

NOTE ON THE COINS FOUND IN 1924-25.

In the various regions of the Theatre we found during those two seasons a total of 1199 coins and 16 Byzantine *Μολυβδόβουλλα*, the first season yielding 526 and the second 673. These have not all been cleaned, and many still require identification. Hopelessly indecipherable pieces were more numerous in the first year's finds.

The first classification has given us the following particulars :—

	1924.	1925.
Greek, Graeco-Roman, and Roman Imperial	134	219
Byzantine	300 (+ ?)	427
Frankish and Venetian Levantine	17	25
Unidentified (mostly Byzantine)	75	2
Totals	526	673

These were mostly found singly, but three hoards occurred among them :—

- (a) 28, in lamentable condition, apparently Imperial Æ 1 and 2, probably of the late second and early third centuries; ¹ found near footings of column-bases in front of centre of *Scenae Frons*.
- (b) 60 Byzantine, copper, extending from Leo VI (886-912) to Manuel I (1143-1180); found, about one metre below modern surface, behind the S. wall of later *Skenotheke*, just south of the blocked-up doorway.
- (c) 14 small Byzantine, copper, in poor condition, mostly of twelfth century, from Byzantine house-floor *ca.* 2.50 m. above front seats in E. of *cavea*.

As stated above, the Byzantine series begins with Basil I (867-886), the single piece of Justinian I (if correctly identified) alone excepted. No Byzantine Emperor later than Manuel I is represented for certain; but in view of the large number (*ca.* 140) of pieces of his reign, and the scanty nature of the Venetian Levantine series found (the latest are those

¹ No single piece was decipherable, but one or two of the less decayed might be of Severus Alexander, to judge by what was visible of the head-type.

of Ant. Venerio (1382–1400)), we may infer a decline in the importance of the settlement in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. We need not infer, as I was at first inclined to do, that the site was practically abandoned when Mistra was built. The full list of coins found is likely to shew, at the end of our work on the site, a rather higher proportion of pieces of the Classical period to Byzantine than is represented by the finds of the first two seasons.

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