

power of issuing ordinances to an unlimited extent, was so abused that the whole financial condition of the colony was ruined. Coupled with this the Imperial Treasury was again compelled to dishonor the Colonial drafts. The expenses of the colony had risen, through mismanagement and the misappropriation of funds by the Intendant from one million seven hundred thousand *livres* in 1749 to twenty seven millions in 1759. At the time of the capitulation the ordinances and cards in the hands of the people amounted to thirty four million *livres* besides dishonored bills of exchange. Stipulations were made in the treaty, by which Canada was ceded to the English, for the redemption of outstanding cards and ordinances by the French Government. These stipulations were carried into effect by convention of March 29th 1766 which brought to an end the card currency of Canada.

The few coins circulating in Canada were mainly those of France of the reigns of Henri IV and Louis XIII, XIV and XV. These generally circulated in earlier times at the same nominal value as in France although towards the close of the Regime, the nominal value was more or less raised. It seems to have been a prevailing fallacy among all colonists of those days, that the raising of the nominal value of coins would prevent them from being taken from the country.

This not proving effectual a special coinage was, according to Le Blanc a cotemporary numismatic writer, struck for the colony in 1670, in his "*Traite Historique des Monnaies de France*," he states that :—"To facilitate trade in Canada the King caused to be struck one hundred thousand livres worth of Louis of fifteen *sols* and five *sols* and *doubles* of pure copper. These coins were of the same value, weight and fineness as those of France. On the silver Louis of fifteen *sols* and of five *sols* in place of, "*Sit nomen Domini benedictum*" was "*Gloriam regni tui dicent*", and on the double "*Doubles de*