

Great Britain: King Charles II and Queen Catherine / World Globe, British Colonisation

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Form: Circular

By: John Roettier

Date: 1670

Ref: Eimer: 245; Laidlaw: 1095;

Variations:

Size	Metal	Mass	Value
41.7 mm	Silver	34.6 gm	\$1,100

Edge: Plain.

Obverse: Conjoined bareheaded bust of King Charles II and Queen Catherine of Braganza, right, he in armour. Legend: "CAROLVS. ET. CATHARINA. REX. ET. REGINA".

Reverse: A terrestrial globe showing lines of longitude and latitude, and the continents of Europe, Asia, Africa, India and America. Legend: "BRITANNVS. 1670 + DIFFVSVS. IN. ORBE. (Britain 1670 abroad in the world)".

Notes: Reference: Medallic Illustrations MI 546/202

This medal marks the initial growth of the British Empire throughout the world which commenced with the earlier settlement of the Caribbean and North America. British possessions in India were obtained from Portugal by the dowry brought with Catherine's marriage to Charles II and expanded through acquisition of territory, notably in North America and Asia.

This is the earliest known British medal that clearly depicts Africa.