

par between the £ sterling, representing 1776 grains silver, and our £ currency, equivalent to four dollars, or 1485 grains silver will be £1 sterling, = £1 3s. 11·03d. currency, which is an advance of  $7\frac{5}{8}$  per cent. on our nominal or legal par of 4s. 6d. sterling to the dollar. When our par was fixed at this latter relation, the old piece of Eight, as the Spanish dollar was formerly called, was worth 4s. 6d. sterling, *mint* price; but the coin generally known at present as the "Spanish dollar," contains 7 dwts. more of alloy, and is 4 grains less weight to the lb. troy,—the contents in pure silver being 370·9\* grains, which, at the English mint price, 5s. 2d. per ounce, standard, is only 4s. 3·79d.; and at the market price of 5s., but 4s. 2 $\frac{1}{8}$ d.

On the above premises, I have computed the worth or equivalent in currency, of the pure metal contained in the several gold and silver coins, in the two following tables, having reference to a direct interchange in these coins between Canada and the London market. Besides these values, the tables exhibit, at one view, the mint whence issued; the name, assay,† weight and contents in pure metal, of the several coins; as also their legal values in Lower Canada, by 48 Geo. III., and their values as fixed in the United States by the law of 1834.

\* So given in Kelly's Table of Silver Coins—but by information obtained from the United States mint the Spanish dollar would appear to contain 374·816 grains—the weight being 416 grains, and the fineness varying from 900 to 902 thousandths.

† The assay and weight have been taken from 'Kelly's Cambist'—a work of high repute.