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**The Copper Currency of the Canadian  
Banks—1837-1857**

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XII.—*The Copper Currency of the Canadian Banks, 1837-1857.*

By R. W. McLACHLAN.

(Communicated by Dr. S. E. Dawson and read May 19, 1903.)

Trade, which, from early times in the British North American colonies, had suffered from an insufficiency of currency, was still further hampered, during the latter half of the eighteenth century, by the almost total cessation of the coinage of silver at the Royal Mint.<sup>1</sup>

While this scarcity prevailed in the north there was abundance in the south, through the wonderful activity of mints in Spanish America,<sup>2</sup> and some of this abundance found its way northward.

This Spanish coinage, mainly dollars, so came to be the prevailing currency in the British Colonies, and so influenced the circulation that the dollar, in a manner, came to be considered the unit rather than the pound, while many transactions, entered into by the government as well as by individuals were expressed in "Spanish milled dollars." The dollar too was divided into so many shillings and these shillings, although still calculated as twenty to the pound, were based not on the pound sterling but on a standard known as the pound currency. Thus the pound in the colonies was reduced to meet the altered circumstances. The number of the shillings to the dollar varied in the different Colonies; for in Massachusetts it was six, in Pennsylvania seven and a half and in New York eight.

In Nova Scotia, after it came under British rule, a different standard still was adopted, which, from the capital of the province, was called "Halifax Currency." By this currency the dollar was divided into five shillings and ten sixpences which gave it an approach to the decimal system. When this standard was first adopted the dollar was worth four shillings and sixpence sterling; on which rate was based the old par of exchange. But Halifax currency followed the decline in value of the dollar until it was finally fixed in 1837 by the virtual adoption of the gold standard in the United States. Then par of exchange, which had been advanced from time to time, was finally settled at nine and a half, the present rate.

After the revolt of the thirteen colonies, Halifax currency was extended to the old Province of Quebec where, by the way, it is first mentioned in a tentative currency promulgated in an ordinance issued

<sup>1</sup> Only a single silver coinage, and that limited to £55,000 in shillings and sixpences, issued in 1787, was struck between the years 1758 and 1816.

<sup>2</sup> According to law the whole of the extensive products of the silver mines of Mexico and Peru had to be coined before being exported.

by General Murray, the Governor, in 1764.<sup>1</sup> Although the Halifax shilling was then only incidentally mentioned it was not long before the trade without any official recognition settled to do business by this standard and Sir Guy Carleton was left no other alternative than to promulgate it officially. This was done by an ordinance, passed in 1777, which rated the Spanish dollar as worth five shillings.<sup>2</sup>

While this change in the value of the shilling could be easily adjusted to the larger coins, it was impossible to make it fit in with the lesser coins in copper; for a halfpenny sterling could not be made to pass for more than a halfpenny currency whether the shilling circulated for one and a penny or one and threepence. It will thus be seen that any one importing legal copper coin could only do so at a heavy loss while those exporting it stood to make as high as twenty per cent, and even more, for the balance of trade was usually against the province and exchange, as a result, often much above par. Under these circumstances it can readily be understood that little if any legal copper coins remained in the province and that the people had to adopt such makeshifts as best they could to supply change.

Towards the end of the eighteenth century, on the issue of a new British coinage, the old coppers of 1770-1775 were shipped over to Canada and for a time afforded a measure of relief; but, through the ordinary loss by circulation and the increasing demands of a growing population, this supply soon proved insufficient; and, as the stringency became more severe, merchants began to import tokens from England for the use of their own trade. While these were at first of fair size and value and therefore acceptable, soon the element of profit in the business led merchants to reduce the weight of their tokens by almost one half and as their avarice increased to import them in greater and greater quantities until the circulation became loaded down with copper change. This too, notwithstanding the law on the statute-books against "importing or manufacturing spurious or base copper coin." Such was the surfeit in copper change in 1817 that a petition was presented from "divers inhabitants of Quebec" claiming "that there has recently been put into circulation a prodigious quantity of copper of which a large proportion has since become depreciated."<sup>3</sup> A similar petition was presented from Montreal "setting forth" that "the evil has now increased to such an extent as to acquire a speedy and efficacious remedy;"<sup>4</sup> and, although a special committee was appointed

<sup>1</sup> Ordinances for the Province of Quebec, 1767, page 4.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* (2nd series). Quebec, 1777, page 70.

<sup>3</sup> Journals of the House of Assembly of Lower Canada. Quebec, 1817, page 68.

<sup>4</sup> Journals of the House of Assembly of Lower Canada. Quebec, 1817, page 114.

and a number of merchants of Quebec examined regarding the evil, nothing was done save to suggest a more stringent enforcement of the law of 1808 against importing spurious copper coin. This law was simply a revision of the ordinance of 1777 above mentioned. In the Provinces of Upper Canada and Nova Scotia the same evils affected the circulation. In the latter province the government rose to the occasion and grappled with the difficulty by providing a special copper coinage for the province.<sup>1</sup>

As a result of this discrediting of the spurious copper currency, the stringent enforcement of the law against its importation and manufacture and the failure to provide an acceptable form of change, there came another dearth of copper change. Still a remnant of the old halfpence of George III, but which had become so worn as to be hardly legible, continued to circulate, which were the only truly legal copper coin. Now some of the merchants, who for profit were ever ready to provide the necessary change, precluded from importing by the effectual supervision of the customs authorities, started coining for themselves. And taking for their patterns the worn copper coppers in circulation they produced something most barbarous in design and execution. The obverse bore an indistinct head without any inscription and the reverse a hideous caricature for Britannia or an indescribable harp. These nondescripts the illiterate habitants accepted without question while they rejected the well executed "Wellington halfpenny tokens" of the previous decade. That the quantity issued was large is attested by the fact that thirty varieties are known in all stages of indistinctness and degeneracy down to plain discs of copper. Mactaggart thus described the copper circulation of Canada in 1828; "While the *French* keep gabbling about *quinze sous* and *trente sous*, which are perplexing to comprehend every sort of *copper-piece* is an halfpenny. I have no less than 120 different kinds, the greater part of them *old copper coins* of Britain and Merchants' tokens all over the world. If a lot of farthings be taken into a *smithery* and receive a blow from a sledge-hammer on the anvil, they will ther be excellent Canadian coppers, or half-pennies."<sup>2</sup>

At a later date, when these imitations of worn coins had become discredited, several tons of an English trade token dated 1812, having the head of George III within a wreath on the obverse and a female seated on a bale of goods on the reverse, were imported by Joseph Tiffin, a prominent merchant of the time. Soon this token was counterfeited and large quantities of such brass imitations were passed

<sup>1</sup> This coinage I have described in a communication to the Royal Society of Canada. See Transactions, Vol. X., section II., page 35.

<sup>2</sup> Three years in Canada, 1826-7-8. By John Mactaggart, London, 1829, Vol. I., page 321.



off on an unsuspecting public together with another base brass token equally rude, dated 1820, bearing the head of George IV on one side and a harp on the other. The latter does not appear to be an imitation but an original design. A number of clandestine mints for the coinage of these tokens were set up not only in Montreal and Quebec, but in some of the more rural districts from which the issue became so enormous that copper formed the bulk of the circulation. The receipts of merchants in this currency at this time often reached from two to three hundred dollars a day. About twenty-five varieties are known of each. This coinage, varied with a sprinkling of the tokens of two firms, J. Shaw & Co., of Quebec, and T. S. Brown & Co., of Montreal, and continued to be received as accepted change until 1836. At that time the currency is described in a memoir "On the Miserable State of the Currency of the British North American Provinces" as follows:—  
 "The miserable coppers which are now in circulation consisting of base coin and tokens of all descriptions and frequently pieces of sheet copper which have never been impressed with any die and do not weigh more than a fourth or a half of the weight of an English halfpenny."<sup>1</sup>

Although innocent traders were the greatest sufferers, none of them made any move to improve matters. It was therefore left to the market hucksters to take the initiative and they became for a time the regulators of the copper currency. From day to day they extended their censorship until few if any copper coins were left in circulation.

At this point the Bank of Montreal came to the rescue of the people and imported a quantity of "Bank tokens" from Birmingham. These were well executed and therefore a great improvement on the miserable brass pieces to which they succeeded; and of full weight too. On one side they were impressed with a bouquet emblematic of the three Kingdoms with ears of wheat as indicative of Agriculture, Canada's chief industry, and with maple leaves as representative of Canada. This is the first occasion on a coin that the maple leaf was employed as a Canadian emblem. The value was given in French and, by some mistake of the Birmingham makers, in the plural *un sous*. The name of the Bank is wanting, the inscription being: "Bank token Montreal." As this was not satisfactory to the people, a new token was ordered like the first in every particular, even to the error *sous*, except that the inscription was changed to "Bank of Montreal token."

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<sup>1</sup> "Memoir on the Miserable State of the Currency of the British North American Provinces submitted by R. Carter to Lord Glenelg." Canadian Archives, vol. 24-1, page 96.

About the same time "La Banque du Peuple"<sup>1</sup> issued a coin similar in design but smaller in size and totally different in workmanship and arrangement. The value *un sou* is given correctly. Its place of manufacture was in the town of Belleville, New Jersey, at that time a copper producing centre. As two or three die varieties exist, and as the coin is still quite common a considerable quantity must have been issued.

Shortly after the appearance of the last, "La Banque du Peuple" issued a new *un sou* also of the same general design but differing still more in arrangement. As the letters in the inscription were surked with a graver instead of punches, which indicates that they were made in a workshop not fully equipped, and as the dies were held by the Bank of Montreal, I have come to the conclusion that this coin was struck in Montreal. Some time before this Joseph Arnault, an engraver, had come out from France and set up his atelier on Craig Street, near Côté. The bouquet on this coin while composed of the same emblems is distinguished by a large maple leaf out of proportion as to size when compared with the other plants. In the wreath too the maple leaves are large and well formed. Much better than on the Belleville made coin. All this would indicate an intense patriotism on the part of some persons connected with the bank. But still farther the introduction of the star and the phrygian cap indicate that they were in sympathy with the movement for the independence of Canada and with the rebellion of 1837. From this fact the coin is called the "Rebellion token." It is much scarcer than any of the other *un sou* bank tokens.

The banks had hardly got their tokens well into circulation before imitations began to appear, which imitations were, of course, much lighter than the regular bank issues having evidently been imported for profit and not "for the convenience of trade." A number of Montreal firms took part in the introduction. Among the more prominent of whom was Dexter Chapin, an exchange broker. The quantity thus imported far exceeded that of the banks. So great was it, indeed that over forty varieties are known. Some of these varieties were struck in Birmingham, others in the United States and a few in Montreal; and curiously enough many by the same makers as furnished the bank tokens. This fact is proved with respect to those from Birmingham by the one variety, which bears on the reverse a bouquet exactly like that on the Bank of Montreal token. All the other varieties from Birmingham are intimately connected with each other by style of workmanship and interchange of dies. And yet all express *un sou* correctly while none of them are of such fine workmanship as the regular bank

<sup>1</sup> This Bank not having received its charter was at that time doing business under the name of Jacob de Witte, Viger & Cie.

issue. Two varieties also of the false tokens from Belleville, N. J., reproduce the same bouquet as appears on "La Banque du Peuple" *sou*. The similarity of the *sou* made by Joseph Arnault, to one of the clandestine issue and the fact that many specimens occur struck over the Canadian made brass tokens bearing dates 1812 and 1820, prove that at least one variety of the *un sou* token was made in Montreal, and that Arnault thus tried to rehabilitate the discarded tokens by thus giving them a new dress.

Perhaps it was this incident that brought about the condemnation of the *un sous*, which came again from the hucksters. These self constituted censors of the Copper Currency excepted the issue of the Bank of Montreal from the general condemnation; and, illiterate though they were, the mark by which they determined the genuine from the spurious was the error of the Birmingham maker. This condemnation would appear to have involved the issue of the "La Banque du Peuple."

This sudden withdrawal of such a large quantity of copper coin again created a dearth in small change; which dearth set the people more ardently seeking for an adequate and permanent relief and towards which steps were taken early in 1837, both in Quebec and Montreal. I have fortunately been able to lay my hands on a number of documents bearing on this subject, on which I have been able to base the following deductions. These documents have been culled from the minute book of directors of the Bank of Montreal, from the Archives of the Montreal Court House, from the Archives department, at Ottawa, and from the State book, Ottawa. Some important letters are missing still there is enough to settle many disputed points.

One of the documents states that a resolution passed at a "general special session of the peace," held at Quebec, in June, 1837, asked the Governor in Council to provide a supply of copper change as it was greatly needed.<sup>1</sup> Although this resolution was favourably reported on by the Council suggesting the importing of a quantity of British half-pence, the suggestion being impracticable, no action was then taken. But a more efficient remedy was set under way at Montreal by the Bank of Montreal; for under date of June 9th, 1837, the following item is minuted: "The subject of the Copper Coinage was again discussed. The cashier was directed to import a quantity and obtain the concurrence of the other banks."<sup>2</sup> An order for £5,000 worth of this coin was entrusted to Albert Furniss<sup>3</sup> provided he secured concurrence of

<sup>1</sup> Appendix F, No. 2.

<sup>2</sup> Appendix C. No earlier minute was accessible to me.

<sup>3</sup> Albert Furniss was a prominent and enterprising business man of that time, being engaged in the metal trade. He was also connected with a num-

the other banks. Otherwise it was to be for half the amount. But from the occurrence of the names of three other banks on the tokens we know he succeeded in inducing them all to participate.

Nothing is mentioned in any of the documents regarding the adoption of the design or to whom such design may be attributed. But in any case it is very chaste and the most truly Canadian of any other coin that has appeared. It can in fact be called the Canadian national coin. The arms of Montreal were designed by Jacques Viger, elected first Mayor, when the city received its charter in 1832. They are almost alone among civic arms in Canada, in following true heraldic rules. This may be attributed to the fact that Viger was an antiquarian of no mean order; and also a man of artistic taste. May we not conclude that the typical French Canadian farmer (the *habitant*) of the observe is also the suggestion of Viger.<sup>1</sup> It must at least have been the drawing of a man in sympathy with the French Canadian people and at the same time of artistic talent. Every detail in that costume, once so familiar in the streets of Montreal, was delineated and the engraver followed the design so faithfully as to leave nothing to be desired. There is the *tuque bleue*, the frock over-coat of homespun, *étouffe* with *capuchon*, the sash, *ceinture fléchée*, and the beef mocassins, *souliers de bœuf*. And in his hand the everlasting whip. Furniss sent the order to Scholefield & Son of Liverpool, who as factors or manufacturers' agents, with their head office in Birmingham, passed it on to Boulton & Watt, of the Soho Mint in that city, the real coiners.<sup>2</sup> This firm which did work equal in finish to any of the national coinage, often undertook large contracts for the Government in that line, when the Royal mint was unable to cope with the demand. In this manner the extensive coinage of the well known copper penny and two-penny pieces of 1797 were struck by them as were also a number of foreign coinages about that time. Messrs. Boulton & Watt's connection with the Royal mint led to the recognition of the bank tokens as lawful "coin of the realm" in Canada, by not only the Provincial but by the Imperial Government. They suggested to Scholefield & Son that, as it was contrary to law to coin copper money without authority,

ber of Montreal enterprises, and it was he who established the first gas works in the city.

<sup>1</sup> Since writing the above I have come across a bank bill issued in August, 1836, by the Banque Canadienne, which was carried on in St. Hyacinthe by the firm of Archambault, Pacaud, De Labrière & Cie. The reverse of this bill bears a figure of a *Habitant* exactly like that on the bank tokens. As this bill was engraved by Rawdon, Wright & Hatch, of New York, it is evident that the same design was adopted for both the bill and the coin, probably the latter was copied from the former.

<sup>2</sup> Appendix E, No. 2.

it would be well to apply for such authority. This suggestion Scholefield senior followed.<sup>1</sup> And after correspondence between the lords of the treasury and the secretary for the colonies the matter was referred to Lord Gosford, the Governor of Lower Canada, who after consulting with his advisers replied that as a supply of copper change was most necessary for the trade of the province, it was highly desirable that the request be granted. At the same time he suggested that as no copper coin had heretofore circulated in Canada for more than a halfpenny, it was undesirable that any larger denomination be coined.<sup>2</sup> But the suggestion came too late, as the pennies had already been ordered and probably the dies engraved.

In an ordinance of the Special Council, passed in 1839, which while purporting to prohibit the importing and manufacture of "spurious copper or brass coin" provided for the supply of acceptable copper coin, by permitting importation by individuals or corporations under proper restrictions on the authorization of the executive. This ordinance in this connection officially recognizes the coinage of 1837 in the clause which states that "provided always, that all coins shall have the same relation to the British penny and halfpenny with those recently imported by the Bank of Montreal."<sup>3</sup> This clause was inserted as an amendment, after the bill had been introduced, at the instance of the Hon. Peter McGill and Turton Penn;<sup>4</sup> the one the president and the other a director of the Bank of Montreal.

As the alternative order in case the other banks should not join in the coinage was for £2,500, it may be inferred that the issue of the Bank of Montreal was £2,000, and the City Bank, La Banque du Peuple and the Quebec Bank £1,000 each. The only change in the coins issued by the different banks was, that their name appeared as the motto on the ribbon. Even those issued in Quebec by the Quebec Bank bore the arms of Montreal.

In 1838 the Bank of Montreal gave Albert Furniss another order for £2,000 in tokens, half of which, that is 120,000 pieces was to be in penny pieces and the other half 240,000 in halfpenny pieces. This coinage arrived in June, 1839, and on its being opened by the bank authorities it was found to be "of such a very inferior grade that the cashier instructed the notary to protest against Mr. Furniss."<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Appendix E, No. 2.

<sup>2</sup> Appendix E, No. 6.

<sup>3</sup> Ordinances of Special Council of Lower Canada, Vol. IV., Montreal, 1839, chap. V.

<sup>4</sup> Journals of Special Council of Lower Canada, Vol. IV., Montreal, 1839, page 11.

<sup>5</sup> Appendix C.

This protest, which was served on the 15th of June, claims that the cashier in a letter of the 26th of November, 1838, instructed Furniss to procure the coins through Scholefield & Son, who had furnished those of 1837, and that they should "be similar in respect to weight and fineness of material," and the protest further claims that Furniss "had procured the copper coin from some other manufactory, that the said coins are . . . . of base material different in all respects in the manufacture, coinage and workmanship from those manufactured the previous year, and are in fact utterly unworthy of issue and disreputable to the manufactory," and further "that inasmuch as the said coins were ordered and manufactured . . . . for the special issue of the Bank of Montreal that none of (them) . . . . should be issued . . . . which would prove to the discredit of the institution."<sup>1</sup> Three days later Albert Furniss had a stronger protest served on Cotterill, Hill & Co., of Walsall, England,<sup>2</sup> to whom the order had been sent. Attached to this protest was a letter of instructions to the notary in which it is stated that "the coin is to be shipped for England to-morrow."<sup>3</sup>

These protests clear up some dark points in the history of this coinage. Why are specimens of this issue so scarce? Were they simply patterns for a contemplated coinage? Had the bank ever anything to do with them? No Canadian numismatist had any knowledge that such a large coinage had been struck, that it had really been imported into Canada and then rejected and returned to the makers.

This coinage is unofficial, as no authorization either from the Imperial or from the Provincial Governments was asked or obtained, and then it does not even bear the name of the province, while it has the name of the bank both on obverse and reverse.

A second unsuccessful attempt was made by Cotterill, Hill & Co. to satisfy the bank, for in the fall of the year 1839, according to the minute book, which states under date 19th November; "letter received from Mr. Furniss, also more coin but of lower grade than former shipment."<sup>4</sup> This is the only record I have been able to discover respecting the coinage of 1839, but it is sufficient for us to gather that another shipment, of the same quantity as that of 1838, was struck from new dies and sent out expecting that the bank would accept it. The appearance of the coin does not bear out the bank's contention, that it was of "lower grade."

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<sup>1</sup> Appendix D, No. 1.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* No. 2.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.* No. 3.

<sup>4</sup> Appendix C.

As a variety of the penny piece occurs with the ribbon inscribed "Banque du Peuple," it has been inferred by some that this bank was to have participated in the coinages of 1838 and 1839; but this is altogether unlikely, as none of the 1838 coins nor of the 1839 halfpennys are inscribed with the name of this bank. What in all probability actually did occur, was, that Furniss in seeking to impress upon the manufacturers in Walsall the necessity of producing as good a coinage as that of 1837, sent over a penny as a pattern and that, as the penny was one inscribed "Banque du Peuple" on the ribbon, a die was made like it, and that a quantity was struck off before the mistake was noticed. The fact that the letters on the ribbon of the 1839 coins are incused, proves that such a sample was sent over and instructions given respecting avoidance of the divergence on the coins of 1838.

The reverse of the coins of 1837 bearing the arms of Montreal was retained for the coins of 1838, but a new obverse was adopted. The French inscription and the habitant were dropped because of the rebellion of 1837, which, in Lower Canada, was attributed altogether to the French Canadians. Consequently, for a time everything savouring of that nationality, especially the costume worn by Papineau their leader was not zealously denounced. The design adopted instead was a corner view of the bank building, showing the St. Francois Xavier street side as well as the front; from this they are known as "side views" to distinguish them from the later "front views."

The only difference between the coinages of 1838 and 1839, is in the dates and the name of the bank on the ribbon, which on the former is raised, and on the latter in incused letters. This change was no doubt an attempt to follow the coins of 1837 more closely. The metal from which the tokens of 1838 were struck is more like brass, showing that it had been alloyed with a certain percentage of zinc, an alloy much used in the manufacture of saddlery hardware, the chief industry of Walsall. Those of 1839 are of much purer copper.

The side views have long been eagerly sought after by collectors, for they have always been scarce. On one occasion a fine impression sold as high as eighty dollars; but, from time to time, specimens have been unearthed in Birmingham and sent out here, so that now they seldom bring more than fifteen or twenty dollars. They are all equally rare except the halfpenny of 1839, which is more frequently met with.

After these two abortive attempts the bank held off for a while and did nothing in the line of a copper coinage for four years. In the meantime the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada had been united, and the ordinance of 1839 above mentioned revised and extended to the whole country. The Bank of Montreal, availing itself of the clause providing for the supply of copper coin by banks or other

institutions,<sup>1</sup> having applied to the Governor-General-in-Council for the necessary authorization, was accorded the privilege to import such coin to the extent of £5,000, any time before the 1st of January, 1845.<sup>2</sup>

Under this authorization the bank imported £2,000 in pennies and halfpennies in 1842. It would appear that a heavy duty had been placed on copper coin, for on the application of the cashier a permit was granted to import this coinage free of duty.<sup>3</sup> In March, 1844, £2,000 worth was brought out and in June, 1845, £1,000 more which completed the £5,000 authorized in 1842. All the coins in both of these shipments which are dated 1844, are halfpennies, for no corresponding penny is known. This issue of 1844 is by far the largest of any one denomination, as it numbered 1,440,000 pieces. Consequently, it is still by far the most plentiful.

One of the documents states that in 1845 the Bank of Montreal obtained an authorization to import a further supply of copper coin to the extent of £1,200.<sup>4</sup> But for some unrecorded reason, although dies were prepared, no such coinage was put into circulation. Two specimens exist struck from the dies of 1845. With this last attempt the Bank of Montreal drops out of the business of catering for the supply of a Canadian copper currency and the charge devolved upon another institution.

The design for the reverse of the coinage of 1842-4, is an exact copy of that of 1837 except the date. The obverse which presents a front view of the bank building while much better in execution and finish, is not so artistic in treatment as that on the coins of 1838. In fact a front view does not afford as favourable an opportunity for the exercise of artistic taste; while the inscription "Province of Canada, Bank of Montreal" being too full also detracts from the pleasing effect. For these reasons, as well as for their rarity, the side views have always been more popular among collectors than the front views.

The similarity of treatment and workmanship, as well as the fact that one of the dies of the 1837 tokens is muled with one of those of 1842,<sup>5</sup> proves clearly that the latter was executed by Boulton & Watt of the Soho Mint, Birmingham.

No further effort was made to supply copper coin until 1850, when the Bank of Upper Canada took up the task relinquished by the

<sup>1</sup> Provincial Statutes of Canada, 1841, Chap. VII., clauses 1 and 2.

<sup>2</sup> Appendix F, Nos. 6 and 7. The former is a draft by the Solicitor General, and the latter the Order-in-Council as adopted.

<sup>3</sup> Appendix F, No. 9.

<sup>4</sup> Appendix F, No. 19.

<sup>5</sup> Appendix A, No. 20.



Bank of Montreal. But before describing the coinage of this bank, it will be well to describe one issued by the Quebec Bank.

In January, 1851, Noah Freer, cashier of the Quebec Bank, wrote to the Hon. James Leslie, provincial secretary, asking permission to import copper coin to the amount of £2,000 sterling, on the ground that it was urgently needed for change by the merchants and traders of Quebec.<sup>1</sup> This request remained under consideration until the 12th of March, when it was refused because the Bank of Upper Canada had been authorized to import £5,000 worth and that this should be sufficient for the requirements of the province, and further that the coins had actually been landed in the United States.<sup>2</sup> On the 21st of the same month the cashier replied urging more strongly the need for small change, enclosing at the same time a petition from a number of the principal merchants of Quebec setting forth the great trouble they were experiencing "for the want of a sufficient amount of copper coin for change."<sup>3</sup> Those merchants, some twenty in number, contracted to take and pay for copper coin to the extent of £1,400, in amounts varying from £25 to £250. This second request was also refused for the same reasons as before, and because the Bank of Upper Canada had promised to land a portion of the coinage at Quebec. Still the cashier was encouraged by the promise that if the stringency should continue the request would be considered later on.<sup>4</sup> Evidently the quantity landed at Quebec was insufficient, for the cashier in November of the same year sent in a third request. This was acceded to and the necessary authority by order-in-council, given to the Quebec Bank to import copper coin to the extent of £2,000 sterling.<sup>5</sup> In September, 1852, the cashier again writes advising the government that coins had been received, but that through some mistake only £2,000 currency had been imported, whereas £2,000 sterling had been authorized. The latter asked for extension of time for importing the balance, some £500, and for authority to import a further quantity amounting to £1,000.<sup>6</sup> This request was refused because the government intended to pass a bill favouring the adoption of the decimal system in Canada. This law, passed during the session 1852-3, was only a tentative measure which declared dollars, cents and mills to be legal forms of expressing money in Canada concurrent with pounds,

<sup>1</sup> Appendix F, No. 26.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, No. 27.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, Nos. 28 and 29.

<sup>4</sup> Appendix F, No. 30.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, Nos. 31 and 32.

<sup>6</sup> Appendix F, No. 37.

shillings and pence.<sup>1</sup> With its acquiescence in this refusal the Quebec Bank ceased its connection with the copper currency of the province.

In the issue of this bank there was a return to the original habitant model of 1837. In fact the two obverses are alike in all particulars, except that the word "Bas" is omitted. The reverse has the arms of the City of Quebec, in which Cape Diamond looms up in the distance, with a female and heraldic emblems in the foreground.

In a small volume of testimonials and autotype plates, giving specimens of their work, issued about 1878 by Ralph Heaton & Sons, the Mint, Birmingham, the penny and halfpenny of the Quebec Bank are illustrated;<sup>2</sup> which shows that these tokens were manufactured by this firm. They had lately come to the front as contractors for coinages, both British and foreign, for during the interval between the last issue of the Bank of Montreal and the first of the Bank of Upper Canada, Boulton & Watt had retired from business and the Soho Mint had been dismantled.

In February, 1850, the Bank of Upper Canada which had secured the larger part of the government deposit, was granted a "license" under the authority of the act of 1841, to import copper coin to the value of £5,000 sterling.<sup>3</sup> Again in November, 1851, a license for a similar amount was granted; which issue is dated 1852. But, according to a letter of the cashier the greater part of these coins did not reach Canada until 1853. This delay as he claimed, was caused by "the great pressure on the mint for the gold and silver coinages of the kingdom." He further states that the agents of the bank had applied to the "Lords of the Treasury for leave to withdraw the dies and metal from the mint" and have the balance of the coinage completed elsewhere.<sup>4</sup> In September, 1853, the bank applied for another permit to issue tokens amounting to £5,000 sterling, explaining that there was "a great want of small change throughout Upper Canada;"<sup>5</sup> and the coinage dated 1854 was imported accordingly. Again in 1856, an application for a further importation was granted, this to the extent for £10,000 worth of tokens.<sup>6</sup> This most extensive coinage, which together with the three previous ones aggregated \$125,000, was more than the limited population of the Province of Canada could well take up; for not more than half of the tokens of 1857 were ever issued. The balance remained stored in the vaults of

<sup>1</sup> Statutes of the Province of Canada, 1852-3, Chap. 158.

<sup>2</sup> Ralph Heaton & Son . . . . Contract for the Coinage of . . . .  
Money Plate III., Nos. 5 and 6.

<sup>3</sup> Appendix F, No. 41.

<sup>4</sup> Appendix F, No. 44.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, No. 48.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, No. 52.

the bank until after its failure in 1866, when they were sold for old copper. Several tons of the penny pieces came into the possession of E. Chanteloup, brass founder, Montreal, by whom they were melted down. In the meantime an act was passed by which all transactions by and with the government should be calculated in decimal currency,<sup>1</sup> when the government undertook a duty which it had long shirked, a duty first rendered necessary when the Halifax currency was adopted. To meet the requirements of the new system a coinage of cents was ordered in 1858, from the Royal Mint. But this coinage, which amounted to 10,000,000 pieces, was issued altogether too soon, for the people had not yet accommodated themselves to the new way of counting. Consequently very little of it was put into circulation, except at a discount of twenty per cent, until 1870, when the old base coppers, that had gradually crept back into circulation, were demonetized and withdrawn from circulation at the expense of the government, and the bank halfpennies and pennies raised in value so as to circulate for one and two cents respectively. With the introduction of the decimal system and the assumption of the function of coinage by the government it ceased to be necessary for the banks to import copper tokens.

The design adopted for the obverse of the Bank of Upper Canada tokens lacks any interest for Canadians, as it is simply a copy of the legend of St. George and the dragon as portrayed by Pistrucchi on the first British sovereign struck at the Royal Mint in 1817, and on the crown of 1819. And the reverse, which bears the obsolete arms of the old Province of Upper Canada, is even less interesting, as it lacks any reference to Canada or any heraldic or artistic merit.

The letters of Thomas G. Ridont, cashier, of C. C. Trevelyan and of Glyn Mills & Co.<sup>2</sup> seem to imply that the whole of the coinage of 1850 and part of that of 1852 were struck at the Royal Mint. But the initials R. H. & Co. under the dragon on the obverse are clearly those of Ralph Heaton & Co., afterward Ralph Heaton & Son, mentioned in connection with the Quebec Bank coinage. They have for many years contracted for large coinages when "great pressure on the Royal Mint" made it necessary to have the work done outside. These coinages, many of them for Canada, bear the initial H for Heaton. The conclusion reached is, that even the first coinage for the Bank of Upper Canada was sublet to Ralph Heaton & Sons, and when the pressure at the mint became too great to attend even to accepting and supervising this order, the agents of the bank were forced to treat with the Heatons direct. This latter conclusion is borne out by the fact that the coins of 1854 are illustrated in Heaton's testimonial book.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Statutes of the Province of Canada, 1857, Chap. 18.

<sup>2</sup> Appendix, Nos. 44 and 45.

<sup>3</sup> Plate III., Nos. 7 and 8.

Thus, without any adequate remuneration did the Canadian banks come to relief of the public, suffering from the instability and insecurity of their copper change, by taking up a duty recognized as devolving upon the government, a duty which it seemed unwilling or incapable of performing. And yet it was not so much the want of trust on the part of the people in the change, privately provided, that caused the distress as its over-issue. Had it been just sufficient or a little less than sufficient, buyers and sellers would have gone on tendering and accepting it without question, one token was as good as another, for use as a counter in exchanging commodities, so long as all accepted it. It made no difference to the exchangers whether it was only worth one-half or even a quarter of the value it represented. But just as soon as these counters exceeded the requirements of the country, they came to partake of the character of a commodity, in which character they were well nigh worthless, if not to all, at least to most of the people they became discredited and were refused. It was the element of profit which the merchants had introduced into their provision of a circulating medium that was the root of the evil, and the only true way for averting such evil, a way proved by over 2,000 years of experience and practice, is, that the supplying of the necessary circulating medium in copper as well as in the nobler metals should be retained by the government, and that from this duty all elements of profit should be eliminated.

The failure on the part of the Provincial Government was the more serious because, as has already been noted, the change in the currency which practically led to the withdrawal of all legal copper change from the province, left the people to the mercy of private enterprise and consequently to the exploitation of unscrupulous traders, from which they were only rescued by the disinterested intervention of the banks.

And this vast quantity of spurious copper where has it gone? How much was imported and manufactured during the forty or more years that it continued? Shall we place it at double the issue of the banks, say \$300,000, and the \$150,000 they provided how little of it still continues in circulation? How much of it did the banks, in accordance with their license to issue, ever redeem?

If it took 35,000,000 counters to supply less than 2,000,000 people with small change for twenty years (60,000,000 pieces have since been issued in the whole of Canada), how many more have been required in gold and silver? We get an idea how constantly these counters have to be renewed. How expensive this provision of a medium of exchange which disappears in the course of a few years. And yet when we consider the vast aggregate transactions of the country exceeding many

thousand times the current value of this medium, the facility that it gives to such transactions, and the difficulty and limited opportunity of interchange of commodities, without such medium we arrive at its inestimable worth, and that it is truly the least costly boon provided by our government.

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## APPENDICES.

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### APPENDIX A.

#### DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF CANADIAN BANK TOKENS.

##### 1. *Un Sou Tokens.*

- 1 *Obv.* BANK TOKEN, MONTREAL: A wreath composed of laurel leaves to the left and a palm branch to the right enclosing UN|SOUS.  
*Rev.* TRADE & AGRICULTURE, LOWER CANADA; an emblematic bouquet composed of roses, rose leaves, thistles, shamrocks, maple leaves and ears of wheat. Size 28 millimetres.  
 Four minor varieties.
- 2 *Obv.* BANK OF MONTREAL TOKEN; wreath as last, enclosing UN | SOUS.  
*Rev.* Same as last. Size 28 m.  
 Four varieties.
- 3 *Obv.* BANQUE DU PEUPLE. MONTREAL; wreath of maple leaves enclosing UN | SOU.  
*Rev.* AGRICULTURE & COMMERCE, BAS CANADA; a bouquet similar in composition, but different in arrangement. Size 27 m. Edge milled.  
 Two varieties. The execution especially of the wreath is much inferior to the last two.
- 4 *Obv.* Same inscription as on last, but the wreath is composed of five large maple leaves, and there is a small phrygian cap to the right and a star to the left of the wreath.  
*Rev.* AGRICULTURE & COMMERCE, BAS-CANADA; a bouquet similar in composition to No. 1, but differing still more than the last in arrangement; one large maple leaf is its most prominent feature. Size 27 m. Edge slightly milled.  
 The stars and phrygian cap were introduced, no doubt, by Arnault the maker, who was a Frenchman, at the suggestion of the accountant of the bank, who sympathized with the movement then being agitated for the independence of Lower Canada. From this the coin is known as "The rebellion token."

11. *Habitant tokens or Papineaus.*

- 5 *Obv.* PROVINCE DU BAS CANADA. DEUX SOUS; a man in the costume of a French Canadian farmer of the time (a *habitant*), standing facing slightly to the right with a whip in his hand.  
*Rev.* BANK TOKEN ONE PENNY; Arms of the City of Montreal. Argent party par saltier gules. Chief a rose, dexter a thistle, sinister a shamrock and base a beaver, all proper; enclosed within a garter inscribed CONCORDIA SALUS. Motto, on a ribbon, in incused letters BANK OF MONTREAL; under the arms is the date 1837. Size 34 m.  
 Three varieties.
- 6 *Obv.* Same as last.  
*Rev.* As last, but the motto is CITY BANK. Size 34 m.  
 Three varieties.
- 7 *Obv.* Same as No. 5.  
*Rev.* As No. 5, but the motto is BANQUE DU PEUPLE. Size 34 m.  
 Two varieties.
- 8 *Obv.* Same as No. 5.  
*Rev.* As No. 5, but the motto is QUEBEC BANK. Size 34 m.  
 Three varieties. It may be noted that while this token was issued by a Quebec bank in the city of Quebec, it bears the arms of Montreal.
- 9 *Obv.* Same as No. 5.  
*Rev.* NEW BRUNSWICK. ONE PENNY TOKEN. A full rigged ship, with sails furled, to the left. Size 34 m.  
 This is a mule from the reverse die of the New Brunswick coinage of 1843. Only two specimens are known.
- 10 *Obv.* PROVINCE DU BAS CANADA, UN SOU; habitant as on No. 5.  
*Rev.* BANK TOKEN HALFPENNY; arms on No. 5 with motto BANK OF MONTREAL. Size 28 m.
- 11 *Obv.* Same as last.  
*Rev.* As last, but motto is CITY BANK. Size 28 m.
- 12 *Obv.* Same as No. 10.  
*Rev.* As No. 10, but motto is BANQUE DU PEUPLE. Size 28 m.
- 13 *Obv.* Same as No. 10.  
*Rev.* As No. 10, but motto is QUEBEC BANK. Size 28 m.

111. *Side Views.*

- 14 *Obv.* BANK OF MONTREAL, 1838. Corner view of the old building of the Bank of Montreal, showing the St. Francois-Xavier street side as well as the front.  
*Rev.* Arms and inscription similar to No. 5, but without date and the motto BANK OF MONTREAL is in raised letters. Size 34 m.  
 Two varieties.
- 15 *Obv.* As last, but the date is 1839.  
*Rev.* As last, but the motto is in incused letters. Size 34 m.  
 Two varieties.

- 16 *Obv.* As No. 14, but date is 1839.  
*Rev.* As No. 14, but the motto is BANQUE DU PEUPLE, in incused letters.  
 Size 34 m.  
 From the motto it would appear that a coinage was proposed by La Banque du Peuple in 1839, but as no corresponding halfpenny is known, this is altogether unlikely.

- 17 *Obv.* As No. 14.  
*Rev.* As No. 14, but the value is HALFPENNY. Size 28 m.  
 Three varieties.
- 18 *Obv.* As No. 14, but the date is 1839.  
*Rev.* As No. 14, but the value is HALFPENNY, and the motto BANK OF MONTREAL is in incused letters. Size 28 m.  
 Three varieties.
- 19 *Obv.* As No. 14, but the date is 1839.  
*Rev.* Plain. Size 28 m.  
 Only one specimen known, in the author's cabinet.

IV. *Front Views.*

- 20 *Obv.* PROVINCE OF CANADA BANK OF MONTREAL. Front view of the bank building.  
*Rev.* Arms and inscription as on No. 5, but the date is 1842. Size 34 m.
- 21 *Obv.* Same as last.  
*Rev.* Same as No. 6 (City Bank). Size 34 m.  
 This is evidently a mule by crossing the obverse die of a front view penny of 1842, with the reverse of a City Bank penny of 1837, as it has been occasionally met with in circulation, we are led to infer that during the coinage of 1842 a die belonging to that of 1837 had accidentally been employed. This proves that the two coinages were executed by the same firm.
- 22 *Obv.* As No. 20.  
*Rev.* As No. 5, but the date is 1842, and the value HALFPENNY. Size 28 m.  
 Two varieties.
- 23 *Obv.* As No. 20.  
*Rev.* As the last, but the date is 1844. Size 28 m.  
 Four varieties.
- 24 *Obv.* As No. 20.  
*Rev.* As No. 22, but the date is 1845. Size 28 m.  
 The only specimen I have seen is in the cabinet of Thos. Wilson, Clarence, Ont. Another specimen was sold at auction in London, England, in July, 1903.
- 25 *Obv.* As No. 20.  
*Rev.* VICTORIA DIE GRATIA REGINA, 1843; head of Queen Victoria to the left. Size 28 m.  
 A mule with the obverse die of the New Brunswick coinage of 1843, only one specimen known, in the cabinet of the Library of Parliament, Ottawa.

V. *Quebec Bank Tokens.*

- 26 *Obv.* PROVINCE DU CANADA DEUX SOUS; a *habitant* as in No. 5.  
*Rev.* QUEBEC BANK TOKEN; in *œvergue* 1852 ONE PENNY; the arms of the City of Quebec. In the foreground is a female, to the right, seated, holding a cornucopia; by her side is a shield, gules, a lion passant, gardant proper; before her is a beaver and behind a bee-hive. In the distance is Cape Diamond, surmounted by the Citadel and a ship at anchor in the river in front. Size 34 m.
- 27 *Obv.* As last, but the value is UN SOU.  
*Rev.* As last, but the value is HALFPENNY. Size 28 m.

VI. *Bank of Upper Canada Tokens.*

- 28 *Obv.* BANK OF UPPER CANADA, 1850. St. George on horseback to the right, slaying the dragon; under the dragon are initials *R. H. & Co.*  
*Rev.* BANK TOKEN. ONE PENNY. The seal of the old province of Upper Canada, which consists of a sword and anchor crossed, with a tomahawk down the centre; above is a crown, below two cornucopiæ, and in the upper right corner a part of a Union Jack. Size 34 m.
- The St. George and the dragon figured on this coin is a copy of Pistrucchi's design, which appeared on the first British sovereign struck in 1817. Neither it nor the obsolete seal of the old province of Upper Canada have any emblematic reference to Canada. The coinage of this bank, although the largest, is the least national of any. The initials *R. H. & Co.* stand for Ralph Heaton & Co., of Birmingham.
- 29 *Obv.* As last, but dated 1852.  
*Rev.* Same as last. Size 34 m.
- 30 *Obv.* As No. 28, but dated 1854.  
*Rev.* Same as No. 28. Size 34 m.  
 Two varieties.
- 31 *Obv.* As No. 28, but dated 1857.  
*Rev.* Same as No. 28. Size 34 m.
- 32 *Obv.* As No. 28.  
*Rev.* As No. 28, but the value is ONE HALF-PENNY. Size 28 m.
- 33 *Obv.* As No. 28, but the date is 1852.  
*Rev.* Same as last. Size 28 m.
- 34 *Obv.* As No. 28, but the date is 1854.  
*Rev.* Same as No. 32. Size 28 m.  
 Two varieties.
- 35 *Obv.* As No. 28, but the date is 1857.  
*Rev.* Same as No. 32. Size 28 m.



## APPENDIX B.

## STATEMENT OF THE NUMBER AND NOMINAL VALUE OF COPPER TOKENS IMPORTED INTO CANADA BY THE BANKS.

DATE.	BANK.	DENOMINATION.	PLACE OF COINAGE.	MAKERS.	QUANTITY ORDERED BUT NOT ISSUED.	NUMBER OF PIECES ISSUED	NOMINAL VALUE.
	Bank Token (B. of M.) Bank of Montreal. Banque du Peuple. do	Un Sous do Un Sou do	Birmingham do Belleville, N.J. Montreal	J. Arnault.		72,000 * 72,000 * 84,000 * 12,000 *	\$ 600 600 700 100
1837 1837	Bank of Montreal. do	Penny Halfpenny	Birmingham do	Boulton & Watt. do		600,000 1,200,000	10,000 10,000
1838 1838 1839 1839	Bank of Montreal. do do do	Penny Halfpenny Penny Halfpenny	Walsall do do do	Cotterell, Hill & Co. do do do	120,000 † do 120,000 † 240,000 †		
1842 1842 1844	Bank of Montreal. do do	Penny Halfpenny do	Birmingham do do	Boulton & Watt. do do		240,000 †† 480,000 †† 1,440,000	4,000 4,000 12,000
1852 1852	Quebec Bank. do	Penny Halfpenny	Birmingham do	Ralph Heaton & Co. do		240,000 480,000	4,000 4,000
1850 1850 1852 1852 1854 1854 1857 1857	Bank of Upper Canada. do do do do do do do	Penny Halfpenny Penny Halfpenny Penny Halfpenny Penny Halfpenny	Birmingham do do do do do do do	Ralph Heaton & Co. do do do do do do do		750,000 †† 1,500,000 ††† 750,000 †† 1,500,000 ††† 750,000 ††† 1,500,000 ††† 750,000 ††† 1,500,000 †††	12,500 12,500 12,500 12,500 12,500 12,500 12,500 12,500
					750,000 ⊙ 1,500,000 ⊙	750,000 †† 1,500,000 ††	12,500 12,500
					2,970,000	13,920,000	\$150,000

\* Estimated. † Returned to the makers because of inferior quality and workmanship. † Estimated that the issue, pennies and halfpennies, were equally divided as to nominal value. ⊙ Half the quantity imported in 1857 was melted down.

## APPENDIX C.

DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE COPPER COINS ISSUED BY THE CANADIAN BANKS.

*Extracts from Minutes of Directors of the Bank of Montreal.*

Page 123, 9th June, 1837.

The subject of the Copper Coin was again discussed. The Cashier was directed to import a quantity and obtain concurrence of the other Banks.

Page 162, 10th Oct., 1837.

A letter from Albert Furniss, dated 6th inst., *re* Copper Coins ordered from England was submitted. Cashier was directed to reply that this Bank would continue the order for one-half the amount first required, even without the assent of other Banks; but upon obtaining the assent of the City and Peoples Banks, the whole £5,000 to be imported by the first spring ships.

Page 166, 3rd Nov., 1837.

Steps taken to obtain from the Government a recommendation in favour of the importation.

Page 264, 14th June, 1839.

Coin arrived from England, but was of such a very inferior grade that Cashier instructed notary to protest against Mr. Furniss for recovery of damages and interest.

Page 295, 19th Nov., 1839.

Letter received from Mr. Furniss and also more coin, but of lower grade than former shipment.

29th April, 1842.

Government authorize importation of Copper Coin by Bank of Montreal to the extent of £5,000 any time between this and the year 1845.

## APPENDIX D.

## No. 1.

*From the Archives of the Court House, Montreal.**H. Griffin, 16629, 15th June, 1839.*

On this 15th day of June in the year of our Lord 1839, we, the undersigned public notaries, duly commissioned and sworn in and for the Province of Lower Canada, residing in the City of Montreal, in the said province, at the special instance and request of the President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Montreal, did go to the Counting house of Albert Furniss, Esq., of the said City of Montreal, merchant, and there being and speaking to himself did declare unto him that, whereas the said Bank of Montreal did order from the said Albert Furniss the importation in the year 1838 from England of a large amount in money of Penny and Halfpenny pieces of the description then given, which order was executed at the manufactory in

Liverpool of Messrs. Scholefield & Son, to the entire satisfaction of the said President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Montreal, and that, whereas, in consequence, the said Bank of Montreal, by and through their Cashier, by letter bearing date the 26 day of Nov. last past, did give unto the said Albert Furniss another order for a further quantity of penny pieces and halfpenny pieces, to wit, 120,000 penny pieces and 240,000 halfpenny pieces, with such alteration in the stamp or die of the said Coin from that of the previous importation as in the said letter particularly set forth, with the express direction that the said Importation of Copper Coin should be procured from the said house of Scholefield & Son, at Liverpool aforesaid, to be similar in respect to weight and fineness of material to the coin that had been furnished by that house the previous spring, and by the same letter it was further stated that to meet the view of the said Scholefield & Son that the said Cashier would direct the agents of the said bank to pay for the said coins on delivery of the bill of lading and invoice thereof with insurance; and that whereas the said Albert Furniss did receive the said order and did promise and undertake to procure the execution thereof, but disregarding the terms of the said order did cause the whole of the said quantity of Copper Coins to be procured in England aforesaid from some manufactory other than that of the said Scholefield & Son, and which, on being shipped at Liverpool aforesaid, was paid for in good faith by the agents of the said bank in Liverpool aforesaid, and that whereas the said quantity of Coins has been received in Montreal at the banking house of this institution, and on opening the casks containing the said coins are discovered to be of base material, different in all respects in the manufacture, coinage and workmanship from those manufactured the previous season by the said Scholefield & Son, and are, in fact, utterly unworthy of issue and disreputable to the manufactory where the same was made, and we did also declare to the said Albert Furniss that in consequence of the premises aforesaid the said Bank of Montreal could not issue the said coins, that the whole thereof would be held to his future order and be at his entire risk, charge and expense, and that the said Bank of Montreal should and would hold him, the said Albert Furniss, responsible and liable for all costs, losses, changes, damages and interests, exchanges, re-exchanges, hurts and injuries suffered and to be suffered by the said Bank of Montreal, for and by reason and upon account of the said coin having been made and shipped different to and contrary to the order and express direction of the said Bank of Montreal, through their said Cashier, and which he, the said Albert Furniss, did promise and to execute and perform. And at the same time we did direct that inasmuch as the said coins were ordered and manufactured to and for the special issue of the said Bank of Montreal, that none of the said coins should be by him issued or suffered to be issued or put into circulation which would prove to the discredit of the said institution against which and for all costs, losses, charges, damages and interests, exchanges, re-exchanges, hurts and injuries suffered and accrued, and that can, shall or may be hereafter suffered and accrued to and by the said Bank of Montreal for, by reason and on account of all and every the premises aforesaid, and for which the said Bank can, may or ought to protest, we, the said notaries, at the instance and request aforesaid do hereby formally protest against the said Albert Furniss, and against all and every other person and persons whomsoever it doth, shall

or may concern, and to the end that the said Albert Furniss or others concerned may not pretend ignorance in the premissis, we, at the same time served him with a certified copy of these presents at his Counting house aforesaid.

This done and protested at Montreal aforesaid, in the day, month and year first above written, and signed by us notaries in testimony of the premissis.

THOMAS I. PELTON,  
N.P.

H. GRIFFIN,  
N.P.

No. 2.

*H. Griffin, 16631, 18th June, 1839.*

On this the 18 day of June, in the year of our Lord 1839, before the undersigned public notaries, duly admitted and sworn in and for the Province of Lower Canada, residing in the City of Montreal, personally appeared, Albert Furniss, Esq., of the said City of Montreal, merchant, who declared that, whereas, in the month of November, 1838, he received an order, which he did undertake to execute, from the Bank of Montreal, in Montreal, for the importation from England in the spring of the present year for and on account of the said Bank of Montreal a large quantity of copper coins, to wit, 120,000 penny pieces, and 240,000 halfpenny pieces, according to a description minutely given, and that whereas the said Albert Furniss did transmit the said order to the manufacturing house and firm of Cotterill, Hill & Co., of Walsal, in England, with the patterns, orders and directions, who shipped the quantity of Copper Coin aforesaid, for the supply of the order aforesaid, and that whereas the said coins, on the packages being opened by the said bank on receipt of them in Montreal, have proved deficient in all respects in the manufacture, coinage and workmanship from the orders and the patterns, furnished, in consequence whereof the said Bank of Montreal have rejected the said copper coin to be, in fact, utterly unworthy of issue, and to be disreputable to the manufacturers, and have caused to be executed a formal protest against the said Albert Furniss for all costs, losses, charges and damages, interest and exchange, by reason thereof at the same time protesting against the said copper coin being put into circulation.

Wherefore the said Albert Furniss did declare to protest and did request of us, the said notaries, to extend this our formal protest against the said house and firm of Cotterill, Hill & Co., the manufacturers and shippers of the said copper coin, and for all costs, charges, damages, hurts, injuries, interests, exchanges and re-exchanges already suffered or that can, shall or may hereafter be suffered by the said Albert Furniss, for and by reason of the premissis aforesaid, and for which the said Bank of Montreal are determined to hold responsible the said Albert Furniss, and otherwise for all other matters and things for which the said Albert Furniss can, may or ought to protest touching all or any of the premissis aforesaid.

This done and protested at Montreal aforesaid, on the day, month and year first above written, and figured by us notaries in testimony of premissis.

THOMAS I. PELTON,  
N.P.

H. GRIFFIN,  
N.P.

No. 3.

*The following letter addressed to "H. Griffn, Esq.," is attached.*

D. SIR,

I think (although the furnishers of the Copper Coin make no difficulty) that it is advisable to send the protest to them. The firm is Cotterill, Hill & Co., of Walsal, in England. I think it well also to have them (the coppers) condemned. Will you be so good as to do the needful, as I leave for Upper Canada this morning.

Yours, etc.,

ALBERT FURNISS.

June 18, '39.

The Coin is to be shipped for England to-morrow.

## APPENDIX E.

*From the Canadian Archives.*

No. 1.

*Series Q, Vol. 242-1, p. 212.*

HIS MAJESTY'S CONSULATE,

New York, 19th May, 1837.

SIR,

I have the honour to state that a severe domestic affliction in a branch of my family residing in Lower Canada called me to Montreal and Quebec, at the time the New York Banks suspended payments in specie. Viewing in the commercial derangement, and general bankruptcy in the United States, an event well calculated to place Canada in an elevated point of view as sustaining her credit, while the United States with her overflowing Treasury and extensive commercial operations were dazzling the world and had drawn about Twenty-five Millions of British Capital to be invested in various securities, and chiefly chartered institutions in the United States, while very little has been placed in the security of the Upper Province of Canada, though most ample, these considerations led me to be much in consultation with the merchants at Montreal and Quebec, as to the course most advisable to be pursued in the present crisis.

As the Banks at Montreal had ample to redeem their outstanding notes, it was believed that if the Canadian Silver which is locked up in the Receiver-General's chest at Quebec (about 800,000 dollars) was turned out, change for the ordinary transactions would be afforded, and under that view I was induced to address a letter to Lord Gosford (a copy of which I have the honour to enclose), but upon further deliberation it was soon discovered that it would be impossible for the Canada banks to afford further facilities to the merchants if they continued to redeem their paper when the United States banks had declined doing so, nor to continue operations by discontinuing as the quantity of produce from the United States, which is generally brought to Montreal during the shipping season, exceeds £350,000, all of which heretofore was paid in silver, and though carried into the States, it was brought back by the banks, consequently, such would not now be the case, therefore, under due deliberation, it was deemed indispensable

that the banks in Canada should suspend to pay specie, and in order to afford facilities of trade a credit would be established at New York, and for produce purchased, give draft on that City or Bills on England for the amount; thus far as to the merchants all is well, not so to the community, as the want of a circulating medium has been long severely felt in His Majesty's Provinces, and from ill-judged legislation by an Act passed in 1830, great inconvenience has been the result, and now, so much so, that the subject demands immediate attention. The Act refers to Pistareens, which passed currently at a shilling, Halifax Currency, to 10d, and the half-Pistareesa, 5d, the consequence has been that all the silver of that denomination was purchased and taken to Spain, whereby a great profit was realized while His Majesty's Government did not replace the silver thus removed; the difficulty was not then felt as American half dollars and quarters were freely brought in and thereby Canada indebted to the United States for its circulating medium, the loss of change was supplied by speculators by the introduction of base coin of copper of which vast sums have been imported from Birmingham and sold to the grocers at 5s. for 3s. 4d, the ordinary rate. A gentleman conversing with me on the state of the Copper Currency put his hand into his pocket and gave without any previous selection several of them, which I have the honour to forward. The sufferings and consequences which will arise to the community at this crisis is of a most serious character, and in order to avert which, I venture to address you, sir, and respectfully to suggest the sending out a copper coin to afford facilities for the daily business.

"British-American halfpennies and pennies." These, if sent to the Commissary-General will pay the Troops and afford a large profit—allow their carriage and freight to be of the cost in Canada of 4s. and they will pass for 5s. I do not wish to see their full value, as I wish them to remain in the Province—but 20 per cent. will secure them remaining.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. BUCHANAN.

To SIR GEORGE GREY, BART.,

One of His Majesty's Under-Secretaries of State, etc., etc., etc.,  
COLONIAL OFFICE, LONDON.

No. 2.

*Series Q, Vol. 242-4, p. 987*

BIRMINGHAM, 3rd August, 1837.

MY LORD,

My sons, who are Merchants in this Town, have received an order for Copper Tokens from Canada. The letter which has been sent to them is inclosed—it appears that much spurious copper money issued by various individuals, is in circulation in the Colony, the Bank of Montreal wishes to introduce a sound Copper Currency and they profess, what we believe to be really the fact, that they do *not* at all seek to make a profit by the coinage they wish to introduce into that city, the amount they have written for is about 5,000£ Currency, say 4,500£ Sterling. On application to Messrs. Boulton & Watt of this place, who are the principal Manufacturers of Copper

Sec. II., 1903. 16.

Money—they tell us that a *penalty* is incurred by the 57th of George 3d, Chapter 46, page 817, by any person who coins Copper Money, but that permission is usually given on the application of parties wishing to circulate it.

Not knowing whether Your Lordship is the proper person to make the enquiry of, I am sure you will excuse me if I am in error in writing to you and will, I trust, direct me to the right quarter, or will give me such information as will enable my sons either to undertake the execution of the order, or to decline it.

Apologizing for the present liberty,

I have the honour to be, My Lord,

Yr. mo. obt. servant,

JOS. SCHOLEFIELD

The Rt. HONORABLE LORD GLENELG, etc., etc., etc.

No. 3.

*C. Archives, Series Q, Vol. 240—2, p. 313.*

TREASURY CHAMBERS,

30th August, 1837.

SIR,

I am commanded by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to request you will state to Lord Glenelg that an application has been addressed to their Lordships by Mr. Scholefield of Birmingham, for permission to execute an order received from the Bank of Montreal in Lower Canada for a coinage of Copper Tokens for circulation in that Province, and as *their Lordships find that Lord Glenelg is already in possession of the particulars of this application* they request to be favoured with his opinion as to the propriety and expediency of acceding thereto before they give any directions on the subject.

I am, sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. Y. SPEARMAN.

JAMES STEPHEN, Esq., etc. etc., etc.

No. 4.

P. 319.

TREASURY CHAMBERS,

21 September, 1837.

SIR,

With further reference to the Letter from this Department of 30th ulto. and to your reply thereto, of 12 inst. respecting the application of Mr. Scholefield, of Birmingham, for permission to execute an order which he had received from the Bank of Montreal for a coinage of Copper Tokens to be circulated in Lower Canada; I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to request that you will state to Lord Glenelg that in the absence of any information on the subject from the Governor of Lower Canada, My Lords must defer giving their sanction for the transmission of the Copper Tokens which the Montreal Banking Company has proposed to put into circulation in that Province, and that they have caused a communication to that effect to be made to Mr. Scholefield; but My Lords

have to request that Lord Glenelg will call upon the Governor of Lower Canada for an immediate report upon the proposition of the Montreal Banking Company in order that this Board may be apprized whether any objection exists to a compliance with Mr. Scholefield's application.

I am, sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. Y. SPEARMAN.

JAS. STEPHEN, Esq., etc., etc., etc.

No. 5.

*Series Q, Vol. 242a, p. 308.*

DOWNING STREET,

28 September, 1837.

*The Earl of Gosford.*

No. 272.

MY LORD,

I have the honour to transmit to you the copy of an application which I have received from Mr. Scholefield, of Birmingham, for permission to execute an order which he had received from the Bank of Montreal for a Coinage of Copper Tokens to be circulated in Lower Canada. The subject belonging strictly to the cognisance of the Lords of the Treasury, Mr. Scholefield was referred to that Board. Their Lordships have informed him, that in the absence of any information on the subject from you they have declined to give their sanction to the transmission of these tokens to Lower Canada, but their Lordships have requested me to call on you, for an immediate report on the proposition of the Bank of Montreal in order that their Lordships may be apprized whether any objection exists to a compliance with Mr. Scholefield's application. I have, therefore, to request that you will furnish me with the desired Report.

I have, etc.

GLENELG.

No. 6.

*Series Q, Vol. 239-1, p. 109.*

(No. 122.)

CASTLE OF ST. LEWIS,

Quebec, 28th November, 1837.

MY LORD,

With reference to your Dispatch of the 28th September last, No. 272, enclosing an application from Mr. Scholefield, of Birmingham, on behalf of the Montreal Bank for permission to execute an order for coining copper tokens to be circulated in this Province, and requesting information from me on the proposition of the Bank.

I have the honour to acquaint you that having laid the matter before the Executive Council they have furnished me with a report on the subject, in which I concur, setting forth the great inconvenience arising from the want of a small and sound circulating medium to replace the base copper-coin at present in use, and recommending that the tokens to be coined be



of such weight and value as to leave no remuneration to the Bank after paying the expenses of importation into the Province.

As the People of the Country are accustomed to assign to any copper coin the value of a halfpenny only, I would suggest that in order to prevent confusion, no token of greater value than a halfpenny should be coined.

Enclosed is a Copy of the Report of Council.

I have the honour to be, My Lord,

Your most obedient servant,

GOSFORD.

The RIGHT HONORABLE LORD GLENELG, etc., etc., etc.

No. 7.

Page 111.

*To His Excellency The Earl of Gosford, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of the Province of Lower Canada, etc., etc., etc.*

Report of a Committee of the whole Council Present: The Honorable Mr. Stewart, Mr. Pemberton, Mr. Panet, Mr. Debartzch and Mr. Sheppard, on a Despatch from Lord Glenelg, dated 28th Sept., 1837, on the proposition of the Bank of Montreal for a Copper Coinage for Lower Canada.—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

The Committee can have no hesitation in recommending that the application of Mr. Scholefield, on behalf of the Bank of Montreal, for permission to execute an order for Copper Tokens to be circulated in Lower Canada be granted.

It is a matter of notoriety that the Copper Coin at present in circulation is almost entirely of a base and spurious description and that great inconvenience consequently arises in the common transactions of life from the want of a small circulating medium.

The Committee, however, would humbly recommend that the tokens to be coined be of such weight and value as to leave no remuneration to the Bank save the expenses of importation into this Province.

All which is respectfully submitted to Your Excellency's wisdom.

By order,

(Signed), J. STEWART,  
Chairman.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 22nd Nov., 1837.

Certified,  
GEORGE H. RYLAND.

## APPENDIX F.

No. 1.

*Documents from the Archives of the Secretary of State.*OFFICE OF THE PEACE,  
Quebec, 8th June, 1837.

SIR,

We have the honour herewith to transmit for the purpose of being laid before His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, two Resolutions adopted this day at a General Special Session of the peace, especially convened to take into consideration the state of the copper currency now in circulation in this City and District. And on the part of the Magistrates we respectfully request, that His Excellency will be pleased to take into his most favourable consideration the request and views of the Magistrates contained in the said Resolutions.

We have the honour to be, sir,

Your most obedient humble servants,

(Signed), PERRAULT & SCOTT.  
Clerk of the Peace.

THE CIVIL SECRETARY.

*Endorsed.*

Referred to a Committee of the whole Executive Council for their opinion and report on the first resolution.

By command,

W. WALCOTT,  
Civil Secretary.

Quebec, 15 June, 1837.

No. 2.

PROVINCE OF LOWER CANADA,  
City of Quebec.

General Special Session of the Peace under the Road and Police Acts—convened more especially for the purpose of taking into consideration the state of the Copper Currency now in Circulation in this City and District, and to adopt any measures in relation thereto which may be deemed expedient.—

*Thursday, 8th June, 1837.*

*Resolu.*—Qu'une humble adresse soit présentée à Son Excellence le Gouverneur en Chef, exposant à Son Excellence qu'il résulte de nombreux Inconvéniens du manque de Monnaie de Cuivre, et priant Son Excellence de vouloir bien adopter telles mesures qu'il jugera à propos pour importer du Royaume Uni une quantité de Monnaie de Cuivre ("pennys" et "half-pennys") legale, suffisante pour faire cesser la gêne qui existe maintenant à cet égard.

*Resolved.*—That an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, praying that so soon as the amount of Assessments payable on Public Buildings in this City during the Current year, shall have been duly established, settled and liquidated, His Excellency will be pleased

to direct the Receiver-General to pay the same to the Road Treasurer in small silver Coins, viz.: *Three-penny-halfpenny, seven-pence-halfpenny and one shilling and three-pence* pieces, to enable the Road Treasurer therewith to pay the Pay Lists of public Works of the Surveyor of Highways of this City.

Certified,

(Signed), PERRAULT & SCOTT.

Clerk of the Peace and of the Sessions of the Peace.

No. 3.

*To His Excellency The Earl of Gosford, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of the Province of Lower Canada, etc., etc., etc.*

Report of a Committee of the Executive Council, Present: The Honorable Mr. Smith, Mr. Stewart and Mr. Cochran, on Your Excellency's Reference to a Letter from the Clerks of the Peace with two Resolutions passed by the Magistrates respecting the Coin in circulation.

Approved,

(Signed), GOSFORD.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

The Committee have taken into consideration your Excellency's Reference from the Clerks of the Peace, with two Resolutions assented to in General Special Sessions of the Peace submitting to your Excellency the expediency of adopting measures of obtaining from the United Kingdom a supply of good Copper Coin for circulation in this Province, and also of directing that the amount of Assessments on the public Buildings in Quebec for this Year, be paid when ascertained in small Silver Coin. The Committee are of opinion that for the relief of the present difficulties in money circulation, especially with respect to Copper Coin, it would be highly desirable that His Majesty's Government be solicited to cause a supply of the legal Copper Coin of the Realm consisting of pence and halfpence to the amount of £2,000 to be sent out to this Country, through the Treasury Department to be lodged with the Receiver-General and paid out in discharge of Warrants from time to time.

The Committee beg leave upon this head to refer to a Report made by a special Committee of the Legislative Council in 1833, followed up by an address to the then Governor-in-Chief for the purpose of obtaining a supply of Copper Coin. With respect to the other point submitted by the Magistrates The Committee are also of opinion that it would be desirable that the amount of the assessments on the Public Buildings for the current year should, when ascertained, be paid by the Receiver-General in such small Silver Coin of the denomination mentioned by the Magistrates, as he may have in his possession.

All of which is respectfully submitted to your Excellency's Wisdom.

By order,

(Signed), WM. SMITH,

Chairman.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS,

29th June, 1837.

No. 4.

CASTLE ST. LEWIS,  
Quebec, 21st November, 1837.

SIR,

I am directed by the Governor-in-Chief, to transmit to you the accompanying Despatch with one Enclosed from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, calling for information from this Government, relative to an order from the Montreal Bank, to a House at Birmingham for a Coinage of Copper Tokens, & to request that you will be so good as to lay these Documents before a Committee of the whole Executive Council, with a request that they will favour His Excellency with such information and observations on the subject, as may enable Him to furnish the Report required by the Secretary of State.

I have the honour to be, sir,  
Your most obedient servant,

WALCOTT,  
Civil Secy.

THE HONORABLE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

No. 5.

Copy of a Report of a Committee of the Executive Council, dated 23d March, 1842, and approved by His Excellency the Governor-General, on the 28th of the same Month, and the proposition of the Montreal Bank to issue certain Copper Coins as Tokens.—

The Committee of Council have considered the proposition of the Montreal Bank, made with the concurrence of the other Banking Institutions, to issue as the Copper Coinage authorized by the Act 4th and 5th Victoria, Cap. 17, certain Coins or tokens, the same as those issued by the same Institution, under the authority of an order in council of the Province of Lower Canada of 18th December, 1837.

This arrangement would, no doubt, be very convenient for many reasons, but as a certain limited amount of Coin is allowed to be put in circulation under the late act, and as the redemption of the issue, is, by the act, obligatory upon the person, or body corporate, making the same, the Committee are of opinion that a new die should be struck, in which case the impression might also be made applicable to present circumstances.

That all invidious reflections may be avoided, the Committee think it would be prudent for the Bank, as it does not desire profit from the transaction, to send an account of the expenses attending the Coinage, and importation, so that the same may be furnished to Parliament if called for.

Certified

(Signed), WM. H. LEE

THE HONORABLE MR. DALY.

PROVINCE OF CANADA.

*His Excellency, etc.—**To The President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Montreal.*

GREETING—

*Whereas*,—The President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Montreal, have made application for permission to import into the Province, or to manufacture therein, copper coins under the authority of an act of the Legislature of the said Province passed in the session held in the fourth and fifth years of Her Majesty's reign, intituled, "An act to prevent the "fraudulent manufacture, importation, or circulation of spurious Copper and "Brass Coin."—

*Now Know Ye*,—That I, the said Sir Charles Bagot, having taken the said application into consideration, by virtue of the power in me vested by the said act, have given and granted, and do hereby give and grant by and with the advice and consent of Her Majesty's Executive Council for the said Province, authority and permission to the President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Montreal aforesaid to import into the said Province or to manufacture therein any amount of Copper Coin or tokens of the description of pennies and halfpennies, not exceeding in nominal value the sum of Five Thousand Pounds current money of this Province, such coin or tokens to be equal in purity, weight and quality to five-sixths at the least of the British penny or halfpenny lawfully current in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. Provided always that the said Coin or Tokens shall be stamped with the respective nominal value thereof and with the name of the President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Montreal aforesaid, and shall be payable and redeemable on demand at the said Bank of Montreal, in conformity in all respects with the provisions of the said act. And provided also that the President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Montreal aforesaid shall with all reasonable diligence, furnish to the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor or person administering the Government of the said Province for the time being an account of the expenses incurred in and about the importation or manufacture of the said coins or tokens, in order that the same may be laid before the Legislature of the said Province. And I do hereby declare that the permission of these presents given and granted shall become void and of no effect by the violation or non-observance of any of the conditions or provisions herein contained, but in case of the due observance and fulfilment thereof shall continue and be in force until the first day of January, 1845, and no longer.

Given, etc.,

This is my draught.

KINGSTON, 8th April, 1842.

(Signed), CHAS. D. DAY,

Sol. Genl.

*Endorsed.*

Solicitor-General's draft of Permission to the President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Montreal to import and manufacture Copper Coin.

No. 7.

## PROVINCE OF CANADA.

His Excellency the Right Honorable Sir Charles Bagot, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, One of Her Majesty's Honorable Privy Council, Governor-General of British North America, and Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over the Province of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the Island of Prince Edward, and Vice-Admiral of the same.

(Signed) CHARLES BAGOT.

*To The President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Montreal.*

## GREETING—

*Whereas*,—The President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Montreal have made application for permission to import into the said Province, or to manufacture therein Copper Coins under the authority of an act of the Legislature of the said Province passed in the session held in the fourth and fifth years of Her Majesty's Reign, entitled "An Act to prevent the fraudulent Manufacture, Importation, or Circulation of Spurious Copper, and Brass Coin." Now Know Ye, that I, the said Charles Bagot, having taken the said application into consideration, by virtue of the power in me vested, by the Said Act, have given and granted, and do hereby give, and grant, by and with the advice and with the consent of Her Majesty's Executive Council for the said Province, Authority and Permission to the President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Montreal aforesaid, to import into the Said Province, or to manufacture therein any amount of Copper Coin or Tokens of the description of Pennies and Halfpennies, not exceeding in nominal value the sum of Five thousand pounds current money of this Province. Such Coin or Tokens to be equal in purity, weight, and quantity to five-sixths at the least of the British Penny and Halfpenny lawfully current in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

*Provided always*,—That the said Coin or Tokens shall be stamped with the respective nominal value thereof, and with the name of the President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Montreal aforesaid, and shall be payable and redeemable on demand at the said Bank of Montreal, in conformity in all respects with the provisions of the said Act.

*And provided also*,—That the President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Montreal aforesaid shall, with all reasonable diligence, furnish to the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Person administering the Government of the said Province for the time being, an account of the expenses incurred in and about the importation or manufacture of the said Coins or Tokens, in order that the same may be laid before the Legislature of the said Province.

And, I do hereby declare that the permission by these Presents given and granted, shall become void and of no effect by the violation or non-observance of any of the conditions herein contained; but in case of the due observance and fulfilment thereof, shall continue and be in force until the first day of January, One thousand Eight hundred and Forty-five, and no longer.

Given under my Hand and Seal at Arms, at Kingston, in Canada, this Sixteenth day of April, in the Year of Our Lord One thousand Eight hundred and Forty-two, and in the fifth year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's command,

(Signed), D. DALY,  
Secretary.

(Pencil notation).—O. C. 23 March, 1842—State Book A, p. 329.

No. 8.

579. No. 710.

*Benj'n Holmes, Esq., M.P.P., Cashier Bank of Montreal.*

21 April, '42.

SIR,

I have the honour herewith to enclose to you by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, a Permission under the Privy Seal of the Province of Canada, to the President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Montreal to import or manufacture Copper Coin as requested in your communication of the 12th ult., the receipt of which you will have the goodness to acknowledge.

I have, etc.

No. 9.

[Copy.]

*Importation of Copper Coins Duty Free.*

Report of a Committee of the Executive Council dated 12th November, 1842. Approved by His Excellency The Governor-General on the 25 November, 1842.

The Committee of Council are respectfully of opinion that the Inspector General's decision to admit the Copper Coins, Mentioned in the Collector of Customs letter of the 7 November, 1842, free of duty was Correct, and they recommend the adoption of the following Order.

It is Ordered by His Excellency the Governor-General, by and with the advice of the Executive Council, that the Copper Coins imported by the Montreal Bank under an arrangement with the Executive Government be admitted free of duty.

Certified,

(Signed), E. PARENT,  
C. E. O.

To THE INSPECTOR GENERAL, etc., etc., etc.

A copy transmitted to the Collector of Customs, Montreal, on 26 Nov., 1842.

J. C.

No. 10.

BANK OF MONTREAL,

Montreal, 25 January, 1844.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that under the authority of the order-in-Council transmitted in your letter dated Kingston, 21 April, 1842, of which order I beg leave to enclose a Copy, there was imported by the Bank of Montreal a portion only of the Copper Coin therein sanctioned.

That now it is desirable for the convenience of the public and to supply the demand for such coin, especially in the Western section of the province that the residue of the amount then authorized should be imported by the first spring Ships.

Having made application to the collector of this port, William Hall, Esq., to know whether he was authorized to admit the residue, about £2,000 next spring, free of duty, his answer was, "not without an order from the Executive, as my instructions to remit the duty last year had reference only to the amount then imported."

May I therefore request the favour of your submitting to His Excellency the Governor-General the request of the Bank, that he will be pleased to order the requisite instructions to the Collector of the Port of Montreal to enable the Bank to supply the demand, and fulfil the object contemplated by said order-in-Council, which in its last clause limited the operation to the first day of January, 1845.

I have the honour to be, sir,  
Your most obedient Servant,  
(Signed), BENJ. HOLMES,  
Cashier.

No. 11.

*Importation of Copper Coins duty free by the Montreal Bank.*

By Permission from the Governor, dated 16 April, 1842, given under the authority of an Order-in-Council of the 28 March preceding, the Bank of Montreal was authorized to import Copper Coins to the Amount of £5,000. The period within which such importation was to be made is by said Permission limited to the 1 January, 1845.

The Bank intends to import the residue of the above sum, being about £2,000 and they pray to be allowed to import it duty free, as was allowed in a similar case by an Order-of-Council of the 25 November, 1842.

The said importation made under the 4 and 5 Vict., ch. 17.

No. 12.

IN COUNCIL,  
21 March, 1844.

On the Letter from the Cashier of the Bank of Montreal, dated 25 February, 1844, requesting that the Collector of Montreal may be instructed to admit free of duty the residue of the Copper Coinage authorized to be issued by the said Bank, under an Order-in-Council of the 28 March, 1842, and subsequent permission from the Governor-General of the 16 April ensuing.

Ordered, That the Collector of Customs at Montreal be authorized to admit free of duty the residue of the said Copper Coinage—about £2,000.

Certified,

E. PARENT.

To the PROVINCIAL SECRETARY.



No. 12.

616 to 643.

*B. Holmes, Esq., Cashier of the Bank of Montreal, etc., etc., etc., Montreal.*

SIR,

29 March, 1844.

In reply to your letter of the 25 of January last, I have the honour, by command of the Governor-General to inform you that His Excellency has been pleased to direct the Collector of Customs at Montreal to admit, free of duty, the residue of the Copper Coinage authorized to be imported into the Province by the Bank of Montreal, under the Permission granted them for that purpose by the late Governor-General, Sir Chas. Bagot, on the 16 of April, 1842.

I have, etc.

W.,

Entd.,

W. H. JONES,

A. R. ROCHE.

No. 14.

615 on 343.

*W. Hall, Esq., Collector of Customs, Montreal,*

29 March, 1844.

SIR,

I have the honour by command of the Governor-General to desire that you will have the goodness to admit, free of duty, the residue of the Copper Coinage, (in amount, about £2,000), authorized to be imported into the Province by the President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Montreal, under the Order-in-Council of the 28 of March, 1842, and the subsequent Permission from the late Governor-General, Sir Chas. Bagot, of the 16 of April ensuing.

I have, etc.

W.,

Entd.,

W. H. JONES,

A. R. ROCHE.

No. 15.

BANK OF MONTREAL,

SIR,

Montreal, 14 June, 1845.

With reference to previous communications on the subject of supplying the Province with approved Copper Coin, which was undertaken by the Bank of Montreal, I beg leave now to state, that the residue of the contemplated supply of that Coin, has now arrived—viz.: 49 Casks, Weighing 8 Tons, 17 Cwt., 23 lbs., 8 oz, on Board the Brig "Conrad," from Liverpool, and that on application to the Custom House for permit to land the same, the Bank is informed, that a similar order to that given to the Collector last Spring is necessary.

Under these circumstances, may I request the favour of your obtaining for the Bank the requisite sanction from His Excellency the Governor-General, that the Bank may be enabled to get the Coin Landed, free of Duty as heretofore.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your Most Obedient Servant,

(Signed),

BENJ. HOLMES.

To The HON. D. DALEY, etc., etc., etc., Montreal.

No. 16.

1502 to 1781.

B. Holmes, Esq., Bank of Montreal.  
SIR,

24 June, 1845.

I have the honour by command of the Governor-General to inform you that the issue of the permit to land the Copper Coin mentioned in your letter of the 14th inst. has been unavoidably delayed from its having been ascertained that the instrument authorising the importation thereof ceased to be of force on the 1st of January last, so that a new instrument of like tenor seems to be required in the case. Before this can be made out, it is necessary you should state for His Excellency's information how much of the £5,000 authorised in April, 1842, has not been imported, and what is the amount you wish to be allowed now to import in addition.

I have, etc.

No. 17.

BANK OF MONTREAL,

SIR,

Montreal, 25 June, 1845.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 24 instant, addressed to M. Holmes, on the Subject of the Copper Coin imported from Great Britain for the use of this Bank, and in reply beg to State for the information of His Excellency the Governor-General that the following Amounts have been received in virtue of the Order-in-Council dated April, 1842, viz:

1842	19 August.	Amount of Invoice.. . . . .	£2,000 0 0
1844	18 April.	" " .. . . . .	2,060 16 0
		Total .. . . .	£4,060 16 0

In addition to which there has been brought from England this Spring a further sum of £1,003 Sterling, which completes as near as possible the Amount Originally Applied for, Say, £5,000.

I further beg to inform you that the last mentioned Amount for which Authority is now required to pass the Customs, is all that the Bank has ordered, nor will it at present require any further Amount of Copper Coin.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed), Wm. GUNN,  
Ass. Cashier.

The HON. D. DALY, Secretary Province of Canada, Montreal.

No. 18.

1781

BANK OF MONTREAL,

No. 101.

Montreal, 14 June, 1845.

Represents that in accordance with an agreement previously entered into, They have imported per Brig "Conrad" 49 Casks containing 8 Tons, 17 Cwts., 23 lbs. and 8 oz. Copper Coin, and request permission to land the same.

Coin and Bullion are exempted from duty, but copper coin cannot be manufactured or imported into the Province without the special permission

of The Governor-General-in-Council — it being provided that “such permission shall contain a description of the Coin or tokens to which it shall extend — the quantity thereof to be imported or manufactured, and the time during which such permission shall be in force — and that such permission shall be announced in the Official Gazette.” As the Copper Coin in question has been made in accordance with the provisions of the 1 and 2 Sec. 4 & 5 Vic., Cap 17, I recommend that His Excellency may be pleased to grant the Bank of Montreal, permission to land the same, 16th June, 1845.

(Signed),

of Customs.

No. 19.

PROVINCE OF CANADA.

*His Excellency, etc.*

*To The President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Montreal.*

GREETING—

*Whereas*,—The President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Montreal have made application for permission to import into the Province of Canada, or to manufacture therein Copper Coins under the authority of an act of the Legislature of the said Province made and passed in the Session held in the fourth and fifth years of Her Majesty's reign, intituled, “An Act to prevent the fraudulent manufacture, importation or circulation of spurious Copper or Basé Coin.”

Now Know Ye, that I, the said Charles Theophilus Baron Metcalfe, etc., etc., having taken the said application into Consideration, by virtue of the power in me vested, by the said act, have given and granted, and do hereby give and grant, by and with the consent of Her Majesty's Executive Council for the said Province, authority and permission to the President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Montreal aforesaid, to import into the said Province, or to manufacture therein any amount of Copper Coin or tokens of the description of pennies or half-pennies not exceeding in nominal value the sum of twelve hundred pounds current money of this Province, such coin or tokens to be equal in purity, weight and quantity to five-sixths, at the least, of the British penny and half-penny lawfully current in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

*Provided always*,—That the said Coin or tokens shall be stamped with the respective nominal value thereof, and with the name of the President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Montreal aforesaid, in conformity in all respects with the provisions of the said act. And provided also that the President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Montreal aforesaid, shall, with all reasonable diligence furnish the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or person administering the Government of the said Province for the time being, an account of the expenses incurred in and about the importation or manufacture of the said Coin or tokens, in order that the same may be laid before the Legislature of the said Province. And I do hereby declare that the permission by these presents given and granted shall become void and of no effect by the violation or non-observance of any of the conditions or provisions herein contained, but in case of the due observance and fulfilment

thereof, shall continue and be in force until the first day of October, one thousand eight hundred and forty-five and no longer.

Given, etc.

N.P.

Date, 4th July.

This is my draught.

Montreal, 25th June, 1845.

No. 20.

Copy of a Report of a Committee of the Executive Council, dated 30 June, 1845, approved by His Excellency in Council on the same day.

On the Application of the Bank of Montreal, that a Quantity of Copper Coin Amounting to £1,003 Stg. imported from Great Britain for the use of the Bank, and which Completes as near as possible the amount originally applied for, say , £5,000, may be admitted without duty.

The Committee recommend that the Collector of Customs at Montreal be authorized to admit free of duty, the residue of the Copper Coinage, about £1,003 Sterling.

Certified,

(Signed), E. PARENT.

To The PROVINCIAL SECRETARY.

No. 21.

1599 on 1781.

W. Hall, Esq., Collector, Montreal,

2 July, '45.

SIR,

I have the honour by command of the Governor-General, to convey to you His Excellency's instructions that you should admit free of duty the 49 casks of Copper Coin of the value of about £1,003 Sterling, imported on board the Brig "Conrad" for the Bank of Montreal.

I have, etc.

Entd.,

W. R. B.

W. H. JONES.

No. 22.

Copy of a Report of a Committee of the Executive Council dated 4 July, 1845, approved by His Excellency in Council on the same day.

On reconsideration of the Order-in-Council of the 30 June last, authorising the admission free of duty of a certain amount of Copper Coinage by the Bank of Montreal.—

The Committee perceive that the permission formerly granted to the Bank of Montreal expired on the 1 January last, and that in consequence they require an extension of the said permission in order to take advantage of the Order-in-Council of the 30 June last.

Wherefore the Committee recommend to Your Excellency's approval the draft of the Instrument required to that effect, prepared by the Law Officer of the Crown, dated 28 June, 1845.

Certified,

(Signed), E. PARENT.

To The PROVINCIAL SECRETARY.

No. 23.

1874 to 1871.

*B. Holmes, Esq., Cashier Bank of Montreal.*

5 August, '45.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 14 of June last, I have received the commands of the Governor-General to transmit to you the accompanying Instrument authorising the President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Montreal to import the residue of the Copper Coin contemplated by the Bank under the provisions of the Act 4 and 5 Vict., Cap. 17, and upon which Instrument the usual fee of £3 5s. 0d. currency, is payable to this Department.

I am to take this occasion through you to call the attention of the President and Directors to the requirements of the enclosed, as also of the former instrument of the same character in reference to the Statement of the expenses incurred in the importation and manufacture of the Coin authorised by them to be imported, and to request that the same may be furnished in time for the next meeting of the Prov. Legislature.

I have, etc.

No. 24.

BANK OF MONTREAL,

9 August, 1845.

SIR,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 5 instant, transmitting an Instrument under the hand and seal of His Excellency the Governor-General, authorizing the Bank to import Copper Coin, upon which you state the usual fee to be £3 5s., which sum I beg leave herewith to enclose in liquidation of said claim.

For the information of His Excellency I beg to transmit herewith a statement of the several importations effected under the provisions of the Act 4 and 5 Vic., Cap. 17.

I have the honour to be, sir

Your obedient servant,

(Signed),

BENJ. HOLMES,

Cashier.

The HON. D. DALY, Provincial Secretary, etc., etc.

No. 25.

On 10 June, 1837, The Bank of Montreal, with the view of obtaining for this Colony a sound copper currency, transmitted through Albert Furniss, Esquire, of this city, an order to Great Britain for the manufacturing of copper coin on the following terms:—

“It has been determined by the Board of Directors of this Institution to obtain an amount of copper coin equivalent to £5,000 Halifax currency, reckoning 120,000 pennies and 240,000 half-pennies to the £1,000, the weight and quality of the Copper, as also the size, thickness and fashion of the pieces, that is to say, the strong impression and raised edges to be similar to the British penny and half-penny issued from the Imperial mint in 1831.”



and halfpennies for circulation—the said Coins to have the same relative value to the Imperial penny and halfpenny, as those imported by this Bank in 1838, in accordance with permission then granted by the Provincial Government under the provisions of the Ordinance of the Special Council 2 Vict., Cap. 5.

I have the honour to be, sir,  
Your Most Obed. Serv.,  
(Signed),

NOAH FREER,  
Cashier.

The HON. JAMES LESLIE, Provincial Secretary.

No. 27.

283 to 105, p. 117.

*Noah Freer, Esq., Cashier Quebec Bank, Quebec.*

12 March, 1851.

SIR,

With reference to your application, on behalf of the Quebec Bank, for permission for this Bank to import from England in the course of the present year the sum of two thousand pounds sterling in pennies and half-pennies for circulation, I have it in command from the Governor-General to state for the information for the President and Directors of the Quebec Bank, that the Bank of Upper Canada obtained permission lately to make a similar importation to the amount of five thousand pounds, which His Excellency considers equal to the wants of the circulation for some time to come. Should this view, however, not be supported by experience, His Excellency will readily, on proper representations be made, reconsider the application of the Quebec Bank.

From information received, I am enabled to add that the copper coins above referred to have actually arrived in the United States, and are daily expected here.

I have, etc.,

J. L.

No. 28.

QUEBEC BANK,

21 March, 1851.

*The Hon. Ja. Leslie.*

SIR,

I have had the honour to receive your letter of the 12 inst. and, having laid the same before the President and Directors of the Bank, I am instructed to acquaint you that the inconvenience experienced in this portion of the Province from the scarcity of Copper Coins, is not likely to be removed by the permission granted to the Bank of Upper Canada to import to the amount of £5,000, the whole of which it is probable will be required to meet the wants in Canada West.

Under these circumstances our Board request you will be pleased to bring the matter again to the notice of the Governor-General and solicit His Excellency to reconsider the application of the Bank. And in support of the urgency of the Case, I am desired to enclose for His Lordship's information the appeal which was made to this Institution for relief, by sundry Mer-

chants and Traders of great respectability in this City, in January last, upon which our application was founded, and I am to add that the Weekly payment for Wages to Mechanics and Labourers in this City, and in the Coves and Ship Yards of this Port, during the Summer Months, amounts to nearly £10,000, and great difficulty is found in making change from the want of a sufficient supply of Copper Coins.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your Most Obed. Servt.,

(Signed), NOAH FREER,

Cashier.

No. 29.

*Noah Freer, Esq., Cashier Quebec Bank.*

SIR,

We, the undersigned, being put to very great trouble and loss, for the want of a sufficient amount of Copper coin for change, We would be greatly obliged to the Quebec Bank if they would import, say from one to two thousand pounds worth. Should the directors comply with our request, We agree to take and pay for the sums set against our respective names as soon as the coppers arrive.

Quebec, January 10, 1851.

McDonald & Logan.. . . .	Twenty-five pounds.
N. S. Henderson & Co.. . . .	Two hundred and fifty pounds.
L. & C. Tétu .. . . .	Fifty pounds.
Alex. Robertson .. . . .	Twenty-five pounds.
Sam. I. Shaw .. . . .	One hundred pounds.
Robert Shaw .. . . .	Twenty-five pounds.
E. Michon .. . . .	Twenty-five pounds.
Tho. H. Oliver.. . . .	Fifty pounds.
Geo. Besset.. . . .	Fifty pounds.
M. G. Mountain .. . . .	Twenty-five pounds.
E. & W. Poston .. . . .	Fifty pounds.
W. Hossach.. . . .	Twenty-five pounds.
George Hall.. . . .	One hundred pounds.
Wood & Peters .. . . .	One hundred pounds.
Pemberton Brothers. . . . .	One hundred pounds.
Geo. W. Osborne.. . . .	Fifty pounds.
R. Roberts & Co. . . . .	Fifty pounds.
D. Burnet .. . . .	Fifty pounds.
Geo. Binns, Synns & Co. . . . .	Fifty pounds.
Allan, Gilmour & Co. . . . .	Two hundred pounds.
Anderson & Paradis (W. P.).. . . .	Fifty pounds.

No. 30.

373 to 105, p. 157.

*Noah Freer, Esq., Cashier Quebec Bank, Quebec.*

TORONTO, 28 March, '51.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 21 inst., urging the reconsideration of the application of the Quebec Bank for permission to import Copper coins on the ground that the whole of the importation which the Upper Canada Bank



was permitted to make would probably be required to meet the wants in Canada West, I am enabled to inform you that a considerable part of this last importation will be left for issue at Quebec and Montreal on its arrival by the first ships this spring via the St. Lawrence. The apprehension expressed in your letter is then not likely to be realized. Should it be otherwise, the Governor-General will not fail to take into consideration, any representations he may receive on the subject.

I have, etc.

Ent. A. R. R.

W. H. J.

No. 31.

QUEBEC BANK,

*The Hon. A. N. Morin.*

17 November, 1851.

SIR,

With reference to my letters addressed to the Provincial Secretary, bearing date 17 January and 21 March last, and to the answers received from the Hon. J. Leslie of the 12 and 28 March last, I am instructed by the President and Directors of this Bank, to request that you will be pleased to bring the subject of that correspondence to the notice of His Excellency the Governor-General, and to move His Lordship to grant permission for this Bank to import from England in the course of next year, Two thousand pounds of Copper Coins, pence and halfpence for circulation, under the provisions of Act 4 and 5 Vict., Cap. 17.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your Most Obedt. Servt.,

(Signed), NOAH FREER,

Cashier.

(Pencil Notation.)

Quebec Bank—for authority to import Copper Coins To Canada.

No. 32.

Extract from a Report of a Committee of the Honorable the Executive Council on Matters of State, dated 19 November, 1851, approved by His Excellency the Governor-General-in-Council on the same day.

On the application of The President and Directors of the Quebec Bank, dated 17 November, 1851, that permission may be granted to that Institution to import from England in the course of next year, Two Thousand Pounds in copper coins, pence, and halfpence, for circulation, under the provisions of the Act 4 and 5 Vict., ch. 17.

The Committee are respectfully of opinion that the permission authorized by the Act 4 and 5 Vict., ch. 17, be given to the Quebec Bank to import during the space of one year copper coin in pence and halfpence, to the amount not exceeding £2,000 sterling, on the condition published by the above recited Act, and that the notice required by Law be given accordingly in the Official Gazette, and that M. Secretary Morin do give the necessary instructions in the matter.

Certified,

(Signed), W. H. LEE.

To the Honorable The PROVINCIAL SECRETARY, etc., etc., etc.

No. 33.

2339 on 105, p. 563.

*Noah Freer, Esq., Cashier Quebec Bank.*

QUEBEC, 21 Nov., '51.

SIR,

I have received the commands of the Governor-General to inform you, in reply to your letter of the 17 instant, that His Excellency in Council is pleased to grant to the President and Directors of the Quebec Bank, the permission authorized by the Act 4 and 5 Vict., Ch. 17, to import during the space of one year Coin in pence and halfpence, to the amount not exceeding £2,000 Sterling, under the provisions of the said Act.

The Instrument granting this permission will be prepared and transmitted to you without delay, and the Notice required by the Act will be published in the Canada Gazette.

I have, etc.,

A. N. MORIN.

NOTICE

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

Quebec, 21 Nov., 1851.

His Excellency the Governor-General-in-Council has been pleased, to grant to the President and Directors of the Quebec Bank, permission to import for circulation, during twelve months from this date, Copper Coin in Pence and Halfpence, to an amount not exceeding Two thousand pounds Sterling, on the conditions prescribed by the Act 4 and 5 Victoria, Cap. 17.

By Command,

A. N. MORIN.

Secy.

No. 34.

2340 on 105, p. 563.

*P. J. O. Chauveau, Esq., Sol. Gen.*

QUEBEC, 21 Nov., 1851.

SIR,

The Governor-General-in-Council, having been pleased to grant to the President and Directors of the Quebec Bank, permission to import for circulation, during the space of one year from this date, Coin in pence and halfpence, to the amount not exceeding £2,000 Sterling, I am to request that you will be good enough, in the absence of the Attorney-General to furnish me with a draft of the Instrument required under the provisions of the Act 4 and 5 Vict., Ch. 17, for carrying His Excellency's directions into effect.

I have, etc.,

A. N. MORIN.

No. 35.

PROVINCE OF CANADA.

*His Excellency, etc.—**To the President and Directors of the Quebec Bank.*

GREETING—

Whereas,—The President and Directors of the Quebec Bank have made application for permission to import into the Province of Canada Copper Coin under the authority of an Act of the Legislature of the said Province passed

in the session thereof held in the fourth and fifth years of Her Majesty's Reign, chaptered seventeen and intituled "An Act to prevent the fraudulent manufacture, importation or circulation of spurious copper or brass coin."

*Now Know Ye*,—That I, the said James, Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, being Governor-General of Canada, having taken the said application into consideration, by virtue of the power and authority in me vested by the said Act, have given and granted and by these presents do give and grant by and with the advice and consent of Her Majesty's Executive Council for the said Province, authority and permission to the President and Directors of the Quebec Bank aforesaid to import into the said Province any amount of copper coin or tokens of the description of pennies and halfpennies not exceeding in nominal value the sum of two thousand pounds Sterling, such coins or tokens to be equal in purity, weight and quality to five-sixths at the least of the British penny or halfpenny lawfully current in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

*Provided always*,—That the said Coins or Tokens be stamped with the respective nominal value thereof and with the name of "The Quebec Bank" aforesaid, in conformity in all respects to the provisions of the said Act, and that the said President and Directors shall with all reasonable diligence furnish to the Governor of the said Province for the time being an account of the expenses incurred in and about the importation of the said Coin or Tokens, in order that the same may be laid before the Legislature of the said Province. And I do hereby declare that this permission shall remain in force until the expiration of twelve calendar months from the date of these presents and no longer.

Given, etc.

This is my draught.  
Quebec, Nov. 21, 1851.

(Signed), P. J. O. CHAUVEAU,  
Solicitor General.

No. 36.

2376 on 105, p. 581.

*Noah Freer, Esq., Cashier Quebec Bank.*

SIR,

QUEBEC, 28 Nov., 1851.

Adverting to M. Secretary Morin's letter of the 21 instant, I have the honour to enclose the accompanying Warrant of His Excellency the Governor-General, authorizing the Quebec Bank to import Copper Coin to the amount therein mentioned, upon which a fee of Two pounds is payable to this Department.

I have, etc.,

E. P.

No. 37.

QUEBEC BANK,

22 Sept., 1852.

(Pencil notation.) For extension of time for importation of copper coins—  
To C.

*The Honorable A. N. Morin, Provincial Sec., etc., etc., etc.*

SIR,

I have the honour to enclose for the information of His Excellency the Governor-General, an Account of the expenses incurred, in Manufacturing, and importing into Quebec, Copper Coins to the value of Two Thousand

Pounds Currency, as required by the Warrant granted by His Excellency, the Governor-General, dated 21 November last.

I have also the honour to state, that in consequence of some Misunderstanding, the amount imported has been only £2,000 Currency, instead of £2,000 Sterling, as authorized — and I have to beg on the part of this Bank, that His Excellency will be pleased to grant an extension of the period allowed by the Warrant, so as to enable this Bank to import the balance next season, together with an amount not exceeding One Thousand Pounds Sterling, in addition thereto, similar to those already imported — of which I send a Specimen herewith.

I have the honour to be, sir,  
 Your Most Obedient Ser.,  
 (Signed), C. GETHINGS,  
 Cashier.

No. 38.

Statement of the expenses incurred by the Quebec Bank, in causing to be manufactured, and imported into Quebec from England, 52 Casks Copper Coins, containing 240,000 Penny Pieces, and 480,000 Halfpenny Pieces, equal to £2,000 Currency, under the authority of a Warrant dated 21 November, 1851, granted by His Excellency the Governor-General.

	£	s.	d.
Paid Carriage in England.. . . . .	11	16	1
Shipping, Port charges and Bills of lading . . . . .	10	5	6
Commission, 5 per cent. . . . .	59	9	9
Insurance . . . . .	28	12	
Duty and Commission . . . . .	7	13	
Cost of dies . . . . .	26	5	
Freight, Labour and Cartage . . . . .	13	17	3
10½ per Cent. Prem. on £1,311 4 3 Stg. remitted.. . . .	137	12	6
Expenses . . . . .	295	11	1
Cost of Copper, Manufacturing, etc. . . . .	1,167	12	11
Total Cost Sterling . . . . .	1,463	4	
Permitted to import p. Warant, £2,000 Stg.—Cy.. . . .	2,444	8	10
Imported . . . . .	2,000		
Short Imported—Cy.. . . . .	444	8	10

Quebec Bank, 21 Sept., 1852. (Signed), C. GETHINGS, Cashier.

No. 39.

Extract from a Report of a Committee of the Honorable the Executive Council on Matters of State, dated 1 October, 1852, approved by His Excellency the Governor-General-in-Council, on the 2 October, 1852.

On the application of C. Gethings, Esquire, Cashier of the Quebec Bank, enclosing an account of the expenses incurred in manufacturing and importing into Quebec, Copper Coins to the value of £2,000, as authorized in Council 19 November, 1851, and stating that owing to some misunderstanding, the amount imported was £2,000 currency, instead of sterling, as authorized, and requested an extension of the period allowed by such order (viz., one year), to enable that Bank to import the Balance next Season—together with an additional amount of £1,000 sterling.

Pending the question relative to the change of Currency, the Committee cannot recommend that the permission requested be granted.

Certified,

(Signed), W. H. LEE,

To the Honorable the PROVINCIAL SECRETARY, etc., etc., etc.

No. 40.

1607 to 2241 p. 668.

QUEBEC, 6 Oct., 1852.

*C. Gethings, Esq., Cashier Quebec Bank, Quebec.*

SIR,

The Governor-General had under consideration in Council your letter of the 22 ult., enclosing an account of the expenses incurred in manufacturing and importing into Quebec, copper coins to the value of £2,000, as authorized by M. Sec. Morin's letter to M. Freer of the 21 of November last, and stating that owing to some misunderstanding the amount imported was £2,000 currency instead of sterling as authorized, and requesting an extension of the period allowed, to enable the Bank to import the balance next season, together with an additional amount of £1,000 sterling. I am to inform you in reply that pending the question relative to the change of currency, His Excellency is not advised to grant the permission which you solicit.

I have, etc.,

E. P.

No. 41.

*The Honorable A. N. Morin, Secretary of Canada, Quebec.*

OFFICE OF THE BANK OF UPPER CANADA,

QUEBEC, 3 November, 1851.

SIR,

I have the honour to refer you to the letter of License granted to this Bank by His Excellency the Governor-General-in-Council, on the 23 of February, 1850, for the issue of £5,000 Stg. in Copper Tokens—as authorized by the Act 4 and 5 Vic., Cap. 17—and beg leave to inform you, that in the course of the present year the whole of that amount has been imported from the Royal Mint in London and has been put into circulation in this Province. I have further the honour to inform you, that this supply has not been found sufficient for the wants of the country, there still existing a great scarcity of Copper Coins in most parts of the Province. Under these circumstances, I am directed by the Board humbly to solicit another Letter of License to import and issue the like sum of Five thousand pounds sterling in Copper Bank Tokens—of one penny and one halfpenny each, according to the restrictions and conditions of the said Act, and that the same may be in force for one year.

It is intended, that should the above request be granted, the Bank will apply for leave to have the coinage executed at the Royal Mint in London, from the same dies as before, and I most respectfully request that the same may be recommended and allowed.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed), THOS. G. RIDOUT,

Cashier.

No. 42..

Extract from a Report of a Committee of the Honorable the Executive Council on Matters of State, dated the 4 November, 1851, approved by His Excellency the Governor-General-in-Council on the same day.

On the Letter dated the 3 instant, of Thomas G. Ridout, Esquire, Cashier of the Bank of Upper Canada, Soliciting another Letter of License to import and issue the further sum of £5,000 Sterling in Copper Bank Tokens of one penny and one halfpenny each, according to the restrictions and conditions of the Act 4 and 5 Vic., Cap. 17, and that the same may be in force for one year.

The Committee are respectfully of opinion that the permission authorized by the Act 4 and 5 Vic., Cap. 17, be given to the Bank of Upper Canada to import during the space of one year Copper Coin in pence and halfpence to the Amount not exceeding £5,000 Sterling, on the conditions published by the above recited Act, and that the Notice required by law be given accordingly in the Official Gazette, and that M. Secretary Morin do give the necessary instructions in the Matter.

Certified,

W. H. LEE.

No. 43.

*Thomas G. Ridout, Esq., Cashier of the Bank of U. P., Quebec.*

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

SIR,

6 November, 1851.

I am commanded by the Governor-General to inform you that His Excellency has had under his consideration in Council your letter soliciting for the Bank of Upper Canada, a Letter of License, similar to that granted in February, 1850, to import and issue the further sum of £5,000 Sterling in Copper Bank Tokens of one penny and one halfpenny each, according to the restrictions and conditions of the Act 4 and 5 Vic., Cap. 17, and requesting that the said letter may be in force for one year.

His Excellency in Council has been pleased to accede to the request of the Bank.

The Letter of License is accordingly in course of preparation and will be transmitted to you on receipt of the fee of £2 due thereon.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

*Mess'. Desbarats & Dbyshire.*

6 November.

GENTLEMEN,

I am commanded by the Governor-General to direct you to insert the accompanying notice in the next Official Gazette.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

7 November, 1851.

His Excellency the Governor-General-in-Council has been pleased to authorize the Bank of Upper Canada to issue during twelve months from this date Copper Coin in pence and halfpence to an amount not exceeding £5,000 Stg. on the conditions presented by the Act 4 and 5 Vic., Cap. 17.

By Command,

(Signed), A. N. MORIN.

*Endorsed.*

Memo.—A copy of the Order-in-Council within has been furnished from the Colonial Office to the Governor-General's Secretary, with a view to the necessary despatch being written. Col. Brown says that the matter will be at once attended to.

E. A. MEREDITH.

November 16, '51.

No. 44.

BANK OF UPPER CANADA,  
TORONTO, 31 March, 1853.

SIR,

In consequence of various delays made at the Royal Mint in London in the coinage of the £5,000 of Copper Tokens authorized to be imported by this Bank under authority of His Excellency the Governor-General's License of the 4 November, 1851, we have only up to the present time received £1,500 of that amount, the reason alleged being the great pressure on the mint for the gold and silver coinage of the Kingdom, until at length the Master of the Mint informed our agents, Mess. Glyn & Co., that he was unable to execute the order. Under these circumstances the Bank directed other parties to be employed to complete the coinage—and Mess. Glyn & Co. having applied to the Lords of the Treasury for leave to withdraw the Dies and metal from the mint received in reply a letter from Sir C. C. Trevelyan, dated 9 inst., a copy of which is herein enclosed—granting such leave, but at the same time intimating that as the License of the Governor-General of Canada expired on the 4 November, 1852, the coinage cannot be proceeded in until a fresh License shall be obtained. I have, therefore, most respectfully to request that the License of the 4<sup>th</sup> of November, 1851, be extended to the 4 day of November, 1853, within which time, I hope, that the balance authorized may be coined and imported into this Province.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed), THOS. G. RIDOUT,

Cashier.

No. 45.

Copy of a Letter from Sir C. C. Trevelyan, relative to License for Copper Coinage.

TREASURY CHAMBERS,  
9 March, 1853.

GENTLEMEN,

I am commanded by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to acquaint you in reply to your letter of the 25 ult., that their Lordships see no objection to the token coins required for the Bank of Upper Canada, which, from the existing pressure upon the Royal Mint cannot be struck in that Establishment, being executed by other parties, and that my Lords will be prepared to authorize the Master of the Mint to deliver to you, or your agents, the several Dies bearing the impress of the Canadian tokens on condition of their restoration to the Mint when the coinage is completed, so as to secure the parties to whom they may be intrusted from the penalties, for having in possession Dies for coining without lawful authority under the Act 2 Will<sup>m</sup> 4, Cap. 34, Sec. 10.

My Lords observe, however, that the license granted by the Governor-General of Canada for the importation of this Coin into Canada, expired on the 4 November last, and it appears to their Lordships to be necessary that a fresh license should be obtained before they sanction any measure for the coinage.

I am, etc., etc.,

(Signed), C. C. TREVELYAN.

Extract of a letter from Mess. Glyn, Mills & Co. with reference to the above letter.

LONDON, 11 March, 1852.

"We enclose the copy of a letter we have received from the Treasury relative to the Token coinage. By this you will observe that an unexpected obstacle has been thrown in the way of our Agents, viz., the lapse by time of the license of the Governor-General of Canada for the importation of the Coin into Canada. We have addressed the Treasury in reply requesting that the Coinage may in the meantime be proceeded with and guarantying that the License shall be forthcoming in time for the exportation. This you will be pleased to obtain and forward to us, when we trust that every difficulty will be met and all further delay obviated.

"We much regret that so many delays have been occasioned by the authorities of the Mint. No exertion shall be wanting on our part to urge the matter forward, and we have no doubt of the speedy completion of the matter."

(Signed), GLYN, MILLS & Co.

No. 46.

Extract from a Report of a Committee of the Honorable the Executive Council on Matters of State, dated 9 April, 1853, approved by His Excellency the Governor-General-in-Council on the 19 April, 1853.

On the letter, dated 31 ultimo, from T. G. Riddout, Esquire, representing that under the license granted by Order-in-Council of 4 November, 1851, for the importation of Copper Coin for the Bank of Upper Canada, to the extent of £5,000, which license expired on the 3 November last, a sum of £1,500 only has been imported, owing to unexpected delays and extraordinary pressure at the Royal Mint, the Master of which has since declared his inability to complete the same—that the Treasury have consented to restore the Dies with the view of having the remainder of the said sum struck off by other parties, on condition of a renewal of the said license being obtained from the Provincial Government, for which renewal the Bank now prays.

The Committee recommend that the license be extended to one year from the present date.

Certified,

W. H. LEE,

Ast. G. C.

To the Honourable The PROVINCIAL SECRETARY, etc., etc., etc.



No. 47.

*Thomas G. Ridout, Esq., Cashier Bank of U. Canada, Toronto.*

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

21 April, 1853.

SIR,

I am directed by the Governor-General to inform you that His Excellency has had under his consideration in Council your letter of the 31st ult., with its enclosures requesting that, under the circumstances therein mentioned, the License granted by His Excellency in Council to the Bank of Upper Canada for the importation into this Province of copper coin to the amount of £5,000, which License expired on the 4 November last, may be renewed and extended to the 4 November next, and to state with reference thereto that His Excellency has been pleased to comply with the said request.

The License has been handed in compliance with your request to the agent of the Bank at this place.

I have, etc.,

(Signed), A. N. MORIN.

No. 48.

BANK OF UPPER CANADA,

TORONTO, 30 September, 1853.

SIR,

The Five thousand pounds Sterling in penny and halfpenny Copper Tokens, imported from England by this Bank, under authority of the License issued by the Government of this Province in the year 1851, having been placed in circulation, and there still being a great want of small change of that description throughout Upper Canada, I have the honour to apply, on behalf of this Bank, for another License for leave to import from England a further supply of the like Copper Tokens, to the amount of Five thousand pounds Sterling, and have to request that the same be in force for one year from its date.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed), THOS. G. RIDOUT,

Cashier.

The HON. PIERRE J. O. CHAUVEAU, Secretary of the Province of Quebec.

No. 49.

Extract from a Report of a Committee of the Honourable the Executive Council on Matters of State, dated 7th October, 1853, approved by His Excellency the Administrator of the Government in Council on the same day.

On the Letter of Thomas G. Ridout, Esquire, Cashier of the Bank of Upper Canada, dated 30 ultimo, stating that the Five thousand pounds sterling, in penny and halfpenny Copper Tokens, imported from England by that Bank, under authority of the License issued by the Government of this Province in the year 1851, having been placed in circulation, and there still being a great want of small change of that description throughout Upper

Canada, he requests on behalf of that Bank for another License for leave to import from England a further supply of the like Copper Tokens, to the amount of Five Thousand pounds sterling, and that the same may be in force for one year from its date.

The Committee humbly recommend that the License be granted on the same terms as formerly.

Certified,

W. H. LEE,  
Actg. C E C

To the Honorable The PROVINCIAL SECRETARY, etc., etc., etc.

No. 50.

*Thomas G. Ridout, Esq., Cashier Bank of U. Canada, Toronto.*

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,  
12 October, 1853.

SIR,

I have the honour to acquaint you that the Administrator of the Government has had under His Consideration in Council your letter of the 30th ultimo, applying on behalf of the Bank of Upper Canada for another letter of License in favour of that Bank to import and issue a further sum of £5,000 Sterling in Copper Bank Tokens of one penny and one halfpenny each, under the restriction and conditions of the Act 4 and 5 Vict., 17, the said license to remain in force from one year from the date of its issue.

He has been pleased to accede to the request of the Bank and to direct that the accompanying license be prepared.

There is a fee of £2 currency payable with License, which you will be pleased to remit to this office.

I have, etc.,

P. J. O. CHAUVEAU.

QUEEN'S PRINTER,  
SECRETARY'S OFFICE,  
12 October, 1853.

The Queen's Printer will please to cause the following notice to be inserted in the next Canada Gazette.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,  
12 October, 1853.

His Excellency the Administrator of the Government in Council has been pleased to authorize the Bank of Upper Canada to import during twelve months from this date Copper Coin in pence and halfpence, to an amount not exceeding £5,000 stg., on the conditions presented by the Act 4 and 5 Vict., ch. 17.

By Command,  
P. J. O. CHAUVEAU.

No. 51.

BANK OF UPPER CANADA,  
TORONTO, 18 October, 1853.

SIR,

I have the honour to own the receipt of your letter of the 12 inst. stating that His Excellency has been pleased to accede to the request of the Bank for another Letter of License to import £5,000 Stg. in Copper Bank Tokens

from England, and beg leave to request that the said License may be delivered to Mr. Bradshaw, the Manager of this Bank at Quebec, who has been instructed to pay the fees due thereon.

I have the honour to be, sir,  
Your obedient Servant,  
(Signed), THOS. G. RIDOUT,  
Cashier.

The Honourable PIERRE J. O. CHAUVEAU, Secretary of the Province, Quebec.

No. 52.

BANK OF UPPER CANADA,

SIR,

TORONTO, 6 November, 1856.

The Letter of License issued by Government on the 12th October, 1853, permitting this Bank to import from England Copper Tokens to the amount of Five thousand pounds sterling having been acted upon to that extent, I am directed again, to apply on behalf of this Bank for another License from His Excellency the Governor-General to import from England a further supply of Copper Coins or Tokens of the same stamp and fineness of the former pence and halfpence, but under date of the year 1857, to the extent of Ten thousand pounds sterling.

The Bank is induced to make this application in consequence of the great scarcity of small copper change which has for some time past existed throughout the Province, and which, it is hoped, may be in some degree alleviated by an early importation in January or February next.

The copper from which the Bank Tokens are made has hitherto been assayed at the Royal Mint and has proved to be the same purity as the British penny pieces and  $\frac{3}{4}$ ths its value, and the same course will be pursued under the License now applied for.

I have the honour to be, sir,  
Your obedient Servant,  
(Signed), THOS. G. RIDOUT,  
Cashier.

The Honourable The SECRETARY OF THE PROVINCE, Toronto.

No. 53.

Copy of a Report of a Committee of the Honourable the Executive Council, dated 8 November, 1856, approved by His Excellency the Governor-General in Council on the same day.

On the application of Thomas G. Ridout, Esquire, Cashier Bank of Upper Canada, dated 6th inst., stating that the Letter of License issued by Government on the 12th October, 1853, permitting that Bank to import from England Copper Tokens to the amount of Five thousand pounds sterling, having been acted upon to that extent, he is directed again to apply on behalf of the Bank for another License to import from England a further supply of Copper Coins or Tokens of the same stamp and fineness of the former pence and halfpence, but under date of the year 1857, to the extent of Ten thousand pounds sterling.

The Committee are respectfully of opinion that the permission authorized by the Act 4 and 5 Vict., ch. 17, be given to the Bank of Upper Canada to

import during the space of one year Copper Coin in pence and halfpence to the amount not exceeding £10,000 Sterling, on the conditions published by the above recited Act, and that the notice required by law be given accordingly in the Official Gazette, and that the Honourable the Provincial Secretary do give the necessary instructions in the matter.

Certified,

W. H. LEE.

To the Honourable The PROVINCIAL SECRETARY, etc., etc., etc.

No. 54.

*Thomas G. Ridout, Esq., Cashier Bank of U. Canada, Toronto.*

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

12 November, '56.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that His Excellency the Governor-General has had under his consideration in Council your letter of the 5th instant, applying on behalf of the Bank of Upper Canada for a Letter of License to import from England a supply of Copper Coins or Tokens to the extent of £10,000 sterling, of the same stamp and fineness of the pence and halfpence imported under the former Letter of License of 1853, but under date of the year 1857. His Excellency has been pleased with the advice and consent of His Executive Council to grant the Bank the necessary permission for the space of one year subject to the conditions as set forth this 4 and 5 Vict., chap. 17.

The necessary Letter of License is now being prepared and will be transmitted to you on receipt of the usual fee of £2 payable thereon.

Y.,

G. A. M.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

12 November, '56.

*Messrs. Desbarats & D., Queen's Printers.*

SIRS,

I am commanded to direct you to insert in the next Official Gazette the following notice:

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

8 November, 1856.

His Excellency the Governor-General has been pleased with the advice and consent of His Executive Council to grant permission to the Bank of Upper Canada to import during twelve months from this date Copper Coins or Tokens in pence and halfpence to an amount not exceeding £10,000 Sterling on the conditions prescribed by the Act 4 and 5 Vict., chap. 17.

By Command,

E. A. M.

Assistant Secy.

No. 55.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

12 November, '56.

*R. T. Pennforth, Esq., Gov. Secretary.*

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of an order-in-council on the subject of importation of Copper Coins to the extent of £10,000 by the Bank of Upper Canada.

Copy of a report of a Committee of the Honourable the Privy Council.  
Approved by His Excellency the Governor-General-in-Council, on the  
30th August, 1870.

On a memorandum dated 26th August instant from the Hon. the Minister of Finance reporting that great public inconvenience has been experienced for some time back owing to the state of the Copper Coinage. That while bronze cents and the Copper Coins of the United Kingdom are alone a legal tender, the principal copper currency consists of Bank Tokens of the Bank of Montreal, Bank of Upper Canada, Quebec Bank and Banque du Peuple, all of which are of good quality and all authorized by law. That these coins are only current at the rate of a halfpenny currency, while postage and other stamps are in cents. That it is essentially necessary to establish a uniform copper currency, and after much consideration he is of opinion that if the Government would instruct its Departments to receive the bank tokens at one and two cents respectively, the public would do so likewise, and by this means a great deal of inconvenience would be removed. He therefore recommends that the necessary instructions be given.

The Committee advise that instructions be given accordingly.

(Certified),

J. S. CORÉ,

Clerk P. C.