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Philip Grierson, Lucia Travaini
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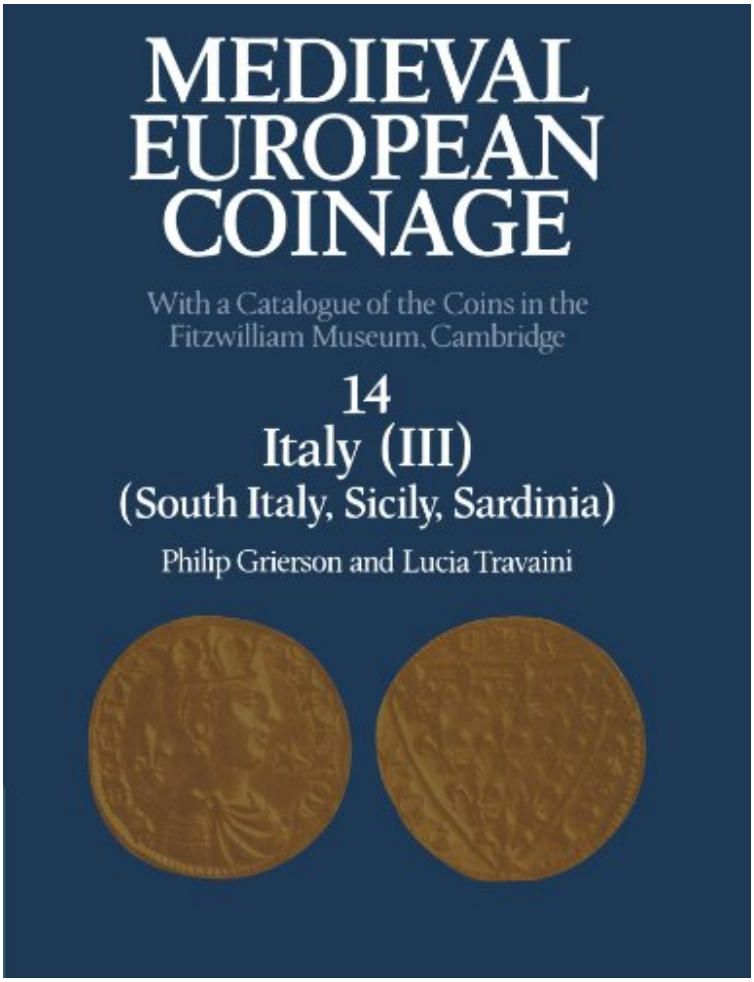

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Philip Grierson, Lucia Travaini : Medieval European Coinage: Volume 14, South Italy, Sicily, Sardinia: With a Catalogue of the Coins in the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Medieval European Coinage: Volume 14, South Italy, Sicily, Sardinia: With a Catalogue of the Coins in the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. WELL RESEARCHED, BUT FAILS IN THE PRINTINGBy

Foz405I am referring to the paperback, but some features are common. This book is pitched at the scholar and numismatist, and as such I would have expected the book to be printed with decent margins, especially the spine margins. They are too narrow and with constant use the book will split, and because they are too narrow, rebinding will be difficult. The illustrations are particularly poor, especially when they are compared to Grierson's other work, European Medieval Coinage published by Seaby. I would expect not only some colour, but them to be of the same quality as every auction house employs these days. After all, the novice likes to see well presented and informative work too. I am pleased that they did not use clay-filled paper like art books so that it will at least last some time without the weight of itself causing collapse.All in all, quite disappointing for the price.

This volume of Medieval European Coinage deals with the coinage of south Italy, Sicily and Sardinia between the mid-tenth century, when Volume 1 ended, and the reign of Ferdinand the Catholic, on the threshold of the modern era. It thus covers very different coinages of the immediate pre-Norman period and those of the Norman, Hohenstaufen, Angevin and Aragonese dynasties that in turn ruled part or the whole of the Mezzogiorno. The complex background to the history of this region makes its coinages among the most interesting of medieval Europe.

"...remarkable monument to scholarship...intriguing observations...a breathtaking work." Andre Gunder Frank, The International History