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(3) Initials of the Referencer M

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	Press / Mis.
Dated	18 .

47-48 6/1

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
21st February 1867.

Read the following papers :—

No. 47. From J. ROHDE, Esq., to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George ; dated Ootacamund, 29th January 1867.

I have the honor to state for your information and that of His Excellency the Governor in Council, that the great number of Rupees which are now struck on flawed plate occasions a serious loss, especially to the poorer and least influential classes. I am told that as much as 2 Annas is charged by village shroffs on such faulty coin ; for my own part, I keep it for payment of any Government dues so that I am not personally now a loser, though formerly I used to cut such coin as came into my possession rather than put it again in circulation. I do not recollect formerly seeing so much faulty coin, it is caused, I believe, in the laminating ; and with Colonel Orr for the Government to refer to, it would be absurd in me to offer any further suggestion. I feel confident that Lord Napier, to whom the welfare of the poor of the land is evidently an object of solicitude, will not allow this matter to pass unnoticed.

Referred to the Mint Master for his remarks.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
9th February 1867.

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Under Secretary.

No. 47A. From the Mint Master, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George ; dated 14th February 1867, No. 321.

I have the honor to return Mr. J. Rohde's letter referred with your endorsement of 9th instant. I beg you will assure the Right Honorable the Governor in Council that every possible precaution is taken in this Mint to prevent any silver coin, which is in the smallest degree defective, from passing into circulation ; each Rupee after being stamped is carefully examined, and any which show the least crack, or other flaw, or do not ring, are rejected. Nevertheless, a small portion which have cracks, only to show after being sometime in use, remain undetected, and there is reason to think that there may have been a larger number than usual coined in the early part of last year. At that time silver coin was scarce in Madras, and the demand for the conversion of bullion into coin urgent, in endeavouring to meet which the daily meltings of silver were too large to allow of the moulds in which the ingots are cast getting properly cool between each two meltings, the consequence of which is that the ingots were sometimes honey-combed which leads to the defect complained of. A sufficiency of new moulds have since been made, which will prevent a recurrence of this defect.

2. I cannot think, however, that the proportion of defective coins is large, or that there is any general complaint on this head. During six years' residence in Madras, I only saw one such Rupee. None have been returned to the Mint, as might have been expected by Treasury Officers, with their remittances of uncurrent and base coins. Moreover, the coin as minted is circulated through the agency of the Madras Bank where it is again very carefully shroffed, and the Secretary and Treasurer, in reply to my inquiry of his experience of defective Rupees, says, " tenders " to the Bank of Rupees of a faulty manufacture are of very rare occurrence, and no record of " them has ever been kept ;" and he adds, " judging from our experience, I am of opinion that " such defective coins are not in circulation to any appreciable extent in Madras."

No. 48. ORDER THEREON, 21st February 1867, No. 83.

The Governor in Council directs that a copy of the Mint Master's letter be furnished to Mr. Rohde.

(True Extract),

Chief Secretary.

To J. Rohde, Esq.
,, the Mint Master.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

Copy

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Cotacammund 29th January 1867.

From John Rohde Esqre.

To A. J. Arbuthnot Esqre.
Chief Secretary.

Sir,

I have the honor to State for your information and that of His Excellency the Governor in Council that the great number of Rupees which are now struck on flawed plate occasions a serious loss especially to the poorer and least influential classes. I am told that as much as 2 Annas is charged by village Shroffs on such faulty coin; for my own part I keep it for payment of any Government dues so that I am not personally now a loser, though formerly I used to cut such coin as came into my possession rather than put it again in circulation. I do not recollect formerly seeing so much faulty coin, it is caused I believe in the laminating; and with Colonel Orr for the

Government

Government to refer to, it would be absurd in me to offer any further suggestion. I feel confident that Lord Napier to whom the welfare of the poor of the land is evidently an object of solicitude will not allow this matter to pass unnoticed.

I have &c
Signed J. Rohde.

Port Adelaide 27th Jany 1857

John Rohde
Clerk of Petty Sessions &c
Police Court

Sir

Upon the Governor's state for your consideration several of the Officers of this Expy the Governor in Council that the great accumulation of Copper which are now stuck on Planed Plate occasions a serious loss especially to the Govern Treasury influential classes. I am told that a number of Persons are buying up Copper in large quantities by selling Silver or Gold for it for the purpose of sending it for sale in the Country where Government dues do not [illegible] I am not personally aware of any, though I am told by Silver to exit such coin or coin into any, less objectionable rather than put it again in circulation. The Lieut Colonel Commandg. seeing so much Foreign coin, it is observed I believe in the Barracks at any rate Col Boyle for the Govern ment to refer to it would be absurd in me to offer any

No 321

14th February 1867.

From
Colonel J. Carpendale R.E.
Mint Master

To
The Chief Secretary
to Government

Sir,

Enclosure 1- I have the honor to return Mr John Rohdes letter referred with your endorsement of 9th instant. I beg you will assure the Right Honorable the Governor in Council that every possible precaution is taken in this Mint to prevent any Silver Coin which is in the smallest degree defective from passing into circulation: Each rupee after being stamped is carefully examined, and any which show the least cracks, or other flaws, or do not ring, are rejected. Nevertheless, a small portion which have cracks, only to show after being some time in use, remain undetected and as there is reason to think that there may have been a larger number than usual coined in the early part of last year. At that time Silver Coin was scarce in Madras, and the demand for the conversion of bullion into Coin urgent, in endeavouring to meet which the daily meetings of

Silver

silver were too large to allow of the moulds in which the Ingots are cast getting properly Cool between each two Meltings, the consequence of which is that the Ingots were sometimes honeycombed which leads to the defect complained of. A sufficiency of New Moulds have since been made which will prevent a recurrence of this defect

2. I cannot think however that the proportion of defective Coins is large or that there is any general complaint on this head. During Six years residence in Madras I only saw one such Rupee. None have been returned to the Mint as might have been expected by treasury officers with their remittances of Uncurrent and base Coins. Moreover the Coin as Minted is circulated through the Agency of the Madras Bank where it is again very carefully shroffed, and the Secretary and Treasurer, in reply to my enquiry of his experience of defective rupees, says. "tenders to the Bank of Rupees "of a faulty Manufacture are of very "rare occurrence and no record of "them has ever been kept" and he adds "Judging from our experience I "am of opinion that such defective Coins "are not in circulation to any appreciable "extent in Madras".

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant
J Gutmore
Mint Master

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Jinl. Bros. 21 Feby 67.

1867 Department.

Straw

The Mint Master

&c

The Chief Secretary

to Government

Fort-St. George

Dated 14th Feby. 1867

Rec. 16th Feby. 1867

No. 321

No. 76 Paper ret.

With an Enclosure

With reference to Mr. Rohde's letter regarding Circulation of faulty Coin begs to assure the Right Honorable the Governor in Council that every precaution is taken to prevent the issue of such Coin from the Mint.

With an Order

47. 48.

No. 83 dated 21st February 1867.

From

The Government in Council directs that a copy of the Print Bankers' letter be furnished to Mr. Rohde.

1074

To

The Chief Secretary to Government

Fort St. George

Sir,

I have the honor to forward herewith a copy of a letter from the Print Bankers' Association, Calcutta, dated 25th ultimo, regarding the circulation of faulty coin.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) H. Rohde

Mint Master.

Mint, Madras,

25th February 1867.