

His Majesty's Mint Bullion Records, 1813

Document Overview

These are official records of **importations of bullion into His Majesty's Mint**, tracking coinage deliveries and machinery accidents. The document spans **January–June 1813**.

(Image 1) — Full Transcription

Header

"of the Importations of Bullion into His Majesty's Mint, and the Coinage and Deliveries thereof; with an Account of any Accidents which may have occurred in the Machinery."

January 1813

	Imported	Delivered	
Silver		Silver	
Bank of England	Weight: lb 9996.10.9.0	Bank of England — 3sh. & 1/6 Tokens	Weight: lb oz 5333.4 — Value: £20,299.11.2

"No accident occurred in the Machinery."

February 1813

	Imported	Delivered	
Silver		Silver	

	Imported	Delivered	
Bank of England	lb 13709.9.17.0	Bank of England — 3sh. & 1/6 Tokens	lb 7250 — £27,594.14.3
States of Jersey	192.3.10.0		

March 1813

	Imported	Delivered	
Silver		Silver	
Bank of England	lb 12,995.8.1.0	Bank of Eng'd — 3sh. & 1/6 Tokens	lb 18,416.8 — £70,096.18.4
States of Jersey	—	Jersey 3/& 1/6 Tokens	166.8 — £726.7.8
Gold		Gold	
Commissary in Chief	lb 6505.8.11.15	Guineas 1/2/4G/97/Pcs	lb 2310 — £107,934.15.0

April 1813

	Imported	Delivered	
Silver		Silver	
Bank of England	—	Bank of Eng'd — 3sh. and 1/6 Tokens	lb 3666.8 — £13,955.19.1
Bank of Ireland	lb 8333.4	—	—
Gold		Gold	
Commissary in Chief	lb 1003.2.0.18	Guineas &c.	lb 3300 — £154,192.10.0

(continues: "May")

(Image 2) — Full Transcription

[May 1813 — upper section]

Source	Imported (Weight lb)	Delivered	Weight	Value
Bank of England	10,150.3.12.0	Bank of England — 3sh. and 1/6 Tokens	2500	£9,515.3.4
States of Jersey	99.9.15.0	—	—	—
Bank of Ireland	11,993.0.18.3	Irish 10? Tokens	5,416.8	£23,773.4.2
Gold		Gold		
Commissary in Chief	—	Guineas	1530	£71,489.5.0

"No accident in the Machinery during the preceding Months"

June 1813

Source	Imported (Weight lb)	Delivered	Weight	Value
Silver		Silver		
Bank of England	lb 10,169.4.15.20	Bank of England — 3sh. and 1/6 Tokens	11,666.8	£44,405.5.8

Source	Imported (Weight lb)	Delivered	Weight	Value
States of Jersey	2243.10.9.22	Jersey 3 & 1/6 Tokens	2369.3.14.22	£10,325.16.0
Bank of Ireland	15,395.0.16.12	Irish 10? Tokens	10,666.8	£46,814.18.8
Gold				
Commissary in Chief	Nil		Nil	—

Re-delivered (June 1813)

Deposit by the Commissary in Chief — Re-delivered.

		Weight	
Silver			
Provisional Spanish Dollars (weighed in at the Office)	lb oz 8848.4.14.0	Provisional Spanish Dollars	lb oz 3140.8

Accident in the Machinery — *One Roller broken*

Extract from the Mint Journal:

"The Inspector of Machinery reported that one Roller had broken; the effect of fair wear and tear; when the Board authorized the same to be replaced at the expense of the Crown, in pursuance of the Order of the Lords of the Committee for Coin of the 4th of September 1811."

Commentary

Context

These records document the **Royal Mint's operations** during the **Napoleonic Wars era**, a period of enormous monetary pressure on

Britain. The Mint was operating under the **Bank Restriction Act (1797–1821)**, during which gold convertibility was suspended.

Key Observations

1. Multiple Bullion Sources The Mint was receiving silver from at least three distinct sources:

- **Bank of England** — the dominant supplier
- **States of Jersey** — Channel Islands silver, reflecting their special monetary relationship with Britain
- **Bank of Ireland** — Irish silver being processed through the London Mint
- **Commissary in Chief** — military/government gold deposits (notably Spanish gold captured or purchased during the Peninsular War)

2. The Provisional Spanish Dollars The "Re-delivered" section is particularly significant. Spain's colonial silver dollars (*pesos*) were being **countermarked and re-struck** by the Royal Mint for circulation in Britain — a remarkable measure of wartime monetary improvisation. These "Provisional Spanish Dollars" were Bank of England tokens made from melted/re-worked Spanish pieces of eight.

3. Weight vs. Value Discrepancy The weight imported consistently exceeds the weight delivered in a given month, reflecting:

- Processing time and losses in minting
- Carry-over of stock between months
- Assay losses during refining

4. The Machinery Accident (June 1813) The broken roller incident offers a rare glimpse into Mint operations. The authorization to replace it "at the expense of the Crown" under an **1811 Order** shows there was an established bureaucratic protocol — this was not an unusual event.

5. Scale of Operations In June 1813 alone, over **£100,000** worth of coinage was delivered — an enormous sum. The gold deliveries from the

Commissary in Chief (military sources) in March–April were especially large, suggesting major military financial operations connected to the **Peninsular Campaign**.