

This ordinance has for its object to ascertain the value of the different coins usually passing in the Province, and to prevent them from being falsified or impaired. To accomplish the first purpose the following rates are established :—

COINS	WEIGHT	RATE		
<i>Gold</i>	dwt. grs.	£	s.	d.
The Johannes of Portugal.....	18 6	4	0	0
The Moidore.....	6 20	1	10	0
The Doubloon, or four Pistole piece..	17 0	3	12	0
The Guinea.....	5 8	1	3	4
The Louis d'Or.....	5 3	1	2	6
Paying two pence one farthing for every grain of gold under weight.				
<i>Silver</i>				
The Spanish Dollar.....		5	0	
The British Crown.....		5	6	
The French Crown, or piece of six livres tournois.....		5	6	
The French piece of four livres ten sols tournois.....		4	2	
The British shilling.....		1	1	
The French piece of twenty-four sols tournois.....		1	1	
The Pistareen.....		1	0	
The French piece of thirty-six sols tournois.....		1	8	

All higher or lower denominations of these coins were to pass in due proportion, and at these rates they were to be a legal tender for all debts whatever.

The second object aimed at in the ordinance was sought to be attained by appointing penalties for the diminishing or impairing of any of the foreign coins circulating in the Province, the British coins being protected by Imperial statute. After prohibiting the making or importing of false or counterfeit copper money, it is enacted that no person shall be obliged to receive more than the value of 1s. in copper at any one payment.

With reference to the relative values assigned to the coins by this ordinance, several points may be noted. When, taken on the basis of intrinsic or bullion value, the Spanish dollar was rated at 5s. and the British crown at 5s. 6d. the latter was undervalued to the extent of 4d. currency, which was quite sufficient to drive it out of circulation. Again, the French crown being valued at 5s. 6d. was overrated as compared with the dollar. The French coin contained only 403 grains of fine