

THE HERALDRY OF COINAGE.

(From Boutell's English Heraldry.)

THE Heraldry of the Coinage, in addition to the Shields of Arms of successive sovereigns, exemplifies the changes that have taken place in the form and adornment of the Crown, and it also is rich in various Badges and Devices having an historical significance.

In Coins the Royal Shield is sometimes quartered by a cross charged upon it, as in the the silver penny of EDWARD VI. A mediæval ship having a sail covered with heraldic blazonry, appears on the *Noble*—a coin worthy of its name. A figure of the King in armour (not particularly well proportioned to the size of the Vessel), his sword in one hand, and his Shield of arms in the other, is also represented in these fine examples of mediæval numismatic art. A ship without any sail, but in its stead charged with the Royal Shield heightened by a Cross, forms the reverse of another excellent coin, the *Angel*, the obverse bearing a figure of ST. MICHAEL with his lance thrusting down the dragon. The Angel of EDWARD IV. on either side of the Cross has the initial E and the white rose of York; and the legend is—PER : CRUCEM : TVA : SALVA : NOS : XTE : REDEMPT : (“By thy Cross save us, O Redeemer Christ!”). A Crowned Rose, with a Royal Cypher, is another favorite device; as in the shilling of HENRY VIII., with the legend—POSVI : DEV : ADIVTOREM : MEVM) (“I have placed God (before me as) my helper”).

Such are a few examples of the early Heraldry of English coins. More recently, and particularly in our own Coinage, Heraldry and Art have declined together so that feeble designs, but too commonly executed with lamentable consistency, are associated with heraldic inaccuracies which continue uncorrected to this day—witness the *treasure of Scot-*