

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	331	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	5. 7.	1860

B. no. 3-4

3/3

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
5th July 1860.*

No. 3. Read the following letter from Major CHARLES A. ORR, Mint Master, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 28th June 1860, No. 71.

Paragraph 1st. In compliance with the Order of Government under date the 14th instant, No. 289, directing me to report, with reference to my letter of the 20th January last, No. 343, whether the quantity of Copper which the Right Honorable

* Despatch of 8th May 1860, No. 32. the Secretary of State for India has intimated* that it is his intention to send out will suffice, and if not, how much is

required, with full explanation of the circumstances under which it is needed; I have the honor to state that as, in noticing the pressing requisition for Copper of the 31st May 1859 forwarded by the late Mint Committee at my request, the Home

Paragraphs 19 and 20 of Despatch communicated with Order of Government, 1st October 1859, No. 561.

Government simply intimated that, in addition to the balance of 156 tons due on the Indent of March 1857, 500 tons only would be despatched on the Indent for 800 tons of January 1859, I

concluded that the Indent for 1,000 tons of 31st May 1859 would not be acted upon at all, and, considering that the supplies under ordinary circumstances did not reach this till the expiration of from twelve to eighteen months from the date of the application for them, nor arrived much faster than they were used, I made the Indent for 1,200 tons in January last.

2nd. The Copper now being received is charged for so little higher than the price at which the Scissel formed from it can be sold in the bazaar as to make it more advantageous to use Slips for the coinage, and to sell the resulting Scissel, than to melt up the latter into Ingots and roll them out at a considerable cost. With the present delivery of upwards of 2,50,000 Copper pieces daily, the consumption of Slips in addition to Ingots formed from the produce of previous cuttings, amounts to upwards of 50 tons per mensem, and the demand for Copper Coin being more likely to increase than to diminish for years, it may become necessary to turn out still larger quantities. Moreover as the supply of Slips must necessarily take time, I do not think the quantity proposed to be sent out will suffice to ensure the Mint being kept in full work, and I would therefore recommend that the Indent for 1,000 tons of the 31st May 1859 be cancelled, and that the 1,200 tons applied for in the Indent of 20th January last should be sent out in such a way as to ensure the whole being received here by instalments during the current, and the next Calendar year 1861. As the denominations of Coin most required are the Quarter Annas and single Pie pieces, at least $\frac{3}{4}$ ths of all the Copper sent out should be of the smaller sized Slips $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches broad by $\frac{1}{16}$ th inch thick.

3rd. Of the Copper being sent out on the Indent of January 1859 there have been received

per "Cleveland"....	Tons	50
per "William and Jane"....	"	100
per "Warren Hastings".....	"	100
per "Cornwallis"....	"	100
		<u>350</u>

of which 250 tons have been worked up. There are expected by the "Bengal" 100 tons, and by the "Southern Cross" 50 tons, so that, notwithstanding the large shipments recently made, there are only about 100 tons in store and 150 tons likely soon to arrive.

No. 4. ORDER THEREON, 5th July 1860, No. 331.

The Government resolve to transmit a copy of the foregoing letter to the Secretary of State for India by the earliest opportunity, in reference to his Despatch dated the 8th May last No. 32, and to recommend that for the reasons therein urged Major Orr's requisition for the 1,200 tons of Copper Slips entered in the Indent of the 20th January last may be complied with, and the supply sent out in the manner suggested.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Soon

Will
G.D.

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Order thereon 5th July 1840, No. 331.

The Govd resolve to transmit a copy of the foregoing letter to the Secretary of State for India by the earliest opportunity, in reference to his despatch dated the 8th May last. No. 32, and to re-command that for the reasons therein urged Major Orr's requisition for the 1200 tons of Copper ships entered in the Index of the 20th January last may be complied with, and the supply sent out in the manner suggested.

To the Joint Master. Dis. 9th 1840.
8 Copies