

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

*Financial* DEPARTMENT.

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|----------|--------|---------------|
| G.O. No. | 192    | Press<br>Mis. |
| Dated    | 19. 3. | 1858          |

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Fort Saint George, Financial Consultation, 19th March 1858.*

No. 16. From R. E. MASTER, Esq., Acting Secretary Mint Committee; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, dated 11th March 1858, No. 58.

SIR,

1. I have the honor, by desire of the Mint Committee, to forward for submission to Government, the accompanying copy of a letter from the Acting Mint Master, dated 5th Instant, No. 342, representing the great advantage of Steam power in Mint operations, and requesting to be allowed to procure from the Chief Engineer's Department, two more Engines, which he has learnt by a letter\* from that Department, can be at once spared for the use of the Mint.

\* Dated 26th February 1858, No. 7,688, copy herewith forwarded.

2. The Committee beg strongly to recommend the Acting Mint Master's application for the early sanction of Government. The value of the Engines can be adjusted in due course by the necessary entries of credit and debit in the books of the two Departments.

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 5th March 1858, No. 342.

GENTLEMEN,

Para: 1st. Your Committee are fully aware that I advocate the use of the Steam power in the Mint wherever it can be employed, First, because it is more economical than either manual labour, or cattle power; Secondly, because it reduces to the utmost the number of men in the Mint; Thirdly, because it occupies little space, and Fourthly, that it causes no expence when circumstances occur which make it necessary that the work of the Mint should be reduced for a time.

2nd. The Silver Laminating Mills will shortly be worked by Steam. The Copper slips are now rolled by means of it. And the Blast for the Iron Foundry Cupola is also obtained by a Steam Engine. The operations to which the same power could now be advantageously applied are—The lamination of ingots, cast from the Scissel Copper. The movements of the Lathes and Machines for planing, turning, and drilling, and the supply of air to the Blacksmiths' forges, and the several Furnaces now dependent upon Chimnies for a draught through their fires. The two former of these I am able and anxious to employ. Steam upon at once. The third requires more preparation and might be deferred till the arrival of the Patent Blowing Machines indented for from home.

3rd. In my letter of the 21st January last, I said that I hoped the Government would allow the Mint to have the use of one of the Engines landed for the Engineer's Department, and when writing that, I hoped that some of those Engines might be equal to 15 Horse power. I am given to understand, however, that that is not the case and that the largest are only 8 Horse. These will however answer to the extent of their power, and will enable me to begin the Coinage from the Scissel Copper. I should like to bring two of them into use immediately. One for the lamination of ingots, and one to do the duty, for the present, of the Engine out of repair, in turning the lathes, &c. The latter is more powerful than is required for the purpose to which it is to be applied, but can be worked to the power required; and it will be very advisable to have it in the Mint to be brought to the assistance of the Copper laminating Engine, if it should be out of order.

4th. Your Committee are aware that the Engine last mentioned has been at work almost incessantly for the last 16 months, and that upon it depends the whole Copper Coinage. It cannot be expected to work on constantly without some parts of it failing; and I am very anxious to have at hand an Engine to do its duty when that occurs and the Lathe Engine might be so employed.

5th. Under these circumstances I trust that your Committee will obtain sanction for the use of two Engines, to be paid for by the Mint as soon as their price is determined. The accompanying copy of a letter will shew that they can be spared by the Department for which they were sent from England, and I hope the fact of the cost of them not having been determined will not delay their issue. I imagine that they will not cost more than about 4,000 Rupees each.

*Fort Saint George, Financial Consultation, 19th March 1858.*

From Captain CHARLES A. ORR, Superintending Engineer Northern Circle; to Lieutenant Colonel FREDERICK C. COTTON, Acting Mint Master, dated 26th February 1858, No. 7688.

SIR,

Referring to your letter of the 10th February 1858, I am directed to inform you, that the Chief Engineer, fully concurring in your opinion, that the Mint has more work at present for the Steam Engines received for this Department than can be found elsewhere, will, if so authorized by the Government, be very happy to place at your disposal, those two of the number now in the Arsenal, which are best suited to your purpose, on their cost price being credited to the Department of Public Works.

No. 17.

ORDER THEREON, No. 192; dated 18th March 1858.

Resolved, for the reasons stated by the Acting Mint Master, that the foregoing application to be allowed to obtain from the Chief Engineer two more Steam Engines for the use of the Mint, be forwarded to the Public Works Department with a request that it may be complied with, the value of the Engines being charged to the Mint.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,  
Chief Secretary.

No 192.  
Resolved, for the reasons stated by the Acting Mint Master, that the foregoing application to be allowed to obtain from the Chief Engineer two more Steam Engines for the use of the Mint, be forwarded to the Pub. Works Department with a request that it may be complied with. the value of the Engines being charged to the Mint.  
Fort St. George  
18 March 1858

To the Mint Committee  
a Public Works Dept } Sept 22  
a Secy General.  
the early sanction of Govern-  
ment.

the Acting Chief Clerk's application for the early sanction  
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in the books of the two Departments.

Yours truly  
Yr

Your most obedient servant

Wm. C. C.

Acting Secretary, Joint Committee

W. C. C.