M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 1 to 3

(2) Date of repair 22 11 68

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2220 Press ~~Misc.~~

180-81

Dated 8 · 7 1869.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 8th July 1869.

No. 180. Read the following letter from the Mint Master, Calcutta, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, dated Calcutta, 25th June 1869, No. 219:—

I HAVE the honour to forward, herewith, forty* printed copies of a Circular addressed by me to the several Officers of the Public Works Department employed all over India, which is in continuation of Circular, No. 14, dated 27th February 1868, bearing on the same subject, sent to you by the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department.

*The rest copies are sent by different covers.

2. I will feel much obliged by your causing the present Circular to be distributed to the same Officers to whom the last was sent, with a request that the further information asked for may be sent to me direct with as little delay as possible, for embodiment in a Report which I am called on to submit to Government.

3. The reason of my addressing you direct, and not through the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, is to save time.

No. 181. ORDER THEREON, 8th July 1869, No. 2,220.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 10.

COMMUNICATED to the Superintending Engineers in continuation of G. O., No. 1,076, dated 4th April 1868, and with a request that the information required by the Mint Master at Calcutta may be furnished to him direct as early as practicable.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To Superintending Engineers,
„ Major R. B. Kennedy,
} With copy of Circular.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.'

Govt. of {1869} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEERS.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated July, 8th.

Read. 3-4.

G. O., 8th July 1869, No. 2,220.

JULY.

Nos. 160-161

Communications.—The Superintending Engineers furnished with copies of a Circular, and directed to furnish the Mint Master, Calcutta, with further information regarding the copper and silver coinage of India.

HER MAJESTY'S MINT CALCUTTA.

No. 219 dated 25 June 1869

3

FROM

Lieut. Colonel H. HYDE R. E.

MINT MASTER.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras P. W. Department

Madras.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward herewith 40 printed Copies of a Circular addressed by me to the General Officers of the Public Works Department employed all over India which is a Continuation of Circular No 14 dated 27th February 1868 bearing on the same subject sent to you by the Secretary to the Government of India P. W. Department.

the rest copies are sent by different Covers.

2- I wish to call much obliged by your causing the present Circular to be distributed to the same Officers to whom the last was sent with a request that the further information asked for may be sent to me direct with as little delay as possible for embodiment in a Report which

which I am called on to submit to Government.-

3 — The reason of my addressing you direct and not through the Secretary to the Government of this Public Works Department, is to save time.- I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obd. Servt

[illegible]

Asst. Master

R

No 166 Dated Calcutta the 15th June 1869

CIRCULAR.

FROM

LIEUT. COLONEL H. HYDE, R. E.,
Mint Master,

To

THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,

SIR,

I have received the answers to Circular No. 14, dated 27th February 1868, sent out by the Public Works Department on my request, and I am exceedingly obliged to you for the trouble you have taken to give answers.

2. The answers given, however, do not fully supply the information I require, and I therefore send this more detailed Circular direct, trusting that Officers will give me the information I ask for.

3. My object is to ascertain exactly the state of the copper and small silver coinage of India, and to advise whatever remedies appear necessary to put the coinage on a footing that will meet the wants of the people; and having had considerable experience myself in the Public Works Department, I know that Executive Engineers can supply the information better than any other servants of Government.

I have the honor to be,
SIR,
Your most obedient Servant,

Mint Master.

Govt. of India Dept. of Finance
No. 2455

From,
The Mint Master
Calcutta.
dated 25th June 1869
Rec'd 3rd July "
No 219

Forwarding copies of a Circular, & regarding to be furnished direct, with further information regarding the copper & silver coinage of India. —

No 180

No 2220-82 July 1869

Questions.	Remarks by Mint Master.	Replies by Public Works Officers.
1. Is copper coin only obtainable from treasuries or are you obliged to resort to the bazaar?	This question is put more with a view to elicit information as to whether the treasuries retain at all times a sufficient supply of all descriptions of coin so as to be able to meet all the requirements of the public. You should state if the treasury has coin, if there is any hesitation or difficulty in giving out the coin to you, or any one within your knowledge in obtaining coin.	
2. Have you any demand for small silver coin; would it be useful to you?	Information is required as to the place which small silver coin takes in the monetary transactions of the country. Is it largely availed of by the poorer classes, or is copper coin, as a rule, preferred in payments less than one rupee? Of course for the smallest payments copper coin is used. Do you think a copper coin smaller than one pyce would be useful, or that small silver coins, if plentiful, would be likely to be used by the native public for payments under one rupee?	
3. Can you obtain small silver coin?	Is there any difficulty in obtaining it; if not, do you obtain from the treasury or from the bazaar. If obliged to resort to the latter, for what reasons? Is it owing to insufficiency of coin at the treasury, or any other cause? Is the treasury plentifully supplied? Is the bazaar plentifully supplied? Could you at any time get any sufficient amount from the treasury?	
4. Give any information you are able regarding the circulation of copper coin.	General information required—whether copper coin circulates much in your district, whether natives prefer the coin of Native States or use the Government coin to any great extent, and why? If the latter, what coins are most in use, and what are not used at all? What relation native coins bear to Government coins, and under what conditions both circulate together?	
5. What are the kinds of native copper coin in circulation?	Please name each particular coin of which you are aware, stating where coined and whence it makes its way to your district.	
6. Can you give any information as to the transaction between the inhabitants of remote villages being carried on by cowries, or by barter, *i. e.*, by exchange of produce?	If a villager requires to buy a plough or cow, &c., would he pay for it in coin, or would he bargain to give whatever produce he may have available in lieu, and does this habit of parties arise because coin is not to be had, or from local custom?	

Office Supdt. Govt. Printing.—No. 1373 M.—12-8-69.—480.

Public Works Department
No 2220

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 8th July 1869

Read the following

From The Mint Master
Calcutta, F.H.E. No 219 of 25th June 1869

Communicated to the Superintending Engineers in continuation of G. O. No. 1076 dated 4th April 1868, and with a request that the information required by the Mint Master at Calcutta may be furnished to him direct as early as practicable.

To
1 Chief Engr. & 4 Major R B Kennedy
Dept 9/7/69.

White copy of Circular
14/75

2755

Govt. of {1869} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Superintending Engineers

Dated

Recd. Encl.

G. O. 8th July 1869, No. 2220

Nos. 180-181

Memo:- The Supdg. Engr. furnished with letter of a Circular and directed to furnish the Mint Master, Calcutta, with further information regarding the Copper and Silver Coinage of India.