Covering letter for his draft designs of George I Coronation Medals.

Author: Isaac Newton

Source: MINT 19/3/330, National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, UK

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To the Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Council appointed to consider of his Majesties Coronation.

May it please your Lordships

I have according to your Lordships Order prepared Drafts of Gold & Silver Medalls of the Kings Majesty to be distributed on the day of his Majestys Coronation & herewith present the same to your Lordships. The form of his Majestys face is taken from a Medal made in Germany, but medals made there by different Gravers are not like one another. The designe on the Reverse relates to his Majestys accession to the Throne on account of Religion, & represents him Defender of the faith conteined in the scriptures & that the Bible is still open to the people & according to the manner of the ancient mendalls of the Greeks & Romans, it is grave proper simple & free from reflexions & not entirely liable to be reflected upon.

All which is most humbly submitted to your Lordships great

wisdome.

To the Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Council appointed to consider of his Majestys Coronation

May it please your Lordships

In obedience to your Lordships Order that I should lay before your Lordship an account of the Medall made upon her late Majestys Coronation & of the time requisite to make medalls upon the present occasion I most humbly represent that 1200 Medals of Silver & 200 of Gold were then made by Order of Council & delivered to the Lord Bradford to be distributed & that 515 gold medals were made afterwards by Order of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury for the House of Commons then sitting, & for 38 more for forreign ministers. A pound weight of fine Gold was cut into 20 medals & a pound weight of fine Silver into 22 medals. After the form of the Medalls is setled it will take up about a month to make the Puncheons & three or four days more to make the dyes & coyn the medals by the mill & press. If the impression is to rise high like that of the late Medals made upon the peace, they must be coyned in a ring, & it will take a week more to coyn 1400 medalls of this sort, every 200 Medalls requiring about a day to coyn them in this manner, & the Medalls must be weightier that there may be substance to make the impression rise high{.} A pound weight fine gold

may be cut into 16 medalls & a pound weight of fine Silver into twenty. If either of the Puncheons should break <330v> {a fortnight} more much be allowed for repairing the loss. It will be requisite that my Lord Treasurer advance money for buying gold & silver.