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EXCHANGES, MONEYS, ACCOUNTS,
WEIGHTS, AND MEASURES.

1904-1905.

COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

FOR THE YEAR 1904-5.

Exchanges—Rates of exchange for cheques and bills on London in the course of the year remained nearly invariable. The exchanges on Italy ranged between 25 and 25.25 the average rate for the year being 25.06.

Since the abolition of the ad valorem duty on 3 d/s bills, by the English Stamp Act, there is no difference in the exchange between cheques and 3 d/s bills.

Place	Maximum	Minimum
On London— Bankers draft per £ 100—on demand... ..	3/8 ^o / ₁₀₀ prem.	1/8 ^o / ₁₀₀ prem.
.. .. 3 days sight... ..	3/8 ^o / ₁₀₀ ..	Do.
.. .. 30 .. date... ..	1/8 ^o / ₁₀₀ ..	par.
Cable transfers	1/2 ^o / ₁₀₀ ..	1/4 ^o / ₁₀₀ prem.
Commercial Bills .. 30	1/4 ^o / ₁₀₀ disct.	3/8 ^o / ₁₀₀ disct.
.. .. 90	3/4 ^o / ₁₀₀ ..	1 1/4 ^o / ₁₀₀ ..
France—Bankers cheques per Pound	f. 25. c.	f. 25. c. 12
.. .. drafts 3 days sight... ..	25.	25. 12
Italy—Bankers cheques	25. 06	25. 25
.. Notes of the National Bank... ..	25. 06	25. 25
Egypt—Alexandria and Cairo, Bankers cheques	1 ^o / ₁₀₀ prem.	1/2 ^o / ₁₀₀ prem.

COINS.

Pursuant to an Order of Her Majesty 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 centres of Trade, such as Tunis, Tripoli, Bengasi, Syria, and Sicily, when a demand arises for them for the purchase of produce, or for the payment of bills payable in Francs or Lire. The deposit of such Coins greatly diminished, as in Tripoli and Bengasi Sovereigns are in demand when Napoleons are not obtainable at 15s. 11½d.

Further measures have been undertaken by this Government for reducing the surplus of Silver coin defaced in circulation.

The currency consists of British gold and silver:—gold coin below legal tender weight is rejected. The system of making payments by cheques has been of late much appreciated, and has been adopted by nearly the whole Commercial community.

In February 1904 the Government made arrangements for the deposit of public moneys in the Anglo-Egyptian Bank Ltd., Malta Branch, the bank paying interest at the following rates:

3⁰/₁₀₀ on Fixed Deposits for one year
 2⁰/₁₀₀ „ Fixed Deposits for six months
 2⁰/₁₀₀ „ Current a/c on condition that this a/c is not drawn below the sum of £ 10,000 and that no interest is paid on any sum in excess of £ 25,000.

The Government have further agreed with the above Bank to purchase from them any drafts on London which may be required by Government at a uniform rate of 1⁰/₁₀₀ premium.

In June 1892 His Excellency the Governor to accord facilities to the Commercial Community authorized Heads of Departments to receive payments by certified cheques on the Anglo-Maltese Bank and on the Banco di Malta: and in 1896 also on the Anglo-Egyptian Bank.

CIRCULATION.

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

Sovereigns	...	...	...	...	...	£ 500,000
Half Sovereigns	...	...	...	...	...	20,000
				Total	...	£ 520,000
British silver and bronze coin at	...	...	...	...	...	60,000
				Specie	...	580,000

The note circulation which is restricted to the notes of the Anglo-Maltese Bank and the Banco di Malta is calculated to be about £ 27,000; but this cannot be ascertained, in as much as the Banks do not publish their accounts and they are not subject to any statutory laws.

MEASURES.

1. Length Measure.

MALTESE MEASURE			=	ENGLISH MEASURE		
Pollici	Palmi	Canne		Yards	Feet	Inches
1	...	...	=	...	...	... $\frac{5}{8}$
12	1	...	=	...	...	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
96	8	1	=	2	...	10 $\frac{3}{4}$

N.B.—Beams are sold by a measure called *Tratto*, equal to 12 cubic *Palmi*, or 7 cubic feet, 106 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches. Planks and Scantlings are sold by the 100. Mahogany is sold by the English Cubic Foot.

2. Cloth Measure.

MALTESE MEASURE			=	ENGLISH MEASURE			
Pollici	Palmi	Canne		Yards	Quarters	Nails	Inches
1	...	..	=	...	...	...	... $\frac{53}{64}$
12	1	...	=	...	1	...	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
96	8	1	=	2	1	...	1 $\frac{3}{4}$

3. Square Measure.

MALTESE MEASURE							=	ENGLISH MEASURE						
Oncas	Palmi	Canne	Misure	Mondelli	Tunuli	Salme		Miles	Acres	Rood	Perch	Yards	Feet	Inches
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	...	...	... $\frac{2033}{1098}$
144	1	..	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	...	...	106 $\frac{59}{100}$
9,216	64	1	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	5	2	...	38 $\frac{1}{4}$
39,321 $\frac{9}{16}$	273 $\frac{1}{16}$	4 $\frac{1}{8}$	1	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	22	3	...	96
393,216	2,730 $\frac{9}{16}$	42 $\frac{1}{8}$	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	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	3	36

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

MALTESE MEASURE						=	ENGLISH MEASURE	
Lamini	Misure	Mondelli	Tunuli	Sacchi	Salme		Quarter	Imperial Bushels
1	...	...	..	...	...	=	...	... $\frac{1}{100}$
10	1	...	...	...	...	=	...	... $\frac{1}{10}$
100	10	1	...	...	...	=	...	... $\frac{1}{10}$
600	60	6	1	...	...	=	...	... $\frac{1}{2}$
2,400	240	24	4	1	...	=	...	2
9,600	960	96	16	4	1	=	...	or 8

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

MEASURES.

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

MALTESE MEASURE									ENGLISH MEASURE													
Pint	Tun	Masi	Quaracci	Quarts or Ottari	Quarts	Bardi	Pige	Botti	FOR ALE, BEER, AND PORTER						FOR WINE AND SPIRITS							
									Bott	Hick	Bunch	Killickin	Fobbin	Gallins	Quart	Pint	Gill	Pipe	Hick	Gallons	Quart	Pint	Gill
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
4	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
8	4	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
38	19	9½	4½	1	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	...	1	...	...	1	2
76	38	19	9½	2	1	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	2	1	1	...	1
304	152	76	38	8	4	1	...	...	=	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	9	2	...	2	...
3,344	1,672	836	418	88	44	11	1	...	=	...	1	1	...	1	5	2	...	14	1	2	...	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			
Quaracci	Masi	Tun	Masi	Quaracci	Quarte	Cafo	Bardi	Gallons	Quarts	Pints	Gills
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22 100
4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	90 100
10	2½	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	245 100
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' Fluid Measure.

MALTESE (NEW) MEASURE *					MALTESE (OLD) MEASURE **				Imp. qrs. of Water
Masi	Drachms	Ounces	Pints	Gallons	Ounces	Drachms	Ounces	Libras	
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0'91
60	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1'00
480	8	1	...	...	60	1	...	...	54'68
9,600	160	20	1	...	480	8	1	...	60'00
76,800	1,280	160	8	1	7,680	128	16	1	437'50
									480'00
									8,750'00
									7,680'00
									70,000'00

* The same as the English Measure.
 ** Abolished.

WEIGHTS.

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

MALTESE WEIGHT					=	ENGLISH WEIGHT			
Grain or Grain	Troquet	Ozani	Ozce	Libbre		Pounds	Ounces	Pennyweights	Grains
1	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...$\frac{1}{177} \frac{1}{16}$
18	1	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	12 $\frac{1}{17} \frac{1}{16}$
72	4	1	...	...	=	...	...	2	37 $\frac{1}{16}$
576	32	8	1	...	=	...	...	17	... $\frac{1}{17} \frac{1}{16}$
6,912	384	96	12	1	=	...	10	4	4

N.B.—The Maltese Carat for weighing diamonds = 1 English Carat = $3\frac{1}{8}$ imp. grains = $4\frac{1}{2}$ cocci (very nearly), it is divided into fourths, called grains.

9. Weight for every description of Goods, except Gold, Silver and Precious Stones.

MALTESE WEIGHT							=	ENGLISH WEIGHT			
Ozani	Quarte	$\frac{1}{2}$ Ozce	Rotoli	Peso	Centari	Pesce		Cats.	Pounds	Ounces	Drams
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
2	1	...	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
8	4	1	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	14 $\frac{1}{2}$
240	120	30	1	...	...	...	=	...	1	12
1,200	600	150	5	1	...	...	=	...	8	12
24,000	12,000	3,000	100	20	1	...	=	1	63	...	
72,000	36,000	9,000	300	60	3	1	=	4	77	...	

10. Wool Weight.

MALTESE WEIGHT							=	ENGLISH WEIGHT					
Ozani	Quarte	Ozce	Rotoli	Peso	Centari	Pesce		Sacks	Weg	Tol	Stones	Cloves	Pounds
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	...	...$\frac{7}{160}$
2	1	...	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	...	...$\frac{14}{160}$
8	4	1	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	...	...$\frac{56}{160}$
240	120	30	1	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	...	1 $\frac{7}{160}$
1,290	600	150	5	1	...	...	=	...	...	...	1	...	1 $\frac{7}{160}$
24,000	12,000	3,000	100	20	1	...	=	...	...	6	...	1	...
72,000	36,000	9,000	300	60	3	1	=	1	...	5	1	1	...

WEIGHTS.

11. Apothecaries' Weight

MALTESE (old) WEIGHT *					=	Imp. Grains	MALTESE (new) WEIGHT **		
Grain	Serapell	Dramas	Ounc	Libra		Imp. Grains	Ounces	Pounds	
1	...	...	...	...	=	1	1	...	..
20	1	...	...	...	=	20	437 $\frac{1}{2}$	1	...
60	3	1	...	...	=	60	7,000	16	1
480	24	8	1	...	=	480	...	...	...
7,680	384	128	16	1	=	7,680	...	...	...

* Abolished.

** The same as the English weight directed to be used by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom in their Pharmacopœia of 1864.