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"COINAGE AND MONEY."

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It has been said that if money has made men worse than they were before it, it has also introduced conveniences which previous generations did not possess.

When in the days of old there was no such thing as any currency of money, all transactions were carried on by barter—exchanging one thing for another, and it was to obviate the inconvenience of this, and to obtain a uniformity of value that coin was brought into use; first, in the unwieldy state of bullion, when payments were made by weight, and clipping off so much as was necessary, afterwards by pieces of metal rudely stamped with their weight, and finally in the medallion form, existing to the present day.

At one period of history cattle seem to have been the sole form of money in use, and from the Latin word *pecus*, which means cattle, the word pecunia (money) was derived, and so familiar nowadays in the expression pecuniary embarrassments, or pecuniary transactions. It is not so very long ago on this continent; that skins were used to represent a money standard, especially at the old Hudson Bay posts; whilst dried fish have stood in lieu of cash amongst the Newfoundlanders, and in the more primitive parts of Nova Scotia. The word money is derived from the fact of the early Roman coins being struck in the temple of Juno Moneta, that latter appellation coming from the word "monere" to warn, because that temple was built on the spot where Manlius heard the Gauls approaching to attack the city. Coin is derived from the word cuneo, to force in. All civilized nations have gold as the standard of money, and all other circulating media are but the representatives of that standard.

In Africa where the human race is very low in the scale, a small shell—a specie of cowrie—forms the circulating medium; in Abyssinia, salt, bricks and beads are used, whilst the ancient Britons employed iron and bronze rings for that purpose. The Greeks of

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