

**Hon. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS** assured the hon. member for Oxford North that he had been constantly considering the question, as he had felt that it would be most disadvantageous to have either too much or too little silver. He thought, however, that no one had a better opportunity of knowing the exact state of affairs than he had, and he well understood that the withdrawal of twenty cent pieces and British silver would necessitate a greater quantity of Canadian silver, but he stated that the difficulties in obtaining supplies of the new coinage experienced in the first instance were now obviated, and that fresh supplies could be obtained on a very short notice. As to the time at which the new measures should take effect, he found it would be very difficult to ascertain how much of the new coinage, either gold or silver, would be required when that time came, and he therefore considered it most important that it should be at a time of the year when fresh supplies could be obtained with the least possible delay and expense.

**Mr. CHIPMAN** then agreed to withdraw his amendment, on the understanding that he would move it again when the resolutions came up for concurrence.

**Mr. GIBBS** said that two of the chief benefits that had been promised from Confederation were the encouragement of commercial intercourse between the Provinces, and the assimilation of the currency. The one had been accomplished, and the other had only been deferred in consideration for the Province of Nova Scotia. The necessity for assimilation was universally conceded, and needed no argument. He thought that in return for the consideration shown to Nova Scotia in the repeated postponements of the matter they ought to withhold all opposition and allow the measure to pass unanimously. The question was whether the larger should yield to the smaller, or the smaller to the larger. There might be a little difficulty, but it would very soon be overcome and the Nova Scotians would soon find that the change was most beneficial.

**Mr. SAVARY** was just as much in favour of the Nova Scotian currency as any one could be, and had urged his views session after session, but felt that the House was so decided in the matter that it would be useless to oppose the resolution. He thought the true question was which was the best currency, and although he felt strongly in the matter, he would not repeat his opinions as he knew it would be useless. Referring to the question of an international currency, he stated that the project had fallen through, not because of the unhappy position of France and other European countries, but because the American Government had refused to accede to the recommendations of the Paris conference. He should certainly support the amendment of the member for Kings, but that failing he should not further oppose the measure, as he thought the anomaly of the Dominion having different currencies should not exist any longer.

**Mr. CHIPMAN** said he thought he had heard the hon. member for Hants say that no *Gentleman* could oppose the measure—*(laughter)*—but trusted he had misunderstood him. In reply to the member for Oshawa he thought the question was not whether “the larger should yield to the smaller, nor the smaller to the larger” but

which was the best currency, and as the Nova Scotia currency was based on the British coinage, he certainly thought it more patriotic *(cheers and laughter)* for those who believed in British connection to pay homage to their *Sovereign*. *(Renewed laughter.)* When the resolutions came up for concurrence he should endeavour to address himself directly to the point, and test the sense of the House.

The 1st, 2nd and 3rd clauses were then passed.

In reply to Mr. Killam’s question on the 4th resolution,

**Hon. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS** stated that every security would be given as regards the notes, gold and silver coin. With regard to the standard of fineness for their gold coin, they could not use the Mint of the United States, though on the ground of the desirability of uniformity he would prefer their standard. Having to go to the Royal Mint, the English standard of fineness would have to be chosen. But the Canadian coin, though not of the same standard as that of the Republic, would be of the same value; of that there need be no doubt or fear.

**Hon. Mr. ANGLIN** hoped the Finance Minister would hesitate long before resorting to an issue of a gold coin currency, though he might take power in the Bill therefore. In the settlement of foreign exchanges it would be of less value than American or English coin, however equal to either nation’s coin it might be in Canada. Besides, we did not want a new coinage, having all the coin we needed at present.

The 5th and remaining resolutions were passed, and the Committee rose. The report to be received on Tuesday next.

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#### PATENT ACT

The order for the second reading of Mr. Oliver’s Bill to amend the Patent Act being called,

**Mr. OLIVER** said his Bill had not yet been printed in French, and, therefore, he could not go on with it, but hoped to go on with it at an early day.

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#### NEW BRUNSWICK ORDNANCE LANDS

**Mr. COSTIGAN** inquired whether the Ordnance Lands in New Brunswick had been transferred by the Imperial Government; if so, do they intend to dispose of them, and under what system. If no such transfer has yet been made, is it the intention of the Government to take any steps to obtain such transfer?