

ten dollars an acre for your land, we forbid you to *take* more than *five*, on pain of forfeiting three times the value of what you sell!" Who would not rebel against such a doctrine as this? And yet this doctrine is practically applied to money, the most useful article in the world,—when land, houses, shipping, grain, cattle, hay, straw, and every other description of property in life, is allowed to sell for whatever it will fetch; the principle of supply and demand in the market governing, as it ought to govern, their value between buyer and seller.

There are laws for regulating weights and measures—the *pound* weight shall contain a certain number of ounces, the *peck* a certain number of quarts, the *bushel* a certain number of pecks, and the barrel of flour a certain number of pounds weight. These are all right and proper, as fixing a standard in each case,—but the laws *stop there*; they do not ridiculously go farther and say to the respective vendors, "you shall not be allowed to *sell* your property *above* a certain price." And yet the laws say to the owner or possessor of MONEY, "You shall not make a greater PROFIT of it than 6 per cent.!" What consistency—what common sense—what fairness is there in this?

Again, the law prescribes the weight of a penny—the weight of a shilling—the weight of a sovereign, and the quantity of pure gold which the latter shall contain, viz., eleven-twelfths of pure gold and one of alloy, to constitute its value as the pound sterling. But the law in this case goes farther than in the