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M. J. Freeman

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M. J. Freeman : Bronze Coinage of Great Britain before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bronze Coinage of Great Britain:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Dana Z.amazed at what I did not know about British coins.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. M. PLATTBy Mr. M. PlattTHE BRONZE COINAGE OF GREAT BRITAINMICHAEL J. FREEMANThis is the definitive completely revised and updated 1985 Michael Freeman Book, listing every FREEMAN variety from the Victorian Bronze Penny of 1860 (Freeman 1) right through to the Pattern Farthing of 1887 (Freeman 939).This book has now become extremely RARE (it has been out of print for some years) and is most sought-after amongst serious coin collectors and dealers alike.Revised and updated March 1985 edition (232 pages) of this standard reference catalogue (originally written in 1970) which covers Great Britain Bronze Pennies, Halfpennies and Farthings and includes every variety of Patterns, Proofs and trial strikings. Dates covered are from 1860 complete through to 1970 (early decimal coinage).There are 280 illustrations with photo plates.

This is an enhanced reprint of the most current edition. 80% of the existing images in the main section have been replaced and there is a new appendix containing over 100 coins that were not included in the last edition (this is the first ever attempt to update the information for over 30 years). Where there is new information, the main text contains references to the new appendix and some of the rarity ratings have also been adjusted. This new book is also slightly larger than previous versions, in an attempt to improve the quality of the images and ease of identification. In this book Mr Freeman articulately describes the differences between the obverse and reverse types of the subject matter. Where

relevant there are tables of the possible combinations of reverses and obverses, often many combinations even for a single coin date. Proofs in bronze and other metals are also listed. Alterations to the dies, including changes to the date punches and major overstrikes resulting in letters/digits appearing to be struck on other letters or digits. Over 1000 different coins are listed, including patterns (both official and unofficial). Decimal coins have been removed from this edition (they were previously only listed from 1971 to 1983) and there are no values in this book, it is solely concerned with the varieties of bronze coinage. Each coin type in the main section and some of those in the new appendix are, as mentioned above, assigned an estimated rarity on a 41 point scale from 'believed unique' to many millions made.

Michael Freeman is acknowledged to be the leading expert on British bronze coins, having once had 60,000 Victorian pennies in his collection. Originally published in 1970, this excellent and invaluable reference guide is sought-after by dealers and collectors alike. This book also includes an explanation of rarity symbols, ranging from R20 meaning unique to C20 indicating a mintage of over 150 million. I would consider it an essential reference to any serious collector or dealer of bronze coinage and, as such, it is deemed as the 'benchmark'. About the Author The author Michael J. Freeman once had over 60,000 Victorian pennies plus thousands of other British bronze coins. He devoted over 35 years to the study of them and identified and organised them, assigning each a unique and logical number. His numbering system and book on bronze coinage is still used as the standard reference more than 45 years after it was first published.