M.R., O. 1—32,400—22-11-30.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 354 Press ~~Mis.~~

Dated 24. 6. 1859

Bdle. 8-9 4/5

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 8. Read the following letter from N. C. MOOROOGASEM MOODELIAR, Esq., Acting Secretary, Mint Committee; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 21st June 1859, No. 109.

With reference to Mr. Secretary Balmains' letter dated the 3rd Instant, I have the honor by desire of the Mint Committee to report, for the information of Government, that
No. 100. unfavorable replies to the Telegrams have been received from the Secretaries of the Mint Committees at Calcutta and Bombay respectively. They cannot supply the Madras Mint with any Copper for Coinage.

2. The Committee would therefore recommend that the Government be pleased to forward to England by the first opportunity the Mint Master's Indent for Copper which was transmitted to you with Mr. Balmain's letter of the 3rd Instant. The Indent exhibits 1,000 Tons of Copper Slips for Coinage and 1,000* sheets of Copper for Machinery and repairs but in the margin, of the letter were inadvertently inserted 2,000 Tons of Copper as taken from the Mint Master's letter of the 31st ultimo, which appears to be an error by his reply to a reference since made to him. The Mint Master has also now explained that the 1,000 sheets of Copper are not exclusively for machinery and repairs, but are also used for making Tubes for annealing Copper blanks, he considers it advisable to have a good supply on hand to avoid the necessity of purchasing any in the market at an enhanced price.

* *A supply sufficient for two years' use according to the present consumption.*

Dated 14*th Instant.*

He uses the sheets up at the rate of 40 *a month. There being* 229 *sheets in hand he has sufficient for more than* 5 *months consumption.*

3. The Mint Master first suggested that this supply of Copper might be sent out from England by the overland route 100 Tons monthly for 6 months, urging the necessity thereof to prevent the stoppage of the work of the Mint which must occur if the supply of the metal, in a suitable form, should fail before the further receipts, and added that he thought that it would be better to forego the usual profits on the Coinage of Copper temporarily
Dated 14*th Instant.* which profit would be absorbed by the overland expenses, than bring the operations of the Mint to a close, necessitating the dismissal of trained hands that cannot easily be replaced. In his latter letter the Mint Master states that as the proposed monthly supply of strap Copper by the overland route will be attended with heavy costs, he thinks it may be avoided without bringing the Copper Coinage to a stand; if he be authorized to purchase all the suitable sheet Copper procurable in the Calcutta and Madras Markets and be permitted to indent on the Calcutta Mint for all the Copper scissel that can be spared from it.

4. We do not know but what the Calcutta Mint works up and uses its Copper scissel as the Madras Mint does. The authority solicited might be accorded to the Mint Master to indent on Calcutta for such scissel and also to purchase in the proposed manner the sheet Copper if really necessary to go on with on exhausting his 5 months supply in Store. But nevertheless these are both contingencies particularly the obtaining scissel from Calcutta. The Committee think therefore it would be well for Government to ask the Secretary of State for India to order out 300 Tons of strap Copper* at 100† Tons monthly for 3 months overland, if the 800‡ Tons indented for in January 1859, or a portion thereof should not have actually left England before the receipt at home of the present requisition and so be expected, in common course, to arrive in Madras in about 3 months, as the present is an emergency and the expense of sending out the 300 Tons of Copper overland will be covered by the profits on the Coinage.

The Madras Mint now seems to be expected to fabricate Copper Coins not merely for use within this Presidency but to meet demands for it from Calcutta, the Straits, Bombay, the Punjaub, and Nagpore.

* *The sheet Copper may come as usual by sea but should be sent out at once.*

† *If the P. and O. Cy. will convey thus much if not then any smaller quantity they will bring out.*

‡ *Or the* 156 *Tons due on Indent of March* 1857.

N. B.—By the Packing Account since received from the Superintendent of Marine, 54½ Tons of Copper slips appear to have been shipped on the "Janet Mitchell" which left England on the 15th February last, and therefore may be expected to arrive very shortly.

No. 9. ORDER THEREON, 24th June 1859, No. 354.

The Government resolve to forward a copy of the foregoing letter to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India in continuation of the Despatch from this Department, dated the 7th Instant, No 11, and to request that, as suggested by the Mint Committee, 300 Tons of Strap Copper may be sent out *overland* at 100 Tons each month, if the 800 Tons indented for in January 1859, or a portion of it should *not* have actually left England before the receipt of the present requisition.

2 In the mean time they authorise the Mint Master to indent on the Calcutta Mint for such Copper scissel as can be spared from it, and also to purchase so much of the Sheet Copper procurable in the Calcutta and Madras Markets as may be absolutely necessary to proceed with the Coinage on exhausting the supply in store.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. A. P. W. Begbie.

Financial Departt.

ceedings of the Madras Government.

Read the following letter from the Mint Committee.

Dated 21st June 1859. No 109

Order thereon 24th June 1859 No. 354

The Government resolve to forward a copy of the foregoing letter to the Right Honble the Secretary of State for India in continuation of the Despatch from this Department dated the 7th Instant No 11, and to request that, as sugg-gested by the Mint Committee,

Committee, 800 Tons of Strap Copper may be sent out overland at 100 Tons each month, if the 800 Tons indented for in January 1859 or a portion of it should not have actually left England before the receipt of the present requisition.

2 In the mean time they authorise the Mint Master to indent on the Calcutta Mint for such Copper Scrivel as can be spared from it, and also to purchase so much of the Sheet Copper procurable in the Calcutta & Madras Markets as may be absolutely necessary to

to proceed with the coinage ~~of the proposed issues~~ or exhausting the supply in store

JP

The Mint Committee. Dispd 29"

Pro: Govt 24 June
Financial 1859 Dept &c

No 354

Pro: of Government

D/ 24 June/59.

Fin: Dept to Insp: 24 June, No 14
of 1859.

Replied to 30th September No
26 of/59

849