7-6-40 III

M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 36.

(2) Date of repair 6-11-39.

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 441 Press / Mis.

34-37.

Dated 8-9- 1871.

34-37 19/20

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers :—

No. 34. From Surgeon H. KING, A. B., M. B., Chemical Examiner, in charge of the Assay Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Madras, 13th July 1871, No. 66.

In continuation of my letter, No. 44, of 7th ultimo, I have the honour to state that I entered into communication with the Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department, with reference to the manufacture of sulphuric, nitric, and hydrochloric acids, which has been, since the abolition of the Mint, carried on in the Assay Department. I proposed that certain subordinates who have been employed in that work should be transferred to the Principal Medical Storekeeper. The present designations and monthly pay of those whose transfer I suggest are as follow :—

	Rs.
Weighingman	35
Cupellation Maistry	15
Two Coolies, at 7 Rupees each	14

2. It is doubtful whether the acids thus manufactured are sufficiently pure for medicinal use ; but they, or a sufficient proportion of them, can be prepared free from deleterious impurities by more careful selection of the sulphur; and, inasmuch as the Principal Medical Storekeeper is in occupation of the building in which two of the acids are distilled, and the sulphuric acid chamber is nearer to his office than to that of any other department to which the manufacture could be entrusted, there can be no doubt that the work may most conveniently be undertaken by him.

3. I have not yet received a reply from Mr. Balfour; but, in any case, it will not be in my power to superintend, and be responsible for, the manufacture of these acids. I was not aware, when I undertook the charge of the Assay Department, that this manufacture, as well as some other incongruous duties, had been attached to it on the abolition of the Mint. Had I been permitted to retain a small portion of the Assay Department premises for assay purposes, I should probably have been able to undertake so purely a chemical duty as the preparation of the mineral acids, but, under present circumstances, this is impossible. The manufacture must either be discontinued or transferred to some other department, and the assay establishment can be reduced to the extent indicated above. I may add my belief that public departments requiring acids are supplied from this source much more economically than they would be by purchase in open market.

4. My own experience of the working of the department has been so short, and the state of business in Madras has for many months been so exceptional, that I am unable to propose further reductions with any confidence. The present establishment is obviously in excess of recent requirements, but so long as Government guarantee a market for the precious metals at fixed rates, the Assay Department must be maintained in such a condition as to be capable of meeting without delay any possible demands upon it. The present establishment was not considered excessive from this point of view by the late Assay Master. Again, skilled labour of this very special kind cannot be obtained at a moment's

notice, and practised workmen once dismissed cannot be recovered. Although, for these reasons, I cannot venture to recommend any further weakening of the *special* element in the establishment, it appears to me that, when the Assay Department has been freed from all extraneous duties, the services of the Moochee (Rupees 12) and of one Gollah (Rupees 8) would no longer be required. The Sweeper (Rupees 3½) might be dispensed with, and a small addition to the monthly pay of one of the Medical College Sweepers sanctioned from the allowance for contingencies. The Writer's pay (Rupees 30) might be commuted into a stationery allowance of an equal sum. The establishment would then be as follows:—

	Rs.
Assistant and Manager	200
Stationery allowance	30
General Assistant	15
Melter and Refiner	12
Gollah	8
Hammerman	10

5. A sufficient allowance for contingent expenses should be made to enable the Chemical Examiner, in case of pressure, to engage additional hands. That now sanctioned, Rupees 500, would probably answer this purpose.

6. Mr. Graham having specially urged the claims of all the subordinates in the Assay Department, I have the honour to suggest that, if Government determine to dispense with the services of any of them in that department, this removal may be deferred until equivalent provision has been made for them in other branches of the public service.

7. Presuming that it was not the intention of Government to impose upon the Chemical Examiner new, difficult, and responsible duties without granting corresponding remuneration, I have the honour respectfully to request that they will be pleased to sanction a suitable allowance for the performance of the work of the Assay Office. Although it has so happened that no assaying has been required since I assumed charge of the department, yet I have found the additional duties to involve considerable labour, expenditure of time (which I could ill spare), and responsibility. I hope, therefore, that the allowance which I solicit will be sanctioned from the date of my assumption of charge.

Referred to the Acting Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department, for his remarks.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Acting Chief Secretary.

13th July 1871.

No. 35. From Deputy Inspector-General E. BALFOUR, Acting Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Fort St. George, 31st July 1871, No. 253.

I have the honour to re-enclose the Chemical Examiner's letter, No. 66, of 13th instant, referred to me for my remarks under your docket of the 13th instant.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
8th September 1871.

2. The manufacture of the nitric and hydrochloric acids has been conducted at the Mint, but the sulphuric acid manufacture is conducted three-fourths of a mile further on in an open space close to the north-east of the Powder Magazine, not far from the Arrack Distillery, and their superintendence would add greatly to the Chemical Examiner's labours.

3. The Principal Medical Storekeeper could attend to their manufacture, but Government may perhaps decide as to its entire discontinuance in Madras, and may order that the requirements of departments be met by importing what they want of them from Calcutta, as the Principal Medical Store Depôt even now does.

4. The quantities of acids made at the Mint, from July 9th, 1870, to June 27th, 1871, were as follow:—

Nitric acid, lbs. 706.
Sulphuric acid, lbs. 200.
Hydrochloric acid, lbs. 30.

The prices fixed by the Mint Authorities are—

Sulphuric, 4 Annas per lb.
Hydrochloric and nitric, 12 Annas;

so that the above quantities would realize Rupees 602. The pay of the subordinates employed at present in the manufacture is as follows:—

	Rs.
Weighingman	35
Cupellation Maistry ...	15
Hammerman	10
Cooly	7
	—
	67 a month, or Rupees 804 per annum.

The Chemical Examiner has mentioned to the Principal Medical Storekeeper that the use of glass retorts, instead of iron, has probably increased the cost of production of nitric and hydrochloric acids.

5. The acids manufactured by the Assay Department during twelve months are—

Nitric acid, 706 lbs.
Sulphuric acid, 200 ,,
Hydrochloric acid, 30 ,,

The average quantity required of the Medical Stores is—

Nitric acid, 124 lbs.
Sulphuric acid, 218 ,,
Hydrochloric acid, 215 ,,

making a total of

Nitric acid, 830 lbs.
Sulphuric acid, 418 ,,
Hydrochloric acid, 245 ,,

which, with the appliances and skilled labour at disposal, could be turned out without difficulty. The advantage to Government, however, by local manufacture

of the total amount required for Madras, would be small, viz., Anna one and Pies six on the total cost of a pound, each, of the respective acids.

	Calcutta acids. Pure.				Madras acids. Impure.		
	Rs.	A.	P.		Rs.	A.	P.
Sulphuric ...	0	4	3	per pound.	0	4	0
Nitric... ...	1	2	7	,,	0	12	0
Hydrochloric	0	6	8	,,	0	12	0
Total...	1	13	6		1	12	0
Difference...	0	1	6				

This small balance in favour of local manufacture would be more than absorbed by the higher rates that would have to be paid for purer material wherewith to manufacture pure acids.

6. Again, the balance in favour of local manufacture might be covered by importing "commercial" acid for other than those departments (the Medical Store and Assay) that require acids chemically pure, commercial acid being considerably cheaper than pure acid. The departments concerned could import either direct from England or from Calcutta.

7. The Assay Office or Department, with sulphuric acid supplied by the Medical Stores, could always make the nitric and hydrochloric acid required for assay purposes, the apparatus for the purpose being transferred to the Medical College.

8. The disposal of the sulphuric acid chamber has next to be considered. A fair offer would perhaps be made by soda-water manufacturers if offered for sale, with the privilege of manufacturing on the same locality. If otherwise disposed of, there would not be considerable loss if only the net market value of the materials be obtained.

9. Should, however, the continuance of the manufacture be decided on, the charge for establishment might be reduced, though not at present, but gradually as vacancies occur, as there would be much difficulty in obtaining skilled labour as that at disposal—in fact, it could not be obtained. The present establishment is costing Rupees 804 per annum. Monthly cost of the future establishment would be—

	Rs.	A.	P.	
Maistry...	17	8	0	per month.
Assistant	14	0	0	,,
Cooly...	10	8	0	,,
Total...	42	0	0	,,

or Rupees 504 to make 602 Rupees' worth of acids. The advisability or otherwise of keeping up amongst the people the knowledge of a manufacture seems the only question meriting consideration in this case. Even now, the Principal Medical Store Depôt obtains from Calcutta all it needs; the Assay Department must ever manufacture its own acids in order to secure purity; the acids are even now being delivered from Calcutta as cheaply as they are being made here; and the possible future cost of a reduced establishment will be to the amount manufactured as Rupees 504 to Rupees 602.

10. Although discontinued, their manufacture could, on necessity arising, be resumed.

—

Referred to Dr. King for report whether, with reference to paragraph 7 of this letter, there will be any difficulty in his making, as proposed, the nitric and hydrochloric acids required for assay purposes only, the apparatus for the purpose being transferred to the Medical College, and what establishment would be required for the purpose.

2. Dr. King will also report whether sufficiently pure acids for assay purposes can be obtained either from Calcutta or England, or whether it is absolutely necessary that they should be made by the officer in charge of the Assay Department.

OOTACAMUND, (Signed) R. S. ELLIS,
7th August 1871. *Chief Secretary.*

—

No. 36. From the Chemical Examiner, in charge of the Assay Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Madras, 23rd August 1871, No. 83.

I have the honour to return the letter of the Acting Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department, and to state that the nitric and hydrochloric acids required for assay purposes can be manufactured without difficulty in the Laboratory of the Medical College, and that I believe that this can be done without increasing the establishment which I have proposed to retain in the Assay Department.

2. Acids of sufficient purity for the purpose in question might be obtained by importation from Calcutta or from England.

—

No. 37. ORDER THEREON, 8th September 1871, No. 441.

As it appears from the foregoing papers that the cost of the manufacture by Government of sulphuric, nitric, and hydrochloric acids is about the same as the price of these articles in the markets, His Excellency the Governor in Council resolves to direct the discontinuance of the manufacture of the acids. The small quantity of nitric and hydrochloric acids required for assay purposes will be manufactured by the Chemical Examiner from sulphuric acid supplied from the Medical Stores.

2. The reduction of the Assay Establishment will be as shown below, viz.,

Present.	Rs.	Proposed.	Rs.
1 Assistant	200	1 Assistant and Manager...	200
1 Clerk	30	1 Writer	30
1 Weighman	35	1 General Writer	15
1 Assistant do.	15	1 Melter and Refiner	12
1 Head Laboratory man	15	1 Gollah	8
1 Melter and Fireman	12	1 Hammerman	10
1 Moochee...	12		
1 Hammerman	10	Total...	275
2 Gollahs, Rupees 8 each...	16		
2 Coolies, Rupees 7 each...	14		
1 Sweeper	3½		
Total...	362½		

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
8th September 1871.

3. The saving which will be effected by the reduction is Rupees 87-8-0 per mensem.

4. The Government are not prepared to sanction the commutation of the writer's pay into a "stationery allowance." Whatever stationery the Chemical Examiner may require may be obtained from the Stationery Depôt; and if the services of the writer are not required they must be dispensed with. If this be done, a further saving of Rupees 30 per mensem will be effected. The Chemical Examiner will report on this point.

5. The requisite provision for contingencies will be made in the Budget Estimate for 1870-71 now due.

6. The Government will consider the expediency of assigning an allowance for the work of the Assay Office after the system described in the Notification published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 30th May last, for the receipt and assay of bullion by the Chemical Examiner, has been tried for a year.

(True Extract.)

Captain, R. E.,
Under Secretary, P. W. D.,
for *Chief Secretary.*

To the Acting Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department.
,, Chemical Examiner.
,, Acting Accountant-General.

Exd. J. Wright.

No. 1083.
Medical College
23rd August 1871.

36

From The Chief Secretary to
Government,
Fort St. George.

Sir,

I have the honor to return
the letter from the Sec. to the Govt.
General Dept. and to state
that the Native Hydrochloric
Acid required for Assay purposes
can be manufactured without difficulty
in the Laboratory of this Medical
College and that I do not think that
this can be done without increasing
the Establishment hitherto sanctioned
for carrying on the Assay
Department.

2. Facts of the case are
briefly these. In the Government
Order sanctioning the transfer
of the Assay Department
from Calcutta to Madras, the
Laboratory of this College
was considered sufficient
for the purpose of the Assay
Department, and no additional
establishment was sanctioned
for the manufacture of acids.
Since the transfer to Madras
the Assay Department has
been working with the
establishment sanctioned
for the Laboratory, and
the Assay Master has
been obliged to purchase
the acids required for the
Assay Department from
England.

Sir,
Your most obed. Servt.
W. Hamilton.

To Chemical Examiner
in Chief, Assay Dept.

Govt. of Madras. {1871}

FINANCIAL.

To
THE ACTING INSPECTOR-GENERAL,
INDIAN MEDICAL DEPARTMENT,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated September, 8th.

Recd. Encl.

G. O., 8th September 1871, *No.* 441.

SEPTEMBER.
Nos. 34—37.

Passing orders for the discontinuance of the manufacture of acids formerly undertaken by the Assay Department, and for the reduction of the Office Establishment of that Department.

Financial
1871 Oct. Part.
50 No 441.
From
The Chemical Examiner in charge Ordnance Office
To
The Chief Secretary to Govt
Fort St George
Date 23d
Rec'd 25th August 1871.
No 383. Submitting with an enclosure Paper on the Nature of the Acid Substances found on the Old Metal Shot the Oxide required for Assay purposes can be obtained from the Assay Laboratory of the Ordnance Factory at Cossipore
No 445
Referred to the Chemical Examiner for remarks
Ans 30

№ 253

Office of Inspector General I. M. D.
Fort Saint George 31st July 1871

From

The Acting Inspector General
Indian Medical Department
Fort Saint George

To

The Chief Secretary to Government
Public Department

Sir,

I have the honour to re-enclose the Chemical Examiner's letter № 66 of 13th instant, referred to me for my remarks under your docket of the 13th instant.

2. The manufacture of the nitric and hydrochloric acids has been conducted at the mint, but the Sulphuric Acid manufacture is conducted 3/4 of a mile further on in an open space, close to the N.E. of the Powder Magazine, not far from the Arrack Distillery, and their Superintendence would add greatly to the Chemical Examiner's labours.

3. The Principal Medical Storekeeper, could attend to their manufacture, but Government may perhaps decide as to its Entire discontinuance in Madras, and may order that

the requirements of departments be met by importing what they want of them from Calcutta, as the Principal Medical Store Depot even now does.

6 The quantities of Acids made at the Mint from July 9th 1870 to June 27th 1871 were as follows, Nitric Acid ℔s 706, Sulphuric ℔s 200: Hydrochloric ℔s 30. The prices fixed by the Mint Authorities are:- Sulphuric 4 annas per ℔: Hydrochloric and Nitric 12 Annas, so that the above quantities would realize Rs 602. The pay of the Subordinates Employed at present in the manufacture is as follows:-

Weighing man	Rs 35-	
Cupellation maistry	15-	
Hammer man	" 10	
Cooly	" 7	67 Rs

a month, or 804 per annum.

The Chemical Examiner has mentioned to the Principal Medical Storekeeper that the use of glass retorts, instead of Iron, has probably increased the cost of production of Nitric and Hydrochloric Acids.

5 The acids manufactured by the Assay Department during 12 months are 13

Nitric Acid, 706 pounds
Sulphuric,"- 200 —do—
Hydrochloric—"- 30 —do—

The average quantity required of the Medical Stores is

Nitric Acid 124 ℔s
Sulphuric—"— 218—"—
Hydrochloric—"— 215—"—

making a total of

Nitric Acid 830 ℔s
Sulphuric—"— 418—"—
Hydrochloric—"— 245—"—

which with the appliances and Skilled labour at disposal could be turned out without difficulty. The advantage to Government however by local manufacture of the total amount required for Madras, would be small, viz- Annas one and pies Six on the total cost of a pound each of the respective Acids.

	Calcutta Acids pure	Madras Acids Impure.
Sulphuric Acid	"- 4- 3 per pound	—— "- 4- "
Nitric ——	1- 2- 7 —"—	——"- 12- "

Hydrochloric —"—6—8 per pound —— "—12—"

Total 1—13—6 1—12—"

Difference —"—1—6

This small balance in favour of local manufacture would be more than absorbed by the higher rates that would have to be paid for purer material wherewith to manufacture pure acids.

6 Again the balance in favour of local manufacture might be covered by importing "Commercial" acids for other than those Departments the Medical Store and Assay that require Acids chemically pure. Commercial acid being considerably cheaper than pure acid. The Departments concerned could import either direct from England or from Calcutta.

7. The Assay Office or Department, with Sulphuric acid supplied by the Medical Stores, could always make the Nitric and Hydrochloric acid required for assay purposes. the apparatus for the purpose being transferred to the Medical College.

8 The disposal of the Sulphuric Acid chamber has next to be considered. A fair offer would perhaps be made by Soda water manufacturers if offered for Sale, with the privilege of manufacturing on the same locality. If otherwise disposed of there would not be considerable loss, if only the net market value of the materials be obtained.

9 Should, however, the continuance of the manufacture be decided on, the charge for establishment might be reduced though not at present, but gradually as vacancies occur, as there would be much difficulty in obtaining skilled labour as that at disposal, in fact it could not be obtained. The present Establishment is costing Rs 804 per annum. monthly cost of the future Establishment would be :-

Maistry —— 17—8—" per month
Assistant —— 14—"—"
Cooly —— 10—8—"
Total Rs 42—"—"

or Rs 534 to make Rs 602 rupees worth of Acid.

the advisability or otherwise of keeping up Amongst the people the knowledge of a manufacture seems the only question meriting consideration, in this case. Even now, the Principal Medical Store Depot obtains from Calcutta all it needs, the assay Department must ever manufacture its own acids, in order to secure purity, the acids are Even now being delivered from Calcutta as cheaply as they are being made here, and the possible future cost of a reduced Establishment, will be to the amount manufactured as Rs 504 to Rs 662.

10. Although discontinued, their manufacture could be re-instituted [illegible] presumed.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient Servant

Edwar Balfour M.D. Lond
Acting Inspector General
Indian Medical Department.

1.2.72 Bombay

No. 66.

Medical College.
13th July 1871.

To
The Chief Secretary
to Government
Fort Saint George.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No. 444 of 7th Ultimo I have the honor to state that I entered into communication with the Inspector General Indian Medical department with reference to the manufacture of Sulphuric, Nitric, and Hydrochloric Acids, which has been since the abolition of the Mint carried on in the Assay department. I proposed that certain subordinates who have been employed in that work should be transferred to the Principal Medical Storekeeper. The present designations and monthly pay of those whose transfer I suggest are as follows:

	Rs.
Weighing man	35
Cupellation mistry	15
2 Coolies at 7 Rs each	14

2.

Financial Department
1871

From
Inspector General,
Indian Medical Department,
Fort Saint George
To Sonnerat

Dated 31st July 1871
Rec'd 4th August 1871

No. 253.

Rs. 35

Rs. 376

Submits the opinion regarding the manufacture of Acids hitherto carried on at the Mint.

Referred.

Recommend to Dr Kenny for report with reference to paragraph 7 of the letter, Rec'd with the Inspector's in his working, as proposed, the Nitric and Hydrochloric Acids required for Assay purposes may be supplied from the Laboratory being transferred to the Medical College, & that the establishment would be as follows:

1 Dr Kenny with the present allowances
2 Sufficiently skilled assistants for the Laboratory from the Medical College at Rs 35 each
Cadet or Compounder, if there is a shortage necessary to be made by the Surgeon in charge of the Assay Department.

Chief Secretary

To Dr. R. Kenny
Chemical Examiner.

Forwarded
7th August 1871

2. It is doubtful whether the Acids thus manufactured are sufficiently pure for medicinal use; but they, or a sufficient proportion of them can be prepared free from deleterious impurities by more careful selection of the Sulphur; and inasmuch as the Principal Medical Storekeeper is in occupation of the building in which two of the Acids are distilled and the Sulphuric Acid Chamber is nearer to his Office than to that of any other department to which the manufacture could be entrusted, there can be no doubt that the work may most conveniently be undertaken by him.

3. I have not yet received a reply from Mr. Balfour but in any case, it will not be in my power to superintend and be responsible for the manufacture of these Acids. I was not aware when I undertook the charge

of

of the Assay department that this manufacture, as well as some other incongruous duties, had been attached to it on the abolition of the Mint. Had I been permitted to retain a small portion of the Assay department premises for Assay purposes, I should probably have been able to undertake so purely Chemical a duty as the preparation of the mineral Acids: but under present circumstances this is impossible. The manufacture must either be discontinued or transferred to some other department and the Assay establishment can be reduced to the extent indicated above. I may add my belief that Public departments requiring Acids are supplied from this source

much

much more economically than they would be by purchase in open market.

4. My own experience of the working of the department has been so short, and the state of business in Madras has, for many months been so exceptional, that I am unable to propose further reductions with any confidence. The present establishment is obviously in excess of recent requirements: but so long as Government guarantees a market for the precious metals at fixed rates the Assay department must be maintained in such a condition as to be capable of meeting without delay any possible demands upon it. The present establishment could not

not considered excessive, from this point of view, by the late Assay Master. Again skilled labor of this very special kind cannot be obtained at a moment's notice, and practised workmen, once dismissed cannot be recovered. Although for these reasons I cannot venture to recommend any further weakening of the special element in the establishment, it appears to me that when the Assay department has been freed from all extraneous duties, the services of the 1 Moocher (Rs 12) and of one Gollah (Rs 8) would no longer be required. The Sweeper (Rs 3½) might be dispensed with and a small addition to the monthly pay of one of the Medical College sweepers sanctioned, from the allowance for Contingencies. The Writer's pay (Rs 30.) might be

Commuted

commuted into a Stationery allowance of an equal sum. The establishment would then be as follows;

	Rs.
Assistant & Manager	200
Stationery allowance	30
General Assistant	15.
Melter and Refiner	12.
Gollak	8.
Hammerman	10.

5. A sufficient allowance for contingent Expenses should be made to Enable the Chemical Examiner in case of pressure to Engage additional hands. That now sanctioned, Rs 500, would probably answer this purpose.

6. Mr. Graham having specially urged the claims of all the subordinates in the Assay department, I have the honor to suggest that if Government determine to

to dispense with the services of any of them in that department, this removal may be deferred until equivalent provision has been made for them in other branches of the Public Service.

7. Presuming that it was not the intention of Government to impose upon the Chemical Examiner new, difficult and responsible duties without granting corresponding remuneration, I have the honor respectfully to request that they will be pleased to sanction a suitable allowance for the performance of the work of the Assay Office. Although it has so happened that no assaying has been required since I assumed charge of the department, yet I have found the additional duties to involve considerable labor, expenditure

expenditure of time (which
I could ill spare) and res-
-ponsibility. I hope, therefore,
that the allowance, which
I solicit will be sanctioned
from the date of my
assumption of charge —

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obed.t Servant.

Henry Louis, A.B., M.B.
Chemical Examiner
in the Assay department.

Financial Department

Memorandum for Orders.

The question raised in these papers is whether the manufacture of Sulphu-ric, Nitric, and Hydro-chloric acids, required for Public Departments, for-merly carried on at the Mint and later by the Assay Department, should be continued.

2. Dr. King, the Chemi-cal Examiner now in charge of the Assay Depart-ment, both from the Medical College premises not being suitable for the manufacture, and from

from his other duties, cannot undertake to do more than make the small quantity of Nitric and Hydrochloric acid required for Apay pur-poses, from sulphuric acid supplied from the Medical Stores. The question resolves itself into the Acid Manufactory being in future carried on by the Medical Store-keeper in the old Mint premises, or obtaining the necessary supply of acids from Calcutta or England.

3. The cost of manufac-ture here, or purchase in the markets, is the same, and the only argument in favor of continuing the

the manufacture, is stated by Dr Balfour to be "the advisability or otherwise of keeping up amongst the people of a knowledge of the manufacture." As pointed out by Dr Balfour, although discontinued, the manu-facture could, on neces-sity arising, be resumed.

I wrote this on Tuesday A. A.

Manufacture of acids required for Public Departments

C. 25/8.

X 33

Financial Department,

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter: —

from the Chemical Examiner, dy 13th July 1871, No 66;
— do — Supdg Govt Indian Medl Depot, dy 31st July 1871 No 253.
— do — Chemical Examiner dy 23rd August 1871 No 83.

Cotaccammed
Order Passed 8 September 1871, No 1181.

As it appears from the foregoing papers that the cost of the manufacture by Government of Sulphuric Nitric, and Hydrochloric acids is about the same as the price of these articles in the markets, His Excellency the Governor in Council resolves to direct the discontinuance of the manufacture of the acids.

The small quantity of Nitric and Hydrochloric acids required for assay purposes will be manufactured by the Chemical Examiner

Examiner from Sulphuric acid supplied from the Medical Stores.

2 The reduction in the Assay Establishment will be as shown below, viz:

Present	Rs	Proposed	Rs
1 Assistant	200	1 Asst. & Manager	200
1 Clerk	30	1 Writer	30
1 Weighman	35	1 General Writer	15
1 Asst. do.	15	1 Bellis/Peons	12
1 Head Laboratory man	15	1 Gollah	8
1 Bellis/& Fireman	12	1 Hammerman.	10
1 Durwan	12		Rs. 275
1 Hammerman	10		
2 Gollahs - Rs 8 ea.	16		
2 Coolies - Rs 7 ea.	14		
1 Sweeper.	3-8		
	Rs 362-8		

3. The saving which will be effected by the reduction is Rs 87-8-0 per mensem.

4 The Government are not prepared to sanction the commutation of the writer's pay into a "Stationery Allowance".

Whatever Stationery the Chemical Examiner may require may be obtained from the Stationery Depôt; and if the services of the writer are not required they must be dispensed with: if this be done a further saving of Rs 30 per mensem will be effected. The Chemical Examiner will report on this point.

5 The requisite provision for contingencies will be made in the Budget Estimate for 1870-71 now due.

6 5. The Govt will consider the expediency of assigning an allowance for the work of the Assay Office after the system described in the Notification published in the Fort St George Gazette, dated the 30th May last, for the receipt and assay of bullion by the Chemical Examiner has been tried for a year.

To
- Chemical Examiner
- Accountant General.

Department
3

Govt. of {187 } Madras.

Financial

To

The Insp^r. Genl. Civil Accts. Dept.
&c.

Dated Sept^r. 8. } 187 , No. 441
Recd.

Nos. 34-37.

Passing orders for the discontinuance of the manufacture of Acids formerly undertaken by the Assay Dept. and for the reduction of the Office Establishment of that Dept.