

Book X.
Title XXIX.

Concerning taxes in copper.
(De collatione aeris.)

10.29.1. Emperors Arcadius and Honorius to Hilarius.

The price of copper demanded from the provincials shall be collected according to the rule that one solidus shall be paid for twenty pounds of copper.

December 28 (396).

C. Th. 11.21.2.

Note.

Some of the localities in the empire were required to pay their proper proportion of the taxes in copper (bronze), since that was required for weapons and for factories, and since that was the natural product which the inhabitants of these localities produced and were able to furnish. That was true, for instance in Cyprus, where copper and silver were mined. Each locality was required to furnish what it could. Instead, however, of paying the tax in copper - as other portions of the empire might pay in grain - the tax might be paid in gold, and that at the rate of one solidus, gold piece, worth about \$3., for every twenty pounds of copper. In C. Th. 11.21.2 the ratio was fixed at one gold piece for every twenty-five pounds of copper. Payments in silver could be paid for in gold at the ratio of five gold pieces for every pound of silver. C. 10.78.1.