

accomplished until the following session, when an Act was passed, 36 Geo. III, cap. 5, whose preamble gives expression to the prevailing view: "Whereas it will tend to prevent the diminution of the specie circulating in this Province, that the same be regulated according to a standard that shall not present an advantage by carrying it to the neighboring countries, and whereas, by the ordinance now in force for regulating the currency of this Province, an advantage does arise by carrying gold coin out of the same, be it therefore enacted, etc." The new ratings appointed are the following:—

COINS	WEIGHT dwt. grs.	RATE £ s. d.
Gold		
British guinea.....	5 6	1 3 4
Johannes of Portugal.....	18 0	4 0 0
Moidore.....	6 18	1 10 0
Milled doubloon, or 4 pistole piece of Spain.....	17 0	3 14 0
French louis d'or.coined before 1793..	5 4	1 2 6
French pistole, coined before 1793..	4 4	18 0
American eagle.....	11 6	2 10 0
Silver		
British crown.....		5 6
British shilling.....		1 1
Spanish milled dollar, equal to 48.6d. sterling.....		5 0
Spanish pistareen.....		1 0
French crown, coined before 1793 ..		5 6
French piece of 4 livres 10 sols tour- nois.....		4 2
French piece of 36 sols tournois		1 8
French piece of 24 sols tournois		1 1
American dollar.....		5 0

In the case of the gold coins, for every grain over or under the standard of weight as given, 2½d. were to be allowed or deducted. After June 1st, 1797, in all payments exceeding £50 currency, at the option of either party to the payment, the gold should be weighed in bulk and a discount of two-thirds of a grain on each gold coin allowed to cover any loss that may accrue by paying away the same in detail. When so weighed, the gold coin of Britain, Portugal and America shall be computed at 89s. currency per oz., and that of Spain and France at 87s. currency per oz. The remainder of the act deals with counterfeiting, etc. A similar act, identical with that of Lower Canada in all essential respects, was passed by the Legislature of Upper Canada in the same year, 1796, thus maintaining a uniform rating in the two provinces.