

liards was prevented, by reducing their value. After the arrival of de Tracy and the troops that came with him, apparently with their pockets filled with cash, money became more plentiful in Canada. According to the Mère de l'Incarnation, writing at the time, "Money is common at present, the gentlemen have brought much with them. They pay in money for all they buy, as well for their food as other necessities." In consequence of this and the increasing trade, the colony was next threatened with an over-supply of sols which, as already explained, were circulating at double their normal value. On January 10th, 1667, complaint is made to the Council of Quebec, that the sols are being brought from France in large numbers while other coins are taken away, until there is now almost no other in circulation. The Council ordains that from the first of February next, sols shall be current for only 20 deniers each, but for the rest of this month (January) they will be received by Sicur de la Chesnaye, in payment of public dues, at the old rate of 24 deniers. On the 31st of January it was found necessary to make special arrangements to give warning of the change and to extend the time for receiving the sols at the old value, for the benefit of Three Rivers and Montreal.

Though the reduction on the sols was slight as compared with that on the deniers, yet it evidently affected the people to a much greater extent. A very general complaint seems to have been raised by the people on account of the loss with which they were threatened by the reduction about to be made. A subscription was opened, headed by de Tracy, the Governor, the Intendant, the West Indian Company and a number of others, to provide a fund to meet these losses on the part of the poor people. Incidentally this indicates that money was now freely circulating among all classes in the colony. The same fact is further illustrated by a matter which came before the Council on Oct. 29th, 1668. The price at which the Company was to receive beaver had been fixed at 10*l.* per pound for the best grade. The company claimed, however, that all they could get for it in France was 8*l.* per pound. Hence to prevent themselves from suffering loss they had raised the prices of their goods in like proportion. But it was pointed out before the Council, that, inasmuch as now-a-days people no longer always purchased their