Volume I

The Rise of the Gold Standard, 1660-1819

1695 January 8

Report to the House of Commons from the Committee appointed to consider proposals for stemming both the clipping of the silver coinage of England and the exportation of silver.

Mr. *Scobell* reported from the Committee appointed to receive proposals how to prevent the clipping of the Coin of this Kingdom for the future; and the Exportation of Silver; and to report the same to the House; That the Committee had received several Proposals accordingly; and had agreed upon several Resolutions; which they had directed him to report to the House: And he read the same in his Place; and afterwards delivered the same in at the Clerk's Table: Where the same were read; and are as follows; *viz*.

- 1. *Resolved*, That it is the Opinion of the Committee, That the best way to prevent clipping the Silver Coin of this Kingdom for the future is, to new-coin the same into milled Money.
- 2. Resolved, That it is the Opinion of the Committee, That Ten hundred thousand Pounds is a sufficient Sum to make good the Deficiency of the present clipped Coin of this Kingdom.
- 3. *Resolved*, That it is the Opinion of the Committee, That the Crown and Halfcrown, hereafter to be coined, shall be of the present Weight and Fineness.
- 4. *Resolved*, That it is the Opinion of the Committee, That the Crown piece shall go at Five Shillings Sixpence; and the Halfcrown shall go at Two Shillings Ninepence.
- 5. *Resolved*, That it is the Opinion of the Committee, That the present milled Crown piece shall go for 5s. 6d.; and the Halfcrown for Two Shillings Ninepence.
- 6. *Resolved*, That it is the Opinion of the Committee, That all Money, to be coined under the Denomination of the Halfcrown, shall have a Remedy of Sixpence in the Ounce.
- 7. Resolved, That it is the Opinion of the Committee, That for as much of the present Coin, as any Person brings into the Mint, he shall have Weight for Weight, and the Overplus by a Bill or Ticket at ____ per Cent. on a Fund, to be appropriated for that Purpose.
- 8. *Resolved*, That it is the Opinion of the Committee, That the present Laws against clipping be enforced by some Additions.
- 9. Resolved, That it is the Opinion of the Committee, That all Person whose Prosessions [sic] require such-like Tools or Engines, as may be made use of for coining or clipping be obliged to register their Names, and Places of Abode; and that it be penal on such as neglect to do the same.
- 10. *Resolved*, That it is the Opinion of the Committee, That it be penal on all such Persons on whom Clippings are found.
- 11. *Resolved*, That it is the Opinion of the Committee, That it be penal on all such Persons as give more for any Silver Coin than it ought to go for by Law.

Volume I

The Rise of the Gold Standard, 1660-1819

- 12. *Resolved*, That it is the Opinion of the Committee, That no Presses, such as are used for coining, be in any other Place than his Majesty's Mint.
- 13. *Resolved*, That it is the Opinion of the Committee, That it be penal on all such Persons as shall import any clipped or counterfeit Money.
- 14. *Resolved*, That it is the Opinion of the Committee, That it be penal on any Person to export *English* Bullion; and the Proof to lie upon the Exporter.

Resolved, That it is the Opinion of the Committee, That it be penal on any Person to counterfeit any foreign Mark upon Bullion.

Resolved, That this House will, upon *Saturday* Morning next, take the said Report into Consideration.

Source: Journal of the House of Commons 11, pp. 265-271, esp. 265-266. See also Li, 1963, p. 111.