

The Coins of the Dokkum (Klaarkamp) Hoard (1932)

Addenda & Errata

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Hoard Deposited: c. 1362-1365

Klaarkamp Monastery

Currently in the collection of the Stichting Musea Noardeast Fryslân (Museum Dokkum)
Dokkum, The Netherlands

ADDENDA

I.

K161

2.59 g.

Issue V, Type 12
countermarked



At the time of publication of our original report on the coins of the Dokkum Hoard, the authors were unaware of any other countermarked *leeuwengroten* similar to the example above (K161).

Since that time, the following specimen has come to our attention, also countermarked with a 5-pointed star:



NUMIS-1023874

This coin was found in 1997, near Wonseradeel (Wûnseradiel), Friesland, The Netherlands, by a metal detector user. It was recorded in the Dutch NUMIS system under number 1023874, where the following reference was provided for the countermark:

Swäbisch, Krusy S 5 nr. 6-7

This notation refers to *Counterstamps on Coins of the Late Middle Ages* by Hans Krusy^[2].

Krusy Table 9:

S 5,6 = ☆

S 5,7 = ★

Krusy attributes these stars to the Schwäbischer Münzbund (pp. 224-227), a group of Swabian cities and towns that banded together in a sort of monetary union. Member cities include Constance, Überlingen, Lindau and several others. It seems that about 1428, the member towns of the Schwäbischer Münzbund began countermarking coins with an eagle. In about 1431, this mark was replaced by a star (as S5 6-7 above)^[2].

If it is indeed a Swabian countermark on the Flemish *leeuwengroten* in question, this would have serious ramifications for the dating of the Dokkum (Klaarkamp) hoard, currently thought to have been buried c. 1362-1365. As we shall see however, this may not be the case at all.

The majority of Krusy's book is concerned with countermarks on *prager* and *meissner groschen*. All but two of the Netherlandish coins specifically mentioned by Krusy are not *leeuwengroten*, and a large number of them are from the early 15th century (pp. 280-282)^[2].

The only specific mention of *leeuwengroten* are those of Louis II of Mâle (Gaillard 219), on p. 319 in Appendix I, [Contemporary] Forged Countermarks, where such *leeuwengroten* are described as having been seen with countermarks of an 8-pointed star of both 3 and 4 mm diameters^[2].

Photographs of these countermarks are provided in Krusy's article *Westphalian Countermarks on Netherlandish Coins*^[3] (Plate V; 30, 32). These photographs show a raised, 8-pointed star countermark on the cross face of the coins (not the lion face), which looks nothing like the impressed, 5-point star countermark on the two *leeuwengroten* under discussion.

Here is an example of a Krusy S5,6 countermark on a *prager groschen*:



Krusy S5,6



K161



NUMIS-1023874

It is clearly not the same mark as that on the two *leeuwengroten*.



K161 (detail)

On p. 24, Krusy mentions a star countermark used on a *Köpchen* (*Kopje*) in about 1350-1360 but does not relay the number of points to the star. Although Krusy refers to this mark as the “oldest countermark”, it would seem that no further information is available as to the origin of the mark ^[2].

In conclusion, it would appear that the countermark on neither the *leeuwengroten* K161 nor NUMIS-1023874 is Krusy S5 6,7. The mark on the *leeuwengroten* is recessed fairly deeply, and seems to show some bevelling. Krusy S5,6 on the other hand, is completely flat and is merely the outline of a star. The origins of the countermarks on the two *leeuwengroten* found in Friesland remain a mystery.

Similar to K104 from the Dokkum Hoard, NUMIS-1023874 appears to have a pellet after the **O** in COMES on the reverse. However, this “pellet” could easily be no more than a photographic illusion, or some unintentional mark on the coin itself.



NUMIS-1023874



K104

II.

In 1988, Joseph Ghyssens published an article in *De Beeldenaar* entitled: *The Holland leeuwengroten: An Attempt at Classification* ^[1]. For this article, the author relied heavily upon the Holland *leeuwengroten* found in the Dokkum Hoard. Thirteen of the seventeen *leeuwengroten* used as illustrations by Ghyssens are from the Dokkum Hoard.

For those readers interested in comparing Ghyssens' article with that of Torongo & van Oosterhout, we provide a cross-reference of the Holland coins (on page 5).

De Hollandse leeuwengroten van Willem V: een poging tot rubricering
Joseph Ghyssens (1988) ^[1]

and

The Coins of the Dokkum (Klaarkamp) Hoard (1932)
Paul Torongo & Raymond van Oosterhout (2014) ^[4]

Ghyssens 1 = K131



Ghyssens 2 = K340



Ghyssens 3 = K222



Ghyssens 4 = K047



Ghyssens 5 = K005



Ghyssens 6 = K200



Ghyssens 7 = K190



Ghyssens 8 = K018



Ghyssens 9 = K086



Ghyssens 10 = K090



Ghyssens 11 = K173



Ghyssens 12 = K006



Ghyssens 13 = K087



ERRATA

P. 15: “Minting of *leeuwengroten* in Flanders under Louis of Mâle: ^[2]”

The footnote on should read ^[6] instead of ^[2].

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Photographs of Dokkum Hoard coins taken by the authors
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De Hollandse leeuwengroten van Willem V: een poging tot rubricering
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2.
Gegenstempel auf Münzen des Spätmittelalters
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Frankfurt, 1974

3.
Westfälische Gegenstempel auf Niederländischen Münzen
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in ***Jaarboek voor Munt- en Penningkunde*** (JMP) 39
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Amsterdam, 1952
pp. 27-40, Plates III-V

4.
The Coins of the Dokkum (Klaarkamp) Hoard (1932)
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2014
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