

houses uninhabited—and a city deserted! Deny this who can?

Money, therefore, being essential to the promotion of those objects which mankind have in view, and also to the possession of those things they may wish to acquire, the question is, why should the USE or employment of it be restricted by law, and its value to the owner be limited and controlled, any more than the price or value of any other species of property?

It may, however, be said that the essential quality of money is metal—gold, or silver, or even copper. This may be so as regards the ordinary and common acceptation of the *name*. But what is the fact? Money is only a standard of value, just the same as a bushel or a peck is a standard of measure. But who would not consider himself wealthy if possessing a few thousands or millions of *ten dollar* BILLS? Those are what the LAW authorises to pass from hand to hand *as money*; and although in themselves possessing no intrinsic value, they are made the *representatives* of value, by which standard the exchange or value of property is *measured*; and when they are *possessed* are considered valuable—very!

Hence it is clear that what we are accustomed in our daily affairs to count as money, is only the paper issued by chartered companies and circulated from hand to hand by the public—mere promises to pay the sums they represent. In their “passage through life,” however, and as the representatives of value, they answer, between buyer and seller, the same