

GREAT BRITAIN

Young head portrait of Queen Victoria by
William Wyon



4 PENCE MAUNDY -1866 - OBVERSE



1866 - 4 PENCE MAUNDY - REVERSE

GREAT BRITAIN, KINGDOM of
LONDON MINT

4 PENCE MAUNDY 17.63 MM .925 FINE 1.89 GRAMS

1838	4,158
1839	4,125
1840	4,125
1841	2,574
1842	4,125
1843	4,158
1844	4,158
1845	4,158
1846	4,158
1847	4,488
1848	4,488
1849	4,158
1850	4,158
1851	4,158
1852	4,488
1853	4,158
1854	4,158
1855	4,158
1856	4,158
1857	4,158
1858	4,158
1859	4,158
1860	4,158
1861	4,158
1862	4,158
1863	4,158
1864	4,158
1865	4,158
1866	4,158
1867	4,158
1868	4,158
1869	4,488
1870	4,569
1871	4,627
1872	4,119
1873	4,162
1874	5,578
1875	4,154
1876	4,862
1877	4,850
1878	5,735
1879	5,202
1880	5,199
1881	6,001
1882	4,146
1883	5,096
1884	3,353
1885	5,791
1886	6,785
1887	1,888

FOOTNOTE: Fourpence, twopence, and onepence, are now only struck in very small quantities as Maundy money, which, after being distributed by the Queen annually in alms, appears to find its way into numismatic cabinets or to be melted down. *Money and Mechanism of Exchange* by W. Stanley Jevons, Manchester, 1876.

^OV: Young head of Victoria, facing left VICTORIA
D:G:BRITANNIAR:REGINA F:D: (Victoria Dei Gratia Britanniar
Regina Fidei Defensor = Victoria by the grace of God Queen of
Britain Defender of the Faith) around.

^RV: Crown / Large 4 dividing DATE left and right,
within wreath of oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Plain

MINT: (no mintmark) = Royal Mint, LONDON

ENGRAVER: William Wyon

REFERENCE: Y-12, S-3155, KM-731.1

FOOTNOTE: The small circulating silver coinage of Great Britain has two denominations; the six pence usually 20 MM and the three pence about 16 MM, neither fall with in the dimensions selected for this series. However their Maundy coinage of four pence corresponds to the basic size distinction used for this study, being 18 MM and being widely collected, has been selected for these listings shown in chronological order. The four pence Maundy coinage continued to be minted each year in sterling silver by the Royal Mint, London. Maundy Money started several centuries earlier. Our listings start with Queen Victoria in 1838.

FOOTNOTE: William Wyon 1795 - 1851 Medallist and Chief Engraver of the Royal Mint, London. Wyon as Chief Engraver produced the 'Young head' portrait of Queen Victoria shortly after she ascended the throne in 1837. He prepared the portrait from wax models which he took from life. The portrait is unequalled in the British series for its charming simplicity of style. During the Gothic revival of the mid-19th century, Wyon engraved the 'Godless' portrait of Victoria, so named for the elimination of D:G: (By the grace of God) Dei Gratia in Latin.

FOOTNOTE: Victoria, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India, was the daughter and only child of Edward, Duke of Kent, fourth son of George III. Her Mother, Victoria Mary Louisa, fourth daughter of Francis, Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Saalfeld, and sister of Leopold, King of the Belgians, was married to the Duke of Kent in 1818, four years after the death of her former husband, the Prince of Leiningen. Victoria (baptized as Alexandrina Victoria) was born on May 24, 1819, at Kensington Palace, whence her parents had temporarily removed from their home in Germany, in order that the child, a possible claimant for the British throne, might be born on English soil. The Princess, left fatherless when eight months of age, was taught by her mother and the Duchess of Northumberland.



Tower of London



Queen Victoria

FOOTNOTE: Victoria, by the grace of God, Queen of Britain, Defender of the Faith, Empress of India, 1819-1901. Victoria was much beloved by the British, and her name was connected with the proudest age of the British Empire. English literature and art of the last half of the nineteenth century are often spoken of as belonging to the Victorian Age, and it was in her reign that the colonies became real, self-governing "Dominions". The celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of the Queen's reign in 1887 was the most magnificent spectacle of the times. It was attended by practically all the other sovereigns of Europe, including Victoria's grandson the German Emperor William II and it brought together, for the first time, the statesmen of the widely scattered "Dominions beyond the seas". One should remember the splendor and power of the Empress-Queen who as a young girl was roused from her sleep on June 20, 1837 by the Archbishop of Canterbury and another official, to be told of the death of her uncle, William IV and her accession to the throne of England. Victoria received them with quiet dignity, although clad in a wrapper and shawl, with her hair falling over her shoulders and her feet hurriedly thrust into slippers.

FOOTNOTE: Victoria - Lonely days of widowhood - 'Here lies the most illustrious and exalted Albert, Prince Consort, Duke of Saxony, Prince of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, The Most Beloved Husband of the Most August and potent Queen Victoria. He died on the Fourteenth Day of December, 1861, in the Forty-third Year of His Age.' - Queen Victoria took it very hard and for days, then months, stretching into years be-reaved the loss of her consort. The story became prevalent that her seclusion was owing to her fondness for liquor and that she was in the habit of drinking half a pint of raw liquor per day. The effects of these liberal portions are making visible havoc in her once comely face...thrice...her inflamed face and swollen eyes gave her all the appearance of an inebriate. Perhaps the trouble caused by her scapegrace of a son, the Prince of Wales (Future King and Emperor Edward VII) who, without doubt, is as reckless a scamp as ever existed, has had much to do with his mother's present condition, and has driven her to drinking. On the 6th of February, 1866, she opened Parliament in person, sitting in silence while the Lord Chancellor read her speech. * Latin inscription from the coffin of Prince Albert. *Phases of London Life, D.J.Kirwan, Hartford 1870.*

FOOTNOTE: England was governed in a far more liberal way than much of eighteenth century Europe, with a Parliament, free from the King's control, to make their laws and a good system of courts, equally free from Royal interference, to see that the laws were properly carried out. King George III died in 1820. He had been insane for some years, with his son as Regent. King George IV reigned from 1820 to 1830 when his brother succeeded as King William IV. Their niece Victoria became Queen in 1837 reigning until 1901.

FOOTNOTE: The Transatlantic Cable was completed August 5, 1858 with the message sent to America - "Europe and America are united by Telegraph. Glory to God in the highest; on Earth, Peace, Good-will toward men". Queen Victoria sent a message to President Buchanan expressing her satisfaction at the completion of the work of laying the cable between England and the United States. The message required an hour for transmission.

Jubilee Portrait of Queen Victoria by Leonard Charles Wyon



1888 4 PENCE MAUNDY - OBVERSE

FOOTNOTE: Leonard Charles Wyon, son of William Wyon succeeded as Chief Engraver at the Royal Mint, London, although the office was formally abolished after William's death, the title 'Modeller' replacing it. L.C. Wyon had become Second Engraver at the age of 17, assisting his father. He engraved the 1887 'Jubilee portrait of Victoria from a design by Sir Joseph Boehm. L.C. Wyon died in 1891 and was succeeded in 1892 by George William deSaulles.



1888 - 4 PENCE MAUNDY - REVERSE

GREAT BRITAIN, KINGDOM of
LONDON MINT

4 PENCE MAUNDY 17.63MM .925 FINE 1.89 GRAMS

1888	9,528
1889	6,088
1890	8,613
1891	10,000
1892	8,524

▲OV: Jubilee head of Victoria, facing left VICTORIA D:G:BRITANNIAR:REGINA F:D: (Victoria Dei Gratia Britanniar Regina Fidei Defensor = Victoria by the grace of God Queen of Britain Defender of the Faith) around.

▲RV: Crown / Large 4 dividing DATE left and right, within wreath of oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Plain

MINT: (no mintmark) = Royal Mint, LONDON

ENGRAVER: Leonard Charles Wyon

DESIGNER: Sir Joseph Edgar Boehm

REFERENCE: Y-27, S-3171, KM-773

POPULATION: Great Britain - 1890 - 35,246,502

FOOTNOTE: Sir Joseph Edgar Boehm, Born in Vienna 1834, He moved to London in 1848. He was best known as a Sculptor and Designer of many public monuments including the Wellington Memorial, Hyde Park Corner, and the statue of Queen Victoria, Castle Hill, Windsor. He was elected to the Royal Academy in 1880 and named Baronet in 1889. Sir Boehm designed the Jubilee portrait of Queen Victoria for the series of 1887-1893. He died in 1890.



Queen Victoria, Empress of India

Veiled Portrait of Queen Victoria by Sir Thomas Brock



1893 - 4 PENCE MAUNDY - OBVERSE



1893 - 4 PENCE MAUNDY - REVERSE

GREAT BRITAIN, KINGDOM of
LONDON MINT

4 PENCE MAUNDY 17.63 MM .925 FINE 1.89 GRAMS

1893	10,177
1894	9,385
1895	8,877
1896	8,476
1897	9,388
1898	9,147
1899	13,561
1900	9,571
1901	11,928

^OV: Veiled head of Victoria, facing left
VICTORIA•DEI•GRA•BRIT•REGINA•FID•DEF•IND•IMP• (Victoria Dei Gratia Britanniar Regina Fidei Defensor Indae Imperator = Victoria by the grace of God Queen of Britain Defender of the Faith Empress of India) around T.B. on truncation.

^RV: Crown / Large 4 dividing DATE left and right, within wreath of oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Plain

MINT: (no mintmark) = Royal Mint, LONDON

DESIGNER: T.B. = Sir Thomas Brock

ENGRAVER: George William deSaulles

REFERENCE: Y-41, S-3182, KM-778

POPULATION: Great Britain - 1900 - 41,605,323 with capital London with 4,536,063 inhabitants.

FOOTNOTE: The Mint on Tower Hill, in London was erected between the years 1810 and 1815. In former times the coinage was made by contract at a fixed price. In England there was formerly a mint in almost every county; the Sovereign, Barons, Bishops, and principal monasteries exercised the right of coining and it was not till the reign of William III that all the provincial mints were abolished. The Tower Hill mint supplies the whole of the coinage of the British Empire, except Australia and the East Indies, which are supplied from Branch mints at Sydney, Melbourne, Calcutta and Bombay. *New Cabinet Cyclopaedia, Phila., 1896.*

FOOTNOTE: Groat - (From the Dutch 'Great' or 'Thick'), the name applied in the middle ages to all large thick coins. The English groat was first issued in 1351, and discontinued in 1662. It was a silver coin equal in value to four pence. In 1836-7 a coin of similar value was struck, called a fourpenny piece, with the obverse: Head of William IV facing left, GULIELMUS IIII D:G: BRITANNIAR: REX F:D: (William IV by the grace of God, King of Britain, Defender of the Faith) around. The reverse: BRITANNIA FOUR PENCE around / DATE. The Maundy issue of William IV had the same obverse with the usual reverse of crowned large four dividing date, within wreath of oak tied with ribbon below, and was issued each year from 1831-1837.

FOOTNOTE: Sir Thomas Brock was born in Worchester in 1847. He became a famous sculptor and designer of many portrait busts, statues and monuments, including the Queen Victoria Memorial in front of Buckingham Palace. He was elected to the Royal Academy in 1891 and designed the Veiled Head Portrait of Queen Victoria which first carried her new title of Empress of India, enacted by Parliament in 1876 and proclaimed to her Indian subjects in 1877. First the measure was very unpopular in England accounting for the delay in use of the title for over sixteen years to 1893, although on her Indian coinage her title was changed from Victoria Queen to Victoria Empress beginning in 1877. Sir Thomas Brock was Knighted in 1911.

FOOTNOTE: Edward VII, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of all the British Dominions beyond the seas, Emperor of India. Son of Victoria and Albert, Edward VII was born at Buckingham Palace November 9, 1841 and was christen Albert Edward. At his birth he was created Prince of Wales, and by virtue of that dignity he became also Knight of the Garter. As heir apparent to the British throne he succeeded to the title of Duke of Cornwall. As heir to the crown of Scotland he became Great Steward of Scotland, Duke of Rothesay, Earl of Carrick, Baron of Renfrew, and Lord of the Isles. On September 10, 1849, he was created Earl of Dublin, a title conferred on him and his heirs in perpetuity. Additional titles and commands borne by him are: Duke of Saxony, colonel of the Tenth Hussars, colonel-in-clief of the Rifle Brigade. He studied at Edinburgh and afterwards attended the public lectures at Oxford and Cambridge. In the summer of 1860 he visited the United States and Canada. Two years later he traveled in the east and visited Jerusalem. On March 10, 1863 he married Princess Alexandra Caroline Mary Charlotte Louisa Julia, eldest daughter of King Christian IX of Denmark. They had one son and three daughters. Late in 1871 he suffered from a dangerous attack of typhoid fever and his recovery was celebrated by a national thanksgiving festival. Between November 1875 and March 1876 the Prince went on a grand tour of India. In 1875 he was appointed a Field Marshal in the British Army and in 1883 in the German Army. He ascended to the Throne on January 22, 1901 as King - the title on his coinage reads "Edward VII by the grace of God King of the Britains Defender of the Faith Emperor of India. Edward VII, died May 6, 1910, and was succeeded by his second but only surviving son, George Fredrick Ernest Albert, as George V, 'By the grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India'.

FOOTNOTE: Custom has decreed in most countries, that the heads of successive monarchs, on coin of the realm, shall face alternately left and right. The rule is not generally applied to Presidents and National heros; and there have been exceptions even in the case of Kings and Queens. Note Queen Victoria facing left, King Edward VII facing right and the head of George V, turns to the left. King George VI like his father faces left due to the absence of coins with the effigy of Edward VIII. Several denominations bearing Edward VIII head facing left were struck at the Royal Mint in readiness for issue in 1937 but these were melted shortly after he abdicated. Tradition had demanded that the direction of his head would be facing right. The King considered his left profile to be the better than his right. He insisted and that was that. Queen Elizabeth II followed the custom with her portrait facing right.

FOOTNOTE: London, the capital of the British Empire and the largest city in the world, is situated in the South-East of England on both sides of the River Thames. The river is crossed by numerous bridges, and is deep enough to allow large vessels to come up to London Bridge, the lowest of these except the movable bridge. The population in 1891 was 4,211,056. London, on the whole, may be called a well-built city, brick being the material generally employed, though many public and other edifices are built of stone. The streets are generally well kept and well paved and lighted. What generally most strikes a stranger to London is its immense size, which can only be grasped by actually traveling about, or by obtaining a view from some elevation, as Primrose Hill. As the capital of the British Empire London is from time to time the residence of the Sovereign and Court. About 14,000 licensed carriages, including 7,000 hansom cabs, ply on the streets. There are tramways towards the outskirts; but the narrowness of the streets and the press of traffic excludes them from the busiest districts. Numerous small steamers ply on the Thames, touching at all important points on both sides of the river. All the great railways have terminals in London. the principal markets are Billingsgate for fish; Covent Gardens for vegetables, flowers, etc.; Leaden Hall for poultry, game, etc.; Smithfield for dead meat, poultry, and fish; the Borough Market, Southwark. Places of amusement are naturally exceedingly numerous, the theatres alone numbering nearly forty. The principal are: Covent Garden and Her Majesty's Theatre, the Houses of opera; Drury Lane and the Lyceum, identified with the high drama; the Strand, Criterion, Gaiety, and Toole's, well known for farce and burlesque; the Haymarket, vaudeville, St. James, and Court for comedy; the Adelphi, Princess's, and Olympic for melo-drama; the Savoy, Avenue, and Comedy for opera-bouffe. The chief musical entertainments are given in St. James's Hall and the Concert Hall at the Sydenham Crystal Palace. The Albert Hall, Kensington, capable of holding an audience of 8,000 persons, is also used for concerts, etc. *New Cabinet Cyclopaedia, Phila., 1896.*



Arms of Great Britain



1902 - 4 PENCE MAUNDY - OBVERSE

GREAT BRITAIN, KINGDOM of
LONDON MINT

4 PENCE MAUNDY 17.63 MM .925 FINE 1.89 GRAMS

1902	10,177
1903	9,729
1904	11,568
1905	10,998
1906	11,065
1907	11,065
1908	9,929
1909	2,428
1910	2,755

▲OV: Head of Edward VII, facing right EDWARD VII D:
G:BRITT:OMN:REX F:D:IND:IMP: (Edward VII Dei Gratia Britanniar
Omnium Rex Fidei Defensor Indae Imperator = Edward VII by the
grace of God, King of All the Britains Defender of the Faith,
Emperor of India) around / Des. under bust.

▲RV: Crown / Large 4 dividing DATE left and right,
within wreath of oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Plain

MINT: (no mintmark) = Royal Mint, LONDON

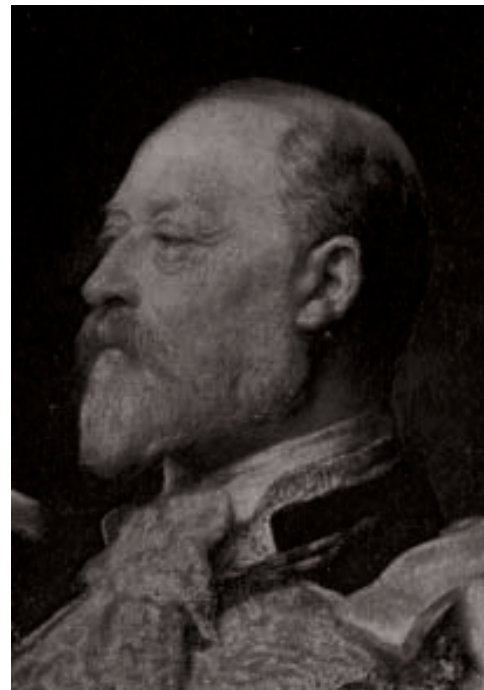
REFERENCE: Y-55, S-3217, KM-798

FOOTNOTE: The automobile problem in England - a means of identification of each car should be provided and English roads require reconstruction; dangerous corners must be widened, and hedges at corners must be cut down; some roads, as in France, should be reserved either for horse-drawn carriages or for automobiles exclusively. Roads should be constructed of some material free from dust. The public will soon demand not only identification, but heavy penalties and damages in case of accidents, the licenses of drivers to be withdrawn in case of misconduct. *The American Monthly, New York, November 1902.*



1902 - 4 PENCE MAUNDY - REVERSE

FOOTNOTE: Fidei Defensor, Latin for 'Defender of the Faith', a title conferred upon King Henry VIII by Pope Leo X in 1521 in gratitude for a pamphlet in which that Sovereign had roundly abused the heretic, Martin Luther. Confirmed by Parliament it is now accorded to each English King or Queen.



King Edward VII, Emperor of India



1911- 4 PENCE MAUNDY - OBVERSE

GREAT BRITAIN, KINGDOM of
LONDON MINT

4 PENCE MAUNDY 17.63 MM .925 FINE 1.89 GRAMS

1911	4,447
1912	1,616
1913	1,590
1914	1,651
1915	1,441
1916	1,599
1917	1,478
1918	1,479
1919	1,524
1920	1,460

▲OV: Head of George V, facing left GEORGIVS V D:G: BRITT:OMN:REX F:D:IND:IMP: (Georgivs V Dei Gratia Britanniar Omnium Rex Fidei Defensor Indae Imperator = George V by the grace of God, King of All the Britains Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India) around / B.M. on truncion.

▲RV: Crown / Large 4 dividing DATE left and right, within wreath of oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Plain

MINT: (no mintmark) = Royal Mint, LONDON

DESIGNER: B.M. = Sir Edgar Bertram MacKenna

REFERENCE: Y-81, S-3247, KM-814

Standard Catalogue of British Coins by Peter Seaby, London.

POPULATION: Great Britain -1911 - 34,045,290 including London with 4,521,685 inhabitants, and Birmingham, the second largest city with 842,238.



1911 - 4 PENCE MAUNDY - REVERSE

FOOTNOTE: Before King George V became King of England he was known as George Frederick, Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall and York. The second son of Edward VII. He was born at Marlborough House, London on June 3, 1865. He entered the Royal Navy in 1877, and became Captain in 1893. After the death of his elder brother, Albert, Duke of Clarence, in 1892, He was made Duke of York. On July 6, 1893 he married Princess Victoria Mary of Teck, who bore him five sons and a daughter. Upon the accession of his father Edward VII in 1901, he received the title of Duke of Cornwall, made a journey around the world, in the course of which he visited all the Great British Colonies, and on his return in November was created Prince of Wales. In 1905-6 he made the tour of India. *New International Encyclopedia, 1910.*

FOOTNOTE: George Frederick Ernest Albert Wettin of the House of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, King of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, Emperor of India, the second son of King Edward VII, was born at Marlborough House June 3, 1865. In 1877 he and his brother, the Duke of Clarence, became Naval Cadets. Two years later they cruised to the West Indies on the H.M.S. Bacchante, and a year later they made a longer trip on the same ship. Prince George intended to remain in the British Navy and for that reason was appointed to H.M.S. Canada as a sub-Lieutenant. In 1885 after a course at the Royal Naval College at Greenwich, he became a Lieutenant, and in 1889 he commanded a torpedo boat in the naval manoeuvres. In 1890 he commanded the gunship H.M.S. Thrush until 1892 when he relinquished his commission in the navy on becoming Heir Apparent through the death of his brother, the Duke of Clarence. At the time he was created Duke of York, and on July 6, 1893 he married Princess Victoria Mary daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Teck. In 1901 the Duke and Duchess of York visited the Commonwealth of Australia and on the return journey, South Africa and Canada. In November of 1901, after the death of Queen Victoria, the Duke was created Prince of Wales. He succeeded his father in June 1910 as George V. He was crowned along with Queen Mary in Westminster Abbey on June 22, 1911 and at the end of that year he visited India where he was received with acclamation, being the first British Emperor who had visited the Crown Colony. King George V, changed the family name to Windsor in 1917. He died January 20, 1936 at his favourite country home, Sandringham House, Norfolk.



King George V in 1935

GREAT BRITAIN, KINGDOM of
LONDON MINT

4 PENCE MAUNDY 17.63 MM .500 FINE 1.89 GRAMS

1921	1,542
1922	1,609
1923	1,527
1924	1,602
1925	1,670
1926	1,762
1927	1,681
1928	1,642
1929	1,761
1930	1,724
1931	1,759
1932	1,835
1933	1,872
1934	1,887
1935	1,928
1936	1,323

▲OV: Head of George V, facing left GEORGIVS V D.G.BRITT:OMN:REX F.D.IND:IMP: (Georgivs V Dei Gratia Britanniar Omnium Rex Fidei Defensor Indae Imperator = George V by the grace of God, King of All the Britains Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India) around / B.M. on truncation.

▲RV: Crown / Large 4 dividing DATE left and right, within wreath of oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Plain

MINT: (no mintmark) = Royal Mint, LONDON

DESIGNER: B.M. = Sir Edgar Bertram MacKenna

TYPE: Fineness reduced to .500 fine.

REFERENCE: Y-81, S-3247, KM-814a

POPULATION: Great Britain - 1921 - 35,678,530 including London with 4,484,523 inhabitants.



1946 - 4 PENCE MAUNDY - OBVERSE

GREAT BRITAIN, KINGDOM of
LONDON MINT

4 PENCE MAUNDY 17.63 MM .500 FINE 1.89 GRAMS

1937	1,325 plus 26,402 proof sets w/ Maundy
1938	1,275
1939	1,234
1940	1,277
1941	1,253
1942	1,231
1943	1,239
1944	1,259
1945	1,355
1946	1,365

▲OV: Head of George VI, facing left GEORGIVS VI D: G: BR: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP: (Georgivs VI Dei Gratia Britanniar Omnium Rex Fidei Defensor Indae Imperator = George VI by the grace of God, King of All the Britains Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India) around / HP under bust.

▲RV: Crown / Large 4 dividing DATE left and right, within wreath of oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Plain

MINT: (no mintmark) = Royal Mint, LONDON

DESIGNER: HP = Thomas Hugh Paget

REFERENCE: Y-93, S-3314, KM-851

FOOTNOTE: The first change in the silver coinage standard since the reign of Queen Elizabeth I, was made in 1920, when the degree of fineness was reduced to 500 parts in a thousand as against 925. This standard continued until 1946 which marked the end of silver coinage for Great Britain, except the Maundy coinage. Fineness of .925 has long been known as sterling silver.



1946 - 4 PENCE MAUNDY - REVERSE

FOOTNOTE: George VI, second son of George V and brother of Edward VIII, succeeded to the throne of Great Britain on December 12, 1936. Born on December 14, 1895, son of the late King George V, who died January 20, 1936 and Queen Mary, daughter of the late H.S.H. Duke of Teck and H.R.H. Princess Mary of Cambridge. He was christened Albert Frederick Arthur George, and was generally known as Prince Albert before having the title of Duke of York conferred upon him by his father in 1920. Like his father, Prince Albert trained with the Navy at Osborns and Dartmouth. In 1913 he cruised with the fleet in American waters, visiting the West Indies and Canada. Later he became an officer in the Royal Air Force but ceased active duty in 1920. In May 1927 the Duke of York represented the Crown at the opening of the Parliament Buildings at Canberra, Australia's new capital. George VI, By the grace of God of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions Beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India, succeeded to the throne of Great Britain on the Abdication of his brother, Edward VIII, December 10, 1936. The King, as Prince Albert, Duke of York, married in Westminster Abbey, April 7, 1923, Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, daughter of the Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne. They have two children; Princess Elizabeth Alexandra Mary, born April 21, 1926, became Heir Presumptive to the throne.

FOOTNOTE: Gresham's Law - Gresham's Law was first so called by MacLeon in 1857, on the understanding that the Principle 'Bad Money Drives Out Good' which was first expounded by Sir Thomas Gresham to Elizabeth in 1558. Early economic writers, such as Copernicus, had, however, already explained if the principle is that the worst form of currency will be most used in circulation, and the more valuable tending to disappear. Thus, if there are two metals in circulation, the one which costs least in production will predominate. The law also applies where there is debased coinage, and metallic currency with inconvertible paper money. *The Everyman Encyclopedia*, J.M. Dent, London 1910.



GREAT BRITAIN, KINGDOM of LONDON MINT			
4 PENCE MAUNDY	17.63 MM	.925 FINE	1.89 GRAMS

1947	1,375
1948	1,385

▲OV: Head of George VI, facing left GEORGIVS VI D:
G: BR: OMN: REX F: D: IND: IMP: (Georgivs VI Dei Gratia Britanniar Omnium Rex Fidei Defensor Indae Imperator = George VI by the grace of God, King of All the Britains Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India) around / HP under bust.

▲RV: Crown / Large 4 dividing DATE left and right, within wreath of oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Plain

MINT: (no mintmark) = Royal Mint, LONDON

DESIGNER: HP = Thomas Hugh Paget

TYPE: Fineness restored to .925 fine, sterling.

REFERENCE: Y-93A, S-3328, KM-851a

FOOTNOTE: Beginning with the 1947 four pence the silver content was increased from .500 fine to sterling as the Maundy money no longer was consistent in fineness with the regular British coinage which no longer contained silver.

GREAT BRITAIN, KINGDOM of LONDON MINT			
4 PENCE MAUNDY	17.63 MM	.925 FINE	1.89 GRAMS

1949	1,395
1950	1,405
1951	1,468
1952	1,012

▲OV: Head of George VI, facing left GEORGIVS VI D:
G: BR: OMN: REX (Georgivs VI Dei Gratia Britanniar Omnium Rex = George VI by the grace of God, King of All the Britains) around.

▲RV: Crown / Large 4 dividing DATE left and right, within wreath of oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Plain

MINT: (no mintmark) = Royal Mint, LONDON

TYPE: Emperor of India omitted from titles.

REFERENCE: Y-113, S-3338, KM-874

FOOTNOTE: 1948 saw the withdrawal from India of Britain as India became the Dominion of India pending becoming a republic. With this change the King of England dropped the title - Emperor of India.



GREAT BRITAIN, KINGDOM of
LONDON MINT

4 PENCE MAUNDY 17.63 MM .925 FINE 1.89 GRAMS

1953 1,025 rare

▲OV: Head of Elizabeth II, facing right +ELIZABETH II DEI•GRATIA•BRITT•OMN:REGINA•F:D: (+Elizabeth II Dei Gratia Britanniar Omnium Regina Fidei Defensor = +Elizabeth II by the grace of God, Queen of All the Britains Defender of the Faith) around / MG on truncation.

▲RV: Crown / Large 4 dividing 1953 left and right, within wreath of oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Plain

MINT: (no mintmark) = Royal Mint, LONDON

DESIGNER: MG = Mrs. Mary Gillick

REFERENCE: A-126, S-3358, KM-888

FOOTNOTE: This is a one year type with the Latin descriptive title BRITT:OMN:REGINA for *Queen of all the Britains* in the following years this was dropped all but the word REGINA for *Queen*, as the Empire changed into the Commonwealth of Nations.



Queen Elizabeth II



1958 - 4 PENCE MAUNDY - OBVERSE

GREAT BRITAIN, KINGDOM of
LONDON MINT

4 PENCE MAUNDY 17.63 MM .925 FINE 1.89 GRAMS

1954	1,076
1955	1,082
1956	1,088
1957	1,094
1958	1,100
1959	1,106
1960	1,180
1961	1,118
1962	1,197
1963	1,205
1964	1,213
1965	1,221
1966	1,206
1967	986
1968	964
1969	1,022
1970	1,068

▲OV: Head of Elizabeth II, facing right +ELIZABETH II DEI•GRATIA•REGINA•F:D: (+Elizabeth II Dei Gratia Regina Fidei Defensor = +Elizabeth II by the grace of God, Queen, Defender of the Faith) around / MG on truncation.

▲RV: Crown / Large 4 dividing DATE left and right, within wreath of oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Plain

MINT: (no mintmark) = Royal Mint, LONDON

DESIGNER: MG = Mrs. Mary Gillick

REFERENCE: Y-135, S-3369, KM-902

Maundy Coins of Great Britain by Richard J. Thowbridge, Long Beach 1969



1958 - 4 PENCE MAUNDY - REVERSE



London Bridge



The Royal Exchange - London 1902



Great Britain and Ireland today



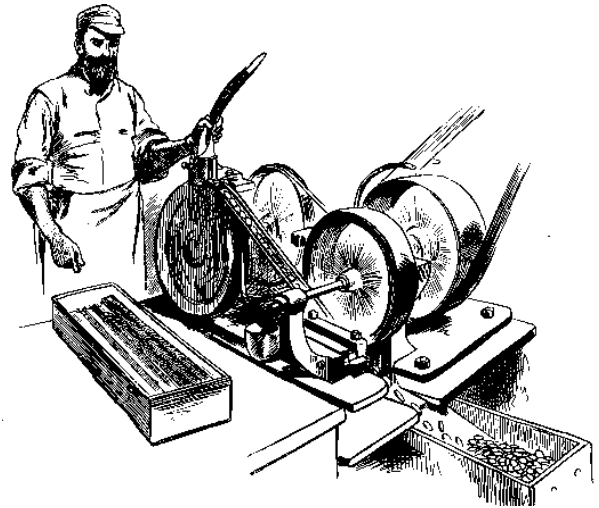
Westminster Abby and Big Ben

FOOTNOTE: London is the largest city and financial center in the world. The fine harbour formed by the Thames estuary is constantly thronged with ships from Asia. The city has narrow, irregular streets, but many famous buildings, the most noted of which are Westminster Abbey, St.Paul's Cathedral, the Tower of London, and the parliament buildings. The *United Kingdom*, with its possessions, constitutes the *British Empire*, which includes one fifth of the land and one fourth of the population of the world. *Complete Geography*, H. Justin Roddy, New York, 1902.

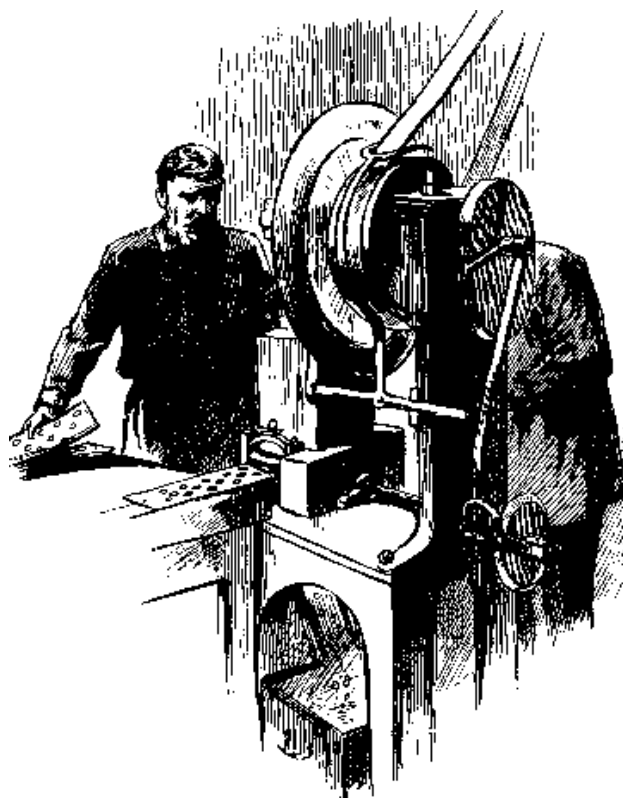
FOOTNOTE: Maundy coinage of; four pence, three pence, two pence and one pence continues each year after the dates noted, to the present, struck to the sterling standard of .925 fine and bearing the portrait of Queen Elizabeth II..

FOOTNOTE: The term *dime* is unique to the United States of America and the Kingdom of Hawaii (now the 52nd State of the U.S.A.) but its root goes back to the Latin *decem* or ten (*decimus*, a tenth). In the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries *dime* was applied in England to the tithe or tenth part of one's income paid to the church. According to the King James Version of the Bible, the last part of *Genesis 14:20* reads, "He gave him tithes of all." John Wycliffe translated this passage, "He gave him *dymes* of alle thingis." In his report to the Continental Congress on a new coinage system for the United States, Governor Morris, who was familiar with the French language, recommended a coin to be called a *disme*, which was the old French spelling; but the mint act approved in 1792 changed the spelling to *dime*. *A Book About a Thousand Things*, George Stimpson, New York, 1946.

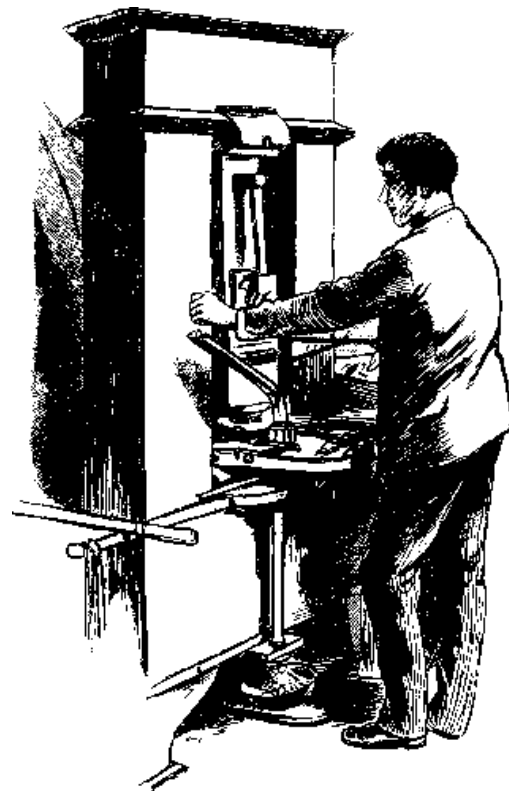
FOOTNOTE: The coinage of England was for many generations struck in the Tower of London, but since 1811 it has been done in the Royal Mint, which stands on the eastern side of Tower hill. The premises were enlarged, and new and greatly improved machinery introduced in 1881 and 1882. The processes are very interesting, and the rate at which the coins now can be produced is very rapid. The melting of the bullion, the casting into bars, the various processes of rolling, annealing, punching out the blank coins, rimming, and finally stamping them are all done at the Royal Mint. In the rimming process, perfectly flat metal discs, that have just been punched out from bars of metal rolled until they have reached a standard thickness fixed by very accurate gauges, are pushed forward until they reach a rapidly revolving wheel, which seizes them, and, faster than the eye can follow it, raises a rim or protecting edge evenly all round the disc. The stamping or coining is accomplished by one act of the coin-press, in which two dies are concerned. The lower one is fixed, the upper one moves up and down under a pressure of several tons. The attendant puts the blank discs in the tube with his left hand. The weight presses them down. A metal finger pushes each in succession upon the fixed lower die, this is encircled by a movable ring so cut as to give the milling to the edge of the disc. As soon as the disc rests upon the die, this ring rises, the upper die descends, forces the disc against the lower, the one blow stamping both the obverse and reverse pattern, and giving at the same time the milling, the metal driven out by the stamping being forced against the ring. As the die rises, the metal finger which is bring forward the next disc pushes off its completed predecessor into a shoot, through which it falls into the tray below. These machines, of which there are fourteen, can each stamp at the rate of a hundred and twenty coins a minute. *London, Rev. Richard Lovett, London, 1890.*



Rimming machine at Royal Mint



Punching planchets at Royal Mint



Coining press at Royal Mint
