

# Drafts of MINT00070 (/catalogue/record/MINT00070) (Mint 19/1/172-3).

**Author:** Isaac Newton

**Source:** MINT 19/1/146, 157, National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, UK

---

<146r>

To the Right Honourable the Lord High Treasurer of England

May it please your Lordship

A Question being moved about a Clause in the Gravers Patent I humbly beg leave to lay the matter before your Lordship. All persons haveing a liberty to make Medals unless restrained by the Government, the Gravers of the Mint have by a clause in their Patent been allowed and all others prohibited to make Medals with the Effigies of the King or Queen. And this Place of Medal-maker to the Crown has been sometimes encouraged by a Large Salary out of the Civil List & sometimes granted to strangers and is no part of the constitution of the Mint For by the standing constitution of the Mint the Moneyers coyne whatever the Government wants whether Money Medals or Healing pieces, the metal weight allay & form of the money and medals being first appointed by the King or Queen by the advice of the Council, and the Graver only makes the stamps. This I take to be the proper way of coyning such Medals as the Government approves of & I am humbly of opinion that no other Medals should be coyned by the Mint.

The Gravers privilege of makeing other Medals for their private advantage is an encouragement to them to improve themselves and to be content with less salaries. If it be continued they may be obliged to set their names or the first letters thereof on their own Medals to distinguish them from Medals made by the Mint or be otherwise limited as your Lordship shall think fit if abrogated they may want some other encouragement to improve themselves & may expect to be paid for the Dyes & Puncheons they make for Medals. Whether it shall be continued & in what manner or be abrogated is most humbly submitted to your Lordships great wisdom

<157r>

A Question being moved about a clause in the Gravers Patent, I humbly beg leave to lay the matter before your Lordship. All Gravers having a liberty to make Medals where they are not restrained by the Government the Gravers for their encouragement have be a clause in their Patent been allowed & all others prohibited to make Medals with the effigies of the King or Queen. And this Office of Medal-maker to the Crown has been sometimes encouraged by a large salary out of the Civil List, & sometimes granted to strangers & is no part of the constitution of the Mint. For by the standing constitution of the Mint, the Moneyers coyne what ever the Government has occasion for whether Money Medals or Healing pieces, the metal weight allay and form of the Money & Medals being first appointed by the King or Queen by advice of the Council, & the Graver only makes the stamps. Now if for saving her Majesty & the Council the trouble of giving particular Orders

about such Medals as the Government has no occasion for, & for encouraging the Graver of the Mint to improve themselves to be content with less salaries it be thought fit to continue this Office or Privilege to the Gravers: I am humbly of opinion that the Gravers be obliged to set their name or the first letters thereof upon their own Medals to distinguish them from Medals made by the Queens Mint. They may be also restrained from dispersing them before a specimen of them has been shewed to your Lordship or your Order or even from making medals relating to state affairs or be otherwise limited as her Majesty shall think fit. And when ever the Government pleases to order the the coynage of a Medal I am ready to coyn it according to the course of the Mint as in the case of coronation Medals & to deliver any number of such Medals to your Lordships Order. But to alter the course of the Mint or to place in the Mint an arbitrary power of coyning Medals, or to give to any Medals not approved by the Government the credit of being coyned by the Mint may have {bad} consequences, & I humbly conceive its better that the Gravers Privilege be taken away, & the coynage of Medals left to the course of the Mint

The Gravers of the Mint do hereby give notice that their privilege of making Medals being no part of the constitution of the Mint; they will for the future set their names or the first letters thereof upon all their own Medals to distinguish them from Medals made by the Mint

<157v>

But should the Course oof the Mint be allowed by making the Gravers P{rivilege} a part of the constitution or

But whether the Coynage or Medals for hte future shall be in the Gravers or in the Mint & with what restrictions is humbly s{u}

---