

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

2
Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. *360*

Press
~~Mis.~~

Dated *23. 6. 1857*

B. No. 23-24

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Financial Consultation, 23rd June 1857.

No. 23. Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Public Works Department. dated 19th June 1857, No. 1195.

Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 15th May 1857, No. 388.

Read the following letter from the Acting Mint Master, No. 329.

States the necessity for another Steam Engine at the Mint, and requests that permission may be obtained for purchasing the one now at the Exhibition. (Here enter 29th April 1857, No. 329.)

Read also the following from the Accountant General, No. 15.

Requests to be informed the date on which the Steam Engine transferred to the Mint was received from England or the date of the Invoice and the name of the vessel by which it was received (Here enter 4th May 1857, No. 15.)

In the foregoing letter, the Acting Mint Master represents the necessity which exists at the Mint for another Steam Engine, and forwards copy of a letter from the Military Board to show that he has paid Rupees 4,729-2-2 for two Engines while he has as yet received only one.

2. The Chief Engineer observes that Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 445, dated 9th March last, Government sanctioned the purchase by the Acting Mint Master from the Public Works Department of one Steam Engine and not two, viz. that one which was at the time in use at the Mint, and that therefore the Chief Engineer has no authority to transfer to him another Engine without the express orders of Government, for which the Acting Mint Master should make an application through the proper Department, as directed in Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 145, dated 21st January last.

3. Although primarily intended for the Department of Public Works, the Chief Engineer will make no objection to transferring the only Steam Engine available at the Arsenal, if the Acting Mint Master can show to the satisfaction of Government, that the work at the Mint cannot be proceeded on with the expedition required, without the aid of another Steam Engine.

4. The Stock value of the Steam Engine transferred to the Mint is Rupees 3,743, but Government in Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 445, of 9th March last, sanctioned Rupees 4,729-2-2 for its purchase; and the Chief Engineer now proceeds to notice where the mistake occurred, by which the Government was called upon to sanction Rupees 985-10-11, in excess of the stock value of the Engine purchased by the Acting Mint Master.

5. Under the authority of Government contained in Extract Minutes of Consultation, Financial Department, No. 430, dated the 4th September last, a Steam Engine of 6 Horse Power was lent to Colonel Cotton, for use at the Mint.

6. Under date the 22nd December 1856, the Chief Engineer submitted to Government a second application from the Acting Mint Master for another small Steam Engine, and with a recommendation that Colonel Cotton should be required to pay the stock value of such Engine, as well as of that which under the previous order of Government had been temporarily lent to him, and which he wished to retain at the Mint in permanent use.

7. In Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 145, dated 21st January last, above referred to, Government directed that the application for both Engines should have been made to them by the Acting Mint Master, with an explanation of the uses for which he needed them, and their expected gain, and accompanied by the amount at which they stand in the Chief Engineer's books.

8. Under these orders, the Military Board was applied to for the stock value of the Engines, and in the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, No. 10,143, their Secretary's letter giving the Invoice price of two* Steam Engines viz. Rupees 4,729-2-2 was communicated to the Acting Mint Master, the price of one being Rupees 2,364-9-1. It was one of these Engines that Lieutenant Colonel Cotton desired to have, and that he has applied for in addition to that already in use at the Mint.

Dated 9th February 1857.

* Received by the Ship
"Cheapside."

Dated 21st February 1857.

9. In another communication No. 10,428, the Acting Mint Master was informed, that the stock value of the 6. Horse Power

Fort Saint George, Financial Consultation, 23rd June 1857.

* Received by "Emma Col- Steam Engine* already in use at the Mint, under orders of Government of 4th September last, was Rupees 3,743-7-3.
vin."

10. Lieutenant Colonel Cotton appears however to have mistaken the stock value of two Engines for that of the larger one in his possession, and he has obtained the sanction of Government to that amount, instead of to Rupees 3,743-7-3, its proper stock value.

11. It would thus appear that the error originated solely with the Colonel, and not in the Central Office of Public Works.

12. It would also appear that the Acting Mint Master has drawn and paid Rupees 985-10-11 in excess of the stock value of one Steam Engine of 6 Horse Power and not, as stated by him, the full value of two Steam Engines; the stock value of the Engine he now requires being Rupees 2,364-9-1.

13. As however from the Military Board's communication which accompanies the Acting Mint Master's letter above recorded, it appears, that the sum of Rupees (985-10-11) nine hundred and eighty-five, annas ten, and pice eleven, was paid in excess of the stock value of the large Steam Engine, such excess may now be taken in part payment of the stock value of the smaller Steam Engine of the 5 Horse Power which the Acting Mint Master now requires, and when he has obtained the sanction of Government for the difference, viz. Rupees 1,378-4-2, the Principal Commissary of Ordnance can be requested to make over the Engine to the Mint.

14. The proper course, the Chief Engineer would observe, will be, for the Acting Mint Master to now forward an Indent on the Principal Commissary of Ordnance to this Office. The same will be passed and returned with the price of the Engine enclosed in it, when the Acting Mint Master can make application to Government for the necessary funds. Had this course been observed on the first occasion, no mistake as to the stock value of the apparatus could have occurred.

15. Ordered that a copy of the foregoing Proceedings be forwarded to the Acting Mint Master for his information, with reference to his letter dated 29th Ultimo, No. 329.

16. Ordered also that a copy of the same be forwarded to the Inspector General of Ordnance, with reference to the late Military Board's letter to the Acting Mint Master, dated 25th April last.

17. Ordered also that a copy be forwarded to the Accountant General in reply to his letter to this office, dated 4th Instant, No. 15.

18. Ordered further that a transcript of the same be submitted to Government for information, with reference to Extract Minutes of Consultation, No. 445, dated 9th March last.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. E. FABER, Colonel,
Chief Engineer.

Ordered to be communicated to the Financial Department, with reference to Extract Minutes Consultation in that Department, dated 26th February last, No. 112, in view to fresh sanction being issued for the correct amount value of the two Steam Engines obtained by the Acting Mint Master, in cancelment of the former order.

2. It is observed that in para: 2 of Extract Minutes Consultation in this Department, dated 21st January last, No. 145, it was prescribed that the Acting Mint Master should submit formal application, not only for the machine then in question, but also for the one previously transferred to him by the Chief Engineer, with mention of the amount at which they stood in the Chief Engineer's books. Had this been attended to by the Mint Master, the present error would not have occurred.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

No. 24.

ORDER THEREON, No. 360; dated 23rd June 1857.

It is observed that Orders were passed under date the 16th Instant respecting the purchase and the adjustment of the value of the Steam Engines referred to, on the application of the Acting Mint Master submitted through the Mint Committee.

Received by Public Works Dept. 23rd June 1857
It is observed that orders were passed under date the 16th Instant respecting the purchase, and the adjustment of the value of the Steam Engines referred to, on the application of the Acting Mint Master submitted through the Mint Committee.
For S. George, Esq.
23rd June, 1857-3
5 Copies
To Public Works Dept. } Dispt 23rd
a Mint Committee }