M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 12

(2) Date of repair 28-8-60.

(3) Initials of the Reference CY

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 511	Press Mis.
66-67	64-65-A
Dated 5-3-	18 15.

7/8

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Coins.

Read the following papers:—

No. 64. From G. D. LEMAN, Esq., District Magistrate, Kistna, to the Hon. D. F. CARMICHAEL, Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Masulipatam, 25th February 1875, No. 118:—

I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from my Head Assistant Magistrate for such orders as Government may deem proper.

2. The similitude of a silvered half-anna of 1862 and the rupee of the same year is very great, and no doubt difficult to be distinguished by the common people.

3. I send a silvered half-anna piece for inspection.

From R. SEWELL, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Collector, Kistna District, to G. D. LEMAN, Esq., Collector of the Kistna District, dated Bezwada, 30th January 1875, No. 30.

I have the honor to request your attention to the extreme similarity between the enclosed (silvered) half-anna of 1862 and the rupee of the same year, and to suggest the advisability of moving the Government to withdraw from circulation the half-anna of 1862, so as to prevent those coins from being so silvered and passed off as rupees.

2. I, yesterday, had to discharge, solely on the ground of the extreme similarity between the two coins, two persons from Hyderabad charged with having attempted to pass off a silvered half-anna as a rupee.

3. The defendants had, it appeared, a bag full of coins, most of them good rupees, but with the coin enclosed mixed with them, and this coin they tried to pass.

4. A close examination of the enclosed coin and of the rupee of 1862 showed me that they were so similar that any one might be mistaken, and more easily any one that does not understand English, for you will observe that almost the sole difference is in the words "one rupee" and "half anna" on the reverse.

5. The coins are precisely the same size, but the edge of the rupee is lined, while the edge of the half-anna is plain. The half-anna is a triple thicker. The obverse (with the head) appears identical, or with so little difference as to be almost undistinguishable. The outside band of the reverse is identical, and the words "India 1862" are in identically the same place. The inner band of flowering is certainly distinct; but so much alike that without close examination they might be mistaken. The half-anna has an inner head circle, which the rupee has not.

6. These are the sole differences, and if you will compare the enclosed coin (especially the reverse) with a rather discolored 1862 rupee, I think that you will see that an immense opening is allowed to fraud by the similarity of the coins; and probably numbers of people are being cheated by having such coins passed off on them as rupees.

7. I leave the matter in your hands, being quite ignorant as to the possibility of withdrawing the 1862 half-anna from circulation. I merely raise the question.

Referred to the Accountant-General for report.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Chief Secretary.

1st March 1875.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
5th March 1875.

No. 681.

No. 65. MEMORANDUM.

The undersigned has the honor to report that, in his opinion, the difference between the coin returned and a rupee is too marked to admit of any doubt; not only are the colour and thickness of this coin different from those of a genuine rupee, but the absence of milling round the edge and the false ring of the metal which would at once strike a native, render it almost impossible to make this coin pass muster for a rupee. The withdrawal of this species of coin from circulation does not therefore seem called for.

(Signed) R. W. LODWICK,
Accountant-General.

2nd March 1875.

No. 65-A. ORDER THEREON, 5th March 1875, No. 511.

The Accountant General's remarks will be communicated to the Collector of the Kistna District.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Magistrate of Kistna, with Coin.
,, Accountant-General.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

Gobt. of {1875} Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To

THE MAGISTRATE OF KISTNA,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated March 5th.

Recd. Encl.

G.O., 5th March 1875, No. 511.

MARCH.

Nos. 64—65-A.

Coins.—The remark of the Accountant-General that the withdrawal of the silvered half-anna coin of 1862 from circulation does not seem called for as there is a marked difference between it and a rupee, communicated to the Collector of the Kistna District with reference to his letter, dated 25th February 1875, No. 118.

with them, & the coin they tried to pass.

4. On close examination of the enclosed coin & of the rupee of 1862, I found me that they were so similar, that any one might be mistaken, & more easily any one that does not understand English: for you will observe that almost the sole difference is in the words "one rupee" & "½ anna" on the reverse.

5. The coins are precisely of the same size, but the edge of the rupee is lined, while the edge of the ½ anna is plain. The ½ anna is a triple thicker. The obverse (with the head) appears identical, or with so little difference as to be almost undistinguishable. The outside band of the reverse is identical & the words — "India 1862" are in identically the same place. The inner band of flowering is certainly distinct; but so much alike that without close examination they might be mistaken. The ½ anna has an inner bead circle which the rupee has not.

6. These are the sole differences & if you will compare the enclosed coin (especially the reverse) with a rather discolored 1862 rupee, I think that you will see that an immense opening is allowed to fraud by the similarity of the coins, & probably numbers of people are being cheated by having such coins passed off on them as rupees.

7. I leave the matter in your hands being quite ignorant as to the possibility of withdrawing the 1862 ½ anna from circulation - I merely raise the question.

I have the honor &c

I signed R. Sewell.
A.G. N.D. Asst Collr

(True Copy)

S Rennie

Dr Malcolmson.

No 118

Kistna District
~~Magistrate's Court~~
Masulipatam
25th February 1875

From

The ~~District~~ Magistrate
Kistna

To

The Sr Chief Secretary
to Govt of Madras
Judicial Deptt
Fort St George

Sir,

I have the honor to forward
copy of a letter from my Head Assistant
Magistrate for such orders as Government
may deem proper.

2. The similitude of a silvered
½ anna of 1862 & the rupee of the same year
is very great & no doubt difficult to be
distinguished by the common people.

3. I send a silvered ½ Anna
piece for inspection.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt Servt

[signature]

District Magistrate

1875.
Enclosure 1

In a letter from the
District Magistrate of Kistna
dated Masulipatam 25th
February 1875 No 118.

Received 1875

Referred to the Accountant Genl
for report.
March 1st 1875. Asy Chief Secretary

To the Accountant General
with enclosure & two Coin
1/3/75.

Accountant General's Office
Read 5
Answd

Dated 25th February 1875
Receipt 1st March
A/118.
Enclosure 1.

Forwards Copy of a letter from the Head Assistant Magistrate Ferozepore to report that the Rupee called for is counterfeit & Coin of a Rupee for 1862 is very strong & is very difficult to be distinguished

Registered

1900/1

Head Assistant Magistrate Ferozepore
to Secretary to Government Punjab
dated 25th February 1875
No 681.

The undersigned has the honor to report that in his opinion the difference between the coin returned and a rupee is too marked to admit of any doubt not only are the colour and thickness of this coin different from a genuine rupee but the absence of milling round the edge and the false ring of the metal which would at once strike a native render it almost impossible to make this coin pass muster for a rupee - The withdrawal of this species of coin from circulation does not therefore seem called for

March 2nd 1875. [signature] Asst Supt

To the Chief Secretary to Govt

Govt. of {1875 / 76} Madras.

Coins

Fwd

G. O., 5th Mch., 1875, No. 511

Nos. 64-5

Coins. The remarks of the Acct. Genl. that the withdrawal of the silvered half anna coin of 1862 from circulation does not seem called for as there is a marked difference between it & a rupee, coined in the Colly. of the Kistna D.t with reference to his letter dated 25th Feby. 1875, No. 118.