

Five holograph drafts of MINT00605 (/catalogue/record/MINT00605), (Mint 19/2/306).

Author: Isaac Newton

Source: MINT 19/2/431, 432, 438, National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, UK

<431r>

Parker.

May it please your Lordship

In obedience to your Lordships Order of Reference upon the Petitions of Iohn Perry & others for making either blanks or plates of fine copper for coining of half pence & farthings We are humbly of opinion that when ever a new coinage of such money shall be thought fit,² the same be made of such fine copper as will hammer when red hot, & is worth about $11\frac{1}{2}$ or 12^d per pound weight Averdupois unwrought & 3 more when wrought into plates. There is no assay of finer copper to be depended upon.

1 That the whole coinage be done in the Mint it being unsafe to have coining tools & coinage abroad.

3 That it be done of coper either hammered into plates at the Copper mills or cast into barrs in the Mint. In The last way the money will look as well as in the first without any sensible difference, & in the first it will be 2^d in the pound dearer then in the last. But in the last way there must be two or three ounces of Tinn added to an cwt weight of copper to make the metal runn close in the casting, whereas in the first way the money will be of clean copper. In the latter way a pound weight may be cut into 19 pence in the former into 21 pence.

That at present there is no considerable want of copper money. In some places there is too much. In London it is not much wanted. But if it be thought fit to set on foot the coinage of copper money by a standing commission after the manner of the coinage of gold & silver, the quantity to be coined from time to time may be left to the discretion of the Lord Treasurer. & About 50 Tunns once in six or seven years may be sufficient.

That the stamp for avoiding frequent trouble to the Queen & Council & to your Lordship in altering it, remain the same, unless it be thought fit some times upon extraordinary occasions to alter it.

That it be edged with such an edging as may be fittest to prevent counterfeiting by casting.

That an Importer be appointed to buy & import the copper by weight & receive back the moneys by weight & tale, & put the same away, & that the Master be carged & discharged by his Note as in the coinage of gold &

silver & be allowed a Teller to weigh & tell the money the money to the Importer.

<432r>

In obedience to your Lordships Orders of Reference upon the Petitions of several persons to succeed M^r Dan. Brattel in the Office of Assaymaster to her Majestys Mint in the Tower: We humbly represent that we believe M^r Charles Brattell the said Daniel to be well qualified for that Place & him the fittest person among the Petitioners to succeed therein

All which

In obedience to your Lordships Order of Reference upon the Petition of Iohn Pery & others for supplying the Mint with either blanks or plates of fine copper to be coined into half pence or farthings, I humbly represent that whenever there shall be a coinage of copper money whether it be by Patent or upon account, the whole coinage including the making of the blanks be done in the Mint it being unsafe to have coining tools & coinage abroad. And that the Petitioners & others who have copper works be treated with, & his copper chosen which is best coloured & most malleable & cheapest of those sorts of copper which will hammer when red hot. Such copper is worth about 11 or 12^d the pound, & There is no certain test of finer copper. And the great price of the finest copper will tempt people to counterfeit the money made thereof. The copper may be either hammered into plates at the copper mills or cast into bars in the Mint by the addition of 2 or 3 ounces of Tin to an hundred weight of copper in fusion to make the metal run close. The latter way is cheaper by 2^d in the pound weight & the less the extrinsic value of the money is the less apt it will be to be counterfeited.

<432v>

In obedience to your Lordships Order of Reference upon the Petitions of Iohn Pery & others for making either blanks of plates of fine copper for coining half pence or farthings We humbly represent That copper money is at present very little wanted, but if it shall be thought fit to put the coinage of such money into a standing method, We are humbly of opinion 1 That the whole coinage, including the blanks, be done in the Mint, it being unsafe to have coining tools & coinage abroad.

2 That it be done of the cheapest fine copper which will hammer when red hot & is worth about 11^d or 12^d per pound weight. In finer & dearer copper we may be deceived, there being no certain test of its degrees of fineness, & the great price will tempt false coiners to counterfeit it

3 That it be done out of copper either hammered into plates at the copper mills, or cast into bars or fillets at the Mint with an addition of two or three ounces of Tin to an hundred weight of copper in fusion to make the metal run close. The last way is cheapest by 2^d in the pound weight & therefore to be preferred. For there will be least got by counterfeiting that money whose workmanship is cheapest.

4 That the stamp for avoiding frequent trouble to the Queen & Council in altering it, remain one & the same unless it shall be thought fit at any time upon any extraordinary occasion to alter it.

5 That this money be edged with such an edging as may be fittest to prevent counterfeiting by casting.

6 That an Importer be appointed to buy & import the copper by weight & receive it back by weight & tale & put the same away, & that he be paid by the weight of the copper for his pains & charges.

7 That the Master & Worker for the time being be charged & discharged by his Note as in the coinage of Gold & Silver & be allowed a Teller for weighing & telling the money between him & the Importer & entering all receipts & payments, & that if the copper imported prove not good upon the Assay the Master have power to refuse it.

That a person be appointed to survey the Meltings & the whole coinage.

8. That all the charge of Copper, coinage, coining tools, wages & incidents be paid out of the profits of the coinage, & that there be no standing salaries to increase the extrinsic value of the money.

9 That a coinage of about 20 or 30 Tunns once in three or four years or 50 Tunns once in 6 or 8 years is sufficient for supply the daily loss & wast of the money already coined & may prove too much if the counterfeiting of this money increases. And that a coinage of twenty or thirty or at the most 50 Tunns is abundantly sufficient at present.

10 That such a coinage may be done by from time to time by one & the same standing commission & that it be in the power of the Lord High Treasurer or Commissioners of the Treasury for the time being to appoint by warrant the quantity of Copper money to be coined at any time, & that for preventing clamours he appoint it by small quantities suppose of 10, 20 or 25 Tunns in a Warrant.

11 That the Accountant whether he be the Master or the Importer be allowed for his hazzards trouble & charges in Cashkeeping & accounting.

<438r>

To the most Honourable the Earl of Oxford & Earl Mortimer, Lord High Treasurer of great Britain.

May it please your Lordship

In obedience to your Lordships Order of Reference upon the Petitions of Iohn Pery & others for supplying the Mint with either Blancks or Plates of fine copper to be coined into half pence & farthings, We humbly represent that copper money is at present very little wanted, but if it shall be thought fit to put the coinage of such money into a standing method, We are humbly of opinion

That the whole coinage including the making of the blanks, be done in the Mint it being unsafe to have coining Tools & coinage abroad

That it be done of the cheapest fine copper which will hammer when red hot & is worth about 11^d or 12^d per pound weight. In finer & dearer copper we may deceived there being no certain test of the higher degrees of fineness, & the great price will tempt fals coiners to counterfeit the money.

That it be done out of copper either hammered into plates at the copper mills or cast into barrs or fillets at the Mint with an addition of two or three ounces of Tinn to an hundred weight of copper in fusion to make the metal runn close. The last way is most conformable to the Coinage of Gold & Silver & is cheapest by 2^d in the pound weight, & is therefore to be preferred. For there will be least got by counterfeiting that money whose workmanship is cheapest.

That this money be edged with such an edging as may be fittest to prevent counterfeiting by casting.

That the stamp for avoiding frequent trouble to the Queen & Council in altering it, remain one & the same as in the moneys of gold & silver unless it shall be thought fit at any time upon any extraordinary occasion by Order of Councill to alter it

That an Importer be appointed to buy & import the copper by weight & receive the new money back by weight & tale & put the same away. And that the Master & Worker for the time being, be charged & discharged by his Note as in the coinage of gold & silver, & be allowed a weigher & teller for weighing the copper & telling the money between him & the Importer & entring all receipts & payments. And that if the copper prove not good upon the assay the Master have power to refuse it. And that a person <438v> be appointed to survey the meltings & the whole coinage

That all the charge of copper, coining tools, coinage wages & incidents be paid out of the profits of the coinage, & that there be no perpetual salaries to increase the extrinsic value of the moneys. And that the either the Importer or the Master be Accounted & be allowed for the same.

That a coinage of about 20 or 30 Tunns once in three or four years or of 50 Tunns once in six or eight years is sufficient for supplying the dayly loss & wast of the moneys already coined, & may prove too much if the counterfeiting of this money encreases. And that a coinage of twenty or thirty or at the most 50 Tunns is abundantly sufficient at present.

That a coinage of such money from time to time may be performed by one & the same standing Commission, & that it be in the power of the Lord High Treasurer or Lords Commissioners of that Treasury for the time being to appoint by a particular warrant the quantity of copper mony to be coined at any time: which quantity should never be so great as to endanger any clamour.

All which, & whether a coinage shall be set on foot till there be a greater want of such money, is most humbly submitted to your Lordships great wisdom.

And that when a coinage of such money shall be resolved upon by her Majesty, the Petitioners & others who have copper works be treated with & his copper chosen which is best coloured & most malleable & cheapest of such sorts of copper as will hammer when red hot.
