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Recd. G.O. No.	35	Press Mis
Dated	2-4-	18 60.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

No. 35 of 1860.

TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.

RIGHT HONORABLE SIR,

1. The papers herewith transmitted refer to a recommendation made to us by the Government Astronomer for the Establishment of a Mathematical Instrument Department for the repair and storage of Instruments.

Proceedings, 3rd January 1860, Nos. 3, 4.	
" 3rd March " " 52, 53.	
" 1st June " " 3, 4.	

2. Having given careful consideration to the several suggestions made by Major Tennent, we were not prepared to advocate the formation of a separate Department for the purpose in view. We were of opinion that the best means of providing for the custody, issue and repair of Instruments would be to entrust these duties to the Superintendent of the Engineer Workshop, under the general control of the Chief Engineer, and with the assistance of a trained Mathematical Instrument maker.

3. We accordingly requested the Chief Engineer to report on the details of such a scheme, and to submit his opinion as to the best means of obtaining the services of an Instrument maker, and also of procuring Scientific Instruments. Colonel Bell's letter of the 2nd instant, answers these requisitions; his suggestions are as follows :—

- (1.) That the arrangement suggested by us for the formation of an Instrument Depot in connection with the Engineer Workshop is the best that could be adopted, and that it should be made available as regards repair for all demands upon it from private Companies and individuals.
- (2.) That a Mathematical Instrument maker should be procured from England on certain specified terms, to have charge of all the Instruments as well as the business of repair, but to have no other charge or duty.
- (3.) That the determination of the Establishment of workmen to be maintained, should be deferred till the arrival of the Instrument maker.
- (4.) That Instruments should be obtained by purchase from the best makers in England, and that the suppliers should be bound to receive back all Instruments disapproved, upon the the Certificate of the Instrument maker and the Chief Engineer to that effect.
- (5.) That the question as to the sale of Instruments from such an Establishment be reserved for further consideration when the organization of the Depot has made some progress.

4. With the exception of the latter part of the first proposal, on which we have deferred passing Orders for the present, we agree with Colonel Bell's suggestions. We request therefore that in accordance with his second suggestion you will engage and send out a working Instrument maker on the terms specified or on such other as may be agreed on; and as Colonel Bell is now on his way to England, we would particularly recommend that you should consult that Officer himself in the selection.

5. We are fully satisfied as to the use and even necessity of providing here the means of repairing Scientific Instruments. For want of such means Instruments are frequently rendered

Mathematical Instrument

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21

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- (2.) That a Mathematical Instrument maker should be procured from England on certain specified terms, to have charge of all the Instruments as well as the business of repair, but to have no other charge or duty.
- (3.) That the determination of the Establishment of workmen to be maintained, should be deferred till the arrival of the Instrument maker.
- (4.) That Instruments should be obtained by purchase from the best makers in England, and that the suppliers should be bound to receive back all Instruments disapproved, upon the the Certificate of the Instrument maker and the Chief Engineer to that effect.
- (5.) That the question as to the sale of Instruments from such an Establishment be reserved for further consideration when the organization of the Depot has made some progress.

4. With the exception of the latter part of the first proposal, on which we have deferred passing Orders for the present, we agree with Colonel Bell's suggestions. We request therefore that in accordance with his second suggestion you will engage and send out a working Instrument maker on the terms specified or on such other as may be agreed on; and as Colonel Bell is now on his way to England, we would particularly recommend that you should consult that Officer himself in the selection.

5. We are fully satisfied as to the use and even necessity of providing here the means of repairing Scientific Instruments. For want of such means Instruments are frequently rendered

Mathematical Instrument
7/6

3. We accordingly requested the Chief Engineer to report on the details of such a scheme and to submit his opinion to the best means of obtaining the services of an instrument maker, and also of procuring scientific instruments to build.

Colonel Bell's letter of the 2^d Instant, contains these requisitions, and we have only to add that we agree in all the suggestions he has made.

His suggestions are as follows:-

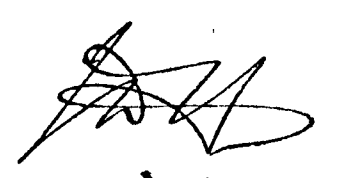
1. That the arrangement suggested by us for the formation of an Instrument depot in connection with the Engineer workshop is the best that could be adopted, and should be made available as regards repair for all demands upon it from private companies and individuals.
2. That a Mathematical Instrument maker should be procured from England ^{on certain specific terms} to have charge of all the instruments left to one of the Engineer officers in command, as well as the business of repair, and to have no other charge or duty.
3. That the ^{determination of the} Establishment of workmen to be maintained should be deferred till the arrival of the Instrument maker.
4. That scientific Instruments should be obtained by purchase from the best makers in England, and that the suppliers should be bound to receive back all instruments which are disapproved, upon the certificate of the Mathematical Officer.

Para for approval

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4. With the exception of the latter part of the first proposal on which we have deferred passing orders for the present, we ~~fully~~ agree with Colonel Bell in all his suggestions, and the request therefore that in accordance with his second suggestion you will engage and send out a working instrument maker on the terms specified or on such other as may be agreed on; and ~~recommend that~~ as Colonel Bell is now on his way to England you ~~will~~ consult that Officer ~~with~~ himself in the selection.

we would particularly recommend that you should



79
 matter and the Chief Engineer to that effect.
 5 That the question as to the sale of instruments
 from such an establishment be reserved for
 further consideration when the organization
 of the Depot has made some progress.

4 We fully agree with
 these proposals, but the one
 which we now particularly
 address you is the second ^{for of them} of them.
 Colonel De la Rive is on his way
 to England and we request that
 you will employ that officer to
 select in communication with some
 of the leading establishments a pro-
 perly qualified mathematical
 instrument maker, on the terms
 specified, or on such other as
 may be agreed on.

5 We are fully satisfied
 as to the use and even necessity
 of providing here the means of
 repairing scientific instruments.
 For want of such means instru-
 ments are frequently rendered
 unserviceable by slight injuries.
 We consider that the course
 which we have resolved on
 for providing what is wanted
 is

is the most economical, ~~on~~
which at the same time we
are satisfied that it will im-
prove efficiency. We cannot
now exactly state the cost of
the Establishment as already
stated; but we believe that the
salary of the Instrument
maker will form the larger
part of the entire charge.

J. A.

For George
2^d June 1866

PWJ

No 35

Letter to the Right Hon: the
Secretary of State
for In:

Dated 2^d June 1860

High Fr Steamer Conventia by mail
Copy of D^r D^r via Southampton
8 June 1860

Copy of the Govt of India of June 1860

Transmitting papers
referring to a recommendation
made to the Govt by the Govt
Astronomer for the establish-
ment of a mathematical
instrument Dep: for the
repair & storage of Instru-
ments.

Reply received D^r 31st May/61
No 21-

21 May 1861