

I transmit herewith an Order of Her Majesty in Council, dated 30th ultimo, approving that Report.

With reference to the Act No. 2143, "For establishing a tender in all payments to be made in this Province, and for consolidating and amending the Laws relating to the Currency therein," I transmit for your information, and with a view to the attention of the Provincial Legislature being directed to the subject, the copy of a Minute of the Board of Treasury, pointing out the objections to which this Act appears to be open.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOHN S. PAKINGTON.

The Officer Administering the Government, &c. &c. &c.

*Copy of Treasury Minutes, dated 29th June, 1852.*

"My Lords have before them the Act passed by the Canadian Legislature on the 31st August 1851, intituled "An Act to provide for the introduction of the decimal system into the Currency of this Province, and otherwise to amend the Laws relative to the Currency," which was transmitted to this Board in the letter from the Board of Trade of the 2nd April last.

"My Lords have also before them an Act passed by the Legislature of New Brunswick on the 7th April 1852, intituled "An Act for establishing a tender in all payments to be made in this Province, and for consolidating and amending the Laws relating to the Currency therein," which was submitted to their Lordships in the letter from the Board of Trade of the 3rd instant.

"Their Lordships advert to the correspondence which passed between this Board and the Secretary of State for the Colonial Department, in the years 1850 and 1851, on the subject of the Currency of Canada.

"My Lords have at the same time before them, a Memorandum dated 30th December 1851, prepared by the late Chancellor of the Exchequer on the general question of the Currency of the British Provinces in North America, a copy of which Memorandum was communicated confidentially by Lord Grey to the Governor General of Canada, who has stated that it may be taken as a satisfactory basis for the settlement of the question.

"This Memorandum was in the following terms:—

"The subject of the Currencies in our North American Colonies has been frequently brought before the Government, by the proposals of various kinds which have been made from the different Provinces, and it is one upon which it is most desirable to arrive at some satisfactory conclusion.

"Nothing can be more unsatisfactory than their present state:—The law and regulations differ in every Colony, and in some instances the law and the practice differ in the same Colony; and many of the proposals which have been made for remedying partial inconveniences arising from this state of things, would only have added further sources of discrepancy.

"By the existing regulations in Canada, the eagle of the United States, coined since 1834, containing about 232 grains of pure gold, which coin at present forms the basis of the currency of the Colony, is rated at 50s. currency.

"In New Brunswick the old eagle, coined previously to the alteration of the Mint Law of the United States in 1834, and containing about 247 grains of pure gold, is rated at 50s., but it is probable that the new eagle, though a coin of inferior value, passes at the same rate.

"In Canada the silver dollar is rated at 5s. 1d., and in this rating are included Spanish and South American as well as United States coins of this denomination, though differing slightly in intrinsic value. With this exception, which is only trifling, the rate of 5s. 1d. was a correct adjustment (taking the price of standard silver at 5s. per ounce) of the dollar to the pound sterling, after the currency of the Province had become depreciated from the old rate of 5s. for the silver dollar by the admission of the new eagle into circulation as equivalent to fifty shillings Canadian currency, which sum had been formerly payable only by ten silver dollars.

"In New Brunswick the rate assigned to the United States dollar is 5s.

"In