

became greatly discredited. The depreciation of the paper is said to have begun in 1754, and in 1758 it had fallen to one-half its nominal value, while in 1759 it was reduced to one-fourth, and in 1760 to one-fifth of its value, as measured by its purchasing power. On these grounds it is claimed that the funds employed in the payment of the Canadian bills up to the time of the suspension of payment in 1759, should have covered the whole cost of the King's operations. In other words, the King has really obtained nothing for the outstanding paper.

Nevertheless, owing to the delay in cashing the bills, and owing to the fact that many merchants obtained them in *bona fide* business in return for goods before the suspension of payments was announced, the King is prepared to deal generously with them. He is also anxious that the officers and others who have served in the war, should not be losers through these bills. Hence, the King in Council ordains as follows :

Article I. The bills of exchange drawn in 1758 and preceding years, which have been declared and checked according to the Acts of 24th December, 1762, 15th May, 1763, and 5th January, 1764, and which may have been obtained in business before 15th October, 1759, shall be paid in full.

II. Such other bills conforming to the above regulations, as were drawn in 1760, and were stamped, "For the subsistence of the armies," shall likewise be paid in full.

III. All other bills drawn in 1758, 1759 or 1760, shall be paid at one-half their face value.

IV. The card money and the ordonnances shall be paid on the basis of one-fourth their value.

V. All those claims of whatever kind which have not been registered according to the Acts of 1762, 1763, 1764, shall be henceforth null and void.

VI and VII. These provide special arrangements for the civil and military officers and the soldiers who served in Canada, and who may be holders of paper received for their services, coming under article III or IV. Each one, however, must make special application, with the particulars of his case.

The remaining articles provide for an elaborate red tape process, whereby the various claims already registered shall be