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**EXCHANGES, MONEYS, ACCOUNTS,
WEIGHTS, AND MEASURES.**

1888.

COURSE OF EXCHANGE

FOR THE YEAR 1888.

Exchanges fluctuated considerably—Rates on London during January 1888 were unusually high as the market was still under the influence of the effects of Cholera and restricted commercial intercourse through quarantine, but in February a rapid decline occurred, and a still further reduction in the rates followed during April, May and June in consequence of abundant exports from Malta of potatoes and other agricultural produce. The course of exchange improved during the autumn and winter, bills on London recovering their normal rates. Quotations include the customary brokerage of one tenth per cent.

Place	Maximum	Minimum	Normal rate
On London — Bankers draft per £ 100—On demand ...	18/-	5/-	10/-
" " 3 days sight ...	15/-	4/-	7/6
" " 30 " date ...	12/6	2/6 prem.	5/-
" " 60 " " ...	8/-	par.	2/6
" " 90 " " ...	5/-	5/- disct.	par.
Cable transfers	20/-	8/-	12/- prem.
Commercial Bills			
" 30 " " ...	5/- prem.	7/6 disct.	5/- disct.
" 90 " " ...	$\frac{7}{8}\%$ disct.	$1\frac{1}{2}\%$ "	1% "
France—Bankers cheques per Pound	f. c. 25. 10	f. c. 25. 20	f. c. 25. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$
" drafts			
" 3 days sight ...	25.	25. 25	25. 05
" " 3 months date	25. 25	25. 35	25. 31
Italy—Bankers cheques	25. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$	25. 30	25. 20
" Notes of the National Bank	25. 10	25. 35	25. 25
Egypt—Alexandria, sight	$\frac{3}{4}\%$ prem.	$\frac{1}{4}\%$ prem.	$\frac{1}{2}\%$ prem.
" Cairo do.	1% prem.	$\frac{1}{4}\%$ "	$\frac{3}{4}\%$ "

Specie.—Sovereigns under the current weight, viz. 122 $\frac{1}{2}$ grains, and half sovereigns under 61 $\frac{1}{8}$ grains continue to circulate with extreme difficulty, and are usually purchased by weight only, the holder bearing the cost of abrasion.

COINS.

Pursuant to an Order of Her Majesty's in Council of the 24th September 1886, British Coins are the only legal tender in these Islands, and the limit up to which Silver and Bronze Coins are received is raised to five pounds and one shilling respectively.

Twenty franc pieces and five franc pieces both French and Italian are, now, merely kept in deposit as articles of merchandize for exportation to the neighbouring marts of Tunis, Tripoli, Syria, and Sicily, when a demand arises for them for the purchase of produce, or for the acquittal of bills payable in Francs or Lire.

Further measures have been successfully undertaken by the Malta Government conjointly with the Anglo-Egyptian Bank for reducing the redundancy of silver in circulation.

The currency chiefly consists of British gold and silver, and as gold coin below legal tender weight is rejected, specie payments continue to involve a considerable loss of time in counting and examination, which, as well as loss from abrasion, would be minimized by a legal tender note issue, established on a satisfactory basis.

C I R C U L A T I O N.

The British gold coin held in Malta fluctuates according to the sums imported and exported and the Fleet requirements. It is at present roughly estimated at

Sovereigns	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£ 400,000
Half Sovereigns	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20,000
									Total	£ 420,000
and the British silver coin at	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		150,000
									Specie	£ 570,000

The note circulation is at present restricted to the notes of two Local Banks (about £30,000) and to an issue of the Local Branch of the Anglo-Egyptian Bank, limited to £8000.

A C C O U N T S K E P T.

By Government, in Sterling.

„ Commerce likewise in Sterling: a few merchants, however, of the Marina and Casals (villages) still continue to keep their Accounts according to the old style in Scudi, Tari and Grains:—

One Maltese Scudo is = 1/8.

A Tari „ = -/1 $\frac{2}{3}$.

A Grain „ = -/0 $\frac{1}{3}$.

Twelve Maltese Scudi „ = to 20/- or £1 Sterling.

The Maltese Coins have been demonetized; Coins to the nominal value of about £12,000 were withdrawn from circulation in November 1886.

MEASURES.

1. Length Measure.

MALTESE MEASURE				ENGLISH MEASURE		
Palmi	Palmo	Canne		Yards	Feet	Inches
1	...	...	=	...	...	$\dots\frac{53}{64}$
12	1	...	=	...	...	$10\frac{39}{64}$
96	8	1	=	2	...	$10\frac{39}{64}$

N.B.—Beams are sold by a length measure, called *Tratto*, equal to 12 *Palmo*, or 3 Yards, 1 Foot, $3\frac{3}{4}$ Inches English: each *Tratto* is calculated by cubic measure. Planks and Scantlings are sold by the 100. Mahogany is sold by the English Cubic Foot.

2. Cloth Measure.

MALTESE MEASURE				ENGLISH MEASURE			
Palmi	Palmo	Canne		Yards	Quarters	Nails	Inches
1	...	...	=	...	...	...	$\dots\frac{55}{64}$
12	1	...	=	...	1	...	$1\frac{60}{64}$
96	8	1	=	2	1	...	$1\frac{33}{64}$

3. Square Measure.

MALTESE MEASURE							ENGLISH MEASURE							
Onze	Palmo	Canne	Minore	Mondelli	Tonoli	Salme		Miles	Acres	Roods	Porch.	Yards	Feet	Inches
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	...	...	$\dots\frac{37325}{36864}$
144	1	...	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	...	...	$106\frac{1434}{4096}$
9,216	64	1	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	5	2	$38\frac{1}{2}$
$39,321\frac{9}{15}$	$273\frac{2}{15}$	$4\frac{4}{15}$	1	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	22	3	96
393,216	$2,730\frac{9}{16}$	$42\frac{9}{16}$	10	1	...	...	=	...	...	...	7	12	2	132
2,359,296	16,384	256	60	6	1	...	=	...	...	1	4	13	4	...
37,748,736	262,144	4,096	960	96	16	1	=	...	4	1	31	3	3	36

4. Solid Measure for Wheat, Seeds, &c.

MALTESE MEASURE						ENGLISH MEASURE	
Lammi	Minore	Mondelli	Tonoli	Sacchi	Salme	Quarter	Imperial Bushels
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	$\dots\frac{1}{1200}$
10	1	...	...	...	...	...	$\dots\frac{1}{120}$
100	10	1	...	...	...	...	$\dots\frac{1}{12}$
600	60	6	1	...	...	...	$\dots\frac{1}{2}$
2,400	240	24	4	1	...	...	2
9,600	960	96	16	4	1	...	or 8

N.B.—Charcoal, Walnuts, Chesnuts, and large Sicilian Beans are sold by heaped measure.

MEASURES.

5. Liquid Measure for Ale, Beer, Porter, Wine, and Spirits.

MALTESE MEASURE									ENGLISH MEASURE													
Pinte	Terzi	Mezzi	Quartucci	Quarti (or Ottari)	Quartare	Barili	Pipe	Botti	FOR ALE, BEER, AND PORTER						FOR WINE AND SPIRITS							
									Bots	Blads	Barrels	Kilderkins	Figons	Gallons	Quarts	Fats	Gills	Pipes	Blads	Gallons	Quarts	Fats	Gills
1	=	1	1
2	1	=	2	2
4	2	1	=	1	1
8	4	2	1	=	1	1
38	19	9½	4¾	1	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	...	1	...	1	2
76	38	19	9½	2	1	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	2	1	1	...
304	152	76	38	8	4	1	...	...	=	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	9	2	...	...	...
3,344	1,672	836	418	88	44	11	1	...	=	...	1	1	1	5	2	...	1	41	2	...	...
6,688	3,344	1,672	836	176	88	22	2	1	=	1	1	1	1	2	...	1	1	20	...	...	...

N.B.—209 Gallons are equal to 1 Botte.

6. Liquid Measure for Oil and Milk.

MALTESE MEASURE								ENGLISH MEASURE			
Quartici	Misere	Terzi	Mezzi	Quartucci	Quarte	Caffai	Barili	Gallons	Quarts	Pints	Gills
1	...	...	—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	221 100
4	1	...	—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	90 100
10	2½	1	—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	225 100
20	5	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	50 100
40	10	4	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
160	40	16	8	4	1	...	...	1	...	1	...
640	160	64	32	16	4	1	...	4	2	...	...
1,280	320	128	64	32	8	2	1	9	...	...	...

7. Apothecaries' Measure.

MALTESE MEASURE				} ENGLISH MEASURE.
Grane	Dramme	Ounce	Libbre	
1	...	...	...
60	1	...	...
480	8	1	...	
5,760	96	12	1	

= 1 Grain
 = 1 Dram
 = 1 Ounce
 = 1 Pound

8 Troy Weight for Gold, Silver, and Precious Stones.

MALTESE WEIGHT					=	ENGLISH WEIGHT			
Ounces or Grain	Trappesi	Ottari	Once	Libbre		Pounds	Ounces	Drams	Grains
1	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	$\dots \frac{1233}{1728}$
18	1	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	$\frac{121514}{1728}$
72	4	1	...	...	=	...	...	2	$3 \frac{72}{1728}$
576	32	8	1	...	=	...	...	17	$\dots \frac{576}{1728}$
6,912	384	96	12	1	=	...	10	4	4

9. Avoirdupois Weight.

MALTESE WEIGHT							=	ENGLISH WEIGHT			
Ottari	Quarte	Once	Boleli	Pece	Contari	Peoste		Ozts.	Pounds	Ounces	Drams
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	$1 \frac{1}{16}$
2	1	...	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	$3 \frac{1}{16}$
8	4	1	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	$14 \frac{1}{16}$
240	120	30	1	...	...	...	=	..	1	12	...
1,200	600	150	5	1	...	...	=	... ||	8	12	...
24,000	1,200	3,000	100	20	1	...	=	1	63	...	...
72,000	36,000	9,000	300	60	3	1	=	4	77	...	...

WEIGHTS.

10. Wool Weight.

MALTESE WEIGHT							ENGLISH WEIGHT					
Ottari	Quarta	Ounc	Rotoli	Paup	Centari	Piculi	Sacks	Wey	Ton	Stones	Cloves	Pounds
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	...⁷ / ₉₆₀
2	1	...	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	...¹⁴ / ₉₆₀
8	4	1	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	...⁵⁶ / ₉₆₀
140	120	30	1	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	1 ²²⁰ / ₉₆₀
1,200	600	150	5	1	...	...	=	...	...	...	1	1 ²²⁰ / ₉₆₀
24,000	1,200	3,000	100	20	1	...	=	...	6	...	1	...
72,000	36,000	9,000	300	60	3	1	=	1	...	5	1	...

11. Apothecaries' Weight.

MALTESE WEIGHT					} ENGLISH WEIGHT.	
Grain	Scrupoli	Dramme	Ounc	Libbre		
1	...	...	...	...		= 1 Grain
20	1	...	...	...		= 1 Scruple
60	3	1	...	...		= 1 Dram
480	24	8	1	...		= 1 Ounce
5,760	288	96	12	1	= 1 Pound	