

Letter concerning the exchange of currency with Sweden, with an extract from a relevant treaty

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Source: T 1/227.31, National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, UK

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To the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of His Majesties Treasury.

May it please your Lordships

In obedience to your Lordships Order of Reference signified to me by M^r Tilson's letter of the 5^t Instant, that I should report the value of Imperial Dollars both intrinsecally & by way of Exchange with Sweden: I humbly represent that the specie Rixdollars are coined of several values by several Princes of the Empire from 4^s 4^d to 4^s 8^d. But in Books of Exchange the Rix dollar is valued at 48 schellings Lubs of Hamburg, at 48 styvers of Antwerp, at 50 styvers of Amsterdam & at 4^s 6^d English{.} There is also a Common Dollar of the Empire in respect of which the Gulde or Guilder is usually marked $\frac{2}{3}$ to signify that it is two thirds of this Dollar. The Gulde us 24 Marien Grosch the Common Dollar 36 Marien Grosh & the Rix dollar two Gulden, so that the common Dollar is three quarters of the Rix Dollar. The difficulty is to know whether by the Imperial Dollar be meant the Common Dollar of the Empire or the Rix Dollar.

If any payments have been made to Sweden since the Treaty of $\frac{6}{16}$ January 1700, the Precedent is to be followed as the best interpreter of the Treaty. If none; I am told that the Imperial Dollar is sometimes taken for the common Dollar but more usually for the Rix Dollar, & that the word Reichs or Rycks Thalere signifies imperial Dollar. But I am not skilled in the German language.

In the weekly Tables of Exchange with London, the number set over against Hamburg signifies the number of Bank schelling and deneirs to be paid or received at Hamburg [\[1\]](#) for one pound sterling at London: & $3\frac{5}{9}$ schellings are at a par with one pound sterling. How the exchange is between London & Stockholm I do not find in the Tables. But by the Treaty the money is to be paid at London to the Order of the Crown of Sweden. He is to receive at London 288000 Imperial Dollars, & if these be Rix Dollars they amount unto 64800 pounds sterling.

All which is most humbly submitted to your Lordships great
wisdome

Is. Newton

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Extract of the Treaty between
Great Britain & Sueden. Signed
at the Hague & London $\frac{6}{16}$ Ian^{ry}.
1700.

Article 9

Vtrique tamen Confoederatorum et imprimis Auxilium requirenti liberum sit eligere, utrum supranominatum Exercitum, vel totum vel partem tantum modo ejusdem in Militibus, vel apparatu bellico, Munitione, Commeatu, Navibus et illis rebus, quæ ad earum Instructionem requiruntur, habere velit, eâ tamen Æstimatione inita, ut pro singulis mille peditibus quolibet Mense usque ad finem Belli quatuor millia imperialium Thalerorum computentur, de quâ Æstimatione utriusque partis Commissarij sine cunctatione, bona fide convenient.

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Extrait de la Convention entre
la Grande Bretagne & la Suede.
Stockholm $\frac{18}{29}$ d'Aout 1719.

Article 4

Et pour rendre ce Subside d'autant plus efficace et capable de Servir à la Couronne de Suede dans nécessité presente, le sus dit Roy de la Grande Bretagne promet & s'engage que dans quinze jours après la Signature de la presente Convention, le Subside entier d'une Anneé c'est à Scavoir la Somme de deux cents quatre vingt huit mille Thalers Imperiaux Sera tout à la fois, et dans un Seul payement consigné à Londres à la personne que {l}a Ma^{te}. Suedoise voudra y autoriser pour la recevoir.

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Extrait de la Convention entre la Grande Bretagne & la Suede.
Stockholme $\frac{18}{29}$. Aout 1719.

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Sir Isaac Newton
Read
12th. April 1720

[1] 5. $\frac{5}{9}$

[2] Mint Office
12 Apr. 1720.
