

Fourscore and Ten Thousand Pounds, and buy all our goods for Eleven parts in Twelve, under the value. For example, if a Hatter sells a dozen of Hats for Five Shillings a piece, which amounts to Three Pounds, and receives the payment in Mr. Wood's Coin, he really receives only the value of Five Shillings.

Perhaps you will wonder how such an ordinary fellow as this Mr. Wood could have so much interest as to get his Majesty's Broad Seal for so great a sum of bad money, to be sent to this poor Country, and that all the nobility and gentry here could not obtain the same favour, and let us make our own half-pence, as we used to do. Now I will make that matter very plain. We are at a great distance from the King's Court, and have no body there to solicit for us, although a great number of Lords and Squires, whose estates are here, and are our countrymen, spend all their lives and fortunes there. But this same Mr. Wood was able to attend constantly for his own interest ; he is an Englishman and had great friends and it seems knew very well where to give money, to those that would speak to others that could speak to the King and could tell a fair story. And His Majesty, and perhaps the great Lord or Lords who advised him, might think it was for our Country's good ; and so, as the Lawyers express it, the King was deceived in his grant, which often happens in all reigns. And I am sure if his Majesty knew that such a Patent, if it should take effect according to the desire of Mr. Wood, would utterly ruin this Kingdom, which hath give such great proofs of its Loyalty, he would immediately recall it, and perhaps shew his displeasure to somebody or other : but a word to the wise is enough. Most of you must have heard, with what anger our honourable House of Commons received an account of this Wood's Patent. There were several fine speeches made upon it, and plain proofs that it was all a wicked cheat from the bottom to the top, and several smart