fine 750

Ex Spink sale 13 June 2000, Dreessmann, 756.









1102 In the name of Zeno, 474-491. Tremissis, Ravenna 476-493, AV 1.42 g. DN ZENO – PERP AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Cross within wreath; in exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals
 15. Kraus 16. Lacam 60, 97 (this coin) (Bononia). RIC 3637 (this coin illustrated).

Of the highest rarity, apparently only two specimens known. A minor edge mark at eleven o'clock on obverse, otherwise extremely fine

1'500

Ex M. Dürr - R. Michel sale 8 November 1999, Lacam, 255.









1103 In the name of Zeno, 474-491. Tremissis, Ravenna 476-493, AV 1.42 g. DN ZENO – PERP AVC Draped, cuirassed and pearl-diademed bust r. Rev. Cross within wreath; in exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. Lacam 60, 96 (this coin) (Bononia). RIC 3638.

Extremely rare. Reddish tone and about very fine

750

Ex M. Dürr - R. Michel sale 8 November 1999, Lacam, 254.









1104 *In the name of Zeno, 474-491.* Half siliqua, Ravenna 476-491, AR 0.88 g. D N ZENO – PERP AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Turreted figure standing l., holding sceptre and cornucopia, r. foot on prow: in field l. and r., R – V. Sabatier 12. LRC 672. RIC 3644.

Extremely rare. Old cabinet tone and very fine

2,000

Ex NAC sale 33, 2006, 638.

In the NAC catalogue, this coin was ascribed to Zeno. This collector however maintains that the coin was instead issued by Odovacar in the name of Zeno. Unfortunately the stylistic differences between the two are so subtle that it is virtually impossible to distinguish between them.

1105 Nummus, Ravenna (?) 476-491, Æ 0.80 g. ODO – VAC Draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Monogram within wreath. BMC Vandals 10-11. Kraus 36 a. MEC I, 64. RIC 3502.

Very rare. Green patina and fine

This is a nummus with a slightly simplified monogram on the reverse. Forgeries of this type were produced in the past centuries: the two examples in the British Museum (BMC 8-9) are Cigoi forgeries (MEC I, pp. 33-34).









1106 In the name of Zeno, 474-491. Tremissis, Mediolanum 476-493, AV 1.43 g. DN ZENO PERP AVC (AV ligate) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed r. Rev. Cross within wreath; in exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. Ulrich-Bansa –. Lacam –. RIC –.

Apparently unrecorded. About extremely fine

1'200

Ex Nomisma sale 22, 2002, 466.

Apparently unknown for the obverse legend without spaces that is typical of siliquae.









1107 In the name of Zeno, 474-491. Tremissis, Mediolanum 476-493, AV 1.40 g. DN ZENO – PERP AVC (AV ligate) Draped, cuirassed and pearl-diademed bust r. Rev. Cross within wreath; in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. Ulrich-Bansa –. Lacam pl. 53, 68. RIC 3607 var. (different style).

Very rare. About extremely fine / extremely fine

1,000

Ex Nomisma sale 22, 2002, 467.

The style of the bust and wreath on the reverse of this coin are typical of the mint of Mediolanum.









1108 *In the name of Zeno, 474-491*. Half siliqua, Mediolanum 476-493, AR 0.77 g. DN ZENO – PERP AVC (AV ligate) Draped, cuirassed and pearl-diademed bust r. Rev. Eagle standing l. with spread wings and head r.; cross above. BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. Ulrich-Bansa 191 var. (eagle r. and head l.). MEC I, 61var. (eagle r. and head l.). RIC 3623 fn.

An extremely rare variety of a rare type. Old cabinet tone and very fine

1,000

Ex Triton sale XI, 2008, 1056.

#### The Ostrogoths

#### Municipal Bronze Coinage of Roma

The Ostrogoths were a group originating from the eastern regions occupied by the Goths. The separation of the original congregation took place at the end of the third century in the regions of present-day Southern Russia. By the mid-5th century, once an agreement with the Romans had been secured, they established themselves in Pannonia. In 474, king Theodemir died leaving the throne to his son Theoderic who had grown up as a hostage in Byzantium. Theoderic succeeded in establishing relatively stable control over the lower Danube. The Byzantine emperor Zeno bestowed upon him the title of Patrician and, after a confrontational period between the two, an agreement was reached based on the Ostrogothic king reconquering Italian territories for the Byzantine Empire, culminating in the elimination of the Scirian Odovacar who reigned over vast regions. Having descended on Italy in 498 and defeated Odovacar, the Ostrogoths occupied some parts of nothern Italy, rotating around Ravenna, Pavia and Verona. After Theoderic's death in 526, his daughter Amalasunta took the sceptre as regent to the young Athalaric and supported a conciliatory approach with Byzantium. She found herself in difficulty having to confront a part of the Ostrogothic population that pressurised her into breaking with the Byzantine Empire. Upon Athalaric's death, she was murdered by her cousin Theodahad, the same cousin whom she had made co-regent and king. Such events paved the way for the Byzantine intervention which led to the Greco-Gothic war which ended in the middle of the 6th century with the defeat and death of Theia, the last Ostrogothic king. The population was absorbed by the local peoples.

As with almost all of the Germanic tribes, the Ostrogoths struck Romano-Byzantine imitative coins in the mints of Roma, Mediolanum, Ravenna and Ticinum (Pavia) between 493 and 553/554.







1109 *Class 2. Heavy series.* Follis (40 nummi), Roma 493-553, Æ 14.60 g. IMVICT – A ROMA Helmeted and cuirassed bust of Roma r. Rev. She-wolf standing l., suckling twins; in field above, XL and in exergue • IIII •. BMC Vandals 26. Kraus –. MIB 70 (Theoderic). MEC I, 93-94. Metlich 82 a (Athalaric, this coin).

In exceptional condition for the issue. Olive green patina and good very fine / about extremely fine

1,200

Ex Sotheby's sale 30-31 March 1995, 1319.









1110 Class 2. Heavy series. Follis (40 nummi), Roma 493-553 Æ 19.45 g. IMVICT – A ROMA Helmeted and cuirassed bust of Roma r. Rev. She-wolf standing l., suckling twins; in field above, XL and in exergue • III •. BMC Vandals 25. Kraus –. MIB 70 (Theoderic). MEC I, 93-94 var. (IIII in exergue). Metlich 82 a (Athalaric).
Green patina and very fine
300

During Odovacar and the Ostrogoths, there was a revival of the ancient Senatorial privilege of minting in bronze. The Senatorial issues began with 40 nummus pieces (folles) struck in the name of Zeno. They were followed by folles and half folles of a purely Roman character, making no reference to imperial or royal authority. These issues have the obverse inscription Invicta (or Imvicta) Roma and a helmeted bust or Roma, referring to the traditions of the immortal city, especially on the reverse with the eagle, the fig tree and the she-wolf. The reverses always includes a mark of value in Roman numerals and the folles also have an officina numeral. These issues are differentiated by weight into two classes. No hoard evidence is available, so there is dissent between scholars about authorities issuing them. In general, the purely Senatorial coinage came to an end in 535 or 536, when it was briefly succeeded by the portrait folles of Theodahad (MEC I, pp. 32-33).

1111 *Class 2.* Follis (40 nummi), Roma 493-553, Æ 10.82 g. IMVICT – A ROMA Helmeted and cuirassed bust of Roma r. Rev. She-wolf standing l., suckling twins; in field above, XL. BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. MIB –. MEC I, –. Metlich 82 b (Athalaric). Rare. Green patina and about very fine 250

Ex Vecchi sale 16, 1999, 575.









1112 Class 2. Heavy series. Follis (20 nummi), Roma 493-553, Æ 10.87 g. IMVICT – A ROMA Helmeted and cuirassed bust of Roma r. Rev. She-wolf standing l., suckling twins; in field above, two stars and in exergue, XX. BMC Vandals 31. Kraus 29. MIB 71 b (Theoderic). MEC I, 97-98A. Metlich 84a (Athalaric).

Green patina and very fine 200

Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, De Wit, 98.

Class 2. Heavy series. Follis (20 nummi), Roma 493-553, Æ 9.10 g. IMVICT - A ROMA Helmeted and cuirassed bust of Roma r. Rev. She-wolf standing l., suckling twins; in field above, two stars and in exergue, XX. BMC Vandals 31. Kraus 29. MIB 71 b (Theoderic). MEC I, 97-98A. Metlich 84a (Athalaric).

Dark tone, minor areas of corrosion, otherwise very fine

Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, De Wit, 99.









1114 Class 3. Light series. Follis (40 nummi), Roma 493-553, Æ 12.67 g. INVICT - A ROMA Helmeted and cuirassed bust of Roma r. Rev. Eagle standing l. with open wings; in l. field, XL. BMC Vandals 6-7. Kraus -. MIB 74 b (Theoderic and Athalaric). MEC I, 100 var. (II in exergue). Metlich 76a (Theoderic).

A very rare variety and in exceptional condition for the issue.

Brown tone and good very fine

1'000

Ex NAC Autumn 95 sale 1995, 709.

This is a very rare variety missing the officina letter on the reverse. Metlich only cites two specimens in private hands and this is one of the two.



1115





1115 Class 3. Light series. Follis (40 nummi), Roma 493-553, Æ 12.57 g. INVICT - A ROMA Helmeted and cuirassed bust of Roma r. Rev. Eagle standing l. with open wings; in l. field, XL. BMC Vandals 6-7. Kraus -. MIB 74 b (Theoderic and Athalaric). MEC I, 100 var. (II in exergue). Metlich 76a (Theoderic).

A very rare variety and in exceptional condition for the issue.

Green patina and good very fine

1'000

Same dies as the previous lot.







Class 3. Light series. Follis (40 nummi), Roma 493-553, Æ 10.05 g. IMVICT – A ROMA Helmeted and cuirassed bust of Roma r. Rev. Eagle standing l. with open wings; in l. field, XL and in exergue, A between two palmettes (?). BMC Vandals 8-10. Kraus –. MIB 74a (Theoderic and Athalaric). MEC I, 101 var. (Δ instead of A). Metlich 76b (Theoderic).
 Green patina and good very fine

1117 *Class 3. Light series.* Follis (40 nummi), Roma 493-553, Æ 8.88 g. IMVIC – TA ROMA Helmeted and cuirassed bust of Roma r. Rev. Eagle standing l. with open wings; in l. field, XL and in exergue, •Δ•. BMC Vandals 14. Kraus –. MIB 74a (Theoderic and Athalaric). MEC I, 101. Metlich 76b (Theoderic).

Green patina and good very fine / about extremely fine 400









1118 Class 3. Light series. Follis (40 nummi), Roma 493-553, Æ 10.07 g. IMVICT – A ROMA Helmeted and cuirassed bust of Roma r. Rev. Eagle standing l. with open wings; in l. field, XL and in exergue, • F•. BMC Vandals 12-13. Kraus –. MIB 74 a (Theoderic and Athalaric). MEC I, 107 var. (another letter in exergue). Metlich 76b (Theoderic). Green patina and very fine 400

Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, De Wit, 101.

1119 Class 3. Light series. Follis (20 nummi), Roma 493-553, Æ 6.49 g. IMVICT – A ROMA Helmeted and cuirassed bust of Roma r. Rev. Palm/fig tree (?) between two eagles; in exergue, •XX•. BMC Vandals 19-23. Kraus 27-28. MIB 75 (Theoderic and Athalaric). MEC I, 19-110. Metlich 83 (Athalaric).

Green patina and very fine 350

Ex NAC Autumn 95 sale 1995, 711.

**Theoderic**, 493-526









1,750

1120 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Zeno, 474-491.* Solidus, uncertain mint 493-526, AV 4.14 g. DN ZENO – PERP AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVCCC Γ Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star, and in exergue, CONOBR (BR ligate). BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. Lacam pl. 54, 5 (this coin) (Ticinum). MEC I, –. RIC –.

Extremely rare and of very unusual style. Several edge mark, otherwise about very fine

Ex M. Dürr - R. Michel sale 8 November 1999, Lacam, 242.

Odovacar was successful enough to demolish the Rugians on the Danube in 487, but Zeno was able to destroy him through Theoderic, the Ostrogoth who captured and killed him in 493. The Ostrogoths remained in Pannonia as vassals of the Huns after 375 but became increasingly active as the 5th century progressed. They formed part of the Hunnish armies but later became foederati after the death of Attila. In 459 the young Theoderic was sent to be brought up as a hostage in Constantinople but when he returned, in 471, he succeeded his father Theodemir as king of the Ostrogoths in Moesia. After a few years, Zeno gave him the rank of Patrician and he was authorised to take over the rule of Italy and drive out Odovacar. The Ostrogoths therefore officially ruled as foederati of the emperor and, nominally at least, maintained their allegiance. As king in Italy from 493, Theoderic was surprisingly capable and gave the peninsula one of the longest stretches of good government. He enforced religious tolerance and also attempted to form a major Germanic coalition thanks to family alliances. With the death of Alaric in 507, Theoderic ruled over Spain and southern Gaul as well as being regent for his grandson Amalaric. The grand scheme broke down with the accession of Hilderic the Vandal in 523 and the renewal of the Arian persecution by Justin I. Theoderic was preparing an attack on his enemies when he died in 526.









1121 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Zeno, 474-491.** Solidus, uncertain mint 493-526, AV 4.49 g. DN ZENO – PERP AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVCCC Γ Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star, and in exergue, CONOBR (BR ligate). BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. Lacam pl. 54, 7 (this coin) (Ticinum). MEC I, –. RIC –.

Extremely rare. Graffito in obverse field, otherwise good extremely fine 2'500

Ex M. Dürr - R. Michel sale 8 November 1999, Lacam, 243.









1122 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Zeno, 474-491.** Solidus, uncertain mint 493-526, AV 4.45 g. DN ZENO – PERP AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVCCC IRB (ligate) Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star, and in exergue, CONOR. Lacam pl. 54, 9 (this coin) (Ticinum). MEC I, –. RIC –.

Very rare. An almost invisible nick on obverse field, otherwise extremely fine 2'000

Ex M. Dürr - R. Michel sale 8 November 1999, Lacam, 244.











1123 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Zeno, 474-491. Solidus, uncertain mint 493-526, AV 4.44 g. DN ZENO – PERP AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVCCC H Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star, and in exergue, CONOBR (BR ligate). BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. Lacam pl. 54, 12 (this coin) (Ticinum). MEC I, –. RIC –.

Very rare. Minor marks, otherwise about extremely fine 2'000

Ex M. Dürr - R. Michel sale 8 November 1999, Lacam, 245.







1124

1124 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Zeno, 474-491.* Solidus, uncertain mint 493-526, AV 4.32 g. DN ZENO – PERP AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVCCC Θ Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star, and in exergue, CONOR. BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. Lacam pl. 54, 15 (this coin) (Ticinum). MEC I, –. RIC –.

Very rare. Several edge marks and traces of edge filing, otherwise good very fine / about extremely fine

1,750

Ex M. Dürr - R. Michel sale 8 November 1999, Lacam, 247.





1125



1125 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Zeno, 474-491.** Solidus, uncertain mint 493-526, AV 4.49 g. DN ZENO – PERP AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVCC TI Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star, and in exergue CONOBR (BR ligate). BMC Vandals – Kraus –. Lacam pl. 54, 18 (this coin) (Ticinum). MEC I, –. RIC –.

Very rare. An area of weakness on obverse and a metal flaw on reverse, otherwise extremely fine

2,000

Ex M. Dürr - R. Michel sale 8 November 1999, Lacam, 248.





1126





1126 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Zeno, 474-491.** Solidus, uncertain mint 493-526, AV 4.49 g. DN ZENO – PERP AVG Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVCCC THE (monogr.) Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star, and in exergue, CONOR. BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. Lacam pl. 55, 27 (this coin) (Bononia). MEC I, –.

Extremely rare. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 4'000

Ex M. Dürr - R. Michel sale 8 November 1999, Lacam, 240.

Metlich does not assign solidi in the name of Zeno to Theoderic, even if tremisses and semisses are known. These issues with CONOR form a homogenous group that Lacam ascribes to Theoderic on the basis of the monogram THE.







1127 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Zeno, 474-491.** Solidus, uncertain mint 493-526, AV 4.47 g. DN ZENO – PERP AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVCCC S Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star, and in exergue, CONO[.]Z. BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. Lacam pl. 57, 60 (this coin). MEC I, –. RIC –. Very rare. Good extremely fine 2'000

Ex M. Dürr - R. Michel sale 8 November 1999, Lacam, 251.









Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Zeno, 474-491. Solidus, Mediolanum, 493-526, AV 4.38 g. DN ZENO – PE – RP AVC (AV ligate) Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTOR – I – A AVCCC Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star, in l., Θ and on sides, M – D. In exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. Urlich-Bansa –. Lacam pl. 57, 61 (this coin). MEC I, –. RIC 3604 (this coin).
Extremely rare. Good extremely fine
5'000

Ex Sotheby's 17 November 1989, 155, and and M. Dürr - R. Michel 8 November 1999, Lacam, 253 sales.

Lacam has interpreted the letter at the feet of the Victory as the initial of Theoderic. In the Autumn of 489, Mediolanum was occupied by Theoderic but Odovacar then reconquered it the following year. Only after the battle at the river Adda, could Theoderic oblige his opponent to retreat to Ravenna, pushing the Roman senate to side with himself. It is likely that this coin was struck during the months following the battle, before the death of Zeno on 11th April 491, when Theoderic could take advantage of Roma and Mediolanum mints in the name of the emperor.









1129 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Solidus, Roma 493-526, AV 4.43 g. DN ANASTA – SIVS PF AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTOR – I – A AVCCC A Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star, and in exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals 61. Kraus 5. MIB I, 9. Lacam –. MEC I, 112. Metlich 8.

Very rare. An area of weakness on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine 1'000

Around the year 500, also Roma resumed minting solidi with the letter A at the end of the reverse legend. This type remained unchanged until the death of the emperor Anastasius.









1130 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Solidus, Roma 493-526, AV 4.37 g. DN ANASTA – SIVS PF AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTOR – I – A AVCCC Christogram Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star, and in exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals 62. Kraus 6. MIB I, 6. Lacam pl. 58, 86. MEC I, 113. Metlich 4.

Very rare. Graffito on obverse and edge scuff at eleven o'clock on reverse, otherwise good very fine / extremely fine

2'500

Ex NAC sale 25, 2003, 643.

Arslan cites the existence of only five specimens of this type. This coin has the characteristics of the Roma mint: the fillets of the diadem curled upwards; the letter B in the exergue is slightly larger and slanted; Victory's wings are composed of vertical lines and the use of PF (perpetuus felix) and COMOB on the reverse. This coin represents one of the first issues of the Roma mint





1131





Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Solidus, Roma 493-526, AV 4.41 g. DN ANASTA – SIVS PF AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVCCC Θ Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in l. field, RM (in monogram), in r. star, and in exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals 63. Kraus 7. MIB I, 7. Lacam pl. 59, 91 (this coin). MEC I, –. Metlich 6.

Very rare. Several edge marks, possibly traces of mounting, otherwise good extremely fine

3'500

Ex M. Dürr - R. Michel sale 8 November 1999, Lacam, 262.

The letter Θ indicates the Greek monogram of Theoderic and precedes the Latin monogram (Metlich p. 17).









1132 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518.** Solidus, Roma 493-526, AV 4.38 g. DN ANASTA – SIVS PF AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTOR – I – A AVCCC A Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star, and in exergue, CORMOB. (RM in monogr.). BMC Vandals 61 var. (without monogr). Kraus 5 var. MIB I, 9 var. (without monogr). Lacam pl. 58, 83 (this coin). MEC I, 112 (without monogr). Metlich 8 var. (without monogr).

Exceedingly rare. Good very fine

1,750

Ex Auctiones 7, 1977, 868 and M. Dürr - R. Michel 8 November 1999, Lacam, 263 sales.

The M of COMOB appears to contain a monogram formed of the letters R and M. Also worth noting is the morphology of the rounded face which is different from the usual Roman portraits.







1133 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Tremissis, Roma 493-526, AV 1.41 g. DN ANASTA – SIVS PF AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVGVSTORVM Victory advancing r., holding wreath in r. hand and palm branch in l.; in exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals 71. Kraus 24. MIB I, 3. Lacam –. MEC I, –. Metlich 10a.

Very rare. Good extremely fine 1'750

These types are very important because they were the prototypes for the following imitations, especially for the Visigoths and the Burgundians. According to Kent in Essays Baldwin, pp. 67-74, the type with Victory advancing r., holding wreath, branch and globe, was a celebratory motif as was the famous gold medallion with the portrait of Theoderic.







1134 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Tremissis, Roma 493-526, AV 1.47 g. DN ANASTA – SIVS PF AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVGVSTORVM Victory advancing l. on globe, holding wreath in r. hand and palm branch in l.; in exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals 72. Kraus 25. MIB I, 4. MEC I, –. Metlich 12².

Very rare. Good extremely fine 1'750

Despite this coin bearing CONOB in its exergue, the writers of BMC assign it to Roma based on stylistic merit. Note that Metlich, Hahn and Arslan do not cite this variant. In Hahn's opinion it represents a different officina producing tremisses in Roma.







1135 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518.** Tremissis, Roma 493-526, AV 1.23 g. DN ANASTA – SIVS PF AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVCVSTORVM Victory advancing r. with bust three-quarters l., holding wreath in r. hand and *globus cruciger* in l.; on either sides in field, star, and in exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals 67. MIB I, 11. MEC I, – Metlich 13a. Very rare. Good very fine 750

Ex Cahn 75, 30 May 1932, Donaveschinger, 1793, and Leu-NFA 18 October 1984, Garrett part II, 494 sales.

The real coins for the Germanic tribes were the tremisses. The Ostrogoths were inspired by the Byzantines and they coined tremisses with same style and types but with two principal differences: the sigla COMOB instead of CONOB and a cross in the hand of the Victory. In fact, after a few years the globus cruciger, typical of Byzantine coins, was replaced with a simple cross. Probably these tremisses with two stars were struck by a second officina that occasionally produced coins.







1136 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Tremissis, Roma 493-526, AV 1.39 g. DN ANASTA – SIVS PF AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA A – VCVSTOROM Victory advancing r. with bust three-quarters l., holding wreath in r. hand and globus cruciger in l.; on either sides on field, two stars and in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals 67 var. (AVCVSTORVM). Kraus 20 var. MIB I, 11 var. (AVCVSTORVM). MEC I, –. Metlich 13a var. (AVCVSTORVM).

Very rare. An almost invisible mark on obverse field, otherwise extremely fine

800

Ex Lanz sale 70, 1994, 279.

Note the unusual legend on the reverse both for the division and AVCVSTOROM instead of AVCVSTORVM.







1137 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518.** Half siliqua, Roma 493-526, AR 1.50 g. DN ANAST – ASIVS AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; below bust, • R •. Rev. Six-rayed star within wreath. BMC Vandals 22. Kraus 36. MIB I, 37a. MEC I, 117 var. (without R). Metlich 43a. Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Old cabinet

tone and good extremely fine 1'200

Ex Kunst und Münzen 10, 1973, 184, and Leu 77, 2000, 780 sales.

Under Theoderic a six-rayed star appeared on half siliquae, resulting from a decline of the Christogram. During that time, probably there were two different administrations for minting the gold and the silver issues. On silver coins, we noticed a modification of the style but also of the legends compared to the gold and bronze specimens. Furthermore, we also saw the brief appearance of mintmarks from 492 until 518.

At Rome, mintmarks were replaced with just two dots, which were then abandoned after 518.







1138 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Quarter siliqua, Roma 493-526, AR 0.88 g. [DN ANAST] − ASIVS AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; below bust, • R •. Rev. Monogram of Theoderic within wreath; in field, cross above. BMC Vandals 23 var. (without R). Kraus 37. MIB I, 39a var. (without R). MEC I, 118 var. (without R). Metlich 45a.

Light iridescent tone and about extremely fine / extremely fine

500

Ex Kunst und Munzen 10, 1973, 185, and Leu 77, 2000, 781 sales.





1139



1139 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518.* Solidus, Ravenna 493-526, AV 4.48 g. DN ANASTA – SIVS PF AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVCCC A Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star, and in exergue, COMOBZ. BMC Vandals –. Kraus 14. Tolstoi 84. MIB I, 14. Lacam pl. 58, 85. MEC I, –. Metlich –.

Exceedingly rare. Virtually as struck and Fdc

3'000

Ex M. Dürr - R. Michel sale 8 November 1999, Lacam, 259.

This coin is exceedingly rare because we know of only two other specimens: the first in the Tolstoi collection (n. 84) and the second in the Gabinetto Numismatico Bizantino 17/2 of Turin. Nowadays there are different opinions on whether the mint may be Roma or Ravenna, but Hahn ascribes the issue to the latter.









1140 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518.** Solidus, Ravenna 493-526, AV 4.52 g. DN ANASTA – SIVS PP AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVCCC (monogram of Theodoric) Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star, and in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals 4 var. Kraus 4 var. Fagerlie 704, 705. MIB I, 13<sup>1</sup>. Lacam – MEC I, – Metlich 15. Very rare. Good extremely fine

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 102, 2000, 657.

Theoderic struck coins at Roma, Ravenna and Mediolanum but, according Kent (op. cit.), he gave more importance to Roma until it was the only active mint. Most of the coins in that period had mintmarks (RM, RV and MD) but there are also issues without, such as this specimen. The attribution to Ravenna, in this case, is due to the style along with some peculiarities such as the diadem on the obverse and the wings on reverse, but also through die-links with other specimens such as those from the Scandinavian hoards or the specimen in the British Museum.

The only coin with the Ravenna mintmark is BMC 15, which presents the following characteristics: scattered diadem strings, CONOB on the reverse with a perfectly vertical B and the wings of victory composed of horizontal lines. This coin differs not only for the missing mintmark of Ravenna but also for the presence of PP AVG in its legend rather than PF AVC









1141 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Quarter siliqua, Ravenna (?) 493-526, AR 0.81 g. DN ANA – [STASIV]S PP Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Monogram of Theoderic; in field above, cross, and star below. All within, garland. BMC Vandals 26 var. (cross instead of six-rayed star). Kraus 40. MIB I, 45a. MEC I, –. Metlich 52a.

Exceedingly rare. Old cabinet tone and very fine 1'25

Ex M&M sale 94, 2003, 502.

According to Hahn, this series, with the garland on reverse, belongs to the last period of silver coinage struck in Mediolanum.

Only very rarely does this issue appear on the market. To our knowledge, the last one offered was in a Schulman sale back in 1931, lot 737.









1142 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518*. Solidus, Mediolanum 493-526, AV 4.48 g. DN ANASTA – SIVS PP AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVCCC monogram of Theoderic Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in l. field, MD (in monogram), in r., star and in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals –. Kraus 10 var. (this obverse die but CONOBI on exergue). Urlich-Bansa 195. MIB I, 17b var. (this obverse die but CONOBI on exergue). Lacam –. MEC I, –. Metlich 21 (this coin illustrated).

Exceedingly rare, apparently three specimens known of which this is the only one in private hands. Traces of mounting, otherwise about very fine

2,500

Ex Sternberg sale XVII, 1986, Hahn collection, 729.

This coin formerly belonged to the Hahn collection. It is the only example in private hands, the other three known being in museums.







1143 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518*. Solidus, Mediolanum 493-526, AV 4.42 g. DN ANASTA – SIVS PP AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVCCC Δ Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in l. field, MD (in monogr.), in r., star and in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. Urlich-Bansa 194. MIB I, 18. Lacam –. MEC I, –. Metlich 23.

Very rare. Several marks in field and on edge, otherwise good very fine 2'000

Ex Leu sale 65, 1996, 547.

Solidi in the name of Anastasius that can be attributed with certainty to Mediolanum for the sigla MD, are extremely rare and 10 specimens are known in total. The mintmark MD follows on from the solidi in the name of Zeno struck at this mint, albeit with the mintmark in a different position.







1144 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518.* Tremissis, Mediolanum 493-526, AV 1.44 g. DN ANASTA – SIVS PP AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in field above, star. Rev. VICTORIA AVCVSOROM Victory advancing r. with bust three-quarters l., holding wreath in r. hand and *globus cruciger* in l.; in l. field, star and in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals 8. Kraus 16. MIB I, 23b. MEC I, 116. Metlich 27. Rare. Good extremely fine

Kent (op. cit.) was the first scholar to ascribe tremisses to the mint of Mediolanum for the style and for the legend on the obverse PP AVC and the sigla CONOB on the reverse. This attribution was verified by the finding of a matching specimen with MD in field on reverse (see MIB I, fig. 34).







1145 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Tremissis, Mediolanum 493-526, AV 1.46 g. DN ANAST – ASIVS PP AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in field, star above. Rev. VICTORIA AVCVSTORVM Victory advancing r. with bust three-quarters l., holding wreath in r. hand and globus cruciger in l.; in r. field, star and in exergue, CONO. BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. MIB I, –. MEC I, –. Metlich –. Apparently unrecorded. Extremely fine 1'500

Ex Credit Suisse 7, 1987, 1083, and M. Dürr - R. Michel 8 November 1999, Lacam, 266 sales.

This coin differs form the others known not only for the separation of its obverse legend, but also for the style of the Victory on the reverse and the mintmark (CONO instead of CONOB). The style of the bust is closest to issues in the name of Justinian.







1146 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Tremissis, uncertain mint 493-526, AV 1.48 g. DN ANASTA – SIVS PP AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVCVSTORVM Victory advancing r. with bust three-quarters l., holding wreath in r. hand and globus cruciger in l.; in r. field, star, and in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. MIB I, –. MEC I, –. Metlich –. Apparently unrecorded. About extremely fine 600

Ex Vecchi sale 5, 1997, 1082.

Worth noting are the larger globe and the position of Victory's right arm which is much higher compared to its left: normally these are level.







1147 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Quarter siliqua, Mediolanum 493-526, AR 0.79 g. DN ANASTASIVS PP AVC retrograde Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in field below, IMD. Rev. INVIT – A ROMA Monogram of Theoderic; in field above, cross, and C \* M below. BMC Vandals 79 var. (without IMD). Kraus 54 var. MIB I, 43 a. MEC I, 119 var. Metlich 49.

Extremely rare. Old cabinet tone and good very fine 1'000

Ex Leu sale 65, 1996, 548.

Here for the first time we can note, and it will happen often also later, that the legend INVICTA ROMA is not limited only to its mint but appears also elsewhere, as sort of emblem for the Empire. This specimen has all the characteristics of the mint of Mediolanum: on obverse, PP on the legend and IMD below the bust; on reverse below the monogram, CM (Civitas Mediolanensis).



1148

















1148 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Quarter siliqua, Mediolanum 493-526, AR 0.78 g. DN ANASTA – SIVS PP AVC retrograde Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in field below, ONO. Rev. INVIT – A ROMA Monogram of Theoderic; in field above, cross, and C \* M below. BMC Vandals 79 var. (without IMD). Kraus 54 var. MIB I, 44 a. Hahn, "Gli ultimi anni della coniazione Milanese prima della chiusura della zecca ad opera di Theodorico. Arslan La zecca di Milano" 1983, pp 229-240, 46. MEC I, 119. Metlich 47 var.

Very rare. A very elegant portrait of fine style, lovely iridescent tone, minor area of porosity on reverse, otherwise good very fine

300

- Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Quarter siliqua, Mediolanum 493-526, AR
   0.89 g. DN ANASTA SIVS PP [AVC] retrograde Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. INVICT A ROMA Monogram of Theoderic; in field above, cross. BMC Vandals 77. Kraus 62. MIB I, –. MEC I, –. Metlich 51b.
   Old cabinet tone and very fine
- 1150 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Quarter siliqua, Sirmium 493-526, AR
   0.69 g. [DN ANASTA SIVS PP AVC] Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. [INVICT A
   ROMA] Monogram of Theoderic; in field above, cross. BMC Vandals 78. Kraus 62. MIB I, 44b. MEC I, 120.
   Metlich 51c. Surface somewhat porous, otherwise very fine













1151 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Quarter siliqua, Sirmium 493-526, AR
 0.83 g. DN ANA[STA] – SIVS [PP AVC] Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. INVIC – TA
 ROMA Monogram of Theoderic; in field above, cross, and below, star. BMC Vandals 78. Kraus 62. MIB I, 44b.
 MEC I, 120. Metlich 51c. Old cabinet tone and good very fine

Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, De Wit, 106. From the Goodacre collection.

1152 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justin I, 518-526. Quarter siliqua, Roma or Ravenna 518-526, AR 0.70 g. DN IVSTI – NVS P AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Monogram of Theoderic; in field above, cross. All within garland. BMC Vandals 28. Kraus 65. MIB I, 49. MEC I, 121 var. (without AV ligate). Metlich 55 var.

Very rare. Of superb style, old cabinet tone and extremely fine 1'20

Ex NAC Autumn 95 sale, 1995, 718.

The continuity from Anastasius to Justin I and the conformity of the style point towards a probable attribution of silver and gold coins after 518 to the mint of Roma. This specimen bears the first type of monogram in which the horizontal bar intersects the leg of the R.













1153 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justin I, 518-526.** Quarter siliqua, Roma or Ravenna 518-526, AR 0.73 g. DN IVSTI – NVS P AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Monogram of Theoderic; in field above, cross. All within garland. BMC Vandals 31. Kraus 68. MIB I, 49. MEC I, 121 var. (without AV ligate). Metlich 55.

Rare. Old cabinet tone and good very fine / about extremely fine 750

Ex NAC 3, 1990, 146, and Lanz 70, 1994, 280 sales.

On the reverse of this specimen there is the second type of Theoderic's monogram: compared with the previous lot, on this coin we notice that the horizontal line stops near the leg of the R, instead of passing through it.

1154 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justin I, 518-526.* Quarter siliqua, Roma or Ravenna 518-526, AR 0.61 g. DN IVSTI – NVS P AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Monogram of Theoderic; in field above, cross. All within, garland. BMC Vandals 31. Kraus 68. MIB I, 49. MEC I, 121 var. (without AV ligate). Metlich 55. Rare. Old cabinet tone and very fine 400



1155







1155 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.* Pentanummium, Roma 534-536, Æ 1.82 g. DN IVIIIV – NVS PP AVC Pearl-diademed and draped bust r. Rev. Large V within wreath. BMC Vandals 43. Kraus 85. MIB –. MEC I, –. Metlich –.

Rare. Green patina and good very fine / about extremely fine 200

Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, De Wit, 120.

1156 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justin I, 518-527.* Pentanummium Ravenna (?) 526-527, Æ 1.26 g. [....] NIVS Pearl-diademed and draped bust r. Rev. Large V; in field above, star. BMC 59. Kraus 96. MIB –. MEC I, –. Metlich –. Green patina and very fine 100







1157 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justin I, 518-526.** Nummus, Sirmium (?) 518-526, Æ 1.02 g. [DN IVSTI – NVS AVC] Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Monogram of Theoderic (specular); in field above, cross, and in exergue, VII. BMC Vandals –. Kraus 83. MIB I, –. MEC I, –. Metlich –. Of the highest rarity, apparently only the second specimen known.

About very fine / very fine

500

Apparently missing in all publications. Only Kraus describes one specimen cited by Thomsen (Thomsen I, p. 81, 992).

Athalaric, 526-534









1158 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justin I, 518-527.** Solidus, Roma 526-527, AV 4.36 g. DN IVSTI – NVS PF AVC (AV ligate) Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTOR – I – A AVCCC A Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in l. field, star, and in exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals 14 var (AV not ligate). Kraus (Theoderich). 28 var (AV not ligate). MIB 24 var (AV not ligate). MEC I, –. Metlich 32 var (AV not ligate). Good extremely fine 2'000

Ex Kovacs sale 27, 1994, 113.

Upon the death of Theoderic, Athalaric, the heir to the throne, was too young and so the regency devolved upon his mother, Amalasutha, Theoderic's daughter. She tried to raise her son in a Roman manner and also attempted to improve relations between the Ostrogoths and Justinian. Her plans were impeded by the Gothic nobility who strongly disagreed with the cultural education of the future king. But all finished with the Athalaric's death: he died of "premature intemperance" at the age of 16. She then, to mantain her rule, married her weak cousin Theodahad, who almost immediately had her imprisoned and then strangled in her bath.









1159 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justin I, 518-527.* Solidus, Roma 526-527, AV 4.36 g. DN IVSTI – NVS PP AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTOR – I – A AVCCC Δ Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in l. field, star, and in exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals cf. 14 (COMOB). Kraus cf. 28 (COMOB, Theoderich). MIB cf. 24 (COMOB). MEC I, –. Metlich cf. 32 (COMOB).

An apparently unrecorded and unique variety. Several edge marks,

traces of mounting, otherwise very fine

1,750

Ex CNG sale 39, 1996, 1831.

While the exergue appears to read COMOB, in our opinion this is simply an M that did not strike well.

Only Arslan cites an example similar to this apparently unique coin (Arslan 1978, 50) but it has COMOB as opposed to CONOB in the exergue. The other contemporary types of the mint of Rome have some different epigraphic and stylistic peculiarities.







1160 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justin I, 518-527. Quarter siliqua, Ravenna (?) 526-527, AR 0.67 g. DN IVSTI – NVS P AVC Pearl-diademed and draped bust r. Rev. DN / ATHA / LARI / CVS; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 28. Kraus 36. MIB 52a. MEC I, –. Metlich 57a (this coin cited).

Light iridescent tone and very fine 45

Ex NAC Autumn 95 sale, 1995, 720.

A rare issue in the name of Justin and missing the Rex title. These coins are considered to be the first struck by Athalaric during the first months of his reign. The omission of the Rex title indicates that the striking took place before his election to king of the Ostrogoths and Constantinopolis' recognition of this event. It is during the reign of Athalaric that this type of reverse was introduced, presumably to distinguish it from the half siliquae. The same type continues under Theodahad.





1161





1161 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justin I, 518-527. Solidus, Mediolanum (?) 526-527, AV 4.35 g. DN IVS (retrograde) TI – NVS PP AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTOR – I – A AVCCC A Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in l. field, star, and in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals – Kraus –. MIB I, – (for type cf. 27, Ravenna). MEC I, –. Metlich –.

Apparently unique. Extremely fine

2,500

Ex Bourgey 27 October 1992, Kapamadj, 727, and NAC Autumn sale, 1995, 716 sales.





1162





1162 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Solidus, Roma circa 527-530, AV 4.40 g. DN IVSTINI – ANVS PΓ AVC (AV ligate) Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTOR – I – Λ AVCCC A Victory standing l., holdin/g long jewelled cross; in l. field, star, and in exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals 1 (Ravenna). Kraus 1 (Ravenna). MIB I, 28. MEC I, 122. Metlich 34.

Very rare. Slightly double-struck and with minor marks on obverse,

otherwise good very fine

1'500

Ex Bourgey 27 October 1992, Kapamadj, 667, and NAC October, 1995, 722 sales.

The swap from the Justin to the Justinian legend occurred without any stylistic break. Based on the solidi in the name of Justin, the diadem ties point down at the beginning, the spear has a barb and the helmet does not show a trefoil. On the reverse, the star is depicted with six rays. Probably, this group marks the beginning of the issue and can thus be attributed to the reign of Athalaric alone (Metlich p. 24).













1163 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Half siliqua, Roma 526-534, AR 1.40 g. DN IVSTINI – ANVS P AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Monogram of Athalaric; in field above, cross, and below star. All within wreath. BMC Vandals 30 (Ravenna). Kraus 40 (Ravenna). MIB I, 53a. MEC I, 126. Metlich 58 (Ravenna).

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue.

Light iridescent tone and extremely fine

600

Ex Nomisma sale 24, 2003, 332.

During Athalaric's reign, coins adopted more Ostrogothic characteristics such as the monogram of the king on the half silique or the name in full over several lines on the quarter siliquae. It was Athalaric that reinstated the typological system of silver coinage which cannot be easily attributed to Roma or Ravenna.

1164 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.** Quarter siliqua, Roma 526-534, AR 0.72 g. DN IVSTI – NIAN AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. DN / ATHAL / ARICVS / RIX; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 35 (Ravenna). Kraus 46 (Ravenna). MIB 54<sup>2</sup>. MEC I, 127. Metlich 59<sup>2</sup> (Ravenna). Old cabinet tone and good very fine 600

Ex NAC 3, 1990, 147, and Lanz 70, 1994, 281 sales.













1165 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.** Quarter siliqua, Roma 526-534, AR 0.67 g. DN IVSTI – NIAN AC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. DN / ATHAL / ARICVS / RIX; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 35 (Ravenna). Kraus 46 (Ravenna). MIB 54<sup>2</sup>. MEC I, 127-130. Metlich 59<sup>2</sup> (Ravenna). Old cabinet tone and good very fine 500

1166 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565**. Quarter siliqua, Roma 526-534, AR 0.72 g. [DN I]VSTI – NIAN [AVC] Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. DN / ATHAL / ARICVS / REX; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 40 (Ravenna). Kraus 50 (Ravenna). MIB 54<sup>1</sup>. MEC I, 131. Metlich 59<sup>1</sup> (Ravenna). Rare. Old cabinet tone and about extremely fine 400

Ex Vinchon 1974, and Künker 121, 2007, De Wit, 108 sales.











1167 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.* Decanummium, Roma 526-534, Æ 2.11 g. INV[IC] – ΤΛ ROMΛ Helmeted and cuirassed bust of Roma r. Rev. DN ΛΤΗΛL – ΛRICVS King standing facing with head r., holding spear in r. hand and shield in l.; in field, S/X – C. BMC Vandals 65. Kraus 67. MIB 77. MEC I, 132. Metlich 85a. Green patina and very fine 350

Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Decanummium, Roma 526-534, Æ 2.65 g. INVIC – ΤΛ ROMΛ Helmeted and cuirassed bust of Roma r. Rev. DN ΛΤΗΛL – ΛRICVS King standing facing with head r., holding spear in r. hand and shield in l.; in fied, S/X – C. BMC Vandals 65. Kraus 67. MIB 77. MEC I, 132. Metlich 85b.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Dark tone and about extremely fine

600

Ex Lanz sale 70, 1994, 282.

Variant with small head of superb style. The majority of issues of this type are of cruder style.









1169 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Decanummium, Roma 526-534, Æ 3.72 g. INVIC - TA ROMA Helmeted and cuirassed bust of Roma r. Rev. DN / ATHAL / ARICVS / REX; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 57. Kraus 65-66. MIB 78. MEC I, 133. Metlich 86.

In exceptional condition for the issue. Green patina and extremely fine

Ex Vecchi sale 16, 1999, 592.







1170 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Decanummium, Roma 526-534, Æ 3.52 g. INVIC - TA ROMA Helmeted and cuirassed bust of Roma r. Rev. DN / ATHAL / ARICVS / REX; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 57. Kraus 65-66. MIB 78. MEC I, 133. Metlich 86.

Green patina and good very fine

300

750

Ex NAC Autumn 95 sale, 1995, 728.

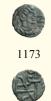
1171 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Pentanummium, Roma 526-534, Æ 1.09 g. INVIC - [TA] ROMA Helmeted and cuirassed bust of Roma r. Rev. +DN ATHALARICVS REX; in centre, V. BMC Vandals 60. Kraus 85. MIB 79b. MEC I, -. Metlich 87b.

> Rare. Green patina and very fine 200













1172 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Nummus, Roma 526-534, Æ 0.96 g. IVCTI - NIAN Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Monogram of Athalaric; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 49 (Ravenna). Kraus 93 (Ravenna). MIB 80 (2.5 nummi piece). MEC I, 135. Metlich 88 (2.5 nummi piece).

In exceptional condition for the issue. Brown tone and extremely fine

Ex Astarte sale III, 1999, 1007.

1173 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Nummus, Roma 526-534, Æ 0.65 g. [...] - NI Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Monogram of Athalaric; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 47-56 (Ravenna). Kraus 91-100 (Ravenna). MIB 80 (2.5 nummi piece). MEC I, 135-137. Metlich 88 (2.5 nummi piece). Extremely fine

Ex Vecchi sale I, 1996, 922.

- 1174 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Nummus, Roma 526-534, Æ 0.75 g. IVSTI - [...] Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Monogram of Athalaric; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 47-56 (Ravenna). Kraus 91-100 (Ravenna). MIB 80 (2.5 nummi piece). MEC I, 135-137. Metlich 88 (2.5 nummi piece). Very fine
- 1175 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Nummus, Roma, 526-534 Æ 1.13 g. [....] Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Monogram of Athalaric; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 47-56 (Ravenna). Kraus 91-100 (Ravenna). MIB 80 (2.5 nummi piece). MEC I, 135-137. Metlich 88 (2.5 nummi piece). Very fine









1176 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.* Half siliqua, Mediolanum (?) circa 527-534, AR 1.07 g. DN IVSTINIA – [NVS P AVC] Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Monogram of Athalaric: in field above, cross. All within wreath. BMC Vandals –, cf. 33 (Ravenna). Kraus –, cf. 44 (Ravenna). MIB I –, cf. 53b (Ravenna). MEC I, –. Metlich –, cf. 58b (Ravenna).

Apparently unrecorded. Light iridescent tone and extremely fine

1'500

Ex NAC-Leu 26 May 1993, 449, and Vecchi I, 1996, 220 sales.

The only parallels we have for this coin are equally crude issues in the name of Theoderic which have also been ascribed to Mediolanum. Some silver issues of Theoderic and Athalaric exhibit a remarkably barbarous style somewhat akin to issues given to Sirmium. In any event, Mediolanum issues of this type are very much rarer than normal issues, and the possibility that they may turn out to have been contemporary imitations cannot be excluded.

#### Athalaric, Theodahad and Witigis, 526-540





1177





1177 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.** Solidus, Ravenna or Roma circa 530-539, AV 4.42 g. DN IVSTINI – ΛΝVS PΓ ΛVC (AV ligate) Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTOR – I – A AVCCC A• Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in l. field, star, and in exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals 4 (Ravenna). Kraus 4 (Ravenna). MIB I, 28 var. (Roma, no dot before officina). MEC I, 122 var. (Roma, no dot before officina). Metlich 36b² (this coin, Ravenna).

Very rare. Extremely fine

2,000

Ex M&M 43, 1970, 540, and M. Dürr - R. Michel 8 November 1999, Lacam, 269 sales.

Metlich assigns this coin to the period of Athalaric-Witigis and to the mint of Ravenna based on the portrait style, with rectangular visor, short and almost horizontal diadem strings, helmet without trilobe ornament and the exergual line on the reverse with dots extremities.





1170





1178 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.* Solidus, Ravenna or Roma circa 530-539, AV 4.38 g. DN IVSTINI – ΛΝVS ΡΓ ΛVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTOR – I – A AVCCC Λ Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in l. field, star, and in exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals 1 var. (AV ligate, Ravenna). Kraus 1 var. (AV ligate, Ravenna). MIB I, 28 var. (AV ligate, Roma). MEC I, 122 var. (AV ligate, Roma). Metlich 36 (Ravenna).

Very rare. Light reddish tone and extremely fine

2,000

Ex Elsen sale 71, 2002, 1801.





1179





1179 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Solidus, Ravenna or Roma circa 530-539, AV 4.44 g. DN IVSTINI - ΛNVS PΓ ΛVC (AV ligate) Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTOR – I – A AVCCC Λ Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in l. field, star, and in exergue, COMOF. BMC Vandals -. Kraus -. MIB I, - cf. 28 (Roma). MEC I, - cf. 122 (Roma). Metlich - cf. 36 (Ravenna). Extremely rare. Minor area of weakness on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine

Ex Bourgey 27 October 1992, Kapamadji, 668 and Elsen sale 85, 2005, 571 sales.

Two other examples have appeared on the market which present identical characteristics and a rather crude style (ex Artemide 11, 1996, 244 and Leu 65, 1996, 556 sales). The helmet lacking ornament, the strings of the diadem, the exergual line which ends with a pellet at both ends, liken the coin to the type Metlich 36, but the substantial difference, other than the crude style, is COMOF instead of COMOB which could perhaps indicate a date in the same way as the solidi of Theoderic struck at Mediolanum.





1180





1180 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Solidus, Roma (?) circa 530-539, AV 4.33 g. DN IVSTINI - ΛNVS PΓ ΛVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI –  $\Lambda$   $\Lambda$ VCCC  $\Lambda$ Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in l. field, star, and in exergue, COHOB. BMC -. Kraus -. MIB I, - cf. 28. MEC I, - cf. 122. Metlich - cf. 36 (Ravenna).

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Light reddish

Ex M&M sale 26, 1996, 1285.

tone and good extremely fine

2,000

This coin could also be an imitation for the portrait style and the peculiarity of the letters such as the V which tends towards a Y or COHOB which touches the exergual line.





1181

1181 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Tremissis, Roma 530-539, AV 1.46 g. DN IVSTINI - ANVS PΓ AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVGVSTORVM (RV ligate) Victory advancing r. with bust three-quarters l., holding wreath in r. hand and globus cruciger in I.; in r. field, star, and in exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals 10 var. (PF, AV ligate and RV not ligate, Ravenna). Kraus 10 var. (PF, AV ligate and RV not ligate, Ravenna). MIB I, 29a var. (RV not ligate). MEC I, 123 var. (AV ligate, RV not ligate). Metlich 372 var. (RV not ligate).

Very rare. Light reddish tone and extremely fine

500

Ex Nomisma sale 22, 2002, 473.

Exergual line ends with two dots.







Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Tremissis, Roma 530-539, AV 1.47 g. DN IVSTINI – ANVS PF AVC (AV ligate) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVGVSTORVM Victory advancing r. with bust three-quarters l., holding wreath in r. hand and globus cruciger in l.; in r. field, star, and in exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals 13 (Ravenna). MIB I, 29a var. (PΓ) Kraus 10 (Ravenna). MEC I, 123. Metlich 37³. Rare. Of lovely style and extremely fine

Ex Sternberg XIX, 198, 1077, and Spink 13 July 2000, Dreesman collection, 954 sales. Exergual line that ends with two dots.

#### Theodahad, 534-536















500

1183 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.* Half siliqua, Roma 534-536, AR 1.36 g. DN IVSTI – NIAN AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and curaissed bust r. Rev. Monogram of Theodahad; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 1-3 (Ravenna). Kraus 1-2 (Ravenna). MIB 55b. MEC I, –. Metlich 61 (Ravenna).

Rare. Lovely light iridescent tone, minor flan crack,

Ex Nomisma sale 22, 2002, 465.

otherwise good extremely fine

1184 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.** Quarter siliqua, Roma 534-536, AR 0.72 g. DN IVSTI – [...] AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and curaissed bust r. Rev. DN / THEODA / HATHVS / RIX; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 5 (Ravenna). Kraus 8 (Ravenna). MIB 56. MEC I, 140. Metlich 62 (Ravenna). Wonderful old cabinet tone and about extremely fine 300

Ex Vecchi sale 8, 1997, 381.

Theodahad was the most ineffective of all the Ostrogothic rulers. He probably played almost totally into Justinian's hands and was seemingly unable to do anything to resist the Imperial forces under Belisarius in Illyria and in Sicily and Italy. He was murdered in 536, after his sudden deposition.



1185





1185

1185 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Follis (40 nummi), Roma 534-536, Æ 9.10 g. DN THEODA – HATVS REX Helmeted and curaissed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA – PRINCIPVM Victory standing on prow r., holding in l. hand palm, and wreath in r.: in field, S – C on sides. BMC Vandals 19. Kraus 29. MIB 81. MEC I, 143. Metlich 89b (C1-L14, this coin).

Rare. Dark green patina and about extremely fine 5'000

Ex NAC 3, 1990, 151; M&M list 540, 1991, 71 and Künker 121, 2007, De Wit, 117 sales.

The most important of Theodahad's innovations was the introduction of the king's portrait on coins. Excluding the gold medallion of Theoderic, this is the first representation of an Ostrogothic ruler: on the obverse, Theodahad on the r., wearing royal garments, and on the reverse, a Victory on prow, a typical old Roman type.







Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Follis (40 nummi), Roma 534-536, Æ
 9.34 g. DN THEOD – ΛΗΛΤΥ΄S REX Helmeted and curaissed bust r. Rev. VICTORIΛΡ – RNCIPVM Victory standing on prow r., holding in l. hand palm and wreath in r.: in field, S – C on sides. BMC Vandals 22. Kraus 32. MIB 81. MEC I, 143. Metlich 89b (D2-M12). Brown tone and good very fine



1197



1188



1187 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.* Decanummium, Roma 534-536, Æ 2.98 g. INVICT – A ROMA Helmeted bust of Roma r. Rev. DN / THEODA / HATVS / REX; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 16 (Ravenna). Kraus 23 (Ravenna). MIB 82. MEC I, 144. Metlich 90.

Brown-green patina, good very fine / about extremely fine

350

Ex Nomisma sale 21, 2002, 318.

1188 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.* Decanummium, Roma 534-536, Æ 3.80 g. INVIC[T – A ROMA] Helmeted bust of Roma r. Rev. DN / THEODA / HATVS / REX; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 16 (Ravenna). Kraus 23 (Ravenna). MIB 82. MEC I, 144. Metlich 90.

Lovely light green patina and good very fine

300

300

Ex NAC Autumn 95 sale, 1995, 735.



1189





1189 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.* Decanummium, Roma 534-536, Æ 3.43 g. INVIC[T – A ROMA] Helmeted bust of Roma r. Rev. DN / THEODA / HATVS / REX; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 16 (Ravenna). Kraus 23 (Ravenna). MIB 82. MEC I, 144. Metlich 90.

Lovely green patina, weakly struck on obverse, otherwise extremely fine

1190 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Nummus, Roma 534-536, Æ 1.03 g. IVS [...] N Pearl-diademed and draped bust r. Rev. Monogram of Theodahad; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 15 (Ravenna). Kraus 11 (Ravenna). MIB 83. MEC I, –. Metlich 91a.

Rare. Brown tone and very fine 100

## Municipal Coinage of Ravenna, 536-553









1191 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian 1, 527-565. 250 nummi, Ravenna, 527-565, AR 1.13 g. DN IVSTINI – NVS Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. CN; in field above, cross. All within wreath. BMC Vandals 55. DOC 334 ff. MIB 66.

Rare. Old cabinet tone, edge chipped, otherwise good very fine

200







1192 Decanummium, Ravenna 536-554, Æ 2.88 g. FELIX R – AVENNA Mural-crowned and draped bust r., Rev. Eagle standing l.; on sides, two stars and in exergue, X. BMC Vandals 34-35. Kraus 1-2. MIB 76 (Theoderic-Athalaric and Roma). MEC I, –. Metlich 77 (Theoderic and Roma).

Very rare and in unusually good condition for the issue. Dark tone and very fine 1'250

Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, De Wit, 103.

When Rome was abandoned by the Ostrogoths, a municipal coinage of decanummia was inaugurated at Ravenna between 536 and 540, when the city was lost to Belisarius. Hahn has dated the decanummia earlier ascribing them to Rome, but Muratori (S. Muratori, Delle monete anonime ravennati che recano la leggenda "Felix Ravenna", Ravenna 1911) has shown that they were coined at Ravenna. The brief emergence of a second municipal coinage was presumably a consequence of the arrival of Roman moneyers at Ravenna who had fled from Rome when it was abandoned to Belisarius in 536 (MEC I, p. 33).







1193 Decanummium, Ravenna 536-554, Æ 2.45 g. FELIX R – AVENNA Mural-crowned and draped bust r. Rev. Eagle standing l.; on sides, two stars and in exergue, X. BMC Vandals 34-35. Kraus 1-2. MIB 76 (Theoderic-Athalaric and Roma). MEC I, –. Metlich 77 (Theoderic and Roma).

Very rare. Minor porosity, otherwise good very fine

Ex Sternberg XIX, 1987, 1071, and Künker 121, 2007, De Wit, 104 sales.







600

Decanummium, Ravenna 536-554, Æ 2.86 g. FELIX R – AVENNA Mural-crowned and draped bust r. Rev. Monogram of Ravenna; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 7. Kraus 3. MIB 72 a (Theoderic and Roma). MEC I, 145-149. Metlich 78 a (Theoderic and Roma).

In exceptional condition for the issue. Green patina and extremely fine 1'000

Ex NAC Autumn 95 1995, 737, and Vecchi 16, 1999, 101 sales.



1195





Decanummium, Ravenna 536-554, Æ 2.07 g. FELIX R – AVENNA Mural-crowned and draped bust r., Rev. Monogram of Ravenna; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 37. Kraus 3. MIB 72 a (Theoderic and Roma). MEC I, 145-149. Metlich 78 a (Theoderic and Roma). Very fine

Decanummium, Ravenna 536-554, Æ 2.94 g. FELIX R – AVENNA Mural-crowned and draped bust r., Rev. Monogram of Ravenna; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 37. Kraus 3. MIB 72 a (Theoderic and Roma). MEC I, 145-149. Metlich 78 a (Theoderic and Roma). Very fine / good very fine







1197 Decanummium, Ravenna 536-554, Æ 2.57 g. FELIX R – AVENNA Mural-crowned and draped bust r., Rev. Monogram of Ravenna; in field above, cross. All within wreath. BMC Vandals 40. Kraus 3. MIB 72 b (Theoderic and Roma). MEC I, 150. Metlich 78 b (Theoderic and Roma).

Wonderful light green patina and good very fine

200

Ex NAC Autumn 95 sale, 1995, 738.

Pentanummium, Ravenna, 536-554 Æ 2.11 g. FELIX – RAVENNA Mural-crowned and draped bust r., Rev. Victory advancing l. holding wreath in r. hand and palm in l.; on side, R – V. BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. MIB –. MEC I, –. Metlich 81.

Witigis, 536-540









1199 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Solidus, Ravenna 536-540, AV 4.36 g. DN IVSTINI – ΛΝVS PΓ AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTOR – I – A AVCCC I Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in l. field, star, and in exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. MIB 31. MEC I, –. Metlich p. 29, fig. 17.

Extremely rare, only eleven specimens cited by Metlich. Minor flan crack, otherwise about extremely fine

3'000

Ex M. Dürr - R. Michel sale 8 November 1999, Lacam, 273.

Witigis was elected king after the deposition of Theodahad and was quick to show a different nature from his predecessor. He decided to withdraw and regroup when Belisarius took Naples and advanced to Rome. He ceded Provence to the Franks and then decided to attack Belisarius in the Urbe from 537 to 538. The siege failed and more Imperial troops began arriving. Witigis received some aid from the Frankish ruler Theodebert but at the end Belisarius captured him in Ravenna in 540. The gold coins attributed to Witigis do not show a stylistic similarity to the coins struck by his predecessor; for example, the diadem ties are short and point away from the head horizontally, the spearhead has a lancet form and the general style is in keeping with the Roman specimens. Different are the presence of the trefoil, the cuirass, the eight-rayed star and the Victory's paludamentum. The gold emission is very rare and was probably produced in very small quantities.

Following MIB, we have assigned this solidus and the following one to the reign of Witigis but it is necessary to add that Metlich considers these issues to be struck by Justinian I's troops shortly after recapturing Ravenna in 539 (Metlich, p. 30).









4,000

1200 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.** Solidus, Ravenna 536-540, AV 4.30 g. DN IVSTINI – ΛNVS PΓ AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVCCC I Victory standing l., globe surmounted by Christogram; in l. field, star, and in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. MIB 32. MEC I, –. Metlich p. 29, fig. 18.

Of the highest rarity, only very few specimens known. Extremely fine

Ex Christie's 9 October 1984, 212, and Sotheby's New York, 2 November 1998, 95 sales.

To honour the alliance with the Franks, perhaps Witigis selected a second type for the reverse: the Victory holding a globe surmounted by a Christogram instead of a long jewelled cross.

Apparently only four specimens are known of this coin, all from different dies: two are in museums, one appeared on the market in 1984 and again in 1988 (this example) and another appeared in 1997 (Metlich collection, p. 29).







1201 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.** Tremissis, Ravenna 536-540, AV 1.43 g. DN IVSTINI – ΛΝVS PΓ AVC (AV ligate) Pearl-diademed and draped bust r. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGVSTORVM Victory advancing r. with bust three-quarters l., holding wreath in r. hand and globe cruciger in l.; in r. field, star, and in exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. MIB N32. MEC I, –. Metlich –. Rare. Very fine 750

Ex Leu sale 65, 1996, 558.







1202 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.** Half siliqua, Ravenna 536-540, AR 1.42 g. DN IVS[TINI] – ANVS PΓ AVC (AV ligate) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. DN/VVIT/ICES/REX; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 1. Kraus 1. MIB 57. MEC I, 151 var. (for legend). Metlich 63. Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Of fine style and with a

lovely old cabinet tone and extremely fine 750







1203 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.** Half siliqua, Ravenna 536-540, AR 1.47 g. DN IVSTI – NI[...] AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. DN / VVIT / ICES / REX; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 1. Kraus 1. MIB 57. MEC I, 151. Metlich 63.

Rare. Old cabinet tone and good very fine 400

Ex Vecchi sale 8, 1997, 382.









1204 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.* Decanummium, Ravenna 536-540, Æ 2.90 g. [INVICT] – A ROMA Helmeted and cuirassed bust of Roma r. Rev. DN / VVIT / ICIS / REX; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 13. Kraus 18. MIB 84. MEC I, –. Metlich 92.

Rare. Green patina and about very fine 200

1205 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.* Decanummium, Ravenna 536-540, Æ 4.29 g. IMV[ICT – A] ROMA Helmeted and cuirassed bust of Roma r. Rev. DN / VVIT / ICIS / REX; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 13. Kraus 18. MIB 84. MEC I, –. Metlich 92.

Rare. Green patina and about very fine 100







1206 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Quarter siliqua, Ravenna 534-535, AR 0.71 g. DN IVSTI – NIAN AVG Pearl-diademed and draped bust r. Rev. Monogram of Theoderic within wreath. Kraus 3 (Hildebrand). MEC 138. MIB 44b (Witigis). Metlich 64 (Witigis).

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, possibly the finest specimen known. Old cabinet tone and extremely fine

1,000

Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, De Wit, 122.

This restitution series with the monogram of Theoderic has already been discussed by scholars. According to Grierson, it was struck during the early period of Theodahad's reign when Amalasuntha was formally the new sovereign. On these quarter siliquae, one finds the name of Justinian on the obverse and the monogram of Amalasunta's father on the reverse. For Grierson, only in this way could the Ostrogoths accept her reign. Hahn and Metlich have different opinions and they prefer to ascribe this series to Witigis.







1207 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Quartier siliqua, Ravenna 534-535, AR 0.74 g. DN IVSTINI – IAN Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Monogram of Theoderic; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 9 (Witigis). Kraus 3 (Hildebard). MIB 59 (Witigis). MEC I, 138. Metlich 64 (Witigis).
Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue.

Lovely iridescent tone and extremely fine 800

Ex NAC Autumn 95 sale, 1995, 731.







1208 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.** Quarter siliqua, Ravenna 534-535, AR 0.34 g. DN IVS[...] IP AVC (AV ligate) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Monogram of Theoderic; all within wreath. BMC Vandals – . Kraus 8 (Hildebard). MIB 59 (Witigis). MEC I, 138. Metlich 64 (Witigis). Very rare. Old cabinet tone and very fine 500

Ex NAC Autumn 95 sale, 1995, 741.







1209 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Quarter siliqua, Roma 540-541, AR 0.34 g. D IVIV - IVI PP AVI Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.,. Rev. Monogram; in field above, cross. All within wreath. BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. MIB N59. Giannoccaro-Orlandoni, QT VII 1978, p. 261 (this coin). Arslan AR24 (this coin). MEC I, –. Metlich p. 45, fig. 25 (this coin).

Of the highest rarity, apparently the only specimen known. An issue of tremendous importance and fascination. Wonderful old cabinet tone and good extremely fine

10'000

Hildebard's history is almost unknown. Little information is provided by Procopius of Cesarea, who directly witnessed events. When Belisarius occupied Ravenna and killed Witigis, the Ostrogoths raised Hildebard as king. After the departure of the Byzantines for Constantinople, the new king could obtain some victories but all ended with his death. His coinage was still unknown but this specimen is assigned to Hildebard for the monogram on reverse which is close to one described by Sambon (p. 12, n. 17) and CNI (Roma, n. 1). Metlich is indeed of a different opinion and he prefers to assign it to Alboin or another Lombard duke (pp. 44-45).

#### Baduila, 541-552







1210 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.** Half siliqua, Ticinum 541-549/550, AR 0.67 g. IIIVIII – MVM Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. DN / BADV / VILA / REX; all within wreath. BMC Vandals –. Kraus 40. MIB 62 var. (for legend). MEC I, –. Metlich 69 var. (for legend). Extremely rare. Old cabinet tone and good very fine 2°500

Ex Kunst und Münzen 10, 1973, 187, and Leu 77, 2000, 792 sales.

After the recall of Belisarius, the Ostrogoths re-established themselves with Hildebard and especially Baduila, also called Totila. He was a brilliant king and obtained great victories during his advance toward South Italy, and the same Belisarius could do little to hinder them. When the Ostrogoths obtained virtually all of Italy, Sicily and Sardinia Justinian, having relieved Belisarius, was compelled to make a supreme effort sending his other great general, Narses, to Italy with a very large army which defeated and killed Baduila in 552 (battle of Taginae, modern Gualdo Tadino).







1211 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Tremissis, Ticinum 549/550-552, AV 1.45 g. DN ANAST – SIVS PF AVC (AV monogram) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in field above, star. Rev. VICTORIA AVCVSTORVM Victory floating above globus r. with three-quarters bust l., holding wreath in r. hand and globus cruciger in l.; in l. field, star, and in exergue CONOT. BMC Vandals 4. Kraus 9. MIB 35. MEC I, –. Metlich 40b.
About extremely fine
1'000

Ex Bourgey sale 27 October 1992, Kapamadji, 658.

To describe Baduila's coinage, it is useful to divide it into two series: the first were all the coins produced at Ticinum and the second those he coined also at the Rome mint, when it returned back into the Goths' hands after 549. During the first series (541-548), he used the usual types but during the successive phase, he introduced his facing bust on all bronze coins, but keeping the name of Anastasius, who was the last emperor to accept the Ostrogothic presence in Italy. By doing so, Baduila could legitimate his reign.







1212 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius I, 491-518.** Tremissis, Ticinum circa 549/550-552, AV 1.48 g. D N ANAS – TASIVS P F AI (S reverted) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVCVSTORVM (S reverted) Victory advancing r. with bust three-quarters l., holding wreath in r. hand and *globus cruciger* in l.; in r. field, star, and in exergue, CoNo. MIB 33. MEC I, –. Metlich 40b1. Very rare. Extremely fine







1213 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518.** Half siliqua, Ticinum 549/550-552, AR 1.18 g. DN ΛΝΛSTΛ – SIVS PF ΛC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. DN / BΛDV / ILΛ / REX; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 14. Kraus 17. MIB 63. MEC I, 155. Metlich 70.

Rare. Old cabinet tone and good very fine

2,000

Ex NAC sale 40, 2007, 947.







1214 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518.* Half siliqua, Ticinum 549/550-552, AR 1.28 g. [...] – TΛSIVS PΛV Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. DN / BΛDV / ILΛ / REX; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 15. Kraus 22. MIB 63². MEC I, 153. Metlich 66.

Rare. Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine 1'500

Ex Santamaria sale 11-12 March 1953, Magnaguti part V, 74.

Silver coins of Baduila from the new mint of Ticinum began in a traditional manner but straight after changes were made: the quarter silique resumed bearing the full name of the kind on the reverse as did the half siliquae. Hahn assigns to Roma the examples which are of higher style and bear a cross before DN.







1215 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518.** Quarter siliqua, Ticinum 549/550-552, AR 0.36 g. DN ANA[...] – [..] AIVI Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. DN / BADV / ILA / RIX, all within wreath. BMC Vandals 21-22. Kraus 33. MIB 64<sup>2</sup>. MEC I, 156 var. (REX). Metlich 71 a.

An extremely rare variety. Flan somewhat chipped, otherwise very fine 1'000







1216 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518.** Decanummium, Ticinum 541-552, Æ 2.76 g. FELIX TI – CINVS Turreted and draped bust of Ticinum r. Rev. DN / BADV / ILA / REX, all within wreath. BMC Vandals 37. Kraus 48. MIB 86 (this coin). MEC I, –. Metlich 93 (this coin).

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, possibly the finest specimen known. Dark tone and extremely fine

2,000

Ex Schulman 19 January 1931, 839; Leu-NFA 16-18 October 1984, Garrett collection, 518 and Peus 338, 1994, 793 sales. Baduila decided to use a new type for his decanummi: the personification of Ticinum. The city was his capital and he therefore introduced the bust with a turreted crown and a new legend, Felix Ticinus, on the obverse. This is the first coin with the name Ticinum.







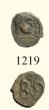
1217 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518.* Nummus, Ticinum 541-552, Æ 1.14 g. DN AN [...] Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Monogram of Baduila; in field above, cross. BMC Vandals 24-27. Kraus 69. MIB 87 (2 1/2 nummi). MEC I, 163 var. (above monogram, cross). Metlich 94 (2 1/2 nummi).

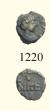
In exceptional condition for the issue. Brown tone and good very fine

200

Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, De Wit, 125.









- 1218 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Nummus, Ticinum 541-552, Æ 0.77 g. [...] Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Monogram of Baduila; in field above, cross. BMC Vandals 24-27. Kraus 69. MIB 87 (2 1/2 nummi). MEC I, 163 var. (above monogram, cross). Metlich 94 (2 1/2 nummi).

  Brown tone and very fine 100
- 1219 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518.* Nummus, Ticinum 541-552, Æ 0.74 g. [...] TAVS Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Monogram of Baduila; in field above, cross. BMC Vandals 24-27. Kraus 69. MIB 87 (2 1/2 nummi). MEC I, 163 var. (above monogram, cross). Metlich 94 (2 1/2 nummi).

In unusually fine condition for the issue. Brown tone and good very fine / very fine 200 Ex M&M sale 94, 2003, 507.

- Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Nummus, Ticinum 541-552, AE 0.63 g.
   [...] Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. [D]N REX; in field above, star and B below. BMC Vandals 28-29. Kraus 71. MIB 88 (2 1/2 nummi). MEC I, 164-165 var. (without star). Metlich 95a (2 1/2 nummi).
   Brown tone and about very fine
- 1221 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518.** Nummus, Ticinum 541-552, AE 1.02 g. [...] Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. DN REX in field below, B. BMC Vandals 32. Kraus 73. MIB 88 var. (no star on reverse, 2<sup>1/2</sup> nummi). MEC I, 164-165. Metlich 95 b (2 1/2 nummi).

Brown tone and about very fine 100







1222 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Decanummium, Roma 549/550-552, Æ 3.84 g. DN BADV – ILA REX Crowned, draped and cuirassed facing bust of Baduila. Rev. DN B / ADV / ILA / REX, all within wreath. BMC Vandals 40. Kraus 53. MIB 89 a. MEC I, 157. Metlich 97a.

Green patina and very fine 200

1223 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Decanummium, Roma 549/550-552, Æ 5.15 g. DN BADV – ILA REX Crowned, draped and cuirassed facing bust of Baduila. Rev. FLORIA – [...]
 Standing figure r., holding spear in r. hand and shield in l.; in r. field, X. BMC Vandals 44-49. Kraus 62.
 MIB 90b. MEC I, 162. Metlich 98b. Brown tone and very fine

Baduila adopted also a new type for the decanummi struck at Rome: a standing figure with the legend Floreas Semper instead of the name of king, used on the obverse. He also reintroduced, as did Athalaric, the positioning of the value mark from below in the field.

1224 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518.** Nummus, Roma 549/550-552, Æ 0.55 g. [....] Crowned, draped and cuirassed facing bust of Baduila. Rev. Lion advancing r. BMC Vandals 50-52. Kraus 79-84. MIB 91. MEC I, –. Metlich 99. About very fine 100

1225 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518.** Nummus, Roma 549/550-552, Æ 0.80 g. [....] Crowned, draped and cuirassed facing bust of Baduila. Rev. Lion advancing l. BMC Vandals 50-52 var. (lion r.). Kraus 79-84 var. (lion r.). MIB 91 var. (lion r.). MEC I, –. Metlich 99 var. (lion r.).

Green patina and fine 100

Theia, 552-553







1226 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518.* Half siliqua, Ticinum 552, AR 1.23 g. DN ANAST – SIVS AV Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. DN / THEL / A REX; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 9-10. Kraus 15. MIB 68 c. MEC I, –. Metlich 74 c.

Very rare. Old cabinet tone and about extremely fine 2'000

Ex NAC Autumn 95 sale, 1995, 748.

After the death of Baduila, Theia was the last king of the Ostrogoths. He soon tried to defend his territories from the Franks. He lost against Narses during the battle of Mons Lactarius, near Vesuvius. With the defeat, his kingdom collapsed and the entire peninsula returned under Byzantine control. The Ostrogoths sought the aid of the Alemanni and Franks but were completely defeated at Capua in 554. During these wars, the so-called Gothic Wars, the whole of Italy was completely devastated. Very large numbers of people were killed and displaced, cities destroyed and lands were emptied of inhabitants. All the political structures were damaged and a full recovery took hundreds of years.







1227 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518.* Half siliqua, Ticinum 552, AR 0.63 g. DN ANA – STASIII Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. DN / THIL / A RIX; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 13. Kraus 19. MIB 69 c. MEC I, –. Metlich 75.

Extremely rare. Old cabinet tone and good very fine 2'000

Ex Sotheby's London sale 30-31 March 1995, 1324.

During the brief reign of Theia, the Ostrogoths produced only silver coins: few fractions of siliqua, often using worn dies of poor style.

# The Gepids

The Gepids were of Gothic descent and were initially settled at the mouth of the river Vistula, then in the Carpathians, in the middle of the third century. During the fourth century, they were subjugated by the Huns, but after the death of Attila in 453, they regained their freedom and occupied the region around the Tibiscus river. Enemies of the Ostrogoths, they were defeated by Theoderic in 489. In the first half of the sixth century, after a few decades during which they took advantage of the Ostrogoth's weakness, the Gepids found themselves confronted with the Lombards, who had settled in Pannonia and were allied with the Avars. King Cunimond's death in battle in 567 marked the end of the kingdom of the Gepids. Only a part of the Gepid population remained in their territories, located mainly in Pannonia, under Avaran dominion; other groups reached Constantinopolis; a third part joined the Lombards and followed them to Italy.

Some Romano-Byzantine imitative siliquae are known.



1228 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Quarter siliqua, Sirmium 493-526, AR 0.90 g. DN ANASTASIVS PP AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. INVIT – A ROMA Monogram of Theoderic; in field above, cross, and M \* D below. BMC Vandals –. Kraus 63-64 (Theoderic). MIB I, 46 (Theoderic). MEC I, –. Demo 72 (Theoderic). Metlich –, cf. p. 43, fig. 22 (Theoderic).
Rare. Light iridescent tone and good very fine
250

First attributed to Sirmium and the Ostrogoths by scholars, according to Metlich these issues cannot be of Ostrogothic origin but are rather products of the Gepids.

1229 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518.** Quarter siliqua, Sirmium 493-526, AR 0.85 g. DN ANASTASIVS P AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VINVICTA – A ROMAN Monogram of Theoderic; in field above, cross, and star below. BMC Vandals –. Kraus 63-64 (Theoderic). MIB I, 46 (Theoderic). MEC I, –. Demo 75 var. (Theoderic). Metlich –, cf. p. 43, fig. 22 (Theoderic).

Rare. Light iridescent tone and good very fine 200

Ex Vecchi sale 8, 1997, 378.







1230 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518**. Quarter siliqua, Sirmium 493-526, AR 0.95 g. DN ANASTASIVS P AV Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VINVICTA – A ROMANI Monogram of Theoderic; in field above, cross, and star below. BMC Vandals –. Kraus 63-64 (Theoderic). MIB I, 46 (Theoderic). MEC I, –. Demo 75 var. (Theoderic). Metlich –, cf. p. 43, fig. 22 (Theoderic). Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Struck on a very broad

flan and with a lovely iridescent tone, extremely fine 400





1231 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justin, 518-526.* Quarter siliqua, Sirmium 518-526, AR 0.66 g. DN IVSTINVS P AV Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VINVICTA – A ROMANI Monogram of Theoderic; in field, cross above and star below. BMC Vandals –. Kraus 75. (Theoderic). MIB I, 50 (Theoderic). MEC I, –. Demo 122 (Theoderic). Metlich –, cf. p. 43, fig. 22 (Theoderic).

Rare. Light iridescent tone and good very fine

350







1232 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justin, 518-526. Quarter siliqua, Sirmium 518-526, AR 0.79 g. bV IMVSTNINSPPA Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. TIVINN - IPOVIIA Monogram of Theoderic; in field, star above and cross below. BMC Vandals -. Kraus 75 (Theoderic). MIB I, 50 (Theoderic). MEC I, -. Demo 125 (Theoderic). Metlich -, cf. p. 43, fig. 22 (Theoderic).

Rare. Struck on a broad flan with a lovely iridescent tone, extremely fine 400

Ex CNG sale 40, 1996, 1843.







Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Quarter siliqua, Sirmium 491-518, AR 1.90 g. DN ANASTA - OSV PVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVCCCC around SRW in open frame; in exergue, OROB. BMC Vandals -. Kraus -. MIB I, -. MEC I, -. Demo -. Metlich -. Exceedingly rare. Areas of weakness and graffito on reverse,

otherwise about very fine 750

Ex Vecchi 14, 1999, William Subak collection, 63, and NAC, 33, 2006, 693 sales.













Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Quarter siliqua, Sirmium 491-518, AR 0.47 g. DN ANAS - TAVIVS Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Monogram of Theoderic within wreath; in field above, cross. BMC Vandals -. Kraus -. MIB I, -. MEC I, -. Demo -. Metlich -. cf. CNG mail bid sale 63, 2003, 1602. Extremely rare. About very fine

This variety, with the name of Anastasius and no reverse legend but only the monogram of Theoderic, is not listed in the most important publications.

1235 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Quarter siliqua, Sirmium 491-518, AR 0.40 g. DN ANAS - TASIVS Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Monogram of Theoderic within wreath; in field above, cross. BMC Vandals -. Kraus -. MIB I, -. MEC I, -. Demo -. Metlich -. cf. CNG mail bid sale 63, 2003, 1602. Extremely rare. Good very fine

1236 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Quarter siliqua, Sirmium 491-518, AR 0.51 g. DN ANAAS - TASIVS Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Monogram of Theoderic within wreath; in field above, cross. BMC Vandals -. Kraus -. MIB I, -. MEC I, -. Demo -. Metlich -. cf. CNG mail bid sale 63, 2003, 1602. Extremely rare. Good very fine

Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Quarter siliqua, Sirmium 491-518, AR 0.30 g. DN ANAS - TASIVS Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Monogram of Theoderic within wreath; in field above, cross. BMC Vandals -. Kraus -. MIB I, -. MEC I, -. Demo -. Metlich -. cf. CNG mail bid sale 63, 2003, 1602. Extremely rare. Good very fine







1238 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Quarter siliqua, Sirmium 491-518, AR 0.76 g. DN [...]TASIVSI AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VONVI - VSAICTL Monogram of Theoderic (?). BMC Vandals -. Kraus -. MIB I, -. MEC I, -. Demo -. Metlich -. cf. Rauch sale 94, 2014, 1613. Extremely rare. Good very fine







Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Quarter siliqua, Sirmium 491-518, AR 0.54 g. DN ANASTASIVSI AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VONVI - VSAICTL Monogram of Theoderic (?). BMC Vandals -. Kraus -. MIB I, -. MEC I, -. Demo -. Metlich -. cf. Rauch sale 94, 2014, 1613. Extremely rare. Very fine







Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Quarter siliqua, Sirmium 527-565, AR 0.39 g. DN IVST - HIANAV Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. DN / ATHIIII / ARICVS / REX. BMC Vandals -. Kraus -. MIB I, -. MEC I, -. Demo -. Metlich -. 250

Extremely rare. Good very fine







1241 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Quarter siliqua, Sirmium 527-565, AR 0.49 g. DN IVST - NIAN AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. DN / ATHAL / ARICVS / REX. BMC Vandals -. Kraus -. MIB I, -. MEC I, -. Demo -. Metlich -.

Extremely rare. Good very fine

200

# The Visigoths

The Visigoths formed as a people in the regions of southern Russia following the separation of the Ostrogoths during the third century BC. In circa 376, under pressure from the Huns, they went beyond the Danube and, with the Romans' consent, they settled in Thrace. Following some rebellions, in 378 there was a final clash at Hadrianopolis with the emperor Valens who died in battle. In 399, the Visigothic king Alaric, reconciling with the Romans, withdrew to Illyria which he governed in the name of the emperor Arcadius with the title of dux and magister militum. Later, pursuing a policy of expansion, at the expense of Italy, Alaric sacked Rome in 410. His successor, King Ataulf, led the Visigoths to Gaul and then moved them to settle in the Iberian peninsula, before reconciling with the emperor Honorius. In 418, the latter assigned him, as foederati, Aquitania Secunda and the territories near the Rhône, the Loire and the Atlantic Ocean, where the Visigoths stably settled "the kingdom of Toulouse", their first dynasty which came to an end in 531. This was then followed by a second dynasty, "the kingdom of Toledo" which ended with the Arabo-Muslim invasion in circa 711.

As with almost all the Germanic populations, Visigothic coinage is characterised by Romano-Byzantine imitations produced especially at mints in Gaul, Italy and the Iberian Peninsula, above all Narbonne, Toulouse, Ravenna, Merida, Toledo, Barcelona, Cordoba, Coimbra, Seville and Eliberri.







1242 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Honorius, 393-423. Tremissis, Tolouse (?) mid 5th century, AV 1.48 g. DN HONORI – VS PF AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORI – AVCVSTORVM Victory advancing r., holding palm in r. hand, pastoral staff and cross in l.; on sides, R –V and in exergue, COM. MEC I, –. Belfort –. RIC –.

Extremely rare. Traces of edge filing, otherwise good very fine

Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, De Wit, 129.

Probably this issue was produced at an early date, possibly during the reign of Theoderic I at the mint of Tolouse.

The meaning of the cross and the pastoral staff in the left hand of the Victory is uncertain.









800

1243 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Libius Severus (Severus III), 461-466. Tremissis, Tolouse or Narbonne (?) mid 5th century, AV 1.38 g. DN SEVER – VS PF AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICT – AVCCC Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in exergue, COMOB. MEC I, –. RIC 3756 var.

Rare. Very fine 600

Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, De Wit, 130.

An early gold issue, probably struck at Narbonne. The reverse bears a strong resemblance to the tremisses in the name of Valentinian III (cf. MEC I, 173).







1244 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius I, 491-518.** Tremissis, Tolouse or Narbonne (?) late 5th century, AV 1.41 g. DN AITIII – AS PP AVIC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTOI – VIVTONAVI Victory advancing r., holding wreath in r. hand and palm branch on l. shoulder; in exergue, CONOB. MEC I, 178-185. Reinhart pl. 3/7. Tommasini –, cf. 78 group A3.

About extremely fine 750

Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, De Wit, 131.







1245 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius I, 491-518. Tremissis, Tolouse or Narbonne (?) late 5th century, AV 1.47 g. DN ANASTA – SIVS PP AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIAAVCV – TORVI Victory advancing r., holding wreath in r. hand and palm branch on l. shoulder; in exergue, COHOB. MEC I, 181. Tommasini Group A1, 48ff.

Rare. About extremely fine / good very fine

750

Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, De Wit, 132.

Scholars have some doubts about the ruler of this specimen: some believe that it was coined by Alaric II or Amalaric at Narbonne, others ascribe it to the Ostrogothic Theoderic and minted at Arles, cf. Tomasini 47, group A2a.







1246 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justin I, 518-527. Solidus, Narbonne (?) mid 6th century, AV 4.42 g. DN IVSTINI – V – S PP AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, holding spear and decorated shield. Rev. VICTOR – I – AAVCCCZ Victory standing I., holding long cross; in r. field, star, and in exergue, CONOB. P. Le Gentilomme, "Monnaies des Burgondes des Visigoths et des Franks" in RN 1943 pag 112, 27 and Pl. IV, 27. MEC I, –, cf. 190. Reinhart pl. 7, 12.

Very rare. Extremely fine 2'000

The bifurcation from the base of the cross is typical of Visigothic issues.







1247 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.* Tremissis, Tolouse or Narbonne (?) mid 6th century, AV 1.40 g. DN IVSTINI – ANVS PP AV Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA + AVVCOSTI Victory advancing r., holding wreath in r. hand and palm branch on l. shoulder; in exergue, CO(.)OB. MEC I, – (cf. 198-199). Tommasini 302 (this coin).

Rare. Good very fine

600

Ex Rodolfo Ratto sale 9 December 1930, Trivulzio, 2477, and Vecchi 5, 1197, 1113 sales.







1248 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. Tremissis, Toledo 572-586, AV 1.13 g. CIVWI – IVIAC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. IITII – IAIN Victory advancing r., holding wreath in r. hand and palm branch on l. shoulder; in exergue, IOIIO. Chaves p. 54. MEC I, –.

Rare. Good very fine / about extremely fine 1'000

Ex NAC sale 25, 2003, 651.

Leogivild spent a lot of time battling both internal and external enemies. He decided to move the new capital to Toledo and conquered the Suevi, incorporating their kingdom, and defeated the Basques, the Byzantines and the Franks. His elder son Hermenegild became Catholic after the marriage with the Merovingian princess Ingundis and rebelled against his father with the support of the Catholic Suevi. Leovigild crushed the revolt and Catholics were persecuted until the end of his reign.









1249 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage.* Tremissis, Toledo 572-586, AV 1.44 g. CVRIVII – IWRVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. V – RRTOI – IIAVOIV Victory advancing r., holding wreath in r. hand and palm branch on l. shoulder; in exergue, ONO. Tomasini p. 246, n. 554. MEC I, –.

Rare. Light marks on obverse field, otherwise extremely fine 1'000

Ex NAC sale 25, 2003, 652.







1250 *Ricimer. Patrician and Master of Soldiers*, 457-472. Nummus, Roma (?) 465-467 Æ 0.79 g. Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Monogram of Recimer; all within wreath. LRBC 871. Lacam G. 1988, "Le monnayage de Ricimer", in SNL, pp. 222-223, pl. 1-1. RIC 2715.

Green patina and fine 100

Ricimer, son of Rechila the Suevic king of Galicia, was a Romanized Germanic general who effectively ruled the remaining territory of the Western Roman empire from 456 until his death in 472. He fought against the Vandals in Sicily and Corsica under the emperor Avitus but soon turned against him and after having defeated him (17 October 456), Ricimer remained the only ruler of the Western Empire. Leo I granted Ricimer the title of patrician and the rank of magister militum on February 28, 457. In the same year he declared emperor his friend, Maioranus, with whom he had served under the Roman general Aetius, but in 462, after Maiorianus' defeat by the Vandals, Ricimer had him imprisoned and killed. In 461, he brought to throne Libius Severus, a weak figure, but after his death, in 465, he ruled for two years until 467 when Anthemius became emperor in the West. This was the beginning of a troubled period that led first to the death of Anthemius and later to the death of Ricimer.

# The Burgundians

The Burgundians were of Scandinavian origin. During the great migrations of the fifth century, they invaded Gaul and entered into imperial territories along the Rhine between Worms and Mainz, where they formed a kingdom with Worms as its capital. Roaming freely in the Belgian provinces around the year 436, they were stopped by imperial troops with the help of the mercenary Huns. They were then permitted to settle as federates in Sapaudia (in the vicinity of Geneva up to some lands around and beyond the Rhône). Quick to be romanised and converted to Catholicism, the Burgundians soon lost their autonomous and distinctively Germanic ways.







1251 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Valentinian III, 425-455. Solidus, Gaul circa 423-455, AV 4.33 g. DN PLA VALENTI - NIANVS PF AVG Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORI -A AVGGG Z Emperor standing facing, holding long cross in r. hand and Victory on globe in l., stepping on head of human-headed, coiled snake; on sides, R - M. In exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals 2 (Gaiseric). Lacam pl. 5, 29. MEC I, -. RIC 3783. Very rare. Extremely fine

This issue is attributed to the Burgunds or to the Franks by Kent (op. cit), while Wroth attributed it to the Vandals and precisely to Gaiseric.

Sigismund, 516-524









1252 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justin I, 518-527. Solidus, 518-527, AV 4.40 g. DN IVSTI – NVS PP AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTOR – I – Λ ΛVCCCIS Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in l. field, star, and in exergue, CONOB. Belfort 5154 (this dies?). MEC I, 340 (this dies). Hunter 2 (these dies)

Extremely rare, apparently only twenty specimens known. An issue of tremendous fascination. Two almost invisible metal flaws, otherwise extremely fine

7,000

Approximately twenty examples are known of this coin, all from the same dies, and all coming from a hoard found in Gourdon (Charlon-sur-Seine) in 1845. The majority of these coins are in public collections.

# The Franks

### Clovis, 481-511

The Franks were a mixed population of Germanic origin and this name is used to generally define the various Germanic populations already known to the Romans (Catti, Brutteri, Tencteri), who crossed the borders of the empire in the third century when they fought against the Roman general Postumus (258-259), and then headed on towards Spain. After a series of raids, in 393, they reached an agreement with the Frankish tribes and the Roman Empire with whom the Franks became military allies, and defenders of the Roman limes. However over the course of the fifth century, this Germanic population carried out several occupations and conquered territories to the detriment of the Romans, going as far as settling in a more established manner in some areas of Gaul. In fact, driven by Clovis, king of the Merovingian dynasty, the Franks occupied ever larger areas along the banks of the Loire and the Seine. The Frankish dynasty was substituted with the Carolingian dynasty in the eight century.

Frankish coins between the fifth and the sixth century imitated Romano-Byzantine coinage, adopting ever more original features over time.







1253 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518. Solidus, uncertain mint 481-511, AV 4.40 g. DN ΛΝΛSTΛ – SIVS PP ΛVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – Λ ΛVCCC Λ Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r field, star, and in exergue, CONOB. Belfort 5027. Lacam –. MEC I, 343.
Very rare. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc
3'000

Ex Sternberg XIX, 1987, 1139, and M. Dürr - R. Michel 8 November 1999, Lacam, 256 sales.

This coin is most probably a Merovingian imitation of a Byzantine solidus in the name of Anastasius. This attribution is based on the analysis of the style of both the bust on the obverse and the Victory on the reverse, other than the epigraphy of the legends.











1254 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518.** Solidus, uncertain mint 481-511, AV 4.40 g. DN ANAST – ASIVS PP VC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. + VICTORI – A AVCCCA Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star, and in exergue, CONOD. Belfort 5035 var. (no cross at the beginning of the legend on reverse). MEC I, 343 var. (probably no cross at the beginning of the legend on reverse). An apparently unrecorded variety of a very rare type. Very fine 2'000

Ex Leu sale 86, 2003, 1069.

This specimen was struck under Clovis or his son Theoderic I. Clovis became king at the age of 15 after the death of his father Childeric. Soon he took most of north Gaul by 486 and he maintained good relations with the non-Frankish inhabitants and with the Catholic bishops. He married the Burgundian Clotida in 493 and was converted to Catholicism. After the victory against the Alemanni and the Visigoths, he expanded his reign to Spain. To keep his throne, he killed all the other minor Frankish kings of the Merovingian line. With his death, the kingdom was divided between his sons, giving cause to prolonged wars for reuniting it.

This seems to be an unpublished variety for the presence of the cross at the beginning of the reverse legend.







1255 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.** Solidus, uncertain mint 527-565, AV 4.42 g. DN IVSTINI – ΛNYS PF Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTOR – I – •Λ ΛVCCC Λ Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in l. field, star, and in exergue, COMO. BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. MIB I, –. MEC I, –. Metlich p. 25, fig. 15.

Extremely rare and of great numismatic interest. Good very fine. 3'000

Ex Sotheby's, 7 March 1996, 238, and Spink 13 July 2000, Dreesman collection 764 sales.

This coin is described and photographed by Metlich in his work at p. 25, fig. 25 and connected to the King Theodobert.

The reason for such a connection is the presence of two dots before A AVCCC, exactly as on the issue bearing his own name (M. Prou, "Les monnaies merovingiennes", n. 55 and pl. I, 21).

Theodebert, famous for being the first king of Franks to put his name and effigy on gold coins, notwithstanding his alliance with the Eastern Roman Empire, took advantage of the Gothic War between the Byzantines, led by Belisarius, and the Ostrogoths of Witigis. He crossed the Alps and occupied for a while the Pianura Padana, Liguria and Emilia. It is well possible that at time coins of Ostrogothic type were struck, even if further evidence is needed.







1256 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.** Tremissis, uncertain mint 527-565, AV 1.47 g. DN IVSTINI – ANVS Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTO – RI –A AVGO Victory advancing r. with bust three-quarters l., holding wreath in r. hand and *globus cruciger* in l.; in l. field, star, and in exergue, CONOO. Belfort 5283. Very rare. About extremely fine 1'500

Ex Cahn 79, 1932, Karl Egon II von Fürstenberg, 946; J. Elsen V, 1986, 741 and Lanz 123, 2005, 946 sales.

This coin has strong similarities with the coeval Ostrogothic tremisses, but its resemblance to the specimen drawn in Belfort are such that we deem reasonable the attribution to Franks.







1257 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.** Tremissis, uncertain mint 527-565, AV 1.42 g. DN IVSTIN – IANVS PF AVC (AV ligate) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVSTORVM Victory advancing r. with bust three-quarters l., holding wreath in r. hand and globus cruciger in l.; in l. field, star, V in r. and in exergue, COMOB. Belfort –.

An apparently unrecorded variety. Minor edge marks and slightly bent, otherwise good very fine

1'250

Ex Vecchi sale 5, 1997. 1103







1258 Local coinage without royal names. Tremissis, Aosta 7th century, AV 1.28 g. BETTO M – VNITAR Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r., AVSTA CIVITAT EICIT Large cross. Belfort 570. Prou 1655. Extremely rare and an issue of tremendous importance and fascination. Of unusually fine style and in exceptional condition for the issue. Extremely fine

Ex Bonham-Vecchi VIII, 1982, 725, and Spink 13 July 2000, Dreesman collection, 816 sales.

During the 6th and 7th centuries, a large number of local coins with names of the mint and the moneyers were produced without any indication of the ruling king.

On these issues the name of the moneyer, who was responsible for the quality of the metal, was engraved on the obverse while the name of the city was mentioned on the reverse. The city name may indicate either the place of minting or more likely the place whence the gold, in the form of bullion, was collected as taxes. Another possibility is that the place of minting and collection were one and the same.

This is the first occasion where the name of Aosta appears on a coin.

# The Lombards

### Transalpine Area

The Lombards originated from Scandinavia and were living in Pannonia, a region now in modern day Hungary. In 568 Alboin, their king, called an assembly of his people, proposing to move to Italy. The conquest began with Friuli, taken in a matter of days, and then gradually continued. In 571 they reached the south of Italy led by Zotto. In the 6th century, Italy was divided between Romano-Byzantine territories and areas occupied by the Lombards, each maintaining its unique customs only in the initial stages of conquest. With the passing of time, the differences between the different populations were much less heightened: between the 7th and 8th century, the Lombards learned to write their own laws and converted to Christianity, abandoning many of their traditional customs. Duchies and principalities such as those of Pavia, Spoleto, Benevento and Salerno became strongholds which later succumbed to the intervention of Charlemagne. After the defeat of Pavia, in 774, the Lombards regrouped in Southern Italy where they enjoyed three centuries of autonomy before admitting total defeat by the Normans in the second half of the eleventh century.

Coins in the style of Roman-Byzantine coinage, especially in gold, were produced at the mints of Ticinum, Spoleto and Benevento. Only in the last phase of their history, in the eleventh century, did they strike bronze folles at the mints of Amalfi and Salerno.







1259 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. Tremissis, Pannonia (?) mid 6th century, AV 1.45 g. Pseudo-legend Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in r. field, star. Rev. Pseudo-legend Victory standing facing, holding globus cruciger in l. hand and wreath in r. MEC I, —.

Extremely rare. Good very fine 1'000

Ex Vecchi sale 16, 1999, 602.

Possibly minted in Pannonia before the arrival of The Lombards in Italy, this tremissis if of the highest interest and rarity. We could not find anything close in the existing bibliography. The only coin that vaguely resembles this issue is a tremissis found in the Longobard necropolis of Cella-San Giovanni presso Cividale (cf. Forum Iuli vol. IV/1980).







1260 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.* Half siliqua or quarter siliqua, Frisia circa 568-690, AR 0.43 g. *Pseudo-legend* Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust l. Rev. Large Chi-Rho on globe; on sides, two stars. All within wreath. BMC Vandals –. Arslan –. MEC I, –. For types, cf. Arslan 2014, "Il quarto di siliqua longobardo nel Capitolium di Brescia", p 38, n. 36.

Very rare. Old cabinet tone and good very fine 1'20

Ex Giessener Münzhandlung 81, 1997, 994 and Künker 121, 2007, De Wit, 151.

For stylistic reasons we decided to place this coin in the Transalpine area; the similarity with the preceding lot is, in our opinion, evident.

## Lombardy







Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Tremissis circa 568-690, AV 1.44 g. DN IVSTINI – ANVS PΓ AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVCVSTORVM Victory standing facing, holding globus cruciger in l. hand and wreath in r.; in r. field, star, and in exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals –. Arslan 1 var. (PP). MEC I, 294 var. (PP AVI and AVIVTORVM). Arslan Cividale, p. 167, IV.12-13.

Ex M. Dürr - R. Michel sale 8 November 1999, Lacam, 275.









1262 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.* Tremissis circa 568-690, AV 1.46 g. DN IVSTINI – ANVS PP AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVCVSTORVI Victory standing facing, holding *globus cruciger* in l. hand and wreath in r.; in r. field, star, and in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals –. Arslan 1 var. (AVCVSTORVN). MEC I, 294 var. (PP AVI and AVIVTORVM). Arslan Cividale, p. 167, IV.12-13.

About extremely fine 750

Ex Elsen sale V, 1986, 738.







1263 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.** Half siliqua or quarter siliqua circa 568-690, AR 0.83 g. DN (...) – NVIII Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Large Chi-Rho on globe; on sides, two stars. All within wreath. BMC Vandals 4. Arslan –. MIB 78 (Justinian I). MEC I, 295. Arslan Cividale, p. 167, IV.14. Old cabinet tone and very fine 200







1264 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Half siliqua or quarter siliqua circa 568-690, AR 0.60 g. DN (...) - NSTIN Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Large Chi-Rho on globe; on sides, two stars. All within wreath. BMC Vandals 5. Arslan -. MIB 78 (Justinian I). MEC I, 297. Arslan Cividale, p. 167, IV.14. Old cabinet tone and very fine

Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Half siliqua or quarter siliqua circa 568-690, AR 0.32 g. (...) - AN (...) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Large Chi-Rho on globe; all within wreath. BMC Vandals 9. Arslan -. MIB 79 (Justinian I). MEC I, 295-297 var. (no stars on reverse). Arslan Cividale, p. 167, IV.14.

Old cabinet tone, good very fine / about extremely fine







1266 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Half siliqua or quarter siliqua, Sirmium (?) circa 568-690, AR 0.40 g. TVIV - VVII Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Large Chi-Rho; on sides, two stars. All within wreath. BMC Vandals - (cf. 4-8). Arslan -. MEC I, -, cf. 295-297. Arslan Cividale, p. 167, IV.14. For types, cf. Arslan 2014, "Il quarto di siliqua longobardo nel Capitolium di Brescia", p. 38, nn. 33-35. Very rare. Old cabinet tone and about extremely fine

Ex Sternberg 19, 1987, 1163, and Künker 121, 2007, De Wit, 139 sales.

This coin apparently comes from a French hoard found at the turn of the 19th century. Its attribution has been a matter of debate among scholars and auctions houses. While the attribution to the Lombards requires further evidence, it appears to be the most plausible.









1267 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Half siliqua or quarter siliqua, circa 568-690, Sirmium (?) AR 0.54 g. Pseudo-legend Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Large Chi-Rho; on sides, two stars. All within wreath. BMC Vandals -. Arslan -. MEC I, -. Arslan Cividale, p. 167, -. For types, cf. Arslan 2014, "Il quarto di siliqua longobardo nel Capitolium di Brescia", p. 38, nn. 33-35. Very rare. Old cabinet tone and very fine

Ex Vecchi sale 8, 1997, 387.

There are some doubts, to assign this coin and the preceding one to the Lombards, considering their style, as in our opinion they could be contemporary Gepid imitations.





1268





1268 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justin II, 565-578. Tremissis circa 568-690, AV 1.46 g. DN IVSTI - NVS PP AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVCVSTORVN Victory standing facing, holding globus cruciger in l. hand and wreath in r.; in r. field, star, and in exergue, CONO. BMC Vandals 2. Arslan 2. MEC I, 298. Arslan Cividale, p. 167, IV.12-13.

> Rare. About extremely fine 750

Ex M. Dürr - R. Michel sale 8 November 1999, Lacam, 277.







1269 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justin II, 565-578.* Tremissis circa 568-690, AV 1.34 g. DN IVSTI – NVS PP AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVCVSTORVN Victory standing facing, holding *globus cruciger* in l. hand and wreath in r.; in r. field, star, and in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals 2. Arslan 2. MEC I, 298. Arslan Cividale, p. 167, IV.12-13.

Plugged, otherwise very fine 250

1270 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justin II, 565-578.** Tremissis circa 568-690, AV 1.43 g. DN IVSTI – NVS PP AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVCVSTORVN Victory standing facing, holding *globus cruciger* in l. hand and wreath in r.; in r. field, star, and in exergue, CONOA. BMC Vandals 1–2 var. (legend). Arslan 2 var. (legend). MEC I, 298 var. (legend). Arslan Cividale, p. 167, IV.12-13.







1271 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justin II, 565-578. (?)** Tremissis circa 568-690, AV 1.40 g. Pseudo-legend Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VITORI – AAV Victory standing facing, holding globus cruciger in l. hand and wreath in r.; in exergue, CONOK. BMC Vandals –. Arslan 2. MEC I, – cf. 299. Arslan Cividale, p. 167, IV.12-13. About extremely fine / extremely fine







1272 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Maurice Tiberius, 582-602.** Tremissis circa 568-690, AV 1.42 g. DN mAVR – CIIPPVI Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. IVICTORIAAVIVITORVN Victory standing facing, holding *globus cruciger* in l. hand and wreath in r.; in r., field, cross and in exergue, CONOA. BMC Vandals 22 (Agilulf). Arslan 4. MEC I, 303-304.

Very rare. About extremely fine 1'500

Privately purchased from Credit Suisse, "Aus dem Monetarium", December 1995, 100.

Wroth ascribes this issue to Agilulf for the little cross in the right field and to his Christian wife, the queen Theodolind.







1273 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Maurice Tiberius, 582-602.** Tremissis circa 568-690, AV 1.37 g. DN MA(...) – TbPPVIΓ Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. IVIITORIIIIIITOLII Victory standing facing, holding *globus cruciger* in l. hand and wreath in r.; in exergue, COIIOI. BMC Vandals 23 (Agilulf). Arslan 18-19. MEC I, 305-306. Rare. Good extremely fine 1'000

The letters of the legends validate that this coin is an imitation of Maurice Tiberius' tremissis struck at the Ravenna mint. This type, with its larger flan, was resumed after the period of Cunipert.







1274 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Maurice Tiberius, 582-602.** Tremissis circa 568-690, AV 1.50 g. DII MAVRT – TII PP AVI Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. OIIVAOITHMVAIAOITI VIONO Cross potent. BMC Vandals p. 154, 3 (uncertain king). Arslan – (cf. 4-12 for the obverse). MEC I, – (cf. 301-304 for the obverse). Rare. Light reddish tone and extremely fine. 1'500

Ex M. Dürr - R. Michel sale 8 November 1999, Lacam, 279.

This and the following coins present an interesting hybrid combination: on the obverse the prototype derives from Maurice Tiberius' issues, while the reverse derives from Heraclius' types.







1275 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Maurice Tiberius, 582-602. Tremissis circa 568-690, AV 1.46 g.
 λ MA – IVICTVAIA Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. OITAVIVNAOVINONIVA Cross potent. BMC Vandals p. 154, 3 (uncertain king). Arslan – (cf. 4-12 for the obverse). MEC I, – (cf. 301-304 for the obverse).
 Rare. About extremely fine

Ex M. Dürr - R. Michel sale 8 November 1999, Lacam, 280.







1276 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Heraclius, 610-641.* Tremissis circa 620-700, AV 1.43 g. CUHCΠA – CVVVV AVI Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VVITOIIVAVIII OIVIIOCVOII Victory standing facing, holding *globus cruciger* in l. hand and wreath in r.; in r. field. BMC Vandals –. Arslan –. MEC I, –. Cf. CNG sale 100, Adams, 377 (for obverse style).

As apparently unrecorded variety of great interest. About extremely fine 1'000

Tuscany



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1277 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Heraclius, 610-641.** Tremissis circa 620-700, AV 1.44 g. DN ICCNAIL – S PP AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIAACVSCCORVMA Cross potent; below, CO(..)O. BMC Vandals 34. Arslan –. MEC I, 309.

Irregular flan, otherwise good very fine 300

The protoypes for the Tuscan tremisses are those in the name of Constans and Heraclius of Ravenna. After an initial phase in which the flan diameters expanded, they started to contract and the coins took on a thicker appearance. The legends remained confused, but during the second half of the seventh century, they were substituted with a garbled inscriptions and letters started to appear in the field. The dating of this series, which Grierson attributes to Tuscany, is based on the progressive reduction of the flan size with the passing of time. In his opinion, the sequence is as follows: the first issues could be defined as "barbarized" with legends that are still legible but moving towards the so-called "pseudo-legends", after which come the usually thicker "barbarised" types, which occasionally bear initials before of the bust. Finally there are the thick tremisses with signs or initials before the bust.

1277





1278





1'250

1278 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Heraclius, 610-641.** Tremissis circa 620-700, AV 1.46 g. IN \* ER – Ah\* II Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. CAIIVCAIVOTINVINONICNVOB Cross potent. BMC Vandals – cf. 31-38. Arslan –. MEC I, –.

An apparently unrecorded variety. Good very fine / about extremely fine





1270





1279 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Heraclius, 610-641.** Tremissis circa 620-700, AV 1.46 g. DN HCRACL – I PERP AVS Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIAAVCISTORN Cross potent; below, CONOB. BMC Vandals cf. 31-38. Arslan –. MEC I, –.

An apparently unrecorded variety. A minor nick on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 1'250

Ex Sternberg VIII, 1978, 995 and Spink 13 July 2000, Dreesman collection, 778 sales.

According to Kent, this coin is a Lombard imitation of an official Byzantine issue produced in an uncertain western mint. The cross on the diadem is typical of the contemporary coinage of Ravenna.





1280





1280 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Heraclius, 610-641.* Tremissis circa 620-700, AV 1.48 g. DN HERAC – LIVS PP AV Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust l. Rev. VICTORIA AVIVSTORVM Cross potent; below, CONOB. BMC Vandals –. Arslan –. MEC I, –, cf. 310 (bust r.).

An apparently unique and unrecorded variety with left-facing bust. Good extremely fine 1'750

Ex NAC sale 11, 1998, 637.









1281 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Heraclius, 610-641. Tremissis circa 620-700, AV 1.41 g. DN HIRAC - IIVI PP AV Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VIITORIA AVIVITORVM Victory standing facing, holding globus cruciger in l. hand and wreath in r.; in r. field, star, and in exergue, CONOA. BMC Vandals -. Arslan -. MEC I, -.

> Apparently unrecorded. A very intriguing issue, several edge marks, and slightly bent, otherwise good very fine

1'250

Ex Peus sale 348, 1996, 881.

This is an interesting hybrid combination: on the obverse the prototype derives from Heraclius' issues, while the reverse derives from Maurice Tiberius' types.









1282 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Heraclius, 610-641. Half siliqua circa 620-700, AR 0.25 g. Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r., Rev. Monogram of Heraclius; in field, four pellets above and one below. BMC Vandals 41. Arslan -. MEC I, -.

Very rare. Old cabinet tone and about extremely fine

1'500









1283 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Constans II, 641-668. Solidus, Spoletum (?) mid to late 7th century, AV 4.32 g. CONStAN - tINVS Facing bust, wearing chlamys and crown with cross, holding globus cruciger in r. hand. Rev. IVTORI –  $\Lambda$   $\Lambda$ VS Cross potent on three steps; in r. field,  $\Pi$  and in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals -. Arslan -. MEC I, -. Cf. MIB 3, pl. 26 XI (but quite different).

Of the highest rarity and of great historical interest. Good very fine

Privately purchased from Wayte Raymon in 1922. Ex Leu-NFA 16-18 October 1984, Garrett collection part II, 565, and Sotheby's New York, 2 November 1998, 285 sales.

The Lombards issued their own coins after their settlement in Italy. Minting took place in two distinct areas: in Nothern Langobardia, between the last decades of the 6th century and 774; and in Southern Langobardia, in the duchy of Benevento, between circa 680 and the end of the ninth century. Initially, they struck coins imitating Byzantine coins: only after did their coins begin to feature the names of the Lombard kings and dukes. In the north, especially golden tremisses were minted, while the Longobards of Benevento also struck solidi which remained the main unit of currency documented until the Middle Ages. The models used for the first imitative coinage were those of Maurice Tiberius (582-602), Heraclius (610-614) and Constans II (641-668).

The use of the types of Heraclius and Constans II in Tuscia, rather than those of Mauricius Tiberius in the North, reflects the later date of the Lombards advance to south of the Po.

This is one of the few Italian imitations of a solidus of Constans II. From a stylistic and technical point of view, one could argue that the coin shows a Ravenite influence given the wide annular border on the reverse. Stylistically, Roman elements can also be identified such as the monogram on the reverse, but it is quite different to contemporary coins of Beneventum. Having compared the coin with a specimen conserved in the Naples museum, one could suppose that the coin comes from Southern Italian location but the faithful use of Ravenite techniques would point to a more northern issue. Nevertheless, at the same time it differs greatly from Lombard issues from Lombardy, Tuscany and Beneventum. It may therefore be reasonable to place this production at Spoleto.







**Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Constans II, 641-668.** Tremissis mid to late 7<sup>th</sup> century, AV 1.49 g. VCTOIV – TVAISN Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. ITORIAAVSTO Cross potent; in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals 44. Arslan –. MEC I, 310 var. Good extremely fine 600







**Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Constans II, 641-668.** Tremissis mid to late 7<sup>th</sup> century, AV 1.49 g. DN CONSTAV – TINVS PP AV Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VIITORIA AVCYST Cross potent; in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals 44. Arslan –. MEC I, 311.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 600







**Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Constans II, 641-668.** Tremissis mid to late 7<sup>th</sup> century, AV 1.47 g. (...) VAT – NTICONSV Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. (...)RIAAVChTI Cross potent; in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals 44. Arslan –. MEC I, 311-312.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 600







**Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. With blundered inscriptions.** Tremissis mid to late 7<sup>th</sup> century, AV 1.44 g. (...)NI – VIHOVS Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VAПОПNПNПAHIO Cross potent. BMC Vandals cf. 12. Arslan cf. 80-82. MEC I, cf. 313. Very rare. Good extremely fine 1'250 Ex NAC Autumn 95 sale, 1995, 750.

A peculiar tremissis with a diameter which tends to contract, characterised by the pseudo-epigraphic legend, the greatly arched diadem, the dotted line of the face and the heavily geometric style of the bust.







1288 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. With blundered inscriptions.* Tremissis circa 620-700, AV 1.47 g. IIIVNV — VIONVI Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VПIOUVIVHOIIIVNVПVN Cross potent. BMC Vandals cf. 12. Arslan cf. 80-82. MEC I, –, cf. 314. Very rare. Good extremely fine 1'500

Ex NAC Autumn 95 sale, 1995, 751.

This tremisses is much narrower and therefore thicker. The reverse bears a perfect example of a specular pseudo-epigraphic legend, which is a particular trait of Lombard coinage in the name of Maurice Tiberius.







1289 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. With blundered inscriptions.* Tremissis circa 620-700, AV 1.32 g. VOAV + : AVOAV (AV ligate) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in r. field, A. Rev. IVNOUVVNIIOUNI Cross potent. BMC Vandals –. Arslan –. MEC I, cf. 315.

Very rare. From dies engraved in a fascinating barbaric style. Extremely fine

Ex NAC Autumn 95 sale, 1995, 752.











1290 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. With blundered inscriptions.* Tremissis circa 620-700, AV 1.44 g. IVpdTC – IVITIhAV Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in r. field, star. Rev. VVAOTIVIVAVIOTIIVIOHO Cross potent. BMC Vandals –. Arslan –. MEC I, cf. 312.

Very rare. From crudely cut dies in degenerated style. Several edge marks and slightly bent, otherwise very fine

600

800

Ex NAC Autumn 95 sale, 1995, 753.









Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. With blundered inscriptions. Tremissis circa 620-700, AV 1.49 g. IVUV – VHOVI Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r., in r. field, B. Rev. VIIIOHVAVHOIHVN Cross potent. BMC Vandals 1. Arslan –. MEC I, 316. Very rare. Extremely fine 1'000







Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. With blundered inscriptions. Tremissis circa 620-700, AV 1.36 g. VHIV -VNVI Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r., in r. field, star, and on cuirass S set horizontally. Rev. VIIVONVVNOVNVNVN Cross potent. BMC Vandals -. Arslan -. MEC I, -, cf. 315 (for style). 1'250

An apparently unrecorded variety. Extremely fine

Another example of a thicker tremisses with a narrow diameter bearing a specular reverse legend.

Luca, 700-749







Autonomous municipal coinage. Tremissis circa 700-749, AV 1.17 g. Monogram of Lucca; on field, two stars. Rev. VVIVAVAAAVAVA Cross potent. BMC Vandals 3 var. (in field above, R). Bernareggi 200 var. (in field above, E). Arslan 84 var. (in field above, I and I. A). MEC I, 318 var. (in field above, E). An apparently unique variety of an extremely rare type. Several edge nicks, 5'000 bent and a flan crack, otherwise about extremely fine

Ex Ciani 1910, 954; M. Ratto, 22 July 1967, and Artemide Aste, 18 December 2005, 218 sales.







Autonomous municipal coinage. Tremissis circa 700-749, AV 1.29 g. + FLAVIA LVCA Six rayed star. Rev. \* VIVIVIV \* VIVIVIV Cross potent. BMC Vandals 1. Bernareggi 206. Arslan -. MEC I, 319. Very rare. Pierced in two points, otherwise very fine







Autonomous municipal coinage. Tremissis circa 700-749, AV 1.38 g. + FLAVIA LVCA Six rayed star. Rev. • VIVIVIVIVIVIVIVIVIVI Cross potent. BMC Vandals 1. Bernareggi 206. Arslan -. MEC I, 319. Very rare. Wonderful reddish tone and about extremely fine

Ex Bonham/Vecchi I, 1980, 652, and Spink 13 July 2000, Dreesman collection, 776 sales.

## Lombardy and Tuscany: regal coinage, 668-774

## Attributed to Marinus Mon









1296 Tremissis end 7th-ealy 8th century, AV 1.43 g. MARIN – VSMON retrograde Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VIITOIVIVIO:.II Victory standing facing, holding *globus cruciger* in l. hand and wreath in r.; in exergue, IONIOI. BMC Vandals –. Bernareggi pp. 119 ff. Arslan 22. MEC I, –.

Exceedingly rare, only six specimens known. An issue of great importance and and fascination, extremely fine

8'000

Ex SKA Bern 7, 1987, 112.

This coin presents a problem regarding mint attibution. While iconographically similar to those of Mauricius Tiberius, it bears in the legend the name MARINVS MON. The most accredited theory suggested by some scholars is that this refers to a Marinus Monertiarus who marked the shift from pseudo-imperial to Lombard legends during the monetary reform put into effect with Cunipert, king from 688 to 700.

According to Bernareggi, this coinage is the Lombard attempt at emancipation from the Byzantine model, as also seen with the coeval imitation of the Franks.

Aripert I, 652-661











Tremissis 652-661, AV 1.24 g. DN ARI – PERT REX Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in r. field, M. Rev. VNTOXIAAVIVITIOR Victory standing facing, holding *globus cruciger* in l. hand and wreath in r.; in r. field, cross and in exergue, COMOI. BMC Vandals p. 141 footnote. Bernareggi 6. Arlsan –. MEC I, –.

An apparently unrecorded variety of a type of the highest rarity

known in only two specimens. About very fine 8'000

Ex Artemide sale V, 1982, 1991.

King of the Lombards, Aripert I was the son of Gundoald, duke of Asti and of Bavarian descent. He was also the nephew of queen Theodelinda and a fervent Catholic. His ascension to the Lombard throne in 653 took place after the assassination of king Rodoald, son of the Arian Rotari, a sign of the Catholic component against Arianism which slowly managed to prevail in the Lombard ducal aristocracy. The religious element is the characteristic of Aripert and explains how in later poetic celebrations of the Lombard kings, Aripert is given the title "good and pious" and praised, exaggeratedly, for having abolished Arian heresy: it certainly appears, at least, that the bishop of the capital, Pavia, abandoned Arianism. A fleeting victory, however, since with the death of Aripert in 661, and shortly after, with the killing of his first child, Godepert and the escape of the cadet Perctarit, Arian tendencies regained, albeit for only a short time, the upper hand.

This is an unrecorded variety (for the M on the obverse field) of an exceedingly rare type. The only other specimen known, which came from the Gnecchi and Brand collections, was recently sold by CNG in the dispersal of the Larry Adams collection.

### Cunipert I, 680-700











Tremissis 680-700, AV 1.37 g. DN CVN – INCPE RX Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; before head, hand. Rev. SCSMI – MAHIL St. Michael standing l., holding lond cross and shield. BMC Vandals 1 var. (before head D). Bernareggi 17-20. Arslan 36. MEC I, 320 var. (before head M).

Very rare. Good very fine

3'000

Cunipert was the son of king Perctarit and was co-ruler from 680-688. After the death of his father, he fought against the revolt of the duke Alahis of Trent. The battle of Coronate in 689 sealed Cunipert's control over his reign and obtained definitive peace with the Byzantines. He was a Catholic. Probably the new Lombard's coinage, with St. Michael on the reverse, was the result of his faith and it might well reflect his victory at Coronate.

Aripert II, 700-712









1299 Tremissis 700-712, AV 1.23 g. DN AR – IPE RX (RX ligate) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in r. field, cross. Rev. SCSN – IAHIL St. Michael standing l., holding long cross and shield. BMC Vandals 1 var. (in r. field M). Bernareggi 47 ff. var. (letter in place of cross). Arslan 45-46 var. (letter in place of cross). MEC I, 321 var. (letter in place of cross).

An apparently unrecorded variety of a rare type. Light reddish tone and extremely fine

2,500

Ex Spink 13 July 2000, Dreesman collection 769.

After the death of Cunipert I, there was a period of dispute for the kingship. When Aripert became king, he tried to keep a peaceful kingdom but he was attacked and defeated by Ansprad. The style of his coinage is very similar to Cunipert's issues but we can notice a different breakdown both of the inscriptions and the body.



33 m

0 Tremissis 700-712, AV 1.36 g. DN AR – IPES RX (RX ligate) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust

r.; in r. field, G. Rev. SCS MI – HAHIL St. Michael standing l., holding long cross and shield. BMC Vandals 1 var. (in r. field M). Bernareggi 51. Arslan 45 var. (in r. field, M). MEC I, 321.

1300

Rare. Fine 1'000

From the Gnecchi collection.







1301 Tremissis 700-712, AV 1.30 g. DN A – RIPERT RX (RX ligate) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in r. field, S. Rev. SCS MI – HAHIL St. Michael standing l., holding long cross and shield. BMC Vandals 1 var. (in r. field M). Bernareggi 61-63 var. (in r. field, S reverted). Arslan 45 var. (in r. field M). MEC I, 321 var. (in r. field, M). Rare. Extremely fine 2'000







Tremissis 700-712, AV 1.28 g. (...) – RIPERT RX (RX ligate) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in r. field, S (reverted). Rev. SCS MI – HAHIL St. Michael standing l., holding long cross and shield. BMC Vandals 1 var. (in r. field M). Bernareggi 61-63. Arslan 45 var. (in r. field, M). MEC I, 321 var. (in r. field M). Rare. Traces of overstriking, otherwise about extremely fine 1'500







Tremissis 700-712, AV 1.30 g. (...) – IPER RX (RX ligate) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in r. field, P. Rev. SCS MI – HAHIL St. Michael standing l., holding long cross and shield. BMC Vandals 1 var. (in r. field, M). Bernareggi 54 var. (in r. field M). Arslan 45 var. (in r. field, M). MEC I, 321 var. (in r. field, M).

Rare. Extremely fine 2'500









1304 Tremissis 717-744, AV 1.29 g. DN LIV – PRDN RX (RX ligate) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in r. field, cross and on drapery, G. Rev. SCS M – MAHIL St. Michael standing l., holding long cross and shield. BMC Vandals 1 var. (letters in place of cross). Bernareggi 87 ff. var. (letters in place of cross). Arslan 47 ff. var. (letters in place of cross). MEC I, 322 var. (letter in place of cross).

An apparently unrecorded symbol. About extremely fine

2'50

Ex Leu-NFA sale 16-18 October 1984, Garrett collection part II, 550.

After the death of Cunipert and Aripert II, the kingdom was in trouble and was convulsed by a period of dissension. The new king, Liutprand, was very aggressive and spent time in shifting alliances with the Byzantines, the Pope and taking control over the duchies of Spoletium and Beneventum. He had an alliance with Charles Martel, the Frankish king, against the Arabs.







1305 Tremissis 717-744, AV 1.32 g. DN LIV – TPRDN RX (RX ligate) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in r. field, M and on drapery, star. Rev. SCS M – HAHIL St. Michael standing l., holding long cross and shield. BMC Vandals 1. Bernareggi 75. Arslan 48 var. (RX missing). MEC I, 322 var. (in r. field, L).

An extremely rare variety. Extremely fine 1'500







1306 Tremissis 717-744, AV 1.17 g. DN (...) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in r. field, TA (monogram) and on drapery, cross. Rev. SCS – HIHI St. Michael standing l., holding long cross and shield. BMC Vandals 3 var. (in r. field, T). Bernareggi 102 var. (in r. field, L). Arslan 55. var. (in r. field, T, uncertain king). MEC I, 322 var. (in r. field, L).

An extremely rare variety. Reddish tone and good extremely fine

2,000



1307 Tremissis 717-744, AV 1.29 g. DI LV – TRP RX (RX ligate) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; before head, hand. Rev. SCS – HIIIL St. Michael standing l., holding long cross and shield. BMC Vandals pag 143 note. Bernareggi 68. Arslan 55 var. (in r. field, T). MEC I, 322 var. (in r. field, L).

Rare. Extremely fine 1'250



1308 Tremissis 717-744, AV 1.24 g. (...) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in r. field, S and on drapery, RX (monogram) and T. Rev. SCS – MIHL St. Michael standing l., holding long cross and shield. BMC Vandals 2. Bernareggi 86 var. (in r. field, M or N). Arslan 55 var. (in r. field, T). MEC I, 322 var. (in r. field, L).

An extremely rare variety. Extremely fine 1'000



1309 Tremissis 717-744, AV 1.22 g. (...) – PRIR Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in r. field, N and above star. Rev. SCS – HIHL St. Michael standing l., holding long cross and shield. BMC Vandals 1 var. (without N and star). Bernareggi 88 var. (no star). Arslan 51. MEC I, 322 var. (in r. field, L).

An extremely rare variety. Extremely fine 1'000



1310 Tremissis 717-744, AV 1.12 g. (...) – PRIR Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in r. field, T. Rev. SCS – HIHL St. Michael standing l., holding long cross and shield. BMC Vandals 3. Bernareggi 103. 55. MEC I, 322 var. (in r. field, L). Rare. Extremely fine 1'250







1311 With the name of the moneyer. Aufermo. Tremissis 717-744, AV 1.26 g. DNLI – VTPRX (NL and RX ligate) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in r. field, T and on drapery, AVFERMO / RX. Rev. SCS – MIHIL St. Michael standing l., holding long cross and shield; in r. field, A. BMC Vandals –. Bernareggi –. Arslan –. MEC I, –. Cf. Arslan, "Un incontro inaspettato: I monetieri del re longobardo Liutprando, in Die Münze. Bild-Botschaft-Bedeutung", pp. 1-19.

Exceedingly rare. Wonderful reddish tone and good extremely fine 6'000

Lombardian issues were linked with a mint system in which the figure of the moneyer was not present or at least mentioned, and was seen as socially modest, when their name is recovered through other means (Bernareggi 1983, Moneta Langobardorum, 71). The organization of the Longobardian mint would have been much more similar to the Byznaitne system of the mint of Constantinopolis, in which no names appeared on its coins other than the issuing authority, compared with the Merovingian system where the myriad mints and multitude of moneyer's names suggest a different judicial interpretation of the meaning of the coin (MEC I, 97-102).

In the Lombard world, there was quite a long first period with issues in the name of the emperors of Constantinopolis from Justinian to Heraclius, however this does not imply that there was a form of organisation or control of the issues.

The first indications of a monitoring system, apparent on coins through signs or letters, are found on issues in the name of Maurice Tiberius with markings on the obverse or reverse. Only on one occasion has a monogram been noted, with the letters M and R, on his chest (Arslan 1978, Le monete di Ostrogoti, Longobardi e Vandali. Catalogo delle civiche raccolte numismatiche di Milano, 16), which could be the joining link with the successive Marinus Mon type (Arslan 1978, Le monete di Ostrogoti, Longobardi e Vandali. Catalogo delle civiche raccolte numismatiche di Milano, 12-13) on which we occasionally find next to the name of the moneyer, the presence of letters or signs and, on two occasions, a similar but more complete monogram, related to the same moneyer (Arslan 1978, Le monete di Ostrogoti, Longobardi e Vandali. Catalogo delle civiche raccolte numismatiche di Milano, 8). Marinus could have therefore minted coins in the name of Maurice Tiberius before striking with dies bearing his own name. Traces of this system are evidently clear when the name of Marinus is recorded (indicated as mon = monetiarius), this might mean that he tried to present himself as a candidate on coins which until that very moment had featured only the name of the emperor, and could have been an attempt at monetary reform. The case of Marinus came to a quick end, even though the issues do not appear to have been that reduced

On the Lombardian coinage that followed, the name of the moneyers disappears, or rather, it remains only in the form of initials or symbols on the chest of the king on the obverse, however this change does not mean that the identification of the responsibilities of the various phases of minting was modified. The system of representing the different mechanisms of the operation of the mint (or mints), created by Cunipert, with its name on both the obverse and reverse, appears to continue until the first coins of Liutprand. During the second phase, the system appears to go through a change, or at least, the signs of the name of the moneyer on the chest are no longer reduced to initials, letters or monograms on the chest on the obverse and began to be written in full. Therefore the names of moneyers who had not only Germanic but also Latin roots appear (Lopez 1961, Moneta, e monetieri nell'Italia Barbarica, in Monete e scambi nell'ato Medioevo, 77; Arslan 1991, Un incontro inaspettato: i monetieri del re longobardo Liutprando). It therefore appears that the moneyers were not necessarily Lombard, but it is a result of a connotation in technical terms of the managing of an issue or a mint. The presence of names represented in full on these coins allows us to propose both the identification of a first group of Liutprand's moneyers and give a meaning to the letters or signs usually present on the king's chest or on other Longobardian dies.

The obverse bust transpires to be the traditional position of the name (or initial, monogram or symbol) of the moneyer, or at least of the people who had the same privileges as Marinus. The only clues that we can follow is the position: the names are positioned on the chest, in the same position that Marinus placed his monogram.

If, indeed, the names represented in full are the names of the moneyers, it is likely that the siglas, which are placed in the same position on the Liutprand types, were still related to the moneyers, without it being possible to understand more. Furthermore, one can deduce that the letters that appear instead in the field of the obverse, which have been demonstrated to not refer to the city of the mint and randomly correspond to the letters and symbols on the chest, must have referred to some other moment of the production of the coins, to those in charge on different levels. The situation is rendered only more complicated due to other legends and symbols on the reverse. It would appear that there was a highly complex procedure to follow in order to allow the minting and even for the final check. So elaborate that without any written documentation, it is impossible for us to understand precisely how it worked. A process in which letters, names or symbols could appear on the coins in three distinct places, hence on a triple level. The moneyers, who were gathered in a sort of corporation with inherited traditions must have played a fundamental role, especially in the later phases. Arslan 1991, Un incontro inaspettato: i monetieri del re longobardo Liutprando).

In the successive coinage of Ratchis, Aistulf, and again Ratchis and Desiderius, in the tremisses with a mysterious monogram, there always appears to be a binary system in place. Next to the letter which almost always appears next to the monogram, on the reverse there is a letter or a symbol beneath the wing of Saint Michael. Only in the second coinage of Desiderio, was there a small modification with the indications situated at the end of the obverse legend which denoted the name of a city and a system of points placed in varying positions in the obverse and reverse legends.



1312 *With the name of the moneyer. Audoim.* Tremissis 717-744, AV 0.99 g. DNLI – VTPRX (NL and RX ligate) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. with hand raised; on drapery, AVDOIM / RX. Rev. SCS – MIHIL St. Michael standing l., holding long cross and shield; in r. field, A. BMC Vandals –. Bernareggi –. Arslan –. MEC I, –. Cf. Arslan, "Un incontro inaspettato: I monetieri del re longobardo Liutprando, in Die Münze. Bild-Botschaft-Bedeutung", pp. 1-19.

Exceedingly rare. Superb reddish tone and good extremely fine 6'000



1313 With the name of the moneyer. Ambros. Tremissis 717-744, AV 1.26 g. DNLIV – TPD RX (NL and RX ligate) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in r. field, D; on drapery, AMBROS (S reverted). Rev. SCS – MIHIL St. Michael standing l., holding long cross and shield; in r. field, A. BMC Vandals –. Bernareggi –. Arslan –. MEC I, –. Arslan, "Un incontro inaspettato: I monetieri del re longobardo Liutprando, in Die Münze. Bild-Botschaft-Bedeutung", pp. 1-19, tav. 1, 3 (this coin).

Exceedinly rare. Reddish tone and extremely fine 6'000







20,000

1314 Tremissis 744-749, AV 1.22 g. DM RAT – CHIS Facing and bearded bust; on sides, S – E and on drapery, R(?)E – NO, below, + RX (monogram). Rev. SCSM – IHAIL St. Michael standing I., holding long cross and shield; in r. field, three pellets. Cf. for type: BMC Vandals pag. 146 var. (in field, A – T). Bernareggi 138 var. (in field, A – T). Arslan –. MEC I, –. Arslan E. A. 1991, "Un incontro inaspettato: I monetieri del re longobardo Liutprando, in Die Münze. Bild-Botschaft-Bedeutung", pp. 1-19, pl. 3, 1. MIR 802.

Of the highest rarity and undoubtedly the finest coin known of Ratchis in existance. An issue of great fascination, wonderfull reddish tone and virtually as struck and Fdc

Ratchis was duke of Friuli in the 8th century. Former collaborator of king Liutprand, he succeeded Liutprand's nephew Hildeprand to the Lombard throne in 744. Both he and his wife, Tassia, were advocates of a peaceful policy towards the Byzantines, however he encountered opposition from the military competent of the Lombards led by his brother of Aistulf, who eventually pushed him to resume the war. In 748-749, he invaded Pentapolis and besieged Perugia, but the intervention of pope Zacharias made him stop. Essentially forced to step down from the throne due to pressures from the military faction, he decided, heeding the pope's exhortations, to become a monk and retire to Montecassino in 749. When his successor Aistulf died in 756, Ratchis returned to Pavia, where he was reinstated as king. However, he was challenged by duke Desiderius who, making use of the spiritual influence of pope Stefano II and the political support of the Franks, forced Ratchis to renounce the throne and return to Montecassino in 757 as a monk.

Bernareggi knew only two coins of Ratchis with his portrait: one in the collection of the King Vittorio Emanuele III, which was found in 1907 in the bed of the river Lambro, close to Landriano (province of Pavia). The second is in private hands.







1315 Tremissis 744-749, AV 1.21 g. + DM RATTICIS • PASO Facing and bearded bust; four pellets in cruciform shape on forehead above bridge nose. Rev. SCS – IIIIIL St. Michael standing l., holding long cross and shield. BMC Vandals –. Bernareggi –. Arslan –. MEC I, –. MIR 801a. Triton sale XIX, Adams, 2200.

Of the highest rarity, apparently only the second and by far the finest specimen known. Wonderful reddish tone and good extremely fine 15'000









1316 Tremissis 749-756, AV 1.11 g. + DN AISTVL REX At centre, CRX (monogram) and cross above M. Rev. SCS – IIIII St. Michael standing l., holding long cross and shield: in r. field, cross. BMC Vandals p. 147. Bernareggi 144 var. (without M). Arslan 59 var. (without M). MEC I, –. MIR 807.

Extremely rare. About extremely fine 8'000

Ex Ratto sale 24 November 1960, 190, and Künker 38, 1997, 535 sales.

Aistulf tried to emulate Liutprand and soon conquered the Exarchate of Ravenna, trying as well to capture some Papal possessions. So the Pope, Stephen II, required the Franks' protection: he anointed Pippin III and his sons, Charles and Charlemagne, as kings of the Franks while granting them the title of Roman Patricians and protectors of Rome. Pippin forced Aistulf in two campaigns in 755 and 756 to yield up his conquests. This monogram on the obverse has been interpreted by scholars in various ways: according to Gariel it could mean Charlemagne Rex for recognising the suzerainty of the king of Franks. According to Wroth, it means Christianus Rex and for Bernareggi the monogram could be Dominus noster Rex.

# Ratchis, second reign, 756-757









1317 Tremissis 756-757, AV 1.20 g. + DN RATCHIS REX At centre, CIANSE (?) (monogram) and star above. Rev. SCS – IIIIIL St. Michael standing l., holding long cross and shield: in r. field, S. BMC Vandals –. Bernareggi –. Arslan –. MEC I, –. MIR 803 (this obverse die).

Of the highest rarity, apparently the second specimen known. Good extremely fine 15'00

It is worth noting the downward pointing letters S and E, the latter resembling a K on the obverse. The monogram is different from the known monograms for its structure and for the letters forming it, not all of which are identifiable.

#### Unscribed with monogram of PER (for Pectarit, 672-688)









Half siliqua end 7th century, AR 0.29 g. Diademed head r. Rev. PRX (monogram), with one pellet above, three to l., three in the middle and two to r. All within wreath. BMC Vandals 15 ff. Bernareggi in Annali 12-14, pl. XXII, 12. Arslan 23 ff. MEC I, cf. 328 ff.

Rare. Old cabinet tone and good very fine 600

This coinage starts as biface, having on the obverse an imperial bust without inscription, but later issues, during the second quarter of the 8th century, are uniface and have only the monogram, cf. MEC I, p. 459.









Half siliqua end 7th century, AR 0.30 g. Diademed head r. Rev. PERX (monogram), with one pellet above, three on the l. and three in the middle. BMC Vandals 15 ff. Bernareggi in Annali 12-14, pl. XXII, 13. Arslan 23 ff. MEC I, cf. 328 ff. Rare. Old cabinet tone and very fine 400

Ex Peus sale 345, 1995, 1327.









Half siliqua end 7th century, AR 0.27 g. Diademed head r. Rev. PRX (monogram), with two pellets to the l. three in the middle. All within wreath. BMC Vandals 15 ff. Bernareggi in Annali 12-14, pl. XXII, -. Arslan 23 ff. MEC I, cf. 328 ff.
 Rare. Toned and good very fine 1'250

Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, De Wit, 142.









Half siliqua end 7th century, AR 0.33 g. Diademed head r. Rev. PERX (monogram), with two on the l. and one below. All within wreath. BMC Vandals 15 ff. Bernareggi in Annali 12-14, pl. XXII, -. Arslan 23 ff. MEC I, 331.
 Rare. Old cabinet tone and very fine

Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, De Wit, 143.







Half siliqua mid 8th century, AR 0.12 g. PERX (monogram). Rev. PERX (monogram), in r. field, three pellets. BMC Vandals 16. Bernareggi 47. Arslan 28-29. MEC I, 331. Rare. Very fine 250

#### The Duchy of Beneventum

The duchy was founded in around 570-571 by a group of Lombards, separating themselves from the main kingdom situated in Northen Italy, under the guidance of Zotto: after his death in 591, the kingdom was upheld for over forty years by Arechi I, who added other territories and established administrative order. At the time of the greatest territorial expansion (with Romoald II, 706-731), including the almost all of the Southern Italian penninusla. With the fall of the Longbard king in 774, the duchy of Benevento was transformed into a principality: after a period of internal strife, in 847 it was divided into two distinct areas: one with Salerno as its centre, the other with Benevento. In the 10th century, Pandulf reconstructed the Lombard territories in a large area, obtaining from Otto I the marca of Spoleto and Camerino along with the principatos of Capua and Salerno (978); but with Pandulf's death in 981, the principality was re-divided amongst his children. In 1077, with the death of the last prince of Benevento, Landulf VI, the Church and the Normans had full control of the region.

#### Early Anonymous Coinage











1323 *In the name of Constantine IV, 668-685*. Solidus, Beneventum (?) 662-706, AV 4.32 g. AV dN CON – TNYSS Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – VCyT Cross potent on three steps flanked by two crowned standing figures (Heraclius and Tiberius), wearing *chlamys* and holding long cross in r. hand. In exergue, CONOB. MEC I, 1085 var. (Heraclius and Tiberius holding *globus cruciger*).

Very rare. Good extremely fine

2'000

Ex Sotheby's New York sale 2 November 1998, 315.

This coin was probably struck in Southern Italy, influenced heavily by the mints of Rome and Syracuse. The prototype is to be dated 674-681.











1324 *In the name of Constantine IV, 668-685*. Tremissis 662-706, AV 1.38 g. dN COAITTH – TOIIΓ Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VOITOΛΙ – ITONTO Cross potent; in r. field, Θ and in exergue, COA. BMC Vandals 4 (Romoald I to Gisulf I). Arslan –. MEC I, –.

Very rare. Several edge marks, otherwise extremely fine

1,500

Ex M. Dürr - R. Michel sale 8 November 1999, Lacam, 288.

#### Romoald II, 706-731









1325 In the name of Justinian II, 685-711. Solidus 706-731, AV 3.94 g. DN IVS – TINIVNYFP Crowned, draped and bearded bust facing, holding globus cruciger in r. hand, Rev. VICTORI – AVGVS • Cross potent on globus and three steps; in l. field, R and in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals 3. Arslan –. MEC I, 1087. Rare. Light reddish tone and good extremely fine 2'500

Ex NAC-Spink sale 52, 1994, 856.

The Duchy of Beneventum was founded in 570/1 and maintained its independence for a long time. Its earliest coins are anonymous but under Gisulf I (689-706), its ruler began adding their initials. Grimoald III introduced the full legend replacing the initials and also started to produce silver deniers, under Caroligian influence. Romoald II, the first Lombard duke of Beneventum, had difficult relationships with Pope Gregory II, king Liutprand and the Byzantines. His basic policy was to increase his own power at the expenses of the Duchies of Spoleto and Naples. In 717 he had a clash with the armies of John I of Naples at Cuma, and was defeated and obliged to review his ambitions.









1326 *In the name of Justinian II, 685-711*. Tremissis 706-731, AV 1.24 g. DN (...) P AV Crowned, draped and bearded bust facing, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand, Rev. VICTOR – IVG Cross potent on base; in l. field, R and in exergue, COMOB. BMC Vandals 7. Arslan 87. MEC I, 1088.

Rare. Very fine / good very fine 800

Ex Nomisma sale 6, 1995, 4210.

### Gottschalk, 739-742









1327 In the name of Leo III, 717-741. Solidus 739-742, AV 4.03 g. DN L – PP VGVS Crowned, draped and bearded bust facing, holding globus cruciger in r. hand, Rev. VICTOR A – VGTVS • Cross potent on globus and three steps; in l. field, G and in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals –. Arslan –. MIR 159. MEC I –. Rare. About extremely fine 2'000

Ex NAC-Spink sale 52, 1994, 867.

During the reign of Liutprand, there was a difficult period and so the Beneventines were able to install the anti-royalist Gottschalk as duke. He started an alliance with Pope Gregory III and the Spoletans against Liutprand but the new Pope, Zacharias, preferred the king. Gottschalk tried to escape to Constantinople but was captured and deposed. These rare emissions in the name of Leo III could date back to the period in which the duke Gottschalk, rebelling against Liutprand, asked Leo III for protection.

#### **Liutprand**, 751-758





1328





1328 With the regency of Scauniperga, 751-755. In the name of Justinian II, 685-711, and with types of Anastasius II, 713-715. Solidus 751-755, AV 3.99 g. DN – ••• – IVNPP Crowned, draped and bearded bust facing, holding globus cruciger in r. hand and mappa in l. Rev. VICTORV – VGVSTVV Cross potent on globus and four steps; in field, L – S and in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals 1 var. (S – L). Arslan –. MEC I, –.

An apparently unrecorded variety. Light reddish tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

10'000

Ex NAC sale 20, 2000, 37.

This coin represents Liutprand's earliest coinage in association with his mother, when he was still underage.





1329





1329 Liutprand alone, 756-757. In the name of Justinian II, 685-711, with types of Anastasius II, 713-715. Solidus 756-757, AV 4.04 g. DN - ••• - hNVPP Crowned, draped and bearded bust facing, holding globus cruciger in r. hand and mappa in l. Rev. VICTRO - VGVSTV Cross potent on globus and four steps; in l. field, L, and in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals 4. Arslan -. MEC I, -.

Very rare. Good extremely fine 3'500

Ex NAC-Spink sale 52, 1994, 873.





1330





With the title of Duke and in the name and types of Anastasius II, 713-715. Solidus 757-758, AV 3.78 g. DN – + – ΓΝVSPP Crowned, draped and bearded bust facing, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand and *mappa* in l. Rev. VICTORV – VGVSTV Cross potent on *globus* and four steps; in r. field, L DVX (in monogram) and in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals p. 165. Arslan – MEC I, –

Extremely rare. Light reddish tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

7'500

Ex NAC-Spink 52, 1994, 873, and NAC 20, 2000, 41 sales.

# Interregnum, second half of 8th century









1331 *In name and types of Justinian II, 685-711.* Tremissis 742-751, AV 1.33 g. DNI – IVS PP Crowned, draped and bearded bust facing, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VICT – VSTO Cross potent on base; in r., field, hand, and in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals 6 (same dies). Oddy 412 (same dies). Arslan –. MEC I, –. Extremely rare. Light reddish tone, a minor mark on obverse,

otherwise extremely fine 3'500

Ex NAC 10, 1997, 793 and NAC 20, 2000, 43 sales.

Scholars do not agree on the exact attribution of this anonymous issue. The bust typology, though, allows us to exclude a dating prior to the second series of Gisulf II, when from the imitation of the solidi of Justinian II the type switches to those of Anastasius II. Our specimen confirms our assumption, in that in the right field it is possible to decipher the erased initials of Giusulf II.









1332 In the name of Justinian II, 685-711, with types of Anastasius II, 713-715. Solidus 742-751, AV 3.98 g. DN – ••• – INVS PP Crowned, draped and bearded bust facing, holding globus cruciger in r. hand and mappa in l. Rev. VICTOR – ASVGSTO Cross potent on globus and four steps; in l. field, hand and in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals 5 (same dies). Oddy 413 (same dies). Arslan –. MEC I, –.

Very rare. A minor mark on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine 5'000

Ex M. Dürr - R. Michel sale 8 November 1999, Lacam, 290.

Arichis II, 758-787









333 *With the title of Duke.* Tremissis, 765-774 AV 1.32 g. DN SVI – + – CTORIA Crowned, draped and bearded bust facing, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VITIRA – AGVTV Cross potent on base; in l. field, A and in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals 6. Arslan 92-93. MEC I, 1094.

Rare. Good very fine 750

Arichis II was Desiderius's son-in-law. When Charlemagne claimed to rule all of Italy, he abandoned the title of Duke, taking that of Prince in 774. The Pope also tried to lay claim to Beneventum but to no avail as Arichis was negotiating with the Byzantines to counter the threat. In order to maintain his independence, Arichis was forced to send his younger son Grimoald to Charlemagne as a hostage.







1334 *With the title of Princeps.* Solidus 774-787, AV 3.95 g. DN SVI – CTORIA Crowned, draped and bearded bust facing, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VICTIRA – PRINPI Cross potent on three steps; in l. field, A and in exergue, CONO • B. BMC Vandals 10. Arslan – MEC I, 1096.

Rare. About extremely fine 2'000

Ex Ratto sale 9 December 1930, 2394, and Leu-NFA 16-18 October 1984, Garrett collection part II, 572.

#### Grimoald III, 788-806









1335 *With the title of Duke and with Charlemagne*. Solidus 788-792, AV 3.79 g. GRIM – + – VAL DX (DX monogram) Crowned, draped and bearded bust facing, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. DOMS – CAR • RX (RX monogram) Cross potent on four steps; on sides, G – R and in exergue, VICV. BMC Vandals p. 170 (a). Arslan –. MEC I, –. Very rare. Good very fine / about extremely fine 2'000

Ex M. Dürr – R. Michel sale 8 November 1999, Lacam, 293.

Grimoald was the younger son of Arichis II and became duke after the death of his father. At the beginning he was a vassal of Charlemagne, the Frankish king, and together they defeated the Byzantines in Sicily, helping Desiderius' son, Adalgis. Soon after, wishing to maintain his independence, Grimoald III resumed the title of Princeps.









1336 Tremissis 788-792, AV 1.18 g. GRIM – + – VAL DX (DX monogram) Crowned, draped and bearded bust facing, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. DOMS – CAR • RX (RX monogram) Cross potent on base; on sides, G – R and in exergue, VICV. BMC Vandals 7. Arslan 94. MEC I, 1098.

Rare. Reddish tone and very fine

800







1337 *With the title of Princeps*. Tremissis 792-806, AV 1.18 g. GRIM – + – VAL D Crowned, draped and bearded bust facing, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VITORV – PRINCIP Cross potent on base; on sides, G – R and in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals 14 var. Arslan 98. MEC I, 1099.

Rare. Good very fine 1'000









1338 Denar 792-806, AR 1.21 g. Monogram of Grimoald: in l. field, cross. Rev. BENE • − • BENTV Cross potent on three steps; on sides, A − W. BMC Vandals 18. Arslan 99. MEC I, 1100.

Very rare. Old cabinet tone and good extremely fine

Ex Santamaria 21 March 1955, 1063, and Leu-MM 1987, 102 sales. From the Signorelli collection and Spahr collections. Sambon, Wroth and Grierson attribute this coin to the second period when Grimoald had the title of Prince while the authors of CNI assign it to the first period.

Sico, 817-832









3'000

1339 *With the title of Princeps*. Solidus 817-832, AV 3.68 g. SICO – + – PRINCES Crowned, draped and bearded bust facing, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. ARCHANGELVS – MICHAEL Archangel Michael standing facing, holding pastoral staff in r. hand and *globus cruciger* in l.; in exergue, CONO. BMC Vandals 1. Arslan 100. MEC I, 1103.

Very rare. Good very fine 2'500

Ex Ratto sale 20 January 1956, 472.

After the death of Grimoald IV, Sico obtained the throne of Beneventum. He was very cruel and tried, without success, to expand his territories at the expenses of the Byzantines of Naples.









1340 *With the title of Princeps.* Solidus 832-839, AV 3.59 g. SIC – + – ARDV Crowned, draped and bearded bust facing, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand; in r., field, wedge. Rev. PRINCI – VICTORV Cross potent on three steps; on sides, S – I and wedges. BMC Vandals 3. Arslan 102. MEC I, 1108.

Rare. About extremely fine

1,250

Ex NAC sale 20, 2000, 58.

Sicard was the son of Sico and was the last ruler of Beneventum. His reign was characterised by the continuous wars with the Saracens and the Duchies of Naples, Sorrento and Amalfi, which he occupied in 838, moving some of its inhabitants to Salerno. Sicard was also a builder, having embellished Beneventum especially with churches. He was killed by a revolt of the Amalfitans, instigated by Radelchis treasurer of the Principality, which paved the way for a period of dissension and the definite division from Salerno.

#### **Ancient imitations**









1341 With the types of Liutprand, 751-758 Solidus 751-758, Æ 2.43 g. DN - ••• - IVNPP Crowned, draped and bearded bust facing, holding globus cruciger in r. hand and mappa in l. Rev. VICTORV - VGVSTVV Cross potent on globus and four steps; in l. field, L and in exergue, COHOB. Cf. BMC Vandals 2. Arslan -.

MEC I, -. Fine 300

With the types of Liutprand, 751-758 Solidus, 751-758, Æ 2.54 DN - ••• – IVNPP Crowned, draped and bearded bust facing, holding globus cruciger in r. hand and mappa in l. Rev. VICTORV – VGVSTVV Cross potent on globus and four steps; in l. field, L and in exergue, COHOB. Cf. BMC Vandals 2. Arslan –. MEC I, –.
Fine 300

# The Duchy of Salerno

#### Siconulf, 839-849









1343 Denaro 839-849, AR 1.02 g. + PRINCE BENEBENTI At centre, SCONF (monogram). Rev. + • Λ • RH ΛNGELV MIHΛE Cross potent on three steps; on sides, wedge and pellet. BMC Vandals -. Aslan -. MEC I, 1121. Old cabinet tone and good very fine 400

Siconulf was the brother of Sicard of Benevent. After the latter's murder, the population of Salerno proclaimed Siconulf prince of their city in opposition to Radelchis whom they considered an usurper. This caused a long period of trouble as the war of the succession that ensued lasted for more than 10 years: the result was the definitive separation of the duchy of Salerno from Beneventum. In 851 Siconulf died and his son, Sico became the ruler.

# Unattributed coins of the German tribes









1344 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Zeno, 474-491. Solidus, uncertain mint 476-493, AV 4.19 g. DN ZENO - + PERP AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI - Λ ΛVCCC S Victory standing I., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star, and in exergue, CONOB. BMC Vandals -. Kraus -. Lacam -. MEC I, - cf. 335 (Sardinia?) RIC -.

Exceedingly rare. Minor metal flaw on obverse, otherwise very fine

1'500

Probably an issue of Odovacar or the Vandals.











1345 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Zeno, 474-491. Tremissis, uncertain mint 476-493, AV 1.29 g. DN ZHNO - PHPP IV Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r., Rev. Cross potent; in exergue, BOIIOC. All within wreath. BMC Vandals -. Kraus -. Lacam -. MEC I, -, cf. 57-60. RIC -.

Good extremely fine 1'000

Ex M. Dürr - R. Michel sale 8 November 1999, Lacam, 252.









1346 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Zeno, 474-491. Tremissis, uncertain mint 476-493, AV 1.45 g. DN ZENO - PERP AVC Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Cross potent; in exergue, CONO. All within wreath. BMC Vandals -. Kraus -. Lacam -. MEC I, -, cf. 57-60. RIC -.

Extremely fine

1'250







1347 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Zeno, 474-491*. Tremissis, uncertain mint 476-493, AV 1.43 g. DN ZENO – PERP ΛVC (ΛV ligate) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r., Rev. Cross potent; in exergue, CNC. All within wreath. BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. Lacam –. MEC I, –, cf. 57-60. RIC –.

Very fine 1'000







1348 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Zeno, 474-491*. Tremissis, uncertain mint 476-493, AV 1.43 g. CN ZENO – PERP ΛVC (ΛV ligate) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Cross potent; in exergue, COMOB. All within wreath. BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. Lacam –. MEC I, –, cf. 57-60. RIC –. Extremely fine 1'250

Ex NAC sale N, 2003, 2249

Probably Vandalic imitation of a tremissis of Odovacar.







1349 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Zeno, 474-491*. Tremissis, uncertain mint 476-493, AV 1.43 g. DN ZENO – PERP ΛVC (ΛV ligate) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r., Rev. Cross potent; in exergue, COMOB. All within wreath. BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. Lacam –. MEC I, –, cf. 57-60. RIC –. About extremely fine 750



1350



1350 *Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Anastasius I, 491-518.* Follis, uncertain mint mid 5th century, Æ 10.76 g. DN ANAST – SIVS PP A Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Large M; in field above, cross, on sides, two stars, B (inverted) below. In exergue, CON. cf. MIB 23 (for prototype).

Brown tone and very fine

350

This coin is probably an issue of the Gepids, a German tribe defeated by the Lombards in 467.





1351





1351 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justin 1, 518-527.** Solidus, uncertain mint late 6h-early 7th century, AV 4.33 g. *Pseudo-legend* Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield. Rev. *Pseudo-legend* St. Michael (?) standing facing, holding long cross in l. hand and *globus cruciger* in r.; in l. field, star, and in exergue, CONOB (retr.).

Apparently unrecorded. Very fine 2'000

Ex Dmitry Markov mail bid sale 25 April 2000, 170.

This coin could be a Lombard imitation of a Byzantine solidus. The attribution and dating are based on the similarities of the Saint Michael on the reverse to those of the issues of Sico at Benevento.









1352 Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Solidus, uncertain mint 527-565, AV 4.36 g. DN IVSTINI – ΛΛΝVS PΓ ΛV Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTOR – I – Λ ΛVCCC Λ Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in l. field, star, and in exergue, COM[...]. For the type, cf. BMC Vandals 1. Kraus 1. MIB 28. MEC I, 122. Metlich 36. Good very fine 1'500

Ex Hirsch 71, 1971, 1119 and Spink 13 June 2000, Dreesman, 763 sales.









1353 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.** Tremissis, uncertain mint mid 6th century, AV 1.40 g. DN IVITIN – INIANVN Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVCVTOM Victory advancing r., holding wreath and palm: in exergue, IOI. Cf. MIB 19 (for prototype).

About extremely fine 400

Ex Spink sale 13 July 2000, Dreesman collection, 754.

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Niederdorfstrasse 43 Telefon +41 44 261 1703 CH-8001 Zürich Fax +41 44 261 5324

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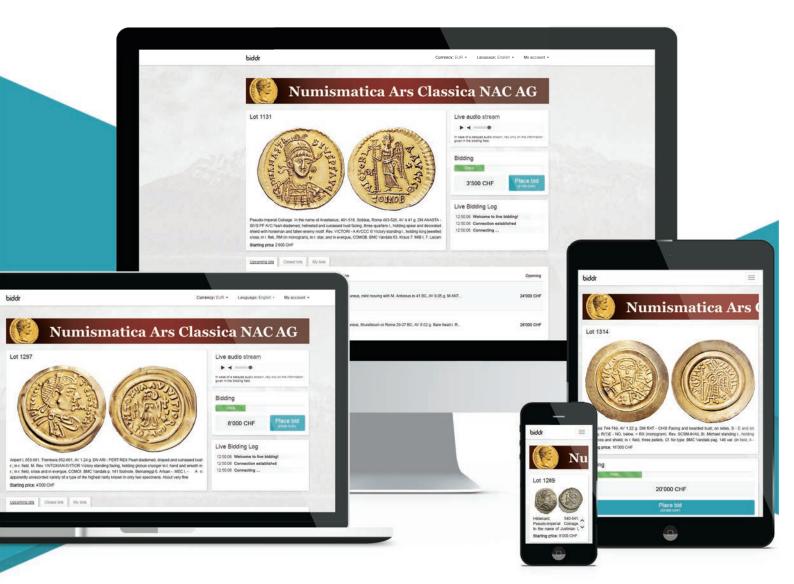
If necessary to obtain the lots you may increase my bids by: Sie werden ermächtigt, die Gebote im Bedarfsfall zu überschreiten um: Au besoin, je vous autorise d'augmenter mes mises de: Se necessario, per ottenere i lotti può aumentare l'offerta del:

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