

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 791

Press
Mis.

Dated 10. 12. 1888

B no 8-9

6-6

Not to be folded or roughly handled

13

Fort Saint George, Financial Consultation, 14th December 1858.

No. 8. From C. A. ROBERTS, Esq., Secretary Mint Committee; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated 30th November 1858, No. 191.

SIR,

I have the honor, by desire of the Mint Committee, to request you will have the goodness to lay before the Right Honorable the Governor in Council the accompanying copy of a letter from the Mint Master, dated 24th November 1858, No. 285, with its original enclosures, consisting of a letter to the late Acting Mint Master from the Widow and Daughters of the late Mr. J.

G. Duarte, *alias* Edwards, of the Madras Mint, and a Memorial* to the Home Authorities, praying for a Family Pension in consideration of the valuable services rendered by the deceased in connection with the Mint, during a very long period.

2. The Mint Master strongly recommends the prayer of the Memorial, which the Committee instruct me to submit for the favorable consideration of Government.

From Major J. H. BELL, Engineers, Mint Master;

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

Dated 24th November 1858, No. 285.

GENTLEMEN,

Para: 1st. I have the honor to submit the accompanying Memorial from the Widow and Daughters of the late Mr. J. G. Duarte, *alias* Edwards, of the Madras Mint.

2nd. Your Committee are aware that Mr. Edwards was pensioned on the discontinuance of the Mint in 1835, and that he was re-employed by Colonel J. T. Smith at a charge to Government of 30 Rupees for Palankeen Allowance as a General Superintendent. In this situation he continued for 16 years, and made himself extremely useful. Latterly he was employed in recovering Silver from the drosses of the Melting Department and Lieutenant Colonel Cotton informs me that there is no doubt that Mr. Edwards' sight as well as general health was very injuriously affected by the fumes of the lead used in the process under his charge.

3d. Under these circumstances I can have no hesitation in recommending the memorial to the favorable consideration of your Committee and of Government, as I think that there is every reason to believe that Mr. Edwards' life was shortened by the nature of his employment at the Mint, after he had earned a good pension; on which he might have lived in comfort had he not willingly and zealously undergone a second long servitude for a trifling remuneration.

From Mrs. Q. DUARTE, Miss J. DUARTE, Miss ANNE DUARTE; and Mrs. SOPHIA D'RAMOS; to Colonel F. C. COTTON, Acting Mint Master, dated 15th September 1858.

SIR,

Relying on the generous and humane disposition which has always characterized you, and the charitable feeling which has ever actuated you to succour the distressed Widow and Orphan, whenever their lamentable condition became known to you, we the afflicted Widow and Orphans of the late Mr. J. G. Duarte, an old and faithful servant of the Madras Mint, approach you with the accompanying Memorial in Quadruplicate, and implore you to take our most painful case into your kind consideration, and to forward it, through the Mint Committee as a special case, for the consideration of the President of the Council of India in Council, accompanied with your powerful recommendation, and adding from your own personal knowledge, your invaluable testimony to the services rendered by the deceased during your incumbency, so that a Family Pension may be granted to his Widow and Children, which act of philanthropy and kindness we shall ever remember with a due sense of gratitude.

Fort Saint George, Financial Consultation, 14th December 1858.

TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL, dated 15th September 1858.

The humble Memorial of Quithoria Duarte,
the Widow of the late J. G. Duarte, *alias* Ed-
wards, a Pensioner, and Superintendent on the
Mint Establishment,

and
Izabella, }
Anne, and } his unfortunate Orphans.
Sophia, }

HUMBLY SHEWETH,

1. That your Memorialists, with due respect and submission, humbly beg leave to bring to your notice the death of J. G. Duarte, late a Pensioner and Superintendent of the Mint, who departed this life on Friday the 9th July 1858, leaving behind him an old infirm Widow bordering upon 64 years, and three Daughters unprovided for.

2. That your Memorialists mindful of the known liberality and justice of the late Court of Directors of the East India Company towards old and meritorious servants, and believing that in this respect their successors will not fail to act upon the example set them, take the liberty of submitting, for the merciful consideration of the Council, the services rendered by the deceased during his whole term of life, to the Honorable the East India Company in the arduous and faithful discharge of which duties he at first lost the use of his right arm, then his sight, and a short time afterwards his life, and for these great sacrifices, your Memorialists pray that you would bestow a Family Pension on them.

3. That your Memorialists beg to state, that, on the abolition of the Mint in the year 1835, the deceased petitioned for a Superannuation Pension, for his past services in the Mint, during which, he not only augmented the out-turn of Coinage from 35 to 50,000 pieces at less expense, but with diminished wastage, whereby the considerable sum of Rupees 65,088 was saved to the Honorable Company, and for which the Court of Directors was pleased to grant him a pension of 120 Rupees per mensem, being the salary drawn by him on the abolition of the Mint.

4. That on the re-establishment of the Mint, the services of the deceased were again called in requisition, and, on the 10th May 1841, Captain J. T. Smith, Mint Master, addressed the Mint Committee as follows:

Para : 7. " With regard to the situation of Superintendent of Machinery, I have the honor to propose an arrangement which has occurred to me as being the most eligible at the present juncture. Owing to the peculiar circumstances attending the construction of the Machinery in use in this Mint, it differs in many respects from that employed elsewhere, and requires a mode of treatment and use which can only be learnt by experience, as this experience will be particularly called into request on first commencing operations and for a considerable period afterwards, until all the Departments are established in regular and successful work, much difficulty would probably be felt were it put under the charge of a person unaccustomed to it, even if familiar with Mint operations in general, but still more so if he should be new to these also."

Para : 8. " In lieu therefore of making this appointment at present, I beg to request, that your Committee will recommend to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, that permission be given me to make a monthly grant of 30 Rupees palankeen allowance to Mr. Edwards who was formerly Superintendent of the Laminating Room, and is now a Pensioner on the Establishment, in the same manner as the like sum was formerly allowed to the native Superintendent Davasagayum, during the Copper Coinage. Mr. Edwards' long familiarity with the use of the Machinery, and general acquaintance with the operations of the Coinage will enable him to be, I have no doubt, of more assistance at first than a much more skilful Mechanic, who has not his advantages, and during the continuance of this arrangement, the postponement of the appointment of a Superintendent of Machinery will cause a material saving of expense."

Upon which the Government by Extract of Minutes of Consultation, dated 24th May 1841, resolved as follows :

Fort Saint George, Financial Consultation, 14th December 1858.

Para : 2. " Resolved in accordance with the recommendation of the Mint Committee, that Captain Smith be authorized to disburse monthly Rupees 30 palankeen allowance to Mr. Edwards, a Pensioner on the Mint Establishment, with a view to secure his services as Superintendent of Machinery until a skilful Mechanic can be procured for that Situation."

5. The deceased was accordingly entertained upon this allowance, (the proposed salary of Superintendent of Machinery being Rupees 300 per mensem, subsequently reduced to Rupees 250, and then to Rupees 200, the pay of the present incumbent) and he discharged every duty that devolved upon him with the same unwearied zeal, energy, and fidelity, that distinguished him when he was in effective service.

6. The deceased from his long experience, probity, and general acquaintance with the working of the various Departments of the Mint, was often called upon by the Mint Masters to make trials, experiments and investigations in several Departments, and in the absence of the Superintendents of almost every Department in the Mint, from sickness or other causes, to take their laborious and responsible posts and conduct their duties, which he very cheerfully and creditably performed, although those were moments of great anxiety to him, from the very large quantity of the precious metals disposed throughout the Departments and which were then under his immediate charge, he even undertook the instruction of many of the Superintendents in their respective duties, which were new to them in the execution of all of which duties, he was obliged to attend at an early hour in the morning, and retire late in the evening, to expose himself to the intense of furnaces and fumes of lead, which prove so detrimental to health, he was latterly asked to superintend the manufacture of Sulphuric and Nitric Acids, in doing which, his sight and health which was previously in some degree affected by exposure to the hazardous nature of the various duties he had to perform, now became much impaired by the deleterious fumes of Sulphur, which his close supervision of the manufacture of these Acids exposed him to, he was frequently obliged, even during the inclemency of the weather, to leave home at 5 in the morning for this purpose, and did not return till 7 or 9 o'clock at night, thus he exposed himself despite of all considerations, even of his failing health and sight, the latter of which was now becoming so bad, that he was on the point of retiring from active duty, when the late Honorable Court of Directors by the appointment of another Superintendent of Machinery directed the deceased's service in the Mint should be discontinued, accordingly, on the 1st August 1857, he retired with his vision so impaired, that in October following, that is 3 months afterwards, he from loss of sight was unable to attend personally at the Mint to draw his Pension, which was consequently sent to him. His blindness rendered him so helpless, that he was obliged to feel his way whenever he moved about; and this inertness on a person of his active habits told so effectually on his already broken down health, that his limbs became swollen, his appetite failed, in short his whole system suffered from this unfortunate catastrophe, to that degree, that he ultimately became dropsical, which terminated his valuable existence before a twelve months had expired from the period of his retirement, viz., August 1857, leaving your humble and afflicted Memorialists, by the zeal he manifested, and the great sacrifices he made in the East India Company's service, after he had been Pensioned upon a sum which would have enabled him to live with ease and comfort for the remainder of his days, in the fervent hope, which he often expressed when alive, that if he died while in the Public Service, his family would be provided for after his death, which hope was his solace while performing those irksome, laborious, and painful duties which devolved upon him, even after the principal members of his body suffered by his unwearied exertions, during the space of nearly half a century of active service, 44 years of which were spent in the Madras Mint.

Fort Saint George, Financial Consultation, 14th December 1858

7. That the late Mint Master Major J. T. Smith, in order to testify in a substantial manner his sense of the valuable services rendered by the deceased to the Mint, was pleased on a suitable occasions to assemble the Superintendents of the several Departments in his room, and in their presence presented the deceased with a handsome Snuff Box, with the following flattening inscription thereon, in order to stimulate them to further exertions, and to emulate the example set by the deceased.

Presented to

Mr. J. G. DUARTE

by

Major J. T. SMITH, Engineers,

Mint Master,

as a slight acknowledgement of 10 years' valuable assistance

in the Madras Mint.

January

1852.

8. That your Memorialists trust they have furnished ample evidence to induce your Council to grant the prayer of their Memorial, and from your liberality, and justice, they feel sanguine that the extraordinary sacrifices that have been made by the deceased in his excessive zeal to discharge the important duties that was entrusted to him, in order to benefit the East India Company, and to obtain the approbation of his Honorable Employes, will be appreciated by you, and that you will not permit the Widow and Orphans of so valuable and deserving a servant as the deceased, whose whole life were almost entirely devoted to the service of Government, to suffer distress by his death, he having been their sole support, and who but for his arduous and zealous exertions would in all probability, judging from the naturally good constitution which he possessed, have been spared many years longer for the comfort and support of your bereaved Memorialists, and that your Honorable Council will deign to give this Memorial a favorable consideration, your Memorialists as in duty bound for this great act of charity, liberality, and justice, will ever pray.

Extract of a letter from A. F. BRUCE, Esq., Mint Master; to the Mint Committee, No. — dated 22nd April 1836.

Para: 6. "The Petition of Mr. J. G. Duarte, alias Edwards, Superintendent of the Laminating Room, I beg leave in turn to lay before the Committee. It appears that he commenced business in the Office of the Collector of Madras in 1808 and in the following year was transferred to the Mint. In 1821 he was selected specially by Mr. McKerrrell to superintend the Laminating Department and by superior energy and management he not only augmented the out-turn of Coinage at less expense but with diminished wastage.* Mr.

* See document B. Duarte, or Edwards as commonly called, has filled the Office of Superintendent nearly 16 years and the total period of his service extends to rather more than 28 years. The limited quantity of Machinery used in the Department necessarily occasioned the employment of a number of persons to supply the deficiency of Mechanical power and proportionately augmented the responsibility attached to his Office, the whole Bul-

Fort Saint George, Financial Consultation, 14th December 1858.

lion received into the Mint passed through his hands and before any original quantity could be disposed of, it had many times traversed from the Laminating Room in the form of scissel and was received back again in the form of Ingots to be laminated afresh, so that the extent of actual operations and real responsibility in his Office is far greater than is apparent at first sight. Mr. Edwards, I am happy to state, has filled his arduous and responsible Office correctly and uprightly, all my predecessors and myself have reposed entire confidence in his probity. The document marked B shews the benefit that has accrued to the Government in this Department under his management, and as he has in the discharge of his duty to Government nearly lost the use of his right hand, as certified by a Medical Officer Mr. Lane, in the document marked C, as in the case of Appasawmy Chetty his case not sufficiently met by the ordinary Pension rules. I must with reference to the 7th Rule in the revised Regulations (division No 1) beg leave to propose that he should be pensioned on the full amount which he has drawn as salary Rupees 120 a month."

B.

ABSTRACT STATEMENT shewing the Weight of the out-turn of Gold and Silver Blanks of the Laminating Department and the wastage or excess thereon from 1st May 1807 to 3rd August and from 10th September to 18th November 1821.

	Weight of Blanks.			Wastage.			Excess.		
	Oz.	Dwt.	Gr.	Oz.	Dwt.	Gr.	Oz.	Dwt.	Gr.
Gold.									
From 1st May 1808 to April 1809.....	46,248	12	7 0	45	18	4 0			
" April 1809 to 30th April 1810.....	1,01,838	7	5 0	325	8	5 0			
" July 1810 to 30th April 1811.....	24,796	19	2 0	98	16	6 0			
" August 1811 to 30th April 1813.....	72,323	6	16 0	79	19	19 0			
" May 1813 to 31st July 1816.....	99,135	16	15 0	118	7	23 0			
" May 1817 to 31st January 1819.....	1,26,273	18	18 0	183	0	8 0			
" February 1819 to 30th April 1820.....	99,426	12	2 0	130	0	21 0			
" May 1820 to 31st January 1821.....	84,950	1	9 0	177	1	3 0			
" February to 3rd August 1821 and from 10th September to 18th November 1821.....	70,995	7	0 0	100	17	23 0			
* Total Ounces....	7,25,989	1	2 0	1,259	10	16 0			
Silver.									
From 1st May 1807 to April 1809.....	2,86,840	0	14 4	412	1	9 18			
" April 1809 to 30th April 1810.....	1,82,810	8	0 0	281	5	14 12			
" July 1810 to 30th April 1811.....	40,985	1	1 0	53	5	12 3			
" August 1811 to 30th April 1813.....	1,60,182	3	17 18	156	5	19 4			
" May 1813 to 31st May 1816.....	2,18,027	1	9 0	278	8	12 11			
" September 1816 to 30th April 1817.....	1,01,244	8	9 0	35	6	3 9			
" December 1817 to 31st January 1819...	1,55,417	1	13 0	74	6	14 4			
" February 1819 to 30th April 1820.....	2,10,302	10	12 0	63	1	7 13			
" May 1820 to 31st January 1821.....	1,18,972	1	19 0				15	9	0 11
" February to 3rd August 1821 and from 10th September to 18th November 1821.....	1,62,862	10	11 0	23	6	4 1			
Deduct Excess.....				1,378	11	17 3	15	9	0 11
† Total Pounds....	16,37,645	0	5 22	1,363	2	16 16			

Fort Saint George, Financial Consultation, 14th December 1858

ABSTRACT STATEMENT shewing the Weight of the Out-turn of Gold and Silver Blanks of the Laminating Department and the Wastage or Excess thereon from 4th August to 8th September and from 19th November 1821 to 1st September 1835.

	Weight of Blanks.			Wastage.			Excess.		
<i>Gold.</i>									
From 4th August to 8th September and from 19th November 1821 to 31st January 1822	20,595	1	9	10	17	2			
From January 1822 to 30th April 1823	14,789	11	6	8	6	15			
From May to Novr. 1823.	57,580	7	18	33	16	2			
From June to Octr. 1825.	12,472	7	6	11	1	3			
From Novr. 1825 to 30th April 1826	25,558	14	12	21	10	15			
From May to 31st Octr. 1826	18,379	17	0	13	4	15			
From Novr. 1826 to 30th April 1827	11,681	8	6	8	1	11			
From May to 31st Octr. 1827	8,690	15	6	3	17	6			
From Novr. 1827 to 30th April 1828	2,069	12	6	0	14	2			
From Novr. 1828 to 30th April 1829	11,351	18	0	4	19	21			
From May to 28th Decr. 1829	9,365	12	0	4	11	23			
From 1st Jan. to 30th April 1830	3,333	3	18	1	13	13			
From 1st May to 31st July 1830	3,188	6	18	1	10	18			
From Augt. 1830 to 18th April 1831	5,228	19	18	2	12	18			
From April to 9th Augt. 1833	33,021	5	12	15	1	14			
From Augt. 1833 to February 1834	58,235	6	0	29	1	20			
From Feby. to 9th Augt. 1834	47,343	15	6	19	4	5			
From 13th Augt. 1834 to 1st September 1835	75,785	7	12	36	7	20			
Total Ounces...	4,18,671	9	9	226	13	7			
<i>Silver.</i>									
From 4th Augt. to 8th Sept. and from 19th Novr. 1821 to 31st Jan. 1822	78,972	11	11				11	8	9 6
From June 1822 to 30th April 1823	2,61,569	7	14				23	0	2 21
From May 1823 to 30th April 1824	2,53,910	11	6	25	4	0 5			
From May 1824 to 30th April 1825	47,704	10	9	4	10	0 22			
From 4th Novr. to 30th April 1826	56,201	9	19	30	9	3 8			
From 4th May to 31st Octr. 1826	70,931	2	18				13	3	11 27
From 4th Novr. 1826 to 30th April 1827	48,409	10	15	3	11	17 22			
From 4th Novr. 1827 to April 1828	46,637	11	4	3	5	19 17			
From 4th May to 30th Octr. 1828	38,676	10	19	2	8	7 4			
From 4th Novr. 1828 to 30th April 1829	35,136	11	15	2	4	8 1			
From 4th May to 28th Decr. 1829	41,858	9	5	3	3	5 11			
If + 7,25,989 : 1,259 :: *4,18,671 = 726 Deduct my wastage as per account..... Ozs. 500 or Rupees... 20,000 0 0 Actual saving in Grain..... lbs. 1,454 If + 16,37,645 : 1,363 :: *17,47,415 = Deduct my wastage as per account*..... lbs. 1,409 or Rupees... 45,088 0 0 Actual saving in Grain..... lbs. 1,409 or Rupees... 45,088 0 0 Total Grain Rupees... 65,088 0 0									

Fort Saint George, Financial Consultation, 14th December 1858.

ABSTRACT STATEMENT shewing the Weight of the out-turn of Gold and Silver—(Continued.)

	Weight of Blanks.			Wastage.			Excess.					
<i>Silver. (Continued.)</i>												
From 1st Jan. to 30th April 1830.....	15,144	3	4				2	10	15	8		
From May to July 1830....	58,752	1	6				6	1	11	8		
From Augt. 1830 to 30th April 1831.....	23,617	1	2		1	8	11	7				
From April to Augt. 1832.	9,393	6	14		0	2	17	21				
From Sept. to 6th Octr. 1832.....	3,628	5	7		0	1	1	9				
From Octr. to 12th Novr. 1832.....	4,347	10	1		0	5	2	17				
From 13th to 30th Novr. 1832	2,299	1	15		0	0	4	16				
From 1st to 29th Decr. 1832.	6,316	10	12				2	0	8	4		
From Jan. to 9th Augt. 1833.....	1,14,424	4	4				5	10		19		
From 10th Augt to 6th Feby. 1834.....	57,203	9	13				8	4	17	18		
From 13th Feby. to 12th Augt. 1834.....	88,702	0	0				3	9	14	15		
From 13th Augt. 1834 to 1st Sept. 1835.....	1,21,735	11	15				13	11	15	9		
Deduct Excess.....					135	9	2	9	91	1	10	10
					91	1	10	10				
Total Pounds...	17,47,415	3	13		44	7	11	23				

Mr. Edwards has applied to me to grant him a Certificate on which to ground an application to Government for a Pension for his services, and I hereby Certify that I have carefully examined him and have made enquires so as to strengthen my opinion that his right arm is rendered almost useless in consequence of the peculiar nature of his employment in the Mint.

(Signed) T. MOORE LANE,
Surgeon.

Extract of a letter from Captain J. T. Smith, Mint Master, to the Mint, Committee, dated 7th December 1844.

Para: 1. "In reply to the question contained in your Acting Secretary's letter of the 4th Instant, I have the honor to inform you that the names of the parties to whom the melting Department was entrusted on the occasion referred to in my letter are

"Acting Superintendent Mr. J. G. DUARTE,
"do. Deputy J. APPAJEE,

"the former has been in the Mint for many years, viz, from October 1807 to January 1814, as "Apprentice under the Foreman from January 1814 to 8th December 1821 in the Mint Office, "from December 1821 to April 1836 as Superintendant of the Laminating Department, and for "the last 3½ years since the re-establishment of the Mint, he has been employed in lieu of a "Superintendent of Machinery in connection with all the Departments of the Mint, agreeably to "the resolution of Government, 24th May 1841."

Extract of Diary Order, No. 186.

"The Mint Master takes this opportunity of expressing his great satisfaction at the very "efficient manner in which the duties of the Melting Department have been conducted by Mr. "Edwards and his Deputy Appajee during the 6th Settlement.

Fort Saint George, Financial Consultation, 14th December 1858.

Extract of Diary Order, No. 311.

“ The Acting Mint Master records with pleasure his entire satisfaction with the manner in
“ which the duties of the Silver Melting and Refining Rooms have been conducted under Mr.
“ Brooke’s superintendence, and it is at the same time no less due to Mr. Edwards to state that
“ to his unwearied exertions and valuable experience in the Refining Department, the Acting
“ Mint Master ascribes in a high degree the success that has attended that branch of duty during
“ the 11th Settlement.”

No. 9. ORDER THEREON, No. 791; dated 10th December 1858.

A Copy of this Memorial, with the covering papers, will be forwarded to the Home Authorities, with an intimation that Government consider Mrs. Duarte's, *alias* Edwards' case, one deserving every consideration on account of the highly useful character of her late husband's service in the Mint, and the fact of the nature of his employment having led to his loss of sight and probably accelerated his death.

(Signed) W. H. BAYLEY,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

7-15 August 1836 N. 304
 7-9 November 1839 N. 18
 - 25 May — 1841 - 304
 Custom duty: 22 August 1836
 E.S.
 h^o/186
 Dr. B. C. P. to Aug 29 29
 Received Dec 5. 1839 -

Transmitted 1858 Sept 14th
By Express to New
York
The Secretary, Smithsonian
at the U.S. Capitol
to Government
Dated Oct 14th 1858
Recd 14 Dec 1858
Ms. 536
With 5 enclosures.
Enclosure Copy of a letter
from the Hunt Reader dated
24th instant No. 285 with
a personal and confidential
from the family of the
late Mrs. J. B. Edwards
of the Hunter House
to the Smithsonian
Praying for a favor
Enclosure -
Transmitted by Express

A copy of his Memorial, with
 the covering papers, will be forwarded
 to the Home Authorities, with an infor-
 mation that Govt consider Mrs
 Swarts alias Edwards' case one deserv-
 ing every consideration, on acct of her
 highly useful character of her late
 husband's services in the ^{Conf.}
 Milit, & the fact of the nature
 of his employment & led to his loss
 entirely of sight & probably to his
 death accelerated his death.

Fort St George
10 December 1838. } W.A.B.
To the Mint Committee - (Signed) H.C.