

curiously, it is the former of these two categories that I am less able to deal with than the latter; for those described in Codrington, chapter XII, (iv) page 162 etc, are the larins that bear either Muhammadan inscriptions or marks which are not inscriptions at all; whereas those of my second category bear inscriptions in either the characters of the medieval coins of the Sinhalese kings, in Tamil, or in Dutch. These I can manage to read, whereas the Arabic alphabet is unknown to me.

The group (a) of the kinds already known to exist contains 571 specimens of which a very large proportion are in perfect condition, and could, I feel convinced be read and identified by anyone thoroughly conversant with Arabic and Persian scripts. There appear to be a variety of quite separate types, and probably of language used. The inscriptions in many instances, perhaps most, cover both sides of the coins, and are embossed instead of being sunk into the metal; two characteristics which serve, among other things, to differentiate them from the next group, (b). Further than these remarks I do not feel inclined to go, for the whole collection, perhaps the largest and most varied in existence, will have to be reported on by an expert.

Group (b) contains 74 specimens, all new to numismatists, or at any rate not mentioned in the Colombo museum catalogue or in Codrington. These have certain characters in common:- for example, their inscriptions are sunk instead of being embossed (exceptions will be detailed later); there is no design or writing on the inner side of the hook; the writing, figures, or design, is in all cases