

32. Basil I to Constantine VII (867-959).

Basil I (867-886).

Constantinople.

D. O. Class 1 (868-870).

†BASILIOSSCONST'AUGG.

Facing busts of Basil and Constantine, bearded and beardless respectively, each wearing crown and chlamys and holding a labarum between them.

†BASIL/SCONSTAN/TINOSENΘO/BASILEISR/OMAION.



32.1.*

D. O. 8.

5.62 gms. 180.

156.87.



D. O. Classes 3 and 4 (870-879).

LEONBASILCONSTAUGG' (or similar).

Half length figure of Basil, wearing loros, between those of Leo and Constantine, each wearing chlamys; all wearing crown surmounted by cross.

†BASIL/CONSTAN/TISLEONEN/ΘOBASILS/ROMEON.



32.2.*

D. O. 10b.

6.84 gms. 190.

45.84.



32.3.

D. O. 11.

9.47 gms. 170.

105.85.¹



D. O. Class 5 (879-886). †BASILIO BASILEVS *.

Basil seated facing on lyre-backed throne wearing crown and modified loros and holding labarum.

†BASIL/IOSENΘEO/BASILEVS/ROMEON.



32.4.

D. O. 12.

5.89 gms. 180.

3.81.²



Provincial mint (867-886).

Half length figure of Basil, wearing loros, between those of Leo and Constantine, each wearing chlamys; all wearing crown surmounted by cross.

†BAZI/CONISA/ILEON/ΘOBAZIL/ROMEO.



32.5.*

D. O. - .

2.16 gms. 290.

1574.11.



Cherson. D. O. Class 1c (867-868).

Β †.
† ο/Π †.

32.6.
D. O. 17c.
1.12 gms. 060.
397.91.



32.8.
D. O. 6.
4.76 gms. 170.
4.81.⁴



Leo VI (886-912).

Constantinople.

D. O. Class 1 (886-912).
†ΛΕΟΝΒΑΣ ΙΛΕΥΣΡΟΜΨ *

Leo seated facing on lyre-backed throne wearing crown and modified loros and holding labarum.

†ΛΕΟΝ/ΕΝΘΕΟΒΑ/ΣΙΛΕΥΣΡ/ΟΜΕΟΝ.

32.7.
D. O. 5.
6.36 gms. 200.
8.82.³



D. O. Class 3 (886-912). †ΛΕΟΝΒΑΣ ΙΛΕΥΣΡΟΜΨ.

Bust of Leo facing, bearded, wearing crown and chlamys and holding akakia.

†ΛΕΟΝ/ΕΝΘΕΟΒΑ/ΣΙΛΕΥΣΡ/ΟΜΕΟΝ.

32.9.
D. O. 8.
5.09 gms. 160.
7.82.⁵



D. O. Class 2 (886-912).
†ΛΕΟΝ ΣΑΛΕΖΑΝΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΡΩΜΕΩΝ.

Leo and Alexander enthroned, each wearing crown and loros with labarum held jointly between them; Alexander holds an akakia.

†ΛΕΟΝ/ΑΛΕΖΑΝ/ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΡΩΜΕΩΝ.

Cherson.

D. O. Class 2 (886-912). No legends.

Bust of Leo facing, bearded, wearing crown and chlamys and holding akakia in left hand.

Patriarchal cross between Λ and Ε.

32.10.*
D. O. 10.
3.04 gms. 030.
821.02.



Constantine VII (912-959).

Constantinople.

D. O. Class 1 (914-919). †CONSTANT'CEZOHB'.

Facing busts of Constantine VII and Zoe both crowned and wearing loros and chlamys respectively; patriarchal cross held between them.

†CONS/ΤΑΝΤΙΝΟ/CEZOHB'/SILISRO/MEON.



32.11.
D. O. 22.
6.54 gms. 180.
31.83.⁶



D. O. Class 5 (945-950). †CONST'BA SIL'ROM'.

Bust facing, bearded, wearing crown and modified loros and holding globus cruciger and akakia.

†CONST'/ENΘEOBA/SILEVSR/OEMON.



32.12.
D. O. 26.
5.69 gms. 180.
374a.91.



Cherson. D. O. Class 1 (914-919). No legends.

Bust of Constantine facing, beardless, wearing crown with trefoil ornament.

Bust of Zoe facing wearing crown with three pinnacles and pendilia.

32.13.
D. O. 28.
2.79 gms. 180.
374.91.⁷



Imitative issue.

32.14.*
5.82 gms. 160.
96.85.⁸



REFERENCES AND GENERAL NOTES

This chapter includes a very few examples of coins from these reigns that might, with varying degrees of certainty, belong to provincial or non-regular mints.

The order and dates of issue of the three classes of Leo VI's folles are uncertain, see D. O. Volume 3, Part 1, p. 510.

32.1. The style is a little unusual and it is possible that this coin belongs to a provincial mint. See the catalogue of the collection in the Bibliothèque Nationale, Volume 2, p. 547 (Paris; 1970).

32.2-3. Classes 3 and 4 are essentially the same type and differ only in detail. On the obverse of the latter, the figure of Basil is larger and thus breaks the legend; his left hand is raised in front of the modified loros. See D. O. Volume 3, Part 2, p. 499, footnote to no. 11.

32.5. Possibly a contemporary imitation.

32.10. On this specimen the second letter looks more like I than E. There is no obvious explanation.

32.14. The reverse is badly garbled and it has been remarked, although I am unaware of the source for the arguments, that the coin may be a Caucasian imitation.

¹ Sotheby's, September 1985, Virgil Brand sale number 10, ex lot 191.

² Spink Numismatic Circular, June 1981, number 4601.

³ Spink Numismatic Circular, September 1982, number 5709.

⁴ Spink Numismatic Circular, September 1981, number 6133.

⁵ Spink Numismatic Circular, January 1982, number 172.

⁶ C. J. Martin Coins, December 1983.

⁷ S. Bendall, March 1991.

⁸ Amphora Coins, August 1985.