

Holograph notes on Dutch coinage.

Author: Isaac Newton

Source: MINT 19/2/155, 165, National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, UK

<155r>

Of the Money of the seven Provinces

In Amsterdam & the towns of Holland they reckon bargain & exchange by Florens (or Livres,) sols & Deniers which the country people call Guldens styvers & Penninghen or Gilders Styvers & Pence. Sixteen Deniers (which they call deniers common) make a sol & 20 sols and twenty sols a Floren. They have also Livres sols & deniers de Gross. Twelve Grosses or Deniers de Gross make a sol de gross or schelling & twenty schellings a Livre de gross or pondt Vlaem. And a Livre de Gross is 6 Florens, & a skelling six styvers & a styver two Grosses, & 8 Duytes & 16 Deniers.

The real gold monies of Amsterdam & Holland are

Ducats or Ducatons	valued at	20 Florens
Ducats or Sovereigns		15
Ducats or quarters of Ducats		5
Rose nobles		11

Their silver monies are

Ducatons valued at	3 Florens 3 sols current money
Drie Guldens or three Gilder pieces	3 Florens, w ^{or} s $2\overline{\text{dt}}$, weight 1^{oz} 8^{gr} , value in exchange 5^{s} . $2\frac{3}{4}$.
Rix Duelders or Patagons	$2\frac{1}{2}$ Florens
Croons	2 Florens
Duelders	$1\frac{1}{2}$ Florens
Gout Guldens or Gold Gilders of Coarse D	1 Floren 8 sols = 28 styvers
Florens or Guldens	1 Floren or 20 sols communs
Sols de Gross or Schellings	6 sols communs = 12 Gross

Sols communs or Styvers

2 Gross = 8 Duytes = 16 Deniers.

The half & quarter pieces are in proportion.

They have other pieces of 2, 3, 4, 8, $12\frac{1}{2}$ sols & divers others for payment, & Duytes or Deniers of copper of which 8 make the Sol or Stuyver.

The money of the Banck (which is called Banck money & consists in bills of credit upon the Banck) is also recomd~~{illeg}~~y Florens & deniers & is better then specie money of

Three Guilder pieces (according to M^r Floyer) 3 per cent

Cross Dollars & Ducatons 4 per cent

Skillings & 28 Styvers & Styvers 5 per cent

Bank money varies & is better then Dollars & Ducatons from 3 to 6 per cent & then other money proportionally. The buyer & seller of Bank money give 1 per mille to the Bank for entring the bargain: the buyer gives one half & the seller the other half. The Gold monies of Holland are above the specie coyns at $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, above bank money at per cent

A three Guilder piece is stampd with a Minerva leaning on an altar & holding a hat on a peer with this motto Hae nitimur hanc tuemur & on the reverse a Belgic Lyon & sometimes a Lyon & erect cross quartered.

Inscription No. Na. argent G. V. &c. M^r Floyer in one paper makes the 3 Guilder piece Worse 4^{dt}. the weight 20^{dt} 6^{gr}, in another paper worth 3^{dt} weight 20^{dt}. 8^{gr} in another 3, 4, 5 or 6^{dt} worse. The following 3 Guilder pieces were weighed by me in Sept 1700 & assayed in the Tower

The date	1682	1686	1687	1691	1695	1696	1697	1698
weight	1 ^{oz} 4 ^{gr}	1 ^{oz} 7 ^{gr} $\frac{1}{2}$	1 ^{oz} 5 ^{gr}	1 ^{oz} 6 ^{gr}	1 ^{oz} 11 ^{gr}	1 ^{oz} 5 ^{gr} $\frac{3}{4}$	1 ^{oz} . 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ gr	1 ^{oz} 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ gr
worsness	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ dwt	1dwt	1dwt	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ dwt	2dwt	1dwt	1dwt	1dwt

Allowing the wast of a grain in every 6 years wearing their weight one with another when new coyned was 1^{oz} 8^{gr}, but they were unequally sized erring in excess & defect of weight 2 or 3 grains or above. Comparing these observations with M^r Floyers they may be reckoned 11 ounces fine, & so when new coynd are worth 5^s 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d of just standard English money, or 5^d. 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d of our money new out of the Mint or in course {o}f

Exchange. If a grain be added to the weight so that the weight be 1^{oz} 9^{gr} they will {e}qual they make the imaginary current money of which $444\frac{4}{9}$ deniers de gross (or 37^{sch}. 0 $\frac{4}{6}$ gross) equal 1^{li} sterling in exchange, & 100 {de}niers de gross equal 54 pence sterling which is a Rix doller or Ecus. The Dutch therefore in {the} course of exchange overvalue their current money 3 per cent & should put 38 $\frac{1}{4}$ ^{sch} ~~{illeg}~~l to 1^{li} sterling. At 11 $\frac{1}{24}$ ^{oz} fine & 1^{oz} 8^{gr} weight they are worth 5^s 2 $\frac{1}{10}$ d standard & 5^s 3^d in exchange.

<155v>

Three Dutch Ducatons coynd 1672, 1673, 1675 weighing 20^{dwt}. 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ gr. 20^{dwt} 20 $\frac{3}{4}$ d, 20^{s} 18 $\frac{1}{4}$ d better 3^{dwt}, 3^{dwt} scant, 4^{dwt}. The first coynd in Zeland & most worn, the 2^d & 3^d coynd in H~~{illeg}~~ The 3^d not worn above a grain or 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ gr, the 2^d not above 2^{gr}. On one side a man on horsback on the other the Belgic Lyon with a sword & seven darts in a scutcheon supported by Lyons. Valued at 5^s 8^d a piece by the Refiners. The inscription Mo. No. Arg. pro confoe Belg. Prov. Holl. Westf. &c & on the Reverse Concordia res parvæ

crescunt. If their weight be supposed 1^{oz} . 21^{gr} & their betterness 3^{dwt} they will be worth 5^{s} . $5^{\text{d}} \frac{3}{5}$ a piece of our standard money & 5^{s} . $5^{\text{d}} \frac{9}{10}$ in course of exchange, & if a grain be added to their weight they will be worth 5^{s} 6^{d} a piece in course of exchange.

By these assays we may reckon exactly enough that if Bank money be supposed 5 per cent better then specie money of the same denomination, & pounds schellings & deniers English, specie money de gross of Holland & Bank money of Amsterdam of the same denomination are matically in proportion as 11. 20 & 21. That is 11 shillings sterling = 20 schellings Bank money = 21 schellings specie money; & 20 shillings sterling = $36 \frac{4}{11}$ sch bank money = $38 \frac{2}{11}$ species money of the seven Provinces very nearly.

Patagons, Rix dollers or Legg dollers have on them an armed man with a sword to his right hand the blade leaning on his shoulder & in his left hand a double {string} at which hands an Escutcheon with the Arms of a Dutch Province covering his left leg. His right legg stands full in view. About it this inscription Mo. No. arg. pro confoe Belg. Westf. com. Zel. &c And on the reverse the arms of the seven Provinces viz^t in an Escutcheon a Lyon rampant with a sword in one foot & seven darts in the other with this inscription: Concordia res parvæ crescunt.

One piece 1697 not worn, worse $13 \frac{1}{2}^{\text{dwt}}$, weight 17^{dwt} $23 \frac{1}{4}^{\text{gr}}$

Another 1698 not worn, worse 15^{dwt} . weight 17^{dwt} $23 \frac{1}{2}^{\text{gr}}$

Another 1695 not worn, worse 13^{dwt} , weight 18^{dwt} $1 \frac{3}{4}^{\text{gr}}$

Another 1701 not worn worse 14^{dwt} 06 weight 18^{dwt}

Several others coyned in 1701 were found by assays in the lower 12^{dwt} worse & one of them 13^{dwt} worse. They should be therefore $10 \frac{1}{2}$ ounces fine but often prove a penny weigh{t} sometimes two or three penny weight worse. Supposing that they weigh 18^{dwt} & a{re} $10 \frac{1}{2}$ ounces fine, they will be worth 4^{s} . $4 \frac{3}{4}^{\text{d}} \frac{1}{30}$. In Holland they go for $2 \frac{1}{2}$ Florens, {illeg} is 4^{s} . $4^{\text{d}} \frac{1}{2}$ of our money.

Lyon Dollars are worth two thirds of a Ducaton or 3^{s} 8^{d} . Their stamp is {a} man to the thighs holding an Escutcheon before him with this inscription {Mo.} No. Ar. pro Confoe. Belg. Campen &c And on the Reverse a great Lyon ramp{ant} with this inscription Confidens Deo non movetur.

One piece 1640 worse 2^{oz} 5^{dwt} weight $5 \frac{3}{4}^{\text{gr}}$

Another 1687 worse 2^{oz} 2^{dwt} . weight 17^{dwt} 12^{gr} very little worn

Another 1650 worse 2^{oz} $1 \frac{1}{2}^{\text{dwt}}$ weight 16^{d} . 18^{gr}

Another 1687 worse 2^{oz} 7^{dwt} . weight 17^{dwt} $13 \frac{1}{4}^{\text{gr}}$ very little worn.

Three others not assayed dated 1641, 1645, 1648 weighed 17^{dwt} $7^{\text{gr}} \frac{1}{4}$; 17^{dwt} {illeg} 17^{dwt} $6^{\text{gr}} \frac{1}{4}$. They seem to be 9 ounces fine by law but often happen to be three {illeg} penny weight coarser. Reynolds puts them 8^{oz} 11^{dwt} fine & 17^{dwt} 18^{gr} weight. Their {illeg} is rather 17^{dwt} 13 or 14^{gr} new out of the Mint.

<165r>

In Brabant & Flanders & Zeeland

They reckon by Florens or Guldens, sols or Patars & Deniers or Pennings (which are in {musical} proportion as 1. 20. 20×16) or else by Livres sols & Deniers de Gros which they call Pondt Schellings & Groot Vlaems ($1^{\text{liv}} = 20^{\text{sch}} = 20 \times 12^{\text{d}}$.) They have two sorts of money, One in imaginary called money de Change or Argent de permission & is the same in denomination & value with the Bank money of Amsterdam. The other is real & current, viz^t

Ducats of gold	received at	4 Florens 16 sols de argent de change or de permission
Ducats of silver		3 Florens or 10 Schellings de change or sols de gros
Patagons or Rixdaelders		2 Florens 8 sols = 96 Gross = 8 schellings de change
Schellings or sols de gross		6 Sols or Patars = 12 Gross
Sols or Patars communs		2 Gross = 8 Duytes = 16 Pennings

Their Livres de Gross & Florens are only imaginary. One Livre is six Florens. An hundred Florens in money current of Amsterdam = $103\frac{1}{3}$ Florens in money current of Antwerp, & 100 Florens in Bank money of Amsterdam = 100 Florens in money of change of Antwerp = $108\frac{1}{3}$ Florens in money current of Antwerp. Antwerp, Brussels, Gant, Bruges, Middleburg & all Brabant Flanders & Zeeland have the same money without any sensible difference. A Patagon of Antwerp = 96 gros de argent de change of Antwerp = $103\frac{1}{3}$ (or 104) gros de argent current of Antwerp = 100 gros current of Amsterdam = Patagon of Amsterdam = 95 or 96 gros bank money of Amsterdam.

Ducats. The king of Spains head on one side with this inscription: Phil. IIII. D.G. Hisp. & Endiar. Rex. and on the reverse a mixt coat of arms supported with Lyons with this inscription. Archid. Aust. Dux Burg. Brab. &c.

One	1630	better 4 ^{dwt.} weight	20 ^{dwt.}	10 ^{gr}	
	1636	better 5 ^{dwt.} full. weight	20.	$21\frac{3}{4}$	
	1638	better 4 ^{dwt.} weight	20.	$16\frac{1}{2}$	The first much worn, the second not a grain the 3 ^d & 4 th three or four grains the last nothing. Reynolds put them better 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ^{dwt} & 1 ^{oz} 22 ^{gr} weight. The Assaymaster of the Mint tells me that he generally finds
	1658	better 4 ^{dwt.} weight	20.	$14\frac{1}{4}$	
	1679	weight	20.	$21\frac{1}{4}$	

these Ducatons 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ better & has seldome met with any so coarse as these four. If they be better 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ^{dwt} & 1^{oz} 22^{gr} weight they will be worth 5^s 6 $\frac{1}{8}$ $\frac{1}{16}$.

Cross Dollars Patagons or Rix-dollers of Flanders have a great Cross with this inscription about it Phil III (or Carol. II &c) D. G. Hisp. & Indiar. Rex, & on the Reverse a coat of several arms with this inscription. Archid. Aust. Dux Burg. Brab. et Co. Fl.

Pieces	1622.	1622.	1630.	1648.	1694.	1694
worse	12 ^{dwt}	12	12	13	12	

weight 17^{dwt}. 18^{gr}. 17. 22. 17. $16\frac{1}{2}$ 9. 1. 18. $0\frac{3}{4}$ 18. $4\frac{1}{4}$

The three first worn the 4th & 5^t not above a grain or two The 4th was a half Dollar. Supposing them $10\frac{1}{2}$ ounces fine & 18^{dwt} 1^{gr} weight: they are worth 4^s. $4\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{8}$ $\frac{1}{32}$. In Flanders they go for 96 gros or $\frac{4}{5}$ of a Ducaton. Another Cross Dollar of Cha. II coyned 1694 weighed 18^{dwt} $4\frac{1}{4}$ grains not worn.
