

DR. CASEY WOOD
HOUSE-BOAT "BENDOMEER"
SRINAGAR, KASHMIR,
NORTH INDIA.

Howland Wood, Esq.,
Curator Am. Numismatic Soc.,
Broadway, bet. 155th and 156th Sts.,
New York, N.Y.

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Copy for Professor Bovey

Dear Sir:-

Dr. Wilfid Bovey has sent me a typescript of the correspondence you have had anent a recent "find" of Sinhalese coins. The collection referred to now numbers about 1000 specimens, and when I have negotiated an additional 40 or 50, ~~which~~ held for some months at an exaggerated price, there will be about 900 larins of ~~all the~~ or nearly all the described types and many more not mentioned by Codrington or any other authority. Then there are about 100 original and counter-stamped tangas of the Dutch and Indo-Portuguese period, not to mention some 50 copper coins - of little importance - of the Sinhalese kings and queens.

A copy of the rough notes hurriedly made by my friend, Mr. John Still, the Ceylon archeologist who catalogued the coins in the Colombo Museum, descriptive of a portion of this "treasure trove", is the document sent you by Dr. Bovey.

I quite agree that it would, for many reasons, be highly improper to publish this manifestly incomplete report. Mr Still distinctly states that it is only a preliminary study, on several occasions made without works of reference or without being able to compare the specimens with any model collection. So I am glad no reference was made to it in any of your publications.

If all goes well, I shall be in New York sometime in 1927, in which case I shall be glad to call on you, ~~and~~ further to discuss this matter which, in my inexperienced judgment, is of some numismatic and historical importance.

Meantime, may I ask you for the approximate cost to the University of the expert study and thorough scientific treatment of this Gampola find?

My address for the next two or three months ~~is~~ heads this note.

I remain,
Very sincerely yours