

proving perfectly workable *with the sovereign almost entirely out of view* as a circulating coin of account ;—and if I have proved, (as I humbly submit that I have,) that, though the fact appears to have been apprehended neither by the Legislature, nor those generally watchful guardians of the public interest, the Press, the Acts of Parliament, 13th and 14th Vic., Cap. 8 and 9, regulating our circulation value of certain silver coins, actually had the effect of *rendering Decimal in this Province, at their respective values in British farthings*, those very coins which it is so difficult to render decimal in Britain, and that besides having an exact integer of one thousand farthings—in the Bank bill for twenty-five shillings currency,—five dollars, or ten florins sterling,—we have other convenient Bank paper representations, for two, four, and eight florins sterling, or 200, 400, and 800 farthings or mills, a circulating medium which, without an entire alteration of her currency laws, Great Britain can never hope to obtain. I humbly think that it would *now* almost amount to an act of political suicide, in pursuit of a mere arithmetical “*ignis fatuus*,” under the title of “assimilation of units and intrinsic value,” to throw *our* currency again into that vortex of competing interests, which, amid the fluctuations of commerce, is ever and anon causing large exportations of specie from America, and that our wisest course would rather lie, in confining ourselves “within our own lines,” to the simple object of facilitating the compilation of accounts and calculations generally. Throwing out of view the probability of further legislation in the direction of “assimilation,” meeting *now* with even less sympathy from the Imperial Government than it has already manifested towards the former measure of 1853, the country has only to throw off the nightmare of the “absurd anomalies of the present currency,” from the oppression of which the mere act of awaking might have freed her any time these five years past, and by at once abolishing them and it together, and returning to “sterling,” with the feature which the legislation of this Province has already given to it, not only draw closer with the Mother Country, those bonds, which, a community of money value and terms, may be supposed to engender, but still preserve to Canada that *individuality among the nations*, in one of the most distinctive particulars, which draw the line of demarcation, all the more necessary betwixt two neighbouring, but still in many respects dissimilar peoples, of the same Anglo Saxon origin, from which, in the present constitution of “men and things,” God forbid! *she* should be the first to resile.