

## INTRODUCTION.

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DURING the few years that I have resided in this Province, I have listened to reiterated complaints of "the wretched state of our Metallic Currency." I have heard the French crowns and half-crowns accused of the most heinous offences against "equal rights," and reviled as having neither "image nor superscription."

If these complaints be just, and if these accusations be true, how is it that the coin which will not now fulfil its office, and which is represented as having a malign influence on the trade of the country, is still permitted to hold its place in the circulation? Is it, that no sufficient substitute or remedy can be found, or devised? Is it, that there is a baneful domination somewhere, that is supported and fattened by this, to it, most admired system? Or is it owing to general inertness and indecision, characteristic of the people, and the commercial portion too, of this Province?

Lord Bacon says of Pilate, "he asked, 'what is truth?' but would not stay for an answer;" so neither will I wait for replies to my interrogatories, but at once proceed to unfold my views (of which I entreat an indulgent, yet serious study,) on the subject of