

publick Debt without Money. Whatever Opinion he had himself of the Facility or Danger of executing such a Design, it must certainly appear chimerical to every body else, and to be sure nothing could be more surprising than the Attempt except the Success of it; both bespeak that Superiority of Genius, that distinguish'd almost every Action of his Life.

ON the first of *January* 1716, he published an Edict for reforming the Coin. By this Edict it was ordain'd, that a Lewidor should be rais'd from 14 Livres to 16, and a Crown from 3 Livres 10 Sols to 4 Livres, and so received at the Mint. It was likewise ordain'd, that after a certain Day the *old*, or unreform'd Lewidor, should pass for no more than 14 Livres, and the Crown for three Livres 10 Sols, as before, that the Apprehension of so considerable a Loss might induce People in the mean time to bring all their Money to the Mint to be reformed, *i. e.* to receive a new Stroke of a Hammer; after which the new Lewidor, of the same Weight and Standard as the  
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