

"Countries in which the metric system has been partly adopted :

	Population.
Switzer and.....	2,500,000
Hanse Towns.....	500,000
Denmark.....	3,000,000
Austria.....	37,000,000
British India.....	140,000,000
	183,000,000

"Countries where it is permissive :

	Population.
United Kingdom.....	29,000,000
United States of America.....	31,000,000
Prussia and North Germany.....	30,000,000
	90,000,000

"On June 13th, 1868, the North German Parliament passed an Act, adopting the metric system, and declaring its use permissive from 1st January, 1870, but compulsory on and after 1st January, 1872.

"Between many of the above-named countries and Canada, a large and growing business already exists, and it seems desirable that the system upon which their computations of the bulk and weight of merchandize are founded, should be understood and put in practice in this Dominion.

"Incidentally connected with the subject referred to your committee, is the want of uniformity existing in the weights and measures of the four provinces which compose this Federation; and it may not be irrelevant to point out some of the omissions and discrepancies which characterize the statutes of Upper Canada, Lower Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, by which our weights and measures are still regulated.

"And first, it may be noticed, that no common standards of weights and measures are established, nor are any means prescribed for ascertaining whether or not the old Provincial standards agree with, or differ from, each other; or to whose custody they are, or should be committed.

"Again, certain old English measures of capacity, both dry and liquid, which have been long since abolished in the United Kingdom, are still in use, and are legal measures in parts of the Dominion. Of these the following instances may be cited :

"1st. The old English Wine gallon, six of which are not quite equal to five of the Imperial gallon, now in use in England.

"2nd. The old English Winchester bushel, which is less, in the proportion of 32 to 33, than the Imperial bushel in England.

"The following tabular statement exhibits certain discrepancies, in stating the legal weight of a bushel of our staple grains and seeds, as well as of other articles of produce, which the laws of the various Provinces sanction:—

Grains, Seeds, etc.	Ontario and Quebec.	Nova Scotia.	New Brunswick.
	LBS.	LBS.	LBS.
Wheat.....	60	60	60
Indian Corn.....	56	58	60
Rye.....	56	56	56
Peas.....	60		56
Barley.....	48	52 or 48	50
Oat.....	34	34	36
Beans.....	60		56
Clover Seed.....	60		56
Timothy Seed.....	48		41
Buckwheat.....	48		50
Potatoes and Turnips.....	60	60 } 40 }	56
Carrots, Parsnips, Beets, and Onions.....			
Flax Seed.....	50		56
Hemp Seed.....	44		55
Blue Grass Seed.....	14		56
Castor Beans.....	40		56
Salt.....	56		
Dried Apples.....	22		
Dried Peaches.....	33		
Malt.....	36	39	

NOTE.—In Nova Scotia a bushel of foreign barley must weigh 52 pounds, but a bushel of barley, the produce of the Province, need only weigh 48 pounds.

"In Quebec, it is provided that coals shall be sold by the chaldron or bushel, and that the chaldron shall contain six Imperial Winchester bushels, a measure which, it is believed, does not exist.

"In Nova Scotia, the law defines the weight of a ton of coals as 2,240 lbs. avoirdupois.

"In New Brunswick, coals are, by law, sold per ton weight, and the ton is fixed at 2,000 lbs. avoirdupois.

"In Ontario, the ton weight, without any reference to coals, is fixed at 2,000 lbs. avoirdupois.

"In Lower Canada, now Quebec, the old measures of the "arpent," the "minot," and the Paris foot, though obsolete in France, are still in use; and as the arpent is smaller than the