

# Copy of letter concerning the passing of French currency in Ireland

**Author:** Isaac Newton

**Source:** MINT 1/7/69, National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, UK

---

<69>

To the most Honourable the Earl of Oxford & Earl Mortimer.

Lord High Treasurer of Great Britain.

May it please your Lordship

According to your Lordships Order of Reference signified to us by M<sup>r</sup>. Lowndes his Letter dated 29<sup>th</sup>. of April last We have considered the annexed Letter of the Lords of the Privy Council of Ireland concerning the making current the new French moneys of Gold & Silver in that Kingdom together with the annexed Report of M<sup>r</sup>. Vincent Kidder Assay master there concerning the intrinsic values of those moneys. And by the weight of 55000 Loid'ors of the new species amounting to 1197<sup>hi</sup>. 1<sup>oz</sup>. 11<sup>dw<sup>t</sup></sup>. we find that singly they are in weight one with another 5<sup>dw<sup>t</sup></sup>. 5<sup>gr</sup>. 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> mites. And by the Assays of several Ingots melted out of new Loid'ors compared with the Assays of many single pieces, We find that they are at a medium one grain & one twelfth part of a grain worse than standard. And therefore by the weight & assay together they are singly worth but twenty shillings & six pence & three farthings in England. And in Ireland where a Guinea passes for 1<sup>£</sup>. 3<sup>sh</sup>. they are singly worth 1<sup>£</sup>. 2<sup>sh</sup>. At which rate the half Loid'or may pass for 11<sup>sh</sup>. & the Quarter for 5<sup>s</sup>. 6<sup>d</sup>.

Fifteen hundred silver Louises of the new species weighed 1470 ounces Troy, & therefore one with another they weigh singly an Ounce wanting 9<sup>gr</sup>. 12<sup>mites</sup>. They are an half penny weight worse than standard one with another, & therefore their standard weight at a medium is an ounce wanting 10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> grains. And so they are worth 5<sup>s</sup>. & three farthings a piece in England at present. And in Ireland where a Crown piece English passes for 5<sup>s</sup>. 5<sup>d</sup> these Louises singly are worth 5<sup>s</sup>. 5<sup>d</sup>  $\frac{3}{4}$   $\frac{1}{16}$ , & in the nearest round number may pass for 5<sup>s</sup>. 6<sup>d</sup>, & the half Louises for 2<sup>s</sup>. 9<sup>d</sup>, & the Quarter pieces for sixteen pence half penny.

All which is most humbly submitted to your Lordships great Wisdome.

Mint Office May 1714.

Is. Newton

E. Phillips

---