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SHORTER NOTE

The gold 'noble' of Edward III—an erratum. *Adrian Ailes writes:* Figure 1 of 'Silent ambassadors of the State: symbols of national identity on the Great Seals and coins of the United Kingdom' in the last number of *The Coat of Arms*, due to a production error, incorrectly showed the 'George' noble of Henry VIII instead of Edward III's gold noble as was intended. The correct coin is now shown as **Plate 6** in this number. The obverse type portrays the king in armour, standing in a ship, and holding a shield of his new royal arms, France quartering England. As explained in the article, Edward's noble portrays him as captain and commander of the ship of state, both the individual and the nation over which he rules symbolised by the royal arms. The ship design may well also recall the English naval victory over the French at Sluys in 1340. The reverse type repeats the English lions passant guardant and French fleurs-de-lys re-emphasizing Edward's claim to the French throne. The coin was first struck between January and August 1344; a second issue lasted from 1346 to 1351, and the third, enduring issue (of which the plate shows an example) began in 1351 and lasted to the end of the king's reign, retaining the French heraldic symbolism even during and after the period of the Treaty of Brétigny (1360-9) when the titular claim to the French crown on the obverse was temporarily dropped and replaced by a reference to the Dukedom of Aquitaine.



Gold 'noble' of Edward III. Fourth coinage, London (1351-77), types introduced 1344. 7.64 grams. Scale nearly 3:1.
(BM CM 1988.697.18). *See page 106.*

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