

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	397	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	7. 7.	1957

B.No. 22-23

4-5

Not to be folded or roughly handled

69/21

Fort Saint George, Financial Consultation, 7th July 1857.

No. 22. From J. W. BREEKS, Esq., Secretary Mint Committee ; to E. MALTBY, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, dated 30th June 1857, No. 158.

SIR,

With reference to Extract Minutes of Consultation, dated 23rd June 1857, No. 361, communicating a letter* from the Government of India regarding the supply of Copper Cents to the Straits Settlements, I have the honor, by the desire of the Mint Committee, to forward the accompanying copy of a letter from the Acting Mint Master, dated 27th Instant, No. 62, and to request that such information as is therein required may be furnished the Acting Mint Master to enable him to give a decided reply on the subject in question.

(Signed) J. W. BREEKS,

Secretary Mint Committee.

From Lieutenant Colonel F. C. COTTON, Engineers, Acting Mint Master.

To G. L. PRENDERGAST, Esq.,
" S. D. BIRCH, Esq.,
" W. H. BAYLEY, Esq., } Mint Committee.

Dated 27th June 1857, No. 62.

GENTLEMEN,

Para: 1st. In answer to your Committee's enquiry as to the ability of the Madras Mint to supply Cents for the Straits Settlements, I beg to offer the following remarks.

2nd. The unexecuted demands for Copper Coins, for issue in the Madras territories already on the Mint Books, are as follows, viz:

	Pieces.
Half Annas	1,07,99,253
Quarter do.....	1,68,07,307
Single Pie.....	1,29,36,442

3rd. The preparation of this Coin by the Copper Department would occupy 13 or 14 months, before the expiration of which it may be expected that the fresh demands will be far greater than those already recorded. It is evident therefore that with the present means, Cents could not be coined without some check to the supply of Copper pieces for the Madras Presidency. It may possibly be that the quantity required for the Straits is so small, that its fabrication would not interfere materially with the issue required for home consumption, or it may be so considerable, that additional apparatus might be arranged for its coinage. Another doubt also exists, which is, whether the Copper used in the Madras Mint would answer for the Coinage of Cents, as all that is worked up here is landed in the form of Straps, of thicknesses nearly suited to the Coins of India. It may or may not be sufficiently thick for the Cent, if it is not, the Coinage could not be undertaken in Madras, unless Straps of the requisite thickness were obtained from England, as there are no Mills for working up tile Copper, and it would not answer to make them.

4th. Before I decline assistance to the Straits Settlements, I should therefore be informed on these points, viz:

What quantity is required?

What is the thickness of the Cent?

(a pattern of which might be sent to me.) Whether in case a larger quantity is required, an advance to the amount of about 10,000 Rupees could be made, for the preparation of the apparatus, and building required?

5th. Till the receipt of this information, I must declare my inability to give the aid sought.

(Signed) FRED. C. COTTON,

Acting Mint Master.

Fort Saint George, Financial Consultation, 7th July 1857.

P. S.—The thickness of the heaviest Copper Straps used in the Madras Mint is $\frac{1}{10}$ th inch. It can be reduced to any required thickness.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. W. BREEKS,
Secretary Mint Committee.

No. 23. Ordered that the following letter be despatched

To the SECRETARY to the GOVERNMENT of INDIA, dated 7th July 1857, No. 397.

SIR,

In reply to your letter of the 9th Ultimo, No. 2300, enquiring whether the Mint at Madras is able to render any assistance to the Straits Settlements by the Coining of Copper Cents, I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to transmit copy of a communication from the Mint Committee, accompanied by one from the Acting Mint Master, specifying the extent of the unexecuted demands for Copper Coins for issue in this Presidency, and desiring to be informed before giving a decided answer to the reference, what quantity of Cents is required for the Straits, and what is the thickness of the Cent.

(Signed) E. MALTBY,
Acting Chief Secretary.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

Financial Dept

No 397

The Secy to the Govt of India

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 9th Ultimo No 2300 enquiring whether the Mint at Madras is able to render any assistance to the Straits Settlements by the coining of Copper Cents, I am directed by the R. H. the Governor in Council to transmit copy of a communication from the Mint Committee accompanied by one from the Acting Mint Master, specifying the extent of the unexecuted demands for Copper coins for issue in this Presidency, and desiring to be informed before giving

1857-1858

giving a decided an-
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quired for the Straits, and
what is the thickness of
the Cent.

To Mr. George, Esq.
7th July, 1857.

R/M

Print the first Commission
and the second is the
first of this letter -

Presented to the
Dues of 1857

Jan 5th
Paid 21 July 1857
1858

de m. 1st July
Presented 1857

No 397

Mr. Deary, Secy of
Audie

21 July 1857

Presented 1857
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