

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

57

Press
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Dated

1. 2.

1858

Base No. 12-14.

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 13. From R. E. MASTER, Esq., Acting Secretary Mint Committee ; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, dated 30th January 1858, No. 28.

SIR,

With reference to the Extract Minutes of Consultation, dated 19th January 1858, No. 35, Financial Department, communicating a letter* from the
*Dated 5th January 1858, No. 16. Supreme Government, on the subject of the Operation Statements of the Madras Mint, I have the honor by desire of the Mint Committee, to forward the accompanying copy of a letter from the Acting Mint Master, dated 27th Instant, No. 293, submitting the explanation therein required.

(Signed) R. E. MASTER,
Actg. Secy. Mint Committee.

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

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

dated 27th January 1858, No. 293.

GENTLEMEN,

Para : 1st. In answer to the Extract Minutes of Consultation, No. 35 of 19th January 1858, I beg to say that there has been no error in the Mint Returns. They have been prepared as they were authorized to be used in the year 1853, and till the adoption in September of the form then sent from Calcutta the entries have been precisely according to the only form allowed.

2nd. In the Statement of Silver received and coined, it has always been the practice to enter under the head of " Coined during the month," only the Coin issued from the Mint, while under the head of " Balance for Coinage value in Rupees," has been included those Coins which though ready for remittance had not been issued. Under this system there was a correct account of the balance in the Mint Treasury, but no account as to whether it was in Bullion, in the process of Coinage, or in Coin.

3rd. In the Statement of Mint Operations on the contrary the work done in the several Departments of the Mint was recorded, but as no final adjustment of the accounts in all the Departments was made till the periodical Statement, no balance was shewn in that Statement : and no item in one statement could be compared with the items in the other, excepting in the case of the bullion received.

4th. After receipt of the new form from Calcutta in October last an attempt was made to connect the two Statements as had been done in the comparison made in Calcutta, and for this purpose under the head of " Silver Coined, &c. " was entered, the coin stamped whether good or defective. If the comparison had been made at a later stage no item in the statement of Mint operations would tally with it, as the defective coin is not entered in that statement as a separate item.

5th. But properly speaking the statements as now prepared are perfectly distinct and the items of one cannot be made to suit the other usefully, which is not an error in the forms because their objects were altogether different.

6th. In future, under the head of Silver Coined and examined I will enter all the coin that is received from the Stamping Room into the Mint Treasury and passed by the General Treasury Shroffs, whether remitted or not ; and under the head of bullion balance will then remain all the Silver in the Mint whether in the process of coinage or not. This will not tally with any entry in the Statement of Mint Operations because there the word " Coined," means stamped, including such as may be rejected on examination by weight in the Treasury.

7th. The alterations made in the Extract Minutes of Consultation are not correct, as they contain the coins which after receipt in the Mint Treasury were found beyond the Mint remedy and were rejected. The word " Coined " in that case applying to the operations of the Stamping Room. Not to those of the Treasury.

8th. If it is the intention that the coin finally adjusted in each month should be reported, it can as easily be given hereafter as the coin remitted monthly, but as the information was called

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Fort Saint George, Financial Consultation, 2nd February 1858.

for in answer to a requisition of the Chamber of Commerce it was evidently understood in Madras that the object was to publish the Mint issues; and hence the entry in the statement of Remittances to the Treasury.

9th. To make new statements of the coin examined and passed by the Treasury Shroffs during the past months of the present Settlement, will occupy some days; and as the demand for an answer is urgent, I forward this explanation at once. When the new Statements are prepared, they shall be forwarded. In the mean time, I must be allowed to say again, that there has been no error or carelessness in the preparation of the Madras Mint Statements, which were in the forms authorized, and containing the information supposed to be required.

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

(True Copy.)
(Signed) R. E. MASTER,
Actg Secy. Mint Committee.

No. 14. To the SECRETARY to the GOVERNMENT of INDIA, dated 1st February 1858 No. 57.
SIR,

The Acting Mint Master at this Presidency having been called upon to explain the discrepancy noticed in your letter of the 5th Ultimo, No. 16, in respect to the entry in his Statement for October 1857 of the value of Silver coined, I am now directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to forward for submission to the Government of India, copy of a communication from that Officer on the subject, in which he affords the required explanation.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

Dispt 14 Feb

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Financial Department

To The Secy to the Govt of India

Sir,
The Acting Mint Master at this Presidency having been called upon to explain the discrepancy noticed in your letter of the 5th Ultimo, No. 16, in respect to the entry in his Statement for October 1857 of the value of Silver coined, I am now directed by the R.H. the Governor in Council to forward for submission to the Govt of India copy of a communication from that Officer on the subject in which he affords the required explanation and states that there has been no error or want of due care in the preparation of his Returns of the Madras Mint operations.

Dated 7th Jan 1858 No. 293.

Fort St George
14 Feb 1858

Entered in book 11/2/58

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