

Henry III Long Cross - The Subdivision of Class 3d

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The Henry III long cross class 3 series offers a great opportunity to collect a wide number of varieties; it has been argued that changes between sub-classes were often more by chance and whim than deliberately directed; this may be so but there are clear stages through which the Long Cross coinage of Henry III developed. In 2012 Churchill and Thomas made some recognition of this by introducing the subdivision of "class 3c late" into:

3d1 - With wedge tailed R and a bust with a pointed face that was largely issued after the closure of the provincial mints – see The Brussels Hoard of 1908 book, p.38-39, and

3d2 - With ball-footed R and a bust of improved quality and closely related to that of class 4 coins.

It is our contention that it is an oversimplification to consider that all varieties from the end of 3d1 to the introduction of class 4 could be contained within the 3d2 definition. We would like to put forward, for debate, the evidence for a new sub-class which, in deference to the work that has been carried out, we will in future refer to as 3d3.

The main difference to dies of 3d2 is the inclusion of the eight-limbed initial mark ("i.m.") type 5, the initial mark carried through to the issue of Class 4. It is a difference, therefore, that cannot be dismissed as a temporary whim of a die cutter. This group with the eight-limbed initial mark can be further sub-divided into two groups, those bearing a colon in the legend after REX and those where there is a simple single pellet stop.

Whether sub-class 3d3 was a late issue, so late that the dies did not reach Canterbury or Bury, or whether they were produced as a parallel issue to some 3d2 dies is debatable. Churchill & Thomas recorded five coins with i.m. 5 that were amongst sixteen coins displaying a 3d2 obverse paired with a 3d1 reverse, in the Brussels Hoard, suggesting that the issue was early enough to be paired with remaining reverses with the wedge-tailed R1.

The dies were produced in such number with a variety of portraiture that they represent a clear experimentation in the development and improvement of the coinage. The dies, of which there are at least fourteen recorded in the Brussels Hoard, were issued in the names of Davi, Henri, and Nicole, the only three moneyers issuing from the London mint at the time. This is the same as the number of known dies for Class 4. There were 59 coins recorded with i.m.5, (including those paired with 3d1 reverses), compared with 43 pennies of class 4. The probability is that a greater number of class 4 coins than 3d3 coins have been withdrawn from the Brussels Hoard over time, and the original numbers in the hoard may well have been very similar. Taking a ratio of coins recorded by Churchill and Thomas with 3d2 busts and i.m. 4 against 3d3 busts and i.m.5 we have 312 : 59, almost one 3d3 penny for every six of 3d2 (15.9% of the total issue recorded), not an insignificant number. The statistics are summarised in the table.

The production of the whole of class 3 took place in a year

	3d2 excl 3d3	3d3	Total (3d2 + 3d3)	% 3d3
Davi	34	18	52	34.6%
Henri	61	13	74	17.6%
Henri Mules	11	5	16	31.3%
Nicole	176	16	192	8.3%
Ricard	30	7	37	18.9%
	312	59	371	15.9%

between early 1249 and late 1250, and 3d2/3d3 would have been produced from around mid-1250 and succeeded or overlapped by Class 4 from around the 29th of September 1250, with the production of Class 5 commencing towards the end of that year. Given the timing, it may be that class 3d3 coins are a little scarcer than class 4 coins.

The quality of the 3d3 die cutting is often high, as seen in class 4. After the mass production of the provincial period, ending with class 3c, we see a developing increase in quality through class 3d, with particularly fine die-cutting from class 3d2 onwards and continuing through class 4 to some coins of classes 5a & 5b.

Finally, six examples from the henry3.com website...

Class 3d1

Nicole

Obv: hENRICUS REX:III' - NR ligated. Round eyes
Note the crown shape. R type 1, X type 2. Initial mark type 4.2.

Rev: NIC/OLE/ONL/VND -ON & ND ligated, with pellets on the ligated Ns.

Coins of this class & moneyer in BH..... 711
Number of different C&T types in BH..... 11
Churchill & Thomas Type for this coin.... L.446
Number of coins of this type in BH..... 520

Notes: A nice example of a common coin. Ebay # 151711311881, June 2015.



LNNC3030

Class 3d1/3d2 mule

Ricard, London

Obv: hENRICUS REX: III' NR ligated. Wedge tailed "R"s.

Rev: RIC/ARD/ONL/VND - AR, ON & ND ligated. Pellets on 3q/4q "N"s. Note the ball-tailed R in contrast to the wedge-tailed R of REX on the obverse. RIC extremely high at 17-18 pellets/quadrant.

Coins of this class & moneyer in BH..... 12
Number of different C&T types in BH..... 2
Churchill & Thomas Type for this coin.... L.455
Number of coins of this type in BH..... 10

Notes: Images: © The Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge. Accession number: [CM.1473-2001](#), ex William Conte collection, ex P. Woodhead; ex Spink 20.1.1968.



Coin ref# LNRC3001

b) 3d2 with a Colon after REX

Class 3d2

Davi

Obv: hENRICUS REX:III' NR ligated. Initial mark 4.2.

Rev: DAV/ION/LVN/DEN - with ON & EN ligated. Pellets on 2q/4q "N"s.

Coins of this class & moneyer in BH..... 34
Number of different C&T types in BH..... 7
Churchill & Thomas Type L.459
Number of coins of this type in BH..... 14

Notes: Images courtesy of Mark Winiger.



Coin Ref # LNDV3001

Class 3d3/3d1 mule

Henry Frowick

Obv: hENRICVS REX:III' - with NR ligated. Eight-rayed mintmark type 5. Ball-footed R2. Round eyes. Pointed chin. Pellets between the hair curls.

Rev: hEN/RIO/NLV/NDE - with EN and ND ligated. Pellet on 1q N. High RIC count. The R is of type R1 - suggesting a 3d1 reverse. The RIC count is lower than on some of the 3d3 coins shown - and is about 10 pellets/quadrant.

Notes: C&T type L.452. Coin ref # M-193.



Coin Ref # LNHN3008

a) 3d3 with a Single Pellet after REX

Class 3d3

Nicholas of St Albans

Obv: hENRICUS REX III' - with single pellet before III. Slightly pointed chin. Narrower bust compared to RP-1852. Diagnostic ball-footed R (R2). Initial mark 8-rayed, type mm5. Round eyes.

Rev: HIC/OLE/ONL/VND - with ON & ND ligated, pellet on the N in 3rd and 4th quadrants.

RIC: 10.5-11.

Notes: C&T type L.468. Coin ref # M-1293.



Coin Ref # LNNC3018



b) 3d3 with a Colon after REX

Class 3d3

David of Enfield

Obv: hENRICVS REX:III' - with NR ligated. Eight-rayed mintmark type 5. Ball-footed R2. Round eyes. Pellets between the hair curls. Narrow bust.

Rev: DAV/ION/LVN/DEN - with ON & EN ligated. In 2nd quadrant a pellet after I, and pellets on the Ns in 2q and 4q. No ligation in 3q. The RIC count is about 13-14 pellets/quadrant.

Notes: C&T type L.463. Images courtesy of Mark Winiger [MW-2637]



Coin Ref # LNDV3006

