

Jersey Independent and Daily Telegraph Friday 19 July 1861
SMALL CHANGE.

The States will assemble this morning to discuss the various subjects included in the *Billet de Convocation* printed in the INDEPENDENT a few days ago. We trust our Statesmen will allow us to call their attention to matter which though not of the political importance of one or two of the questions inscribed on the President's *billet* is yet of very considerable public interest. We allude to the dearth of copper coin which is now prevailing to such an extent as to demand instant measures of amelioration. It is not very long since that a considerable addition was made to the copper currency of the Island, notwithstanding which the lack of small change has again become so inconsiderable grievance, or least inconvenience. With so large a floating or "circulating" population, especially during the summer season, it is not difficult to understand one reason why the copper coinage should gradually, surely, and day by day diminish. Our English compatriots bring, and are happy to say leave here, considerable amounts in the shape of gold, silver, and the Promises to Pay of the Old Lady of Threadneedle Street. Our visitors take care not to carry back with them our Jersey rags, and they may be forgiven if landing at Southampton, Weymouth, Plymouth, or London Bridge they find themselves with an addition to their numismatic collections in the shape of two or three penny's worth of Her Majesty's effigy on the one side, and three queer looking animals on the other, animals assumed to be Norman leopards but commonly described belonging to the feline species, masculine gender. From this, and other causes, such as taking our coppers the codfish country, our small change is apt to become smaller degrees and inconveniently less. For some time past our shop keepers have been put to the sorest shifts and straits to provide change for their customers. At the present time some of them are offering premiums per pound's worth of coppers. Coins that might have done service in the time of Rollo outlandish well antediluvian, "Brumagems" of base metal, &c., &c., are pressed into the service. Any of our oldest inhabitants who may yet retain the brass buttons of their youthful and wedding suits might now dispose of them to advantage. We need say no more to indicate the urgent need for the application of the usual remedy. We look to our Constable, and to Bankers and other business men, members of the States, to see that this matter is at once brought before the Assembly.