

Brief letter concerning the 'perusal' and possible purchase, apparently on Newton's behalf, of some Italian coins from an unspecified 'gentleman'.

Author: Isaac Davies

Source: MINT 19/2/10-11, National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, UK

<10r>

[Editorial Note 1]

Decat of Venice Vnworn weight 14^{dwt} 14^{gr} $\frac{1}{2}$ Ducat unworn 7^{dwt} $7\frac{1}{2}^{\text{gr}}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ Ducat unworn 3^{dwt} . 15^{gr} .

A Piece of 124 {sols} worn 3^{gr} {or} 4^{weight} 17^{dwt} 22^{gr} On one side a Lion winged before the Duke of Venice with a Flagg. & about it S.M Venst. Ant Priol Dun On the other side a Sain{t} before a Raven & about him Memor ero lui Iustina vir & underneath, 124.

A Piece of {7}2 {sols} worn 4^{gr} or 5. weight 8^{dwt} 22^{gr} . Of like form with the former except that the inscription about the Lyon & Duke is S. M. Ven. Domin. Con. D. & underneath the Lyon & Duke are the letters G.D.

A Crusade of Venice of 140 sols Weight 20^{dwt} 6^{gr} . On one side a Lion winged in an Escutcheon & about it Sanctus Marcus Venelus & underneath 140. Not worn. On the other side a flourishing Cross & about it Aloysius Contrare Dux Venat & apart G.S.

A half piece of the same form. Weight 10^{dwt} $0\frac{1}{2}^{\text{gr}}$. Worn 2 or 3 grains. Vnder the Lyon the number 70 & about the cross Bertue Veleno. Dure Vene. And apart F.C.

A quarter piece of the same

An Ecu or Escuti of the Pope. Weight 20^{dwt} 14^{gr} Worn $\frac{1}{2}^{\text{gr}}$ On one side the Popes head & about it Innocent XI Pont. Max. A. VIII. On the other side Dextera tya Domine percussit inimicum. 1684.

Three Testons of the Pope unworn weight 17^{dwt} 15^{gr} Singly 5. 21^{gr} . Other four weighed 23^{dwt} 14^{gr} . Single $5.21\frac{1}{2}$. Other three weighed 17^{dwt} 16^{gr} .

A small piece of silver money of the Pope weighed $20\frac{2}{5}^{\text{gr}}$. A half Iule not worn, coynd 1685.

A Julio coyd 1654 weight $2^d 3\frac{1}{2}gr$. worn $1\frac{1}{2}$ or $2\frac{1}{2}gr$ S^t George slaying a winged Dragon & about him S. Georgius Firrarice Protector 1654. On the other side the Popes arms & about them Innocentius X Pont. Max.

A piece of Millain wieght $2\{0\}^{dwt} 14gr$ worn $5gr$ or 6. The Philip. On one side his head crowned & about it Philippus III Rex Hispan 1621 On the other his arms & about it Dux Mediolan.

The crown of Millain weight $17^{dwt} 21 gr$. The kings head & about it Carolus II Rex Hispaniarum On the Revers his arms & about it Mediolain Dux etc

Coyns of Naples of 100, 50, 20, 10 grains all of like form. The Kings head on {one} side & about it Car. II. D. G. Rex Hisp & Neap. & on the other side a golden Fleece suspended & under it the number of grains. These pieces were very well sized unworn & weighed $14^{dwt} 0\frac{1}{4}gr$; $7^{dwt} 0\frac{1}{8}gr$; 2. $19\frac{1}{4}$; 1. $9\frac{5}{8}$

Two twenty sols pieces of the Duke of Savoy, each weighing $3^{dwt} 21gr$. One coyned 1677 worn $1\frac{1}{2}gr$. The Dutchess & her son on one side & about them Mar. 10. Bap. Vic. Am. 11. D. G. Dux Sab. On the other side a mixt coat of arms crowned & about it Prin. Pedsom. Reges Cypri. 1677. The other piece not worn or above $\frac{1}{3}$ grain. The Dukes head & about it Victor Am. N D. G. Dux Sab. & the reverse like the other. Vnder the arms of them both 5.20. This last coynd 1691.

The {tens} sols pieces of the Duke of Savoy weighing $7^{dwt} 21\frac{1}{2}gr$. & $1^{dwt} 22gr$ worn each $1gr$. Dates 1676. 1681. Coynd like the 20 sols pieces. Vnder the arms written 5. 10.

Two Sevil double Pistoles of a new form, the one not edged coynd 1682 weighing $8^{dwt} 15gr \frac{3}{4}$ the other edged 1699 weighing $8^{dwt} 17gr$. Well coynd. On one side a coat of arms crowned & about it Car. 11. D.G. on the other a cross & about it Hispaniarum rex On either side the coat of arms 4. {Item} a $\frac{1}{2}$ & $\frac{1}{4}$ piece of like form & proportional weight. Well sized.

{Zacheens} which half & quarter.

A double Pistole of the Pope. Weight $8^d 14\frac{1}{2}gr$: OThe Popes head & about it Veramus Pont. Max. On the other side an Angel Mich:with a spere slaying the Devil & about it vivit Deus. 1634.

A half Pistole of the Pope weighing $2^{dwt} 4gr$ The Popes arms with Innocent XI Pont. Max. On the other side the Virgin holding Christ & about her Sublimis inter sidera

A double Pistole of Millain weight $8^{dwt} 12gr$ worn 1 or $2gr$. A single one weight 4^{dwt} , $6\frac{1}{3}gr$ not worn

Another single one weight $4^{dwt} 5\frac{3}{4}gr$ worn $\frac{1}{4}$ grains. The [1]
king of spains head on one side & arms on the other. with the title medolain Dux.

A double Pistole of Geneva. Weight $8^{dwt} 15gr$ [2]
worn $1gr$. A cross & about it Conradus III Ro. Rex G.F. On the other side this figure & about it Dux {et Gub} Reip. Gen.

A Pistole of the Duke of Savoy. Weight $4^{dwt} 8\frac{1}{2}gr$ well coynd. His head & about it Car. Em. II. D. G. Dux Sab. 1675. On the other side his arms crownd & about it Prin^e Pied. Rex Cypri.

A double Pistole of Placentia weight $8^{dwt} 9gr$ worn $1gr$.

A Hungary Ducant weight $2^{deadweight} 5\frac{2}{3}$ grains.

[[Editorial Note 2](#)]

Sir

I have waited on the Gentleman about the Italian Coins, & I have obtain'd their perusal for 3 or 4 days, So that you please to vouchsafe the Honour of calling before I return 'em, shall be glad may pass your observacion, & then if appears amongst 'em any Thing Material where several of a Sort, believe may purchase 'em

I'me scarce ever from the Counting House except betwixt 2 & 3 Nor ever expect to see any Gentlemen there for whose Character shall entertain a more sensible Veneration

Sir

Your most humble & obe{dient}
Servant,

Isaac Davies

[[3](#)]

[Editorial Note 1] fos. 10 and 11 are conjoined; this is the recto of the result.

[1] Isaac Newton Esq.

[2] At Her Majestys Mint in the Tower

[Editorial Note 2] fos. 10 and 11 are conjoined; this is the verso of the result.

[3] Foster Lane Fryd^y. 19 Iune 9 a Clock
