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| **pound, . 1** | **Bern, .** | **. . \*956** | **Portugal, .** | **. . \*864** |  |
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| **... carat of the 1 jewellers, j** | **[∙ \*20G085 grm.V.** | **’ , 1 \*950 Gilb.** | **Venice,** | **. . \*809** | **(L. l.)** |

The preceding part of this article was furnished by the late Dr Thomas Young, for the Supplement to the former editions, in such a form as not to supersede any thing pre­viously given on the same subject in the body of the work; so that, both for this reason, and on account of the changes which have taken place since Dr Young wrote, some addi­tions are required. Indeed, excepting the comparative table, his supplementary article was almost entirely con­fined to the then only proposed equalization of the very different weights and measures employed in different parts of the British empire, but on which four successive legis­lative enactments have since taken place. These are, 5 Geo. IV. c. 74, 6 Geo. IV. c. 12, 4 and 5 Will. IV. c. 49, and 5 and 6 Will. IV. c. 63. The first two of these statutes were exceedingly inert, being little better than mere re­commendations or abstract speculations, from the circum­stance that every one was still allowed to use whatever weight or measure his fancy, habits, or interest led him to prefer. The third has been repealed or superseded by the fourth ; and the latter, which was passed in 1835, besides abolishing heaped measures, declares all bargains or trans­actions to be illegal, or null and void, which are made by any other weights or measures than the imperial. But although this law, which came into operation 1st January 1836, has certainly placed the matter on a very different footing from what it was before, the equalization is so far from being yet complete, that two, and in some respects three, different sorts of weights are very needlessly allow­ed ; which tends to create confusion, and affords opportu­nity for fraudulent transactions. This, it seems, was done principally in compliance with the wish of the College of Physicians, who had long been in the habit of using the troy weight in their prescriptions. It seems quite clear, that if any class of the community was to be so indulged, it should have been such as were ready to plead being so far behind the rest that they could not reduce the troy to avoirdupois. There is however no good reason why phy­sicians’ prescriptions should in this respect always continue antiquated, and lagging behind every thing else, any more than there is that physicians should always continue to use unclassical Latin instead of their mother tongue.

The parliamentary commissioners on weights and mea­sures think there is reason to believe that the word Troy has no reference to any town in France, but rather to the monkish name of *Troy Novant* given to London, as founded on the legend of Brute. Troy weight would thus mean London weight. But some would derive Troy or Troyes, from *trois* (three), alleging it has reference to the three principal divisions of penny, shilling, and pound, or penny, ounce, and pound, used in money weight. The commis­sioners, with great probability, suppose the avoirdupois weight, by which heavy and bulky goods have very gene­rally been weighed for a long time past throughout this country, to be derived from *avoirs (averia),* the ancient name for goods and chattels, and *poids,* weight.

The act 5 and 6 Will. IV. cap. 63, contains several im­portant provisions, the substance of which we shall now en­deavour to state briefly. Weights and measures verified and stamped at the exchequer as copies of the imperial standards shall be taken to be legal weights and measures, to be used for comparison, although not similar in shape to those required under the provisions of former acts, except,

as will be afterwards explained, those measures used for such articles as were formerly heaped, and now are neither weighed nor stricken ; and the comptroller-general, or other duly authorized officer of the exchequer, may compare and verify, and stamp as correct standards, any weights and measures which respectively correspond in weight, length, and capacity, with the standards, or parts, or multiples thereof, deposited in the exchequer, under the 5th Geo. IV. cap. 74, although, with the exception above noticed, such weights and measures may not be models or copies in shape or form of the standards so deposited.

All copies of the imperial standard weights and measures which have become defective, or have been mended, in consequence of wear or accident, shall forthwith be sent to the exchequer, for the purpose of being again compared and verified, and shall be stamped as re-verified copies of such standards, provided the officer appointed for such ve­rification deem them fit for the purposes of standards, and every new comparison and verification shall be indorsed upon the original indenture of verification ; and such weights and measures shall be stamped upon fees of veri­fication only, unless they have been found incorrect ; for in that case an extra charge is to be made for adjusting them.

The Winchester bushel, the Scotish ell, and all local or customary measures, are now abolished ; and every person who shall sell by any other than one of the imperial mea­sures, or some multiple or aliquot part thereof, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding 40s. for every such sale ; but nothing herein shall prevent the sale of any articles in any vessel, where such vessel is not represented as contain­ing any amount of imperial measure, or of any fixed local or customary measure formerly in use.

The use of heaped measure is now abolished, and all bargains, sales, and contracts by heaped measure are null and void, under a penalty not exceeding 40s. for every such sale.

Some articles formerly sold by heaped measure do not admit of being stricken, and cannot conveniently be sold by weight. It is enacted that all such articles may in fu­ture be sold by the imperial bushel, but as having its form defined by the act 5 Geo. IV. cap. 74, for the sale of heap­ed measure, thc diameter being nineteen and a half inches outside, or any multiple or aliquot part thereof, also defined by the same act, such being filled in all its parts as nearly even with thc brim as the size and shape of the articles will ad­mit (see foot-note, p. 846) ; but nothing herein shall pre­vent the sale by weight of any article formerly sold by heaped measure. All coals, slack, culm, and cannel of every description, shall be sold by weight and not by mea­sure, under a penalty of 40s. for every sale.

All articles sold by weight shall be sold by avoirdupois weight, except gold, silver, platina, diamonds, or other pre­cious stones, which may be sold by troy weight ; and drugs, which, when sold by retail, may be sold by apothecaries’ weight. The weight denominated a stone shall in all cases consist of fourteen standard pounds avoirdupois ; the hun­dredweight of eight such stones, or 112 lbs. ; and the ton of twenty such hundredweights ; but nothing herein shall prevent any bargain, sale, or contract being made by any multiple or aliquot part of the pound weight.

All weights of one pound avoirdupois, or more, shall have the number of pounds contained in them stamped or cast