

lor, Sir Thomas More ; Sir Michael Mercator, Chancellor of the Duchy of Cleves, dated in the 48th year of his age. This last is in silver, and is very naturally conjectured to have been struck in Holland. This will give an idea of the general arrangement. First come medals of the Sovereign ; then those commemorating the great events of the reign ; lastly its courtiers, statesmen, and generals. From Henry VIII. downwards there is no further hiatus in the reigns.

CURIOUS COINS.



LONDON appears to be a rich hunting-ground for persons of numismatic tastes. A private collector has recently added to his stores four curious coins, all discovered within sight of St. Paul's Cathedral.

The first is a small bronze seal, about the size of a shilling, representing the martyrdom of St. Stephen, with the legend, "*Ecc, video, celos apertos.*" It was discovered in the mud of the Thames, near Westminster-bridge, and is in excellent condition, the figures, and even the stones thrown at the martyr, being quite sharp and distinct, though it is clear, from a reference to Alphonse Chassant's "*Paléographie des chartes,*" that the seal is of the 13th century. It is conjectured that it was the seal of a guild or confraternity of St. Stephen, probably meeting in St. Stephen's Chapel at Westminster. Next in order comes a leaden seal attached to a Bull of Pope Boniface IX. ; this was found near the Cannon-street Station.

The others, which are the most curious of all, are two Gold coins of Ali ibn Josef, third king of the Almoravidæ, one of the Mussulman dynasty in Spain, who reigned at Cordova in the 12th century. The inscription in Cufic characters on