STATEMENT

OF THE

PARS OF EXCHANGE

AND

TRADE IN BULLION.

STATEMENT

OF A

Few Facts,

RESPECTING THE

PARS OF EXCHANGE

AND

TRADE IN BULLION.

London:

PRINTED BY M. HARRISON, 82, CORNHILL.

1819.

STATEMENT.

THE intrinsic value of the undermentioned foreign monies, compared with our own, upon which the Pars of Exchange are generally, but in my opinion, erroneously founded, I have taken from some tables which I arranged some years ago, and then endeavoured to render as accurate as possible; it is as follows:

PARS OF EXCHANGE.

AMSTERDAM.—*First in Gold*, calculated by the fine or pure gold in the Ruyder, against our standard gold of 22 Carats at 77*s.* 10½ per oz. Guilders 11, 8 *stivers*, 2,93 *pence* currency of Holland equal to £1 *sterling*.

Second in Silver, in like manner: the fine silver in a Guilder currency, against our

Standard Silver of 11 oz. 2 dwt. at 62d. Guilders 11, 15 *stivers*, 4,7 *pence* currency of Holland equal to £1 *sterling*. But as the Ruyder, since the revolution in Holland, only passes in the way of merchandize, by weight, and rises and falls like any other species of goods, according to the market price of gold of the day, it must be left out of the question of Pars.

FRANCE.—*First in Gold*, calculated by the fine or pure gold in the Napoleon, in like manner, Francs 25, 20^{99} *cents*, *equal* to £ 1 *sterling*, and the value of the Napoleon I make £0. 15*s*. 10*d*. 1^{61}*f*. It is requisite to observe, that the French coins are not of the same purity and exactness as our own. I have made this calculation as they are reputed to be, viz. 1½ *gr. w.* than our standard, but upon melting they frequently prove 2 *w.*

Second in Silver, calculated by the fine silver in 20 silver Francs, against our standard, and make it Francs 24, 98^{5} *cents*, *equal to* £ 1 *sterling;* but this coin is likewise very defective, and will turn out 9 and sometimes 10dwt. *w.* than our standard.

HAMBURG.—*First in Gold*, calculated by the Ducat of 96 shillings Lubs Banco $\frac{23\frac{1}{2}}{24}$ fine, or 1C. 2gr. b. than our standard,—34 *shillings* 3, $\frac{52}{100}$ *pence Flemish*, *equal to* £ 1 *sterling;* but as the Ducat is merely considered as merchandize, and in fact, is the price of gold itself, (always sold per Ducat) this Exchange is no fixed PAR, as the price of *Gold*, or the *Ducat*, rises and falls every day. Nevertheless, it is in itself as perfect a medium of PAR as can be selected against our Standard Gold, or Guineas and Sovereigns, *when of full weight*, and, is generally used in the ordinary course of business;

here is a fixed standard unalterable and unchangeable, without which there can be no true measure of value.

Second in Silver, calculated by the Mark of fine or pure Silver at Hamburg *at 27mks. 10sh. Bco.* against 1 oz. of our standard silver at 62 d per oz. I make 35 *shillings* 1 $\frac{16}{100}$ *pence Flemish equal to £ 1 sterling.* Although in reality not more perfect, than the *Par* in gold, *the silver par is fixed and unchangeable;* (the Ducat being subject to variation according to the rise and fall in price;) the Bank of Hamburg being bound by her constitution, to receive all silver that is brought in at the rate of *27mks. 10sh. Bco.* for the Mark of fine or *pure* silver, for which the person who deposits, has credit given to him upon the books of the Bank. But I make a second Par in Silver of 35 *shillings* 3^{06} *pence Flemish equal to £ 1*

sterling, which is calculated at *27 mks. 12sh. Bco.* the mark of *pure or fine silver*, in like manner as mentioned before, being the rate at which the Bank must return, or repay all silver called for, by any person having an account at the Bank, or holding a bill of exchange payable in Bank money on Hamburg.—*(See Note at the end.)*

A purchaser therefore of a bill of exchange upon Hamburg is sure to receive the amount in silver, if he choose to claim it, at the rate of *27mks. 12sh.* per mark pure silver, whatever may be the market price, which is often 5 and 6 per cent, and sometimes *even much more*, above the Bank price. It will naturally be supposed, by those unacquainted with the constitution of the Bank of Hamburg, that were such demands frequent, the Bank must in a very short time be exhausted of all her silver;

if the same laws prevailed that we have, and were the discount limited at 5 per cent. that catastrophe could not be prevented: and there is no doubt the Bank would then be necessitated to substitute paper, as we have done; for individuals being allowed to write in, and write off from the books of the Bank, upon bills of exchange, or any similar security, would amount to the same thing. It is by writing *in* and *off* from the books of the Bank, that all payments are made. But they act more wisely; for by the quantity of silver taken from the Bank, and the consequent diminution in the circulating medium, the *Mark Banco* is raised in its value; the rate of interest rises in progressive proportion to the silver withdrawn, and lowers the exchanges, on foreign places—or to speak in plain terms—they give less of their money owing to its increased value, for the monies of other coun-

tries. These simple means soon remedy the evil; by the high rate of interest, which is tantamount to a like advance in silver, the metal flows back again into the Bank, and in the course of a short time, a compleat cure is effected, and things return to a wholesome state, by the fall in the price of silver, or Mark Banco, in progressive proportion to the fall in the rate of interest, and reduction in the value of money.

To illustrate how very much the public is generally deceived, in respect to what is nominally called the *Pars of Exchange*, I will suppose the case of a manufacturer going to Holland, and who having sold his goods, perceiving the Exchange at, or about *what he conceived to be Par*, and the price of silver in England something above the standard price of 62d. per oz. were to

determine to bring home the amount of the goods he had sold in the silver bullion he had received in payment. Upon his arrival, he would naturally expect, *upon melting his silver into bar*, to derive a profit equal to the advance of silver above the mint price; he would however find himself greatly mistaken, for instead of the expected profit, he would probably sustain a loss of 4 or 5 per cent, by having received his debt in a depreciated currency; for as no new coinage has taken place in Holland for more than two centuries, the coin now current, is all very much worn, the greater part clipt, and a variety of coins of different standards, all in circulation. It has been reduced still more lately, by the bullion dealers in Holland, having collected all such coin in guilders, as still remained unclipt, for which they paid an agio, of 2 to 3 per cent. which, upon being exported to Batavia,

passes there for 1½ guilder. I will suppose the like case of a foreigner coming to this country, selling his goods and receiving the amount in £46. 14s. 6d. or 44½ guineas, into which 1lb. of standard gold is coined; upon his return home, however, and melting his guineas he would find himself equally mistaken, for instead of a pound of gold, he would find that he had only got 11*oz.* 17*dwt.* 6*gr.* and would sustain a consequent loss of about 1⅛ per cent. For although the guineas and coins in general of this country, are the most perfect in the world, the mint regulations are more defective than in any other country. In all other countries a seigniorage is laid upon the coin, equal to the cost of the manufacture or coinage, which is no more than reasonable and correct; for the metal being reduced to a proper standard, and stampt to ascertain its identity, it is then of more

value than bar gold, or the raw material, which must be assayed and made equivalent to the standard, for which use it is intended. In some parts of the Continent, particularly in Amsterdam, it is the custom to prepare bars of bullion and adjust them to a proper standard, for the use of the gold and silversmiths, which bars being stampt, are paid for at a higher price. It appears rather paradoxical, but it is a no less certain fact, that our guineas have always been of less value than standard gold in bars; or perhaps I shall be more clearly understood by saying that a *bonus* has been given upon them. For although when they come from the mint, they have their full weight of 5 pennyweights $9\frac{43}{100}$ grains, they are nevertheless instantly current at 5dwt. 8gr.; the true weight of a guinea is a thing unknown, and a person would subject himself to ridicule, who applied to a scalemaker for such an

article. Can it be supposed, that out of the hundreds of persons, who knew they could immediately take off nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ grains or about 3d. of every guinea, some have not constantly been on the look out, to avail themselves of the advantage likely to accrue from such a measure, when in defiance of all laws to prevent it, it could be done almost without the possibility of detection.

A seigniorage claimed beyond the expence of coinage, or manufacture, is a deterioration of the coin; this being the case with our present silver currency, it is to be apprehended, that in the event of the Bank ever resuming cash payments, gold will by degrees be driven out of circulation. Past experience has shown that by the former proportion of 62*d.* to 77*s.* $10\frac{1}{2}$*d.* or 15,072 of silver to 1 of gold; silver was rated too low, as it disappeared in a very few

months after being issued by the mint; if the new coinage had been rated at 64, which would have made the proportion 14, 6, to 1; and 6*d.* added for the seigniorage, it would have nearly accorded with the relative proportion of gold and silver, in the coins of most of the states of Europe. The loss the nation has sustained by our injudicious mint regulations is beyond calculation.

No laws require more investigation and alteration, than those that relate to the trade in bullion; which, in their present form, almost amount to a prohibition of the trade, instead of encouraging the importation, and making this country, as the first commercial country in the world ought to be, the general deposit and mart for Europe. The effects of these laws are most severely felt, whenever bullion is demanded for any particular trade, which immediately acts upon, and

causes a convulsion in the Exchanges. This has been lately experienced in a very striking manner, by the advance of silver in bars from 65½*d.* to 67*d.* and of dollars from 65½*d.* to 69*d.* per oz., in consequence of the demand for the supply of the E. I. Company's ships, that have lately sailed for the East Indies. The great inconvenience, loss of time, and trouble, that merchants are subject to, in swearing off foreign bullion for exportation, before a Court of Aldermen at Guildhall, deters many from engaging in the trade at all. These courts are only held once a week, which is Tuesday—a day the most important to merchants engaged in the foreign trade, being post day, and the time generally, when his presence is required upon the Royal Exchange; but it has not unfrequently happened, that after waiting, and losing two hours of his own time, that of his clerks, and being put to

the expence of conveying his bullion to Guildhall, he is referred to the following Tuesday, in consequence of the want of a sufficient number of Aldermen to form a court, (of which there must be twelve); and instances have been known, of merchants having been put to this very great inconvenience and loss, for two and even three successive Tuesdays. In a trade where ½ per cent. is often all the profit looked for, loss of interest upon the money alone, occasioned by this delay, is nearly equal to that amount; besides the probable risk of losing an advantageous market. I may add, that the hints often thrown out by ignorant men, insinuating that the gold wanted to be sworn off, has been melted from guineas (although those acquainted with the trade know that it is next to impossible), deters many respectable merchants from engaging in it. In the same

interval, the illicit dealer in the exportation of coin will have repeated the operation two or three times, as he looks for quick returns, and is satisfied with a very small profit.

The trade in bullion may be said to be completely monopolized by the Bank, who have the entire control of the market, and fix the prices at discretion; to these, whatever they may be, an importer must submit if in want of his capital; as strange to say, the Bank will make him no advances upon it, BEING A BANK FOR THE DEPOSIT OF PAPER, NOT OF BULLION! Should this bullion arrive on a holiday (and sometimes three or four come in succession) no sale can be made, as the bullion office at the Bank is then closed. The control is not solely confined to the person, to whom a merchant must sell, and of whom he must buy, but the broker is likewise included;

for the Bank will neither buy nor sell bullion, through any broker than their own; nor will the Directors permit any other to deliver, or receive bullion through the Bank; the consequence is, that although several persons have at different times attempted to start against the Bank brokers, they have never succeeded to any extent, as the Bank denies the facility to others, afforded to her own brokers. These being of the Jewish persuasion, (individually of the most honourable character, and as much respected as any men in the city,) no business can be transacted on Saturdays; and the Jewish holidays being frequent and sometimes continuing for nearly a week together; during the whole of that time a merchant, to whatever degree he may be pressed for money, can neither make sales nor procure any advances upon bullion, and he must then submit to any arbitrary price fixed

upon for him. The price of bullion, of which, it is of the utmost importance, merchants should be constantly informed, is frequently kept a profound secret, and sometimes not published for weeks and months, in the lists that are printed twice a week, and I think there is an instance of it's not having been done for a whole year. Now it is hardly credible that in that city, which boasts of calling itself the *first trading city in the world*, there should not have been a single sale of bullion in bars for a whole year! An instance has occurred even since the Committee in the Bank Restriction Bill has been sitting, that is most striking and remarkable. The price quoted for foreign gold in bars, was on the 26th Jan. £4. 3s. since when, until Friday last the 19th February, the price has been left in blank; but as the price of silver has been since constantly quoted the same, as it was then,

at 5s. 7d. per oz. and no particular arrivals are known to have taken place, nor any other apparent cause to occasion any alteration; those merchants upon the Royal Exchange who attend to these subjects, noticed with astonishment a fall in the price of foreign gold in bars to 81s. being a difference of $2\frac{19}{32}$ per cent. while silver has remained stationary at 5s. 7d. per oz. I am persuaded that however injudicious the measure, it has been done from the purest motives, and probably intended for the public good. But let me ask, whether it is right and proper, that any set of men whatever should have the power of causing a rise or fall of $2\frac{19}{32}$ per cent. to take place in the course of a few days in every man's property in the kingdom? I will say nothing of the hard fate of those, who may have been induced to be importers, in expectation of obtaining the price of £4. 3s.—

that speaks for itself. Such variations are unknown in countries, where the trade is free and open to every one; there the variations, in ordinary times, seldom exceed $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. and hardly ever reach $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Let us contrast these regulations and this management of our own Bank, with the arrangements made in the Banks of other countries; to mention that of Amsterdam, of which although nothing now remains except the building, since it was emptied of it's bullion during the revolution, let it be remembered that it has been one of the first in the world. So jealous and anxious were the wary Dutch, to encourage the trade, and make that Bank the deposit of bullion; and so sensible of the advantage of having it's cellars stored with it; that advances were made upon gold

and silver, as well in bars as in the coin of almost all nations, at a stipulated price, for six months, giving receipts for the same, which were called *recipesses*—engaging to return the bullion when required, any time within six months, the proprietor having paid

For Gold deposited	$\frac{1}{2}$	per cent. only
Silver coin	$\frac{1}{4}$	
Ducatoonen	$\frac{1}{8}$	

by way of interest, when upon application to the Bank and paying the like interest, the proprietor could renew the contract for six months longer; but if not then applied for, it became the property of the Bank. These recipesses passed from hand to hand and were saleable in the market, the same as the articles themselves, as the holder of these *recipesses* could at all times demand the bullion from the Bank, or renew the contract for six months, if he chose to

speculate, in expectation of obtaining a better price. The Bank of Hamburg makes advances upon bullion something upon the same plan, but I think the regulation at Amsterdam preferable and better suited for this country, where it might be adopted to very great advantage, with some modification in the rate of interest—$1\frac{1}{2}$ or 2 per cent. at the very utmost ought to be amply sufficient.

Although I am convinced, that bullion, and bullion alone, whether gold or silver, ought to be the solid foundation of the circulating medium of a country; yet, I am ready to admit that paper may with safety be substituted: but then, it is incumbent on those who are entrusted with the management of it, to treat it like bullion; for which there is, in the Courses of Exchange, a regular and steady guide: and, should this

not be attended to, the circulating medium will be depreciated, to an amount equal to the excess of paper issued. The discount on Bank paper was in the month of December, 1813, $29\frac{1}{5}$ per cent.; at that time gold was at 110*s.* per oz.; and 14*s.* 1*d.* $3\frac{63}{100}$*f.* the value of £1. in paper of the Bank of England;—this I will maintain in opposition to the resolutions passed by the Committee of the House of Commons on the 14th and 15th of May, 1811, by which Bank paper is declared to be of the same value as gold; and I could wish to put this question to a person in a high situation: when in the year 1813, gold was at the price of 110*s.* per oz., and guineas, currently bought in the market, at 108*s.* to 109*s.* per oz., or from 29*s.* to 29*s.* 6*d.* each,—whether for £100. in the paper of the Bank of England raised by loan in that year more than £70. 15*s.* $1\frac{3}{4}$*d.* was ob-

About this time bullion was very scarce, gold much wanted for the payment of the British Army on the Continent; and some agents appeared in the market, who purchased all the Guineas that could be procured. It was notorious by whom they were employed. So far from disapproving the measure, I think it was a wise one, as it was by far the best and cheapest remittance. I only disapprove of the attempt of those persons, who caused these Guineas to be bought, with Bank paper at a discount of $29\frac{1}{5}$ per cent., [redacted] to delude the public into the belief, that it is held in the same estimation as gold.

tained in gold,—and whether this is not a depreciation or discount of $29\frac{1}{5}$ per cent.? Whether the instalments of £100. having been paid in a depreciated currency, went further than £70. 15*s*. $1\frac{3}{4}$*d*. in bullion, in the payment of foreign subsidies, and of our troops on the Continent? I still hope to see those absurd resolutions expunged from the Journals of the House of Commons; and, their counterpart in absurdity, the law, commonly called the Usury Act, finally abrogated. By this law it is enacted, that money shall not be worth more, and shall bear no more than 5 per cent. interest; this may nominally be the case; but I know that it really often is worth, and produces 8, and 10 per cent. and see instances of merchants paying for money, when it is scarce, at this rate, in the additional commission, which sometimes amounts to $\frac{1}{4}$ or even $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. paid to the broker, to

procure discount for their bills. In this case, the advanced rate of interest goes into the pocket of the broker, which, contributes to make money still more scarce; whereas, were this profit made by the party justly entitled to it, money, otherwise kept back, would flow abundantly into the market, and, by that influx, the rate of interest would in a short time be reduced to its proper level.

This uniformly happens in those countries where money is not subjected to similar restrictions; the natural consequence is, that although the rate of interest may occasionally rise to 10 or even 12 per cent. this is but for a short period, as it very soon recovers, and is on an average, much lower than in this country. It is a remarkable circumstance, that in the month of September last, there was great com-

mercial distress, and a scarcity of money in most parts of the Continent; at Hamburg interest rose to 10 and 11 per cent.; at Amsterdam, to 6 and 8 per cent.; at Paris, to 10 and 12 per cent.; in other parts of France, and in some of the towns of Germany, to a much higher rate. The state of the money market at that time in this country was the very opposite. Exchequer Bills that pay no more than 2*d.* per £100. per day, or at a rate of interest of 3 per cent. were at a premium of 18*s.* to 20*s.*; Bonds of the East India Company, that bear interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, were at a premium of 84*s.* to 86*s.* per cent.; and for Commercial Bills, accepted by houses of the first credit, discount could be procured in the market at the rate of 3½ to 4 per cent. Matters remained here much in this state until about the middle of January. The Exchanges from

the beginning to the middle of September were on

		Guil.	*Stiv.*		*Guil.*	*Stiv.*
Amsterdam..	at 3 months, from	11	12	to	11	12½
Ditto	at sight, ...from	11	9	to	11	9½
		Shil.	*Flem.*		*Shil.*	*Pen. Flem.*
Hamburg ..	at 3 months, from	35		to	35	1
Ditto	at sight, ...from	34	6	to	34	7
		Fran.	*Cen.*		*Fran.*	*Cen.*
Paris	at 3 months, from	25	10	to	25	12½
Ditto	at sight, ...from	24	80	to	24	85

the price of foreign gold in bars, was then in the market 80*s.*; and of silver 5*s.* 4*d.*

The Exchanges on Amsterdam and Hamburg, were rather in our favour;—that, on Paris, a trifle against us. There was then, no scarcity of gold coin; and Bankers readily supplied their customers, with any moderate quantity. About the middle of September, the Exchanges began to decline, and towards the end of September,

		guil.	*stiv.*		*guil.*	*stiv.*
Amsterdam was..	at 3 months, from	11	8½	to	11	9
Ditto	at sight,....from	11	5	to	11	5½
		shil.	*pen. flem.*		*shil.*	*pen. flem.*
Hamburg	at 3 months, from	34	6	to	34	7
Ditto	at sight,....from	34		to	34	1

		fran.	*cen*		*fran.*	*cen.*
Paris	at 3 months, from	24	72	to	24	75
Ditto	at sight,....from	24	40	to	24	42½

The end of October—

		guil.	*stiv.*		*guil.*	*stiv.*
Amsterdam.....	at 3 months, from	11	8	to	11	9
Ditto	at sight,....from	11	5	to	11	5½
		shil	*pen. flem.*		*shil.*	*pen. flem.*
Hamburg	at 3 months, from	33	11½	to	34	
Ditto	at sight,....from	33	5½	to	33	6
		fran.	*cen.*		*fran.*	*cen.*
Paris	at 3 months, from	24	50	to	24	55
Ditto	at sight,....from	24	15	to	24	20

The end of November—

		guil.	*stiv.*		*guil.*	*stiv.*
Amsterdam.....	at 3 months, from	11	5½	to	11	6
Ditto	at sight,....from	11	1	to	11	2
		shil.	*pen. flem.*		*shil.*	*pen. flem.*
Hamburg	at 3 months, from	33	6	to	33	7
Ditto	at sight,....from	33		to	33	1
		fran.	*cen.*		*fran.*	*cen.*
Paris	at 3 months, from	24	10	to	24	12½
Ditto	at sight,....from	23	50	to	23	52½

The middle of January—

		guil.	*stiv.*		*guil.*	*stiv.*
Amsterdam.....	at 3 months, from	11	5	to	11	5½
Ditto	at sight,....from	11		to	11	1
		shil.	*pen flem.*		*shil.*	*pen. flem.*
Hamburg	at 3 months, from	33	5½	to	33	6
Ditto	at sight,....from	33		to	33	0½
		fran.	*cen.*		*fran.*	*cen.*
Paris	at 3 months, from	23	75	to	23	77½
Ditto	at sight,....from	23	40	to	23	54

gold gradually advanced to 83*s.* and silver to *5s. 7d.*; the rise in silver, taken at the standard price of *5s. 2d.* per oz. is equal to a rise in gold to 84*s. 2d.*; the premium on the exportation of our gold coin at the price of 83*s.* is a trifle more than 6½ per cent., and on the silver coin at *5s. 7d.* a little less than 2 per cent. The fall in the Exchanges was protracted for some time by the new gold coin, that had been issued by the Bank shortly before; and such of the old, as still remained in circulation, collected by the different dealers in bullion at the rate of *6d.* to *9d.* per oz. lower, and sometimes at the same price as foreign gold in bars, frequently to the amount of 150 to £200,000. a week, and which was regularly smuggled to France, upon so well managed a system, that there is hardly an instance of a seizure, by the Officers of the Customs.

I was at that time so firmly persuaded, that such a disparity between the rate of interest in this country, and that of the principal places on the Continent, must, in the regular course of things, draw the capital from hence, to those markets, where such decided advantage was offered: and, I was so well aware of the consequent distress, it would occasion to the commercial part of the community, that, I cautioned most of my friends, to be prepared for the storm, which I then perceived to be gathering, and, which now rages with such destructive violence. Fortunately for themselves, they generally profited by my experience and advice. Had the Directors of the Bank, when the evil first began to shew itself in the decline of the Exchanges, and in the advanced price of bullion, taken the necessary precaution, by restricting their discounts; or, if that had not proved

sufficient, by throwing in addition, one or two millions of Exchequer Bills out of their store, into the market; and, thereby rendering money still more scarce: it would have caused merchants, to be on their guard; and, the mischief would never have reached its present height; as, it is well known, that any measure of that kind, acts with double effect, in the money market. Unfortunately, many merchants were lulled into security, by the facility with which money could be procured; nor, was the error perceived, till about the middle of January last; when, the Directors, with a view to reduce the amount of their paper issues, restricted their discounts, to a limitation that began to be sensibly felt. No one can be more fully persuaded than myself, of the necessity which prompted this measure; and, I only regret, that it was not sooner, and more judiciously taken;

as it is now, but too probable, that many disastrous effects will still ensue.

At the present crisis, the injurious consequences of the Usury Act, are most striking; it being hardly possible to procure discount for the very best bills, at the rate of interest, prescribed by law; and, the mischief likely to accrue no one can estimate. Contrast the state of these things, with that in other countries, where trade is unshackled by injudicious laws, and left to operate for itself:—at Hamburg, where the rate of interest was lately so high, it is now reduced to 3 per cent. and money in the greatest abundance; confidence restored, and the failures very few, compared with the difficulties and dangers which threatened.

Every attempt, to force matters out of their natural course, must ultimately tend

to defeat the object in view. In the Mint regulations, by making no distinction between a raw material, and a manufactured one, gold, the coin of the country, has always been driven out of it. In the Usury Laws, by preventing money from assuming its proper position, and receiving its just value, gold, has been prevented from returning, and the *real* rate of interest here, has exceeded, what on an average, it generally does, in most other countries. By the laws and regulations, respecting gold and silver bullion, and the monopoly of the Bank; the trade in those articles, is next to prohibited; and upon any great emergency, no competent supply, can ever be depended upon in the market: whereas, this country ought to be the principal deposit for the supply of Europe. And by the present paper system, millions have been added to the National debt; and, the

Nation burthened with a heavier load of Taxes.

In offering the above statement of facts, nothing can be further from my intention, than to insinuate in the most distant manner, that any blame, or the slightest idea of misconduct, can attach to the Directors of the Bank. Individually, no men can rank higher in public estimation for strict principles of honour; and, none perhaps can be more zealous, or would make greater sacrifices for the public good. It is the constitution of the Bank, that I reprobate; a system of error, coeval with its foundation: and, which every Director, when he enters upon his office, is in a manner, bound by oath to support. And, in thus communicating my sentiments; the result of forty-four years experience on the Royal Exchange, and of consequent at-

tention to the subjects in question; my sole motive is, that of discharging a Public Duty.

London, 25th February, 1819.

Harrison, Printer, Cornhill.

Statement of Silver paid in and taken out of the Bank of Hamb

FINE SILVER.

TROY WEIGHT. lb. oz. dwt. gr.		WEIGHT OF COLOGNE. mks. oz. Loth	
100 : : :	Silver, standard 11 : 2 at 62*d.* per oz. £310 : s. ; d. : f. :	equal to 147:11: 2⁷ at Bco. mks. 27:10*sh.* i	
99 : 6:11:21	Ditto .....ditto ..... 308 :12: : 3	equal to 147: :14⁰⁸ at Bco. mks. 27:12*sh.* i	
: 5: 8: 3	..... at 62*d.* per oz. .....£ 1 : 7:11: 1	equal to :10:20⁶³ at Bco. mks. 27:12*sh.* i	

PROOF.

	EXCHANGES.
£310: : : :	35*sh.* 3⁰⁶*flem.*

The first line represents 100*lb. of Standard Silver deposited; the second the same quantity taken out; and th rather less than* ½ *per cent.*

in question; my
of discharging a

1819.

Cornhill.

Statement of Silver paid in and taken out of the Bank of Hamburg, referred to Page 9.

FINE SILVER.

TROY WEIGHT.		WEIGHT OF COLOGNE.	EXCHANGE.
lb. *oz.* *dwt.* *gr.*	*oz.* *dwt.* *s.* *d.* *f.*	*mks.* *oz.* *Loth*	*s.* *d.* 1st PAR
100 : : : Silver, standard	11 : 2 at 62*d.* per oz. £310 : ; :	equal to 147:11: 2^{7} at Bco. mks. 27:10*sh.*	is Bco. mks. 4080: : 2^{6} at 35*sh.* 1^{16}*d. flem.* £310: : :
99 : 6:11:21 Ditto	ditto ..... 308 :12: : 3	equal to 147: :14^{08} at Bco. mks. 27:12*sh.*	is Bco. mks. 4080: : 2^{6} at 35*sh.* 3^{06}*d. flem.* 2nd PAR 308:12 : 3
: 5: 8: 3	at 62*d.* per oz. ..... £ 1 : 7:11: 1	equal to :10:20^{63} at Bco. mks. 27:12*sh.*	is Bco. mks. 18: 7: 4^{6} at 35*sh.* 3^{06}*d. flem.* is £ 1: 7:11: 1

PROOF.

EXCHANGES.

£310: : : : ═══ 35*sh.* 3^{06}*flem.* ═══ Bco. mks. 4098: 7: 7^{2}

The first line represents 100*lb. of Standard Silver deposited; the second the same quantity taken out; and the third the agio retained by the Bank of Hamburg, being rather less than* $\frac{1}{2}$ *per cent.*

0548