M.R.O. 1—77,006—6-6-37.

(1) Number of pages_____

(2) Date of repair_____

(3) Initials of the Reference_____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Finance DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 353 Press / Mis.

84-85.

Dated 31-7- 1868.

819

84-85

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 84. Read the following letter from the Mint Master, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George ; dated 13th July 1868, No. 138.

I have the honor to acknowledge the Order of Government in the Financial Department, No. 306, of the 29th ultimo, communicating the Despatch from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, regarding short deliveries of slip copper, and to report as follows. I referred to the Master Attendant for the information required on the subject of landing the cases from the ships, and that Officer replies—

"In reply to your letter, No. 129, of the 3rd instant, I have the honor to inform you that "the landing and shipping establishment is so small that it is impossible to send any one on "board-ship to take charge of the copper cases, nor is it deemed necessary to do so, as the "Marine Police force, which was established expressly to prevent peculation of cargo during the "transit between the shipping and the shore, is a sufficient guard for all Government con- "signments.

"There is no special watching establishment, the cases are removed as quickly as possible "from the beach to the Marine yard godown where they are kept until sent for by the Mint autho- "rities."

2. The cases are then conveyed with all practicable expedition to the Mint under the supervision of a Mint Conicopoly, but not under a guard, and immediately on the receipt of the whole consignment the preliminary inspection is made by a Committee convened by the Mint Master, in order that, if the cases do not present any appearance of having been opened or tampered with, a certificate to that effect may be granted to the Marine Department, to enable the ship's claim for freight to be adjusted.

3. Next, the same Committee proceeds to record the weight of each case in a Register, alongside of the gross London weight copied from the boxes, on the completion of which each case is opened, one at a time, and its contents weighed, counted, and registered in the presence of the same Committee.

4. I regret that, on finding a deficiency in each recent shipment of slip copper, it did not occur to me to apply for a Committee of Officers unconnected with the Mint for the examination of at least one large Invoice, but I had implicit confidence in the integrity of the Superintendents of Departments, who are all men of proved respectability of character and of long service, and being well aware that if there was any dishonestly disposed person, the abstraction of the copper after its receipt into the Mint was impossible, I followed the usual course.

5. The following Diary Orders, and the reports in full of the Committee on the cases per *Sir Robert Seppings*, will, I trust, make the system of examination that is pursued clear.

DIARY ORDER.

No. 621.—The Superintendents of the Silver Laminating and Melting Departments, and the Store-keeper, are appointed a Committee to inspect 188 cases of copper slips and six cases of files landed from the ship *Roxburgh Castle*, and to give a certificate of the number of cases and packages only, provided they are in good order and have not the appearance of having been tampered with, and afterwards in due course, on final examination of stores in detail, another certificate.

5*th August* 1867. (Signed) J. CARPENDALE,
Mint Master.

No. 622.—The Committee on stores, per ship *Roxburgh Castle*, is directed to weigh each case of copper before it is opened, and to record the weight. When this is completed as each box is opened its contents of copper are to be weighed and recorded, and, finally, the number of slips to be counted ; and this *duty* the Committee is to perform as a Committee, and not by one member only.

(Signed) J. CARPENDALE,
Mint Master.

7*th August* 1867.

No. 646.—The Superintendent of the Melting and Silver Stamping Departments, and the Acting Store-keeper, are appointed a Committee to inspect 247 cases of copper slips and one case of zinc landed from the ship *Sir Robert Seppings*, and to give a certificate of the number of cases and packages only, provided they are in good order and have not the appearance of having been tampered with, and afterwards in due course, on final examination of stores in detail, another certificate.

The weight of each case of the whole shipment is to be recorded before any case is opened, and then the same course is to be followed as in the case of the *Roxburgh Castle*. This lot of copper to be put in store in cases.

(Signed) J. CARPENDALE,
Mint Master.

10*th December* 1867.

MEMORANDUM.

The Committee appointed by the Mint Master, as per Diary Order, No. 646, of the 10th instant, begs to certify that 247 cases of copper slips, and 1 case of zinc sheet, landed per ship *Sir Robert Seppings*, have been received into the Mint in good order.

(Signed) G. SCHWENKE,
Supt. of the Silver Stamping Dept.
(,,) J. DUARTE,
Supt. of the Silver Melting Dept.
(,,) S. V. SCRIVEN,
Acty. Head Store-keeper.

21*st December* 1867.

MEMORANDUM.

The Committee appointed by the Mint Master, as per Diary Order, No. 646, of 10th ultimo, beg to certify that on examining the 247 cases of copper slips, landed per ship *Sir Robert Seppings*, they find 77 slips of copper deficient, weighing in all 287½lbs. viz :—

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
29,563 Slips of Copper, 5″×2¼″×¼″, weighing	49	12	0	19
66 Sheets of Zinc, 7′×3′ ,,	0	10	0	0

In case No. 6361, 4 slips, 15½ lbs.
6339, 8 ,, 30 ,,
6380, 4 ,, 15 ,,
6218, 20 ,, 74½ ,,
6384, 5 ,, 18½ ,,
6392, 4 ,, 14 ,,
6158, 12 ,, 44½ ,,
*6316, 20 ,, 75½ ,,
77 287½

Case No. 6316 contained a two-pound iron weight.

(Signed) J. DUARTE,
Supt. Silver Melting Dept.
(,,) G. SCHWENKE,
Supt. Silver Stamping Dept.
(,,) S. V. SCRIVEN,
Acty. Head Store-keeper.

11*th January* 1868.

The Register of weights, gross and nett, is appended.

6. I have further the honor to state, in reference to paragraph 14 of the report by the Inspector of Stores in London, that the 20 slips of copper each found deficient in cases Nos. 6218 and 6316 by the *Sir Robert Seppings*, were in whole bundles, and that the two-pound iron weight, which was found in case No. 6316, is herewith forwarded for transmission to London.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
31*t July* 1868.

7. In reference to paragraph 12 of the Inspector's report, I beg to observe that the facility for opening the cases without injury, which is supposed to arise from the drying of the deal cases, is not found to exist; on the contrary, great force is required to open the cases and usually the tops are broken in doing so; and the Superintendents who compose the Mint Committees adhere to their statements, that the cases of copper, in the consignments in which deficiencies were found, did not present any appearance of having been opened before coming into the Mint.

8. It would be satisfatory to this Department to be informed whether any light is thrown on the causes of loss by the two-pound iron weight referred to above.

No. 85. ORDER THEREON, 31st July 1868, No. 353.

Resolved that a copy of the foregoing letter, and the statement received with it, be transmitted to the Secretary of State for India.

2. The Mint Master is informed that in every Committee appointed in future to examine Mint Stores received from England there should be a proportion of Government servants unconnected with the Mint.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Mint Master, Madras.

Ed. J. Tulloch.

No. 138 13th July 1868.

From Colonel J. Carpendale R.E.
Asst. Master

To The Chief Secretary
to Government
Fort St. George.

Sir,

Para 1. I have the honor to Acknow:
:ledge the order of Government in the
Financial Department of No. 366 of
the 29th. Ultimo communicating the
Despatch from the Right Honorable
the Secretary of State for India
regarding short deliveries of Slip Copper
and to report as follows:- Referred to
the Master Attendant for the infor:
:mation required on the subject of land:
:ing the Cases from the Ships, and that
Officer replies:-

"In reply to your letter No. 129 of
"the 3d. instant I have the honor to
"inform you that the landing and shipping
establishment

"establishment is so small that it is im-
"-possible to send any one on board ship
"to take charge of the Copper Cases nor
"is it deemed necessary to do so as the
"Marine Police Force which was
"established expressly to prevent speculation
"of Cargo during the transit between the
"shipping and the shore is a sufficient
"guard for all Government consign-
"-ments.

"There is no special watching establish-
"-ment, the cases are removed as quickly
"as possible from the beach to the Marine
"Yard Godown where they are kept until
"sent for by the Mint authorities".

2. The cases are then conveyed with all practicable expedition to the Mint under the Supervision of a Mint Convico-poly but not under a guard, and immediately on the receipt of the whole consignment the preliminary inspection is made by a Committee convened by the Mint-Master, in order that, if the cases do not present any appearance of having been opened or tampered with, a Certificate to that effect may be granted to the Marine Department to enable the ships claim for freight to be adjusted.

3. Next, the same Committee proceeds to record the weight of each case in a Register alongside of the gross London weight copied from the boxes. On the completion of which each case is opened one at a time and its contents weighed, counted, and registered in the presence of the same Committee.

4. I regret that on finding a deficiency in each recent shipment of slips Copper it did not occur to me to apply for a Committee of Officers unconnected with the Mint for the examination of at least one large invoice, but I had implicit confidence in the integrity of the Superintendents of Departments who are all Men of proved respectibility of character and of long service, and being well aware that if there was any dishonestly disposed person the abstraction of the Copper after its receipt into the Mint was impossible, I followed the usual

usual course.

5. The following Diary Orders, and the reports in full of the Committee on the Cases per "Sir Robert Seppings" will illustrate the system of examination that is pursued clear.

Diary Order.

C No. 621. The Superintendents of the Silver Laminating and Melting Departments, and the Storekeeper, are appointed a Committee to inspect One hundred and eighty eight Cases of Copper Slips and Six Cases of Files landed from the ship "Roxburgh Castle", and to give a certificate of the number of Cases and packages only, provided they are in good order and have not the appearance of having been tampered with, and afterwards in due course on final examination of Stores, in detail another Certificate.

5th August 1867. (Signed) J. Carpendale
Mint Master

C No. 622. The Committee on Stores, per ship "Roxburgh Castle" is directed to weigh each case of Copper before it is opened and to record the weight. When this is completed as each box is opened its contents of Copper are to be weighed and recorded, and finally the number of slips to be counted. And this duty the Committee is to perform as a Committee and not by one Member only.

7th August 1867. (Signed) J. Carpendale
Mint Master

C No. 646. The Superintendents of the Melting and Silver Stamping Departments, and the Acting Storekeeper, are appointed a Committee to inspect Two hundred and forty seven Cases of Copper Slips and one case of Zinc landed from the ship "Sir Robert Seppings" and to give a Certificate of the Number of Cases and packages only, provided they are in good order and have not the appearance of having been tampered with, and afterwards in due course on final examination of Stores in detail another Certificate.

The weight of each case of the whole shipment is to be recorded before any case is opened and then the same course is to be followed as in the case of the "Roxburgh Castle". This lot

of

of Copper to be put in store in cases.
10th December 1867. /Signed/ J. Barsendale
Mint Master

Memorandum

The Committee appointed by the Mint Master as per Diary Order No. 646 of the 10th Instant, beg to Certify that 247 Cases of Copper Slips, and 1 Case of Zinc sheet, landed per ship "Sir Robert Seppings" have been received into the Mint in good order.

/Signed/ G. Schwentio
Shift'r of the Silver Stamping Dep't
" J. Quarle
Shift'r of the Silver Melting Dep't
Mint, 21st December 1867 } " S.H. Scriven.
Act'g Head Store Keeper.

Memorandum

The Committee appointed by the Mint Master as per Diary Order No. 646 of 10th Ultimo beg to Certify that on examining the 247 Cases of Copper Slips landed per ship "Sir Robert Seppings" they find 77 Slips of Copper deficient Weighing in all lbs 287½ Viz.

In Case No.	6361	4 Slips	15½ lbs
	6339	8 "	30
	6380	4 "	15
	6218	20 "	74½
	6384	5 "	18½
	6392	4 "	14
	6158	12 "	44½
	×6316	20 "	75½
		77 =	287½

29563 Slips of Copper 5×2¼×½ Weighg. 12 " "
66 Sheets of Zinc 7×3, " " 10 " "

×Case c No. 6316 contained a 2 lbs Shortweight.

/Signed/ J. Quarle
Shift'r Silver Melting Dep't
" G. Schwentio
Shift'r Silver Stamping Dep't
Mint, 11th January 1868 } " S.H. Scriven.
Act'g Head Store Keeper

The Register of Weights Gross and Nett is appended.

6. I have further the honor to state in reference to Para 14 of the report by the Inspectors of Stores in London, that the 20 Slips of Copper each found deficient in Cases No. 6218 and 6316 by the "Sir Robert Seppings" were in whole Bundles, and that the two found Short Weight which were found in Case No. 6316 is herewith forwarded for transmission to London.

7. In reference to Para 12 of the Inspectors report I beg to observe that the facility for opening the cases without injury which is supposed to arise from the drying of the deal Cases is not found to exist; on the contrary great force is required to open the Cases and usually the Coopers are broken in doing so; and the Superintendents who compose the Mint Committees adhere to their statements that the Cases of Copper, in the consignments

in

in which deficiencies were found, did not present any appearance of having been opened before coming into the Mint.

8. It would be satisfactory to this Department to be informed whether any light is thrown on the causes of loss by the 2 lb iron weight referred to above.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Serv

[illegible]

Assist Master

1850

Rec: 29th June 1868 No. 46-47

No. 353 A of 31st July 1868

Resolved that a copy of the fore-
going letter, and the State-
ment received with it, be trans-
mitted to the Secretary of
State for India.

2. The Mint Master is in-
formed that in every Committee
appointed in future to examine
Mint Stores received from England
their Chiefs be a portion of
Government Servants, uncon-
nected with the Mint.

To the Mint Master.
Madras.

Finance
1868 Oct/art.

From
The Mint Master
To The Chief Secretary
to Government
Fort St. George

Dated 13th
Rec'd 3 July 1868
No 331

No 138

Encloses and a 2 lbs weight in Case
Acknowledges Order of
Govt. Dept. No. 306 and
furnishes information required
on the course pursued on landing
Copper Cases and examination
at the Mint, and forwards the
2 lbs Weight found in Copper
Case per "Sir Robert Seppings"
for transmission to England.

Rec: 31st July 1868

With an order