

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

422

Press
~~Mis~~

Dated

29. 7.

1859.

21-22.

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
from 23rd to 29th July 1859.*

No. 21. Read the following letter from Major CHARLES A. ORR, Mint Master ; to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 26th July 1859, No. 110.

Para. 1st. With reference to para. 2, of the orders of Government under date the 24th June 1859, No. 352, authorizing me to indent on the Calcutta Mint for such Copper Scissel as can be spared from it, and to purchase Sheet Copper in the Calcutta and Madras markets, if it be found necessary to do so, to proceed with the coinage on exhausting the supply in Store, I have

* 4 Tons of Copper Tiles.

3½ Do. do. Sheet.

the honor to report that, with the exception of a small quantity* which I have obtained from a Merchantile House, I have been unable to buy any Sheet Copper in the Bazar, the Stock in the market being very limited, and the Native

holders unwilling to sell at a reasonable rate after ascertaining the nature and extent of the demand for it at the Mint. I have, however, received a Telegraphic message from the Mint Master of Calcutta, in reply to a reference to him, that 250 tons of Copper Scissel can be spared from the Calcutta Mint, and that 100 tons of Sheet Copper were procurable in the market there.

2. Although, owing to the want of trustworthy steam power, the Coinage of Copper has not been so rapid as, in my letter of the 31st May last, I anticipated it would be, there has been consumed up to this date, about 82 tons of the 200 tons, I then mentioned as being in Store, leaving, with the 54 tons lately arrived in the "Janet Mitchell," the large quantity of 172 tons still in Store.

3. As it is extremely doubtful whether this, with the 96 tons of Scissel on hand, and any small quantity I may obtain in the Bazar, will suffice to keep the coinage in progress till the receipt, either by the Cape or overland, of any part of the 800* tons of Strap

* January 1859. Copper for which the Government has requested the Indent to be considered emergent, I think it would be highly advisable to secure the 100 tons of Sheet Copper to be had in the Calcutta market, and have it sent here by the first of the Government Steamers, leaving Calcutta for Madras. The Government has authorized me to purchase that Copper if necessary, but being without the means of doing so, or of obtaining freight for it free of additional charge, I beg that a Telegraphic message may be despatched by the Government to the authorities at Calcutta to purchase in the market and send here, as I have suggested, 100 tons of Sheet Copper, taking care that none of it is less than ($\frac{1}{12}$) one-twelfth, of an inch in thickness.

4. As the Copper Scissel already accumulated in Store here, and being daily produced while the coinage from Straps is in progress, will require for its conversion all the available power of the Mint, it is not necessary to procure, at present, any of the Scissel that can be spared at Calcutta, but it may hereafter be advisable to do so, if the receipt of a supply of Strap Copper from England be unreasonably delayed.

No. 22. ORDER THEREON, 27th July 1859, No. 422.

Ordered that the following Electric Telegraph message be despatched to the Financial Secretary Calcutta.

"Please buy for this Government and send by the next Steamer one hundred tons of Sheet Copper—taking care that none of it be less than one-twelfth of an inch in thickness."

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

hand
over

^{No 422}
Ordered that the following B.T. message
be despatched

To Financial Secretary Calcutta

Please buy for this fort & send
by the next steamer one hundred
tons of sheet copper - taking care
that none of it be less than one
twelfth of an inch in thickness
J. G. George
27th July 1859

Telegram sent 27th