

which there went twenty-four to the sequin), and also that the bizant was worth a *ducato di zeccha* (or sequin) and a quarter; hence there should have been thirty grossi or dirhems to the bizant (*Amari in Journ. Asiat.*, Jan. 1846, p. 241, and in *Diplomi Arabi* u.s.; *Ibn Bat.*, i, 50; *Della Decima*, iii, 58, iv, 113; *Viag. in Terra Santa di L. Frescobaldi e d'altri*, Firenze, 1862, p. 43). The estimates of the *dínár* also are various. Quatremère assumes the *dínár* in Irak at the beginning of the fourteenth century to be 15 francs, or 11s. 10½*d.*; Defremery makes 100,000 dirhems of Egypt equal to 75,000 francs, which, at Ibn Batuta's rate of 25 to the *dínár*, would make the latter equal to 14s. 10*d.*, or at 20 dirhems (which is probably the number assumed) 11s. 10½*d.* Pegolotti says the bizant of Egypt (or *dínár*) was worth 1⅓ florin, but makes other statements from which we must deduce that it was 1⅕,¹ valuations which would respectively make the *dínár* equal to 10s. 11.66*d.*, and 11s. 3.82*d.* Frescobaldi and his companion Sigoli both say that it was worth a sequin (or a florin) and a quarter, *i. e.*, 11s. 8.35*d.*, or 11s. 9.06*d.* Uzzano says its value varied (in exchange apparently) from 1 florin to 1⅓, or even 1½; giving respectively values of 9s. 4.85*d.*, 10s. 6.9*d.*, and 12s. 6*d.* But he also tells us that its excess in weight over the florin was only 1¼ carat (or $\frac{5}{91}$), which would make its intrinsic value only 9s. 11*d.* MacGuckin de Slane says in a note on Ibn Batuta that the *dínár* of his time might be valued at 12 or 13 francs, *i. e.*, from 9s. 6*d.* to 10s. 3½*d.*; and Amari that the *dínár* of Egypt at the beginning of the fourteenth century was equal to the latter sum (*Quat. Rashideddin*, p. xix; *Ibn Bat.* i, 95; *Della Decima*, iii, 58, 77; iv, 110 *seq.*; *Viaggi in Terra Santa*, pp. 43, 177; *Jour. Asiat.*, March, 1843, p. 188; *Diplomi Arabi*, p. lxiv). On the whole I do not well see how the *dínár* of Egypt and Syria in our author's time can be assumed at a lower value than 10s. 6*d.*

Taking the *dínár* of Egypt and Syria at 10s. 6*d.*, and 25 dirhems to the *dínár* (according to our author's own computation) we have the dirhem worth 5.04*d.*, and the Indian *dínár* or Tangah, being worth eight dirhems, will be 3s. 4.32*d.* . . . (B).

Or, if neglecting the whole question as to the value of the *dínár* and number of dirhems therein, we take Frescobaldi's assertion that the dirhem was worth a Venetian groat as an accurate statement of its value, we shall have the dirhem equal to $\frac{1}{24}$ of a sequin or 0s. 4.68*d.*, and the Tanga worth 3s. 1.44*d.* . . . (C).

But even this last and lowest of these results is perplexingly high, unless we consider how very different the relation between silver and gold in India in the first half of the fourteenth century is likely to have been from what it is now in Europe; observing also that all the values we have been assigning have been deduced from the value of gold coins estimated

¹ For he tells us (p. 77) that 1 oz. Florence weight was equal to 6 bizants and 16¾ carats, the bizant being divided into 24 carats; and in another place (p. 202) that 96 gold florins of Florence were equal to one Florence pound. The resulting equation will give the bizant almost exactly equal to 1⅕ florin.