

*invariable* quantity from year to year, if *taxes* have been repealed or added to in the interim. In the event of their repeal, the price of gold in paper will *diminish*; in the event of their being added to, it will *increase*. The word *pound*, therefore, in government paper money, will always represent, whenever any bargain is made, a *definite quantity of gold at the time*, but not an *invariable quantity at all times*. The degree of variation will depend on the *acts of the Legislature* with reference to *taxation*, of which taxation this pound will always represent ONE POUND. From this it will be seen that the notion of an *ideal unit*, a mere *abstract conception of value*, is altogether inconsistent with the principle of a government paper money.

When the taxation of the country is less than twenty millions a-year, the paper pound will probably be, as it was before the late war, of the same value as the gold pound. When the taxation has advanced to fifty millions a-year, the difference may be, as it was during the war, equal to fifty per cent. Increasing at this rate, the gold pound would rise, in relation to the paper pound, fourpence for every million of taxation imposed beyond twenty millions. With taxation not exceeding twenty millions, the price of wheat would be remunerative at forty-four shillings per quarter. With taxation at fifty millions, it would be equally remunerative at sixty-six shillings per quarter. As the difference between paper and gold would be fifty per cent., the farmer would receive sixty-six