

P

EXCHANGES, MONEYS, ACCOUNTS.

1915 1916.

COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

FOR THE YEAR 1915-16.

Exchange—Bankers have been selling exchange on London at sight at $1/4$ p. $\%$ premium. Purchases by Bankers have been a matter of negotiation and as much as 1 $\%$ discount has been paid by sellers of exchange on London.

Place		Maximum	Minimum
On London—Bankers draft per £ 100—on demand...	... ..	$1/4$ $\%$ prem.	$1/8$ $\%$ prem.
.. .. 3 days' sight	... ..	$1/4$ $\%$..	Do.
.. .. 30 .. date	... ..	$1/8$ $\%$..	par.
Cable transfer	.. ..	$1/2$ $\%$..	$1/4$ $\%$ prem.
Commercial Bills	.. 30	not quoted.	
.. .. 90 .. ..	... ..	— do. —	
France—Bankers' cheques per Pound...	... ..	f. 25.	c. 28. 50
.. .. drafts, 3 days' sight, per Pound ...	... ..	25. —	28. 50
Italy—Bankers' cheques	... .. do. ...	25. —	31. 50
.. Notes of the National Bank	... .. do. ...	25. —	31. 50
Egypt—Alexandria and Cairo, Bankers' cheques	... ..	1 $\%$ prem.	$1/2$ $\%$ prem.

CURRENCY.

By Order in Council of the 24th September 1886, British Coins were made the only legal tender in these Islands with the proviso that silver coins and bronze coins shall not be legal tender for the payment of amounts exceeding five pounds and one shilling respectively.

By Ordinance No. V of 1915 and Proclamation No. X of 16th June 1915, paper currency Notes issued by His Majesty's Treasury under "The Currency and Bank Notes Act, 1914" were also made legal tender in these Islands for the payment of any amount as from the 17th June 1915.

Twenty franc pieces and five franc pieces, both French and Italian, are merely kept in deposit as articles of merchandize for exportation to the neighbouring centre 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 Italian currency.

The currency consists of British coins and British Treasury notes:—gold coin below legal tender weight is rejected.

In February 1904, the Government made arrangements for the deposit of public moneys in the Anglo-Egyptian Bank, Ltd., Malta Branch.

CIRCULATION.

The British gold coin held in Malta fluctuates according to the sums imported and exported and the requirements of the Fleet.

Roughly estimated the amount of currency and French coins in circulation, on 31st March 1916, was £ 1,190,000, viz :

Sovereigns and half-Sovereigns	...	...	...	£ 900,000	
British silver and bronze coin	...	...	...	.. 75,000	
				<u> </u>	£ 975,000
British Treasury paper currency Notes	...	...	...	.. 200,000	
				<u> </u>	£ 1,175,000
French gold and silver	...	...	...	.. 15,000	
				<u> </u>	£ 1,190,000

MEASURES.

1. Length Measure.

MALTESE MEASURE			=	ENGLISH MEASURE		
Pollici	Palmi	Canne		Yards	Feet	Inches
1	...	...	=	...	...	... $\frac{33}{64}$
12	1	...	=	...	...	10 $\frac{30}{64}$
96	8	1	=	2	...	10 $\frac{33}{64}$

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	...	...	=	...	...	...	... $\frac{33}{64}$
12	1	...	=	...	1	...	1 $\frac{30}{64}$
96	8	1	=	2	1	...	1 $\frac{33}{64}$

3. Square Measure

MALTESE MEASURE							=	ENGLISH MEASURE						
Ounces	Palmi	Canne	Misure	Moudelli	Tumoli	Salme		Miles	Acres	Rood	Perch	Yards	Feet	Inches
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	...	...	... $\frac{3023}{4000}$
144	1	...	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	...	...	106 $\frac{59}{64}$
9,216	64	1	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	..	5	2	...	38 $\frac{1}{2}$
39,321 $\frac{9}{16}$	273 $\frac{1}{16}$	4 $\frac{1}{16}$	1	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	22	3	...	96
393,216	2,730 $\frac{9}{16}$	42 $\frac{1}{16}$	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	Misure	Moudelli	Tumoli	Sacchi	Salme		Quarter	Imperial Bushels
1	...	...	...	...	...	=	...	... $\frac{1}{1200}$
10	1	...	...	...	...	=	...	... $\frac{1}{120}$
100	10	1	...	...	...	=	...	... $\frac{1}{12}$
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													
Fisks	Tenn	Mess	Quartucci	Quarte of Ottuni	Quartara	Bacil	Fipe	Botti	FOR ALE, BEER, AND PORTER						FOR WINE AND SPIRITS							
									Bolls	Bibbs	Berrils	Killockis	Fishes	Ocellas	Quarts	Pias	Gills	Pipes	Bibbs	Gallons	Quarts	Pints	Gills
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	...	...	1	4	1	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 *Botta*.

6. Liquid Measure for Oil and Milk.

MALTESE MEASURE								ENGLISH MEASURE			
Quartici	Misari	Tenn	Mess	Quartucci	Quarte	Gallia	Botti	Gallons	Quarts	Pias	Gills
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	221 100
4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	90 100
10	2½	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	225 100
20	5	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	80 100
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. pts. of Water	
Minas	Drachms	Ounces	Fisks	Gallons	Goos	Drachms	Ounces	Litres		
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			
Grains per Ounce	Trappesi	Otari	Ounc	Libbre	Pounds	Ounces	Pennyweights	Grains
1	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	... $\frac{1}{10000}$
18	1	...	...	...	=	...	...	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$
72	4	1	...	...	=	...	2	31 $\frac{1}{2}$
576	32	8	1	...	=	...	17	... $\frac{576}{10000}$
6,912	384	96	12	1	=	...	10	4

N.B.—The Maltese Carat for weighing diamonds = 1 English Carat = $3\frac{1}{8}$ imp. grains = $4\frac{1}{2}$ cocchi (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			
Otari	Quarta	Ounc	Randi	Pesa	Centari	Piccoli	Cats.	Pounds	Ounces	Drams
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	1 $\frac{1}{8}$
2	1	...	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	3 $\frac{1}{8}$
8	4	1	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	14 $\frac{1}{8}$
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					
Otari	Quarta	Ounc	Randi	Pesa	Centari	Piccoli	Sacks	Wry	Tal	Stones	Cloves	Pounds
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	... $\frac{1}{10000}$
2	1	...	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	... $\frac{1}{5000}$
8	4	1	...	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	... $\frac{5}{10000}$
240	120	30	1	...	...	...	=	...	...	...	...	1 $\frac{3}{8}$
1,200	600	150	5	1	...	...	=	...	...	...	1	1 $\frac{3}{8}$
24,000	12,000	3,000	100	20	1	...	=	...	6	...	1	...
72,000	36,000	9,000	300	60	3	1	=	1	...	5	1	...

11. Apothecaries' Weight.

MALTESE (old) WEIGHT*					=	Imp. Grams	MALTESE (new) WEIGHT**		
Grains	Scraps	Dramms	Ounces	Libres		Imp. Grams	Ounces	Grains	Pounds
1	...	...	...	...	=	1	1	...	...
20	1	...	...	...	=	20	437½	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.