

RECENZJE / REVIEWS

U.WESTERMARK, R.ASHTON, *Sylloge Nummorum Graecorum*. Finland. The Erkki Keckman Collection in the Skopbank, Helsinki. Part 1: Karia, (The Finnish Society of Sciences and Letters), Helsinki 1994, pp.69, pls 32, ISBN 951-653-270-5.

Erkki Keckman (1906-1989) was one of the most distinguished collectors of Greek coins. Begun in the early 60's, his interest in classical Greek coins concentrated on Asia Minor coinage with particular emphasis on that of ancient Caria and Lycia. Since 1983, the Keckman collection has been in the possession of Skopbank, Helsinki, which purchased it. Still added to by the collector until his death in 1989, it now numbers 2056 pieces.

The discussed volume, brought out as part of the *Sylloge Nummorum Graecorum* series, presents coins issued in ancient Caria – 928 coins from Keckman's collection and one, property of the Finnish Numismatic Society, held at Skopbank as a deposit (no. 318). The publication was prepared

in painstaking detail. The catalog was developed by distinguished experts in Greek coinage Ulla Westermark and Richard Ashton. High-quality photography is by Tuukka Talvio of the National Museum at Helsinki, while the editorial work was done by Hannu Mänistö, the Keckman collection curator at Skopbank, and Harald Nilsson, curator of the Royal Coin Cabinet collection, Stockholm.

As has been said, the volume presents 929 coins from the following Carian mints: Alabanda-Antioch (7 pcs.), Alinda (1 pc.), Antioch ad Meandrum (3 pcs.), Aphrodisias-Plarasa (8 pcs.), Apollonia-Salbake (2 pcs.), Bargylia (5 pcs.), Chersonese (10 pcs.), Euromos (2 pcs.), Halikarnassos (15 pcs.), Herakleia Salbake (2 pcs.), Hydisos (1 pc.), Jasos (2 pcs.), Idyma (5 pcs.), Kaunos (27 pcs.), Keramos (2 pcs.), Knidos (126 pcs.), Kranos (2 pcs.), Mylasa (13 pcs.), Myndos (13 pcs.), Stratonikeia (17 pcs.), Syngela (2 pcs.), Tabai (8 pcs.), Satraps of Caria (8 pcs.), Kalymnos (1 pc.), Karpathos (2 pcs.), Kos (15 pcs.), Ialysos (17 pcs.), Kameiros (35 pcs.), Lindos (7 pcs.), Rhodes (422 pcs.), Pseudo-Rhodes (19 pcs.), and finally unspecified mints (120 pcs.). Especially significant within the Keckman collection is the Rhodian coin group (nos. 359-790). They make up almost a half of the contents and represent virtually a cross-section of the coinage of that *polis*, from its beginnings (ca. 408-405 BC) to Roman imperial coinage. The set of Rhodian coins includes specimens from rare issues (e.g. no. 361) as well as whole series, representative of more common issues (e.g. nos. 362-375, 384-421, 449-463, etc.). The arrangement in this section of the catalog is largely based on the research of Bérend (SNR 51, 1972), W. Leshorn (JNG 36, 1986, pp. 67-94), and R. Ashton himself, who is now the most eminent expert in Rhodian coinage. Thus, as we can see, the excellent quality of the Keckman numismatic material is matched by an equally impressive masterly presentation. Add to the coinage issued on behalf of Rhodes the issues of pre-unification Rhodian cities of Ialysos (nos. 300-302)¹, Kameiros (nos. 317-351), and Lindos (nos. 352-358), and a group of pseudo-Rhodian drachmas (nos. 791-809) and the catalog appears an indispensable publication for all those interested in the island's coinage.

¹I am not certain about the attribution of coins nos. 303-316 to this mint. The authors of the volume, too, express their doubts.

Apart from Rhodian coins, another highlight in the Keckman collection is a group of coins from Knidos (nos. 93-218). Also here, the set is representative of the mint's entire period of operation. Indeed, it includes whole series of coins. This is especially true of sixth and fifth-century issues although in Knidos' Hellenistic coinage, too, some interesting series can be discerned (e.g. nos. 174-181, 184-190, or 191-199). Moreover, there are a relatively large number of rare and unique pieces as exemplified by nos. 110, 118, 126, 127, and 215. Chersonese coins (nos. 27-36) complement this part of the collection.

The third remarkable group in the Keckman collection is made up of *incerti*, or coins of uncertain attribution. It includes, among others, a notable set of anonymous coins featuring a winged female deity (nos. 810-834) that were once analyzed by H.A. Troxell. Another *incerti* group are series of small denominations (nos. 837-929). Many of those are attributed to Carian mints not least for the probable presence of such coin finds in Caria. As before, the Keckman collection boasts entire series of such coins.

Included in the collection are a group of finds of established provenance. Among those are no. 64 (discovered in a tomb at Kaunos), no. 65 (discovered in a tomb at Kaunos), no. 66 (found near Kaunos), no. 283 (from Asyut Hoard), no. 440 (found in Thessaly), no. 487 (from Uşak Hoard, CH 2, 68).

One more piece in the Keckman collection that deserves attention is no. 565, a Rhodian bronze overstruck on a Ptolemaic coin.

At the end of the volume being discussed are indices of geographical locations, rulers, and officials' names, as well as a bibliographical note.

As has been said, the publication was developed by a team of distinguished specialists. Such an excellent body is an assurance of a nearly perfect outcome. Any errors or inaccuracies are very few and far between: in the picture of item no. 52, the obverse and reverse were transposed; on the obverses of nos. 287-289, Heracles' head faces right instead of left; similarly, in nos. 811-812 and 820, the obverse effigy faces left rather than right. It also seems that having drawn the reader's attention to a dual dating of coin no. 164 from Knidos mint (S. Karwiese – ca. 405-404 BC; J.H. Nordbø – ca. 394-393 BC), the authors should have offered a similar dichotomy for the Rhodian piece no. 361. Both coins belong to the same issue called ΣΥΝ, which was struck in several Asia Minor mints, and were produced at the same time. Moreover, indices could also have listed countermarks, types, and finds.

The above reservations are of secondary importance and do not detract from an overall high quality of the discussed work. Without a doubt, the publication will be an indispensable tool for numismatists interested in the coinage of ancient Caria.

JAROSŁAW BODZEK

Translated by Tadeusz Stanek

M. MIELCZAREK, *Sylloge Nummorum Graecorum*. Poland. Vol. I: The Archaeological and Ethnographical Museum in Łódź. Part 4: Galatia - Zeugitana, (The Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences), Kraków 1998, pp.64, pls 25, ISBN 83-86956-28-3.

For anyone interested in ancient numismatics, and particularly in antique coin collections in Poland, the publication of the first volume of the Polish edition of *Sylloge Nummorum Graecorum* is a momentous event. This international series, published under the patronage of the International Numismatic Commission and under the auspices of L'Union Académique Internationale, has become a standard observed in almost all countries that possess significant collections of ancient Greek coins. This is why the volume by Mariusz Mielczarek has been eagerly awaited by the Polish numismatic community. Moreover, only a fraction of Polish collections of ancient Greek coins have so far been published¹.

The volume under discussion was financed and brought out under the auspices of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences, representing L'Union Académique Internationale, as is the entire Polish edition of the *Sylloge Nummorum Graecorum*. It contains publication of one part of the collection of the Archaeological and Ethnographical Museum in Łódź. Subsequent volumes will deal with the rest of that collection and those of the National Museums in

¹ The only larger assembly of Greek coins to have been fully published is the collection of the Regional Museum in Toruń (cf. A. KRZYŻANOWSKA, *Monety starożytne w zbiorach Muzeum Okręgowego w Toruniu* [Ancient Coins at the Regional Museum in Toruń], Toruń 1985). There has been no comprehensive publication concerning the largest Polish collections of Greek coins, those in the National Museum in Warsaw, National Museum in Kraków, Ossoliński Family National Institute Library, or precisely Archaeological and Ethnographical Museum in Łódź.