M.R.O. 1—82,400—28-11-30.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 745 Press ~~Mis.~~

Dated 23. 11. 1857

B. No 13-14 3-4

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 13. From J. W. BREEKS, Esq., Secretary Mint Committee; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, dated 16th November 1857, No 267.

SIR,

With reference to Extract Minutes of Consultation, dated 14th Ultimo, No. 651, Financial Department, I have the honor by desire of the Mint Committee to forward the accompanying copy of a letter from the Acting Mint Master, dated 9th Instant, No. 210, stating that the efficiency of the Madras Mint cannot be augmented at a "moderate cost" to enable it to undertake the fabrication of Coins for the Bengal Presidency. Colonel Cotton further states that the requirements of the Madras Presidency itself are even such that the powers of his Department require to be increased at a "very considerable outlay;" and that he is preparing an Estimate for additions to the Mint Buildings and Apparatus, for submission to Government.

(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 9th November 1857, No. 210.

GENTLEMEN,

Para: 1st. After a very careful consideration of the subject, I regret to say that I see no hope of the efficiency of the Madras Mint being so augmented at a "moderate cost," as to enable it to give assistance to the Mint of Calcutta. It is indeed evident that not a small, but a very considerable outlay must be made, to fit this Mint for the requirements of the Madras Presidency at the present time; while there are such clear indications of a rapidly encreasing demand, for all descriptions of Coin as call for a far greater addition to the power of the Mint than would suffice to meet the existing wants of the country.

2nd. To shew the insufficiency of the means in use now, I need only say that with the rooms all crowded to excess, and the work in some of them continuing from day light till dark, it has only been found possible to issue 28 lacs of small Silver Coin since April last. During the fabrication of these Coins which were all two Anna pieces the Coinage of Rupees ceased entirely and the out-turn of the Mint was in value only 8,000 Rupees a day, while the daily receipts on an average were 50,000 Rupees. The consequence of this was an accumulation of bullion, which will oblige me to issue no other Silver Coin but the Rupee for the next two months, and the whole supply of small Silver that will be sent to the Treasury this year, will bear no comparison with the amount required.

3rd. I shall shortly lay before your Committee an Estimate for additions to the Mint buildings, and Apparatus, to render them somewhat more fit for their purpose, but, for reasons which I shall then enter into more fully, I do not anticipate that what I am about to propose will suffice for any length of time, or give such an encrease of power, as will admit of Coin being prepared for Calcutta, even while the demand is only what it is at present.

(Signed) FREDERICK C. COTTON,
Acting Mint Master.

(True Copy.)

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

No. 14. TO THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, dated 23rd November 1857, No. 745.

SIR,

I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th September last, No. 4088, and to transmit, for the information of the Government of India, copy of one with its enclosure from the Mint

Dated 16th November 1857, No. 267.

Committee, from which it will be seen that the efficiency of the Madras Mint cannot be materially increased *at a moderate cost* so as to enable it to furnish supplies of small Silver Coins to the General Treasury at Calcutta, as occasion might require; but that a very considerable outlay will have to be made to render it fully capable to meet the requirements of this Presidency at the present time.

2. Lieutenant Colonel Cotton, the Acting Mint Master, purposes shortly to submit an Estimate for additions and improvements to the Mint Buildings and Apparatus to make them more fit for their purpose; but he does not anticipate that these will suffice for any length of time or give such an increase of power as will admit of the fabrication of small Coins for the Bengal Presidency, even while the demand here is only what it is at present. "There are" he states "such "clear indications of a rapidly increasing demand for all descriptions of Coin as call for a far "greater addition to the power of the Mint than would suffice to meet the existing wants of the "Country."

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

Financial Departt

No 7145

To The Secy to the Govt of India

Sir,

I am directed by the R. H. the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th September last. No 1088, and to transmit for the information of the Govt of India copy of one with its enclosure from the Mint Committee, from which it will be seen that the efficiency of the Madras Mint cannot be materially increased at a moderate cost so as to enable it to furnish supplies of small Silver Coins to the General Treasury at Calcutta as occasion might require; but that a very considerable outlay will have to be made to render it fully capable to

16 November 1857.
No 267.

will

to meet the requirements
of this Presidency at the
present time.

2. Lt. Colonel Cotton,
the Acting Mint Master,
purposes shortly to sub-
mit an Estimate for ad-
ditions and improvements
to the Mint Buildings &
Apparatus to make them
more fit for their purpose,
but he does not anticipate
that these will suffice for
any length of time or give
such an increase of power
as will admit of the fa-
brication of small Coins
for the Bengal Presidency,
even while the demand
here is only what it is
at present. "There are"
however, he states, "such
"clear indications of a
"rapidly increasing de-
"mand for all descriptions
"of Coin as call for a lar-
"greater addition to the
powers

"power of the Mint than
"would suffice to meet
"the existing wants of the
"Country."

For the Lt. Governor
25th November, 1857.

Fin.l Dr. L. Enq.y 16.th Feby
No 4 of 1858
Par 8.

Subscribed 24th Nov.r
Financial 1857 Departt.t

No. 1745

To
The Secy. to the Govt. of
India

Dated 23rd November 1857.

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