Great Britain: Death of the Duke of Clarence

Form: Circular holed at 12 o'clock
By: ?
Date: 1892
Ref: AM2: 40; BHM: 3429; Eimer: 1772; Laidlaw: 0881;
Variations: Size   Metal   Mass   Value
24.1 mm   Bronze   4.5 gm   $12

Edge: Plain.

Obverse: Within a beaded border round the rim, bareheaded bust of the prince in uniform, front. Legend: “H.R.H: THE.DUKE.OF.CLARENCE.&.AVONDALE”.

Reverse: Beaded border round the rim. Within a wreath tied at the foot: “IN MEMORIAM (in an arc) / DIED AT / SANDRINGHAM / Jan.14,1892”. At the bottom: “RD.” without a registration number.

Notes: Prince Albert Victor, Duke of Clarence and Avondale (1864-1892), was the eldest son of Edward, Prince of Wales (later Edward VII), and the grandson Queen Victoria. His younger brother later became King George V. The two brothers visited South Africa as part of a tour of the Empire during 1879-82.

The prince was intellectually dull and physically weak. Queen Victoria believed that he led a dissipated life and there were scandals of homosexuality and allegations that he was involved in the “Jack the Ripper” murders. The prince died of phenomena following influenza. It has been suggested that he was murdered to open the succession to his more reliable brother, Prince George.