

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public **DEPARTMENT.**

I.O. No.	29	Press Mis.
Dated	9-1-	19/869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
9th January 1869.*

No. 34. Read the following letter from the Government Solicitor, Madras, to the Under Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 12th December 1868, No. 699.

With reference to Mr. Under Secretary Walker's demi-official communication to my address, under date the 25th ultimo, I have now the honor to forward, herewith, a form, which I have prepared in accordance with the instructions therein contained, of the agreement proposed to be entered into with the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India in Council, by the person to be engaged in England as Deputy Superintendent to the Government Press.

2. I trust that the form contains all necessary provisions.

3. I return the agreement between Mr. Henry Morgan and Mr. Henry Smith, dated 10th September 1856, which was forwarded to me with Mr. Walker's letter above noted.

No. 35. ORDER THEREON, 9th January 1869, No. 29.

Ordered that the following letter be despatched to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India.

(Here enter 9th January 1869).

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

Memorandum

The Government have accepted the necessity of appointing a new Deputy Superintendent to the Prep.

In accordance with instructions from the Chief Secretary, I have communicated with Colonel Touch the ^{military} Secretary to the Male Asylum Prep Committee, and they are unwilling in any way to stand in Mr. Thomas' way, if Government think fit to appoint him, altho' it may involve the closing of the Prep.

But

Govt. of Maryland.

PUBLIC.

Dated January, 31st.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 31st January 1869, No. 29.

JANUARY.
Nos. 34-35.

Directing that the Secretary of State be addressed in regard to a Deputy Superintendent being selected and sent over for the Government Press.

But the further information I have gained as to Mr. Thomas has only strengthened my belief that his appointment would be a mistake, a grave mistake, on the part of Government.

Mr. Thomas is, I believe, a most honest, conscientious man, who would do his duty as well as he could, but I believe he is not the man to rule a large printing office; being deficient in decision and firmness. But it is on the other hand, his qualifications as a printer, that I should have very strong objections to his appointment.

He

He is not European, has never been in England, and as I have been credibly informed has stated that the Asylum Press can turn out as good work as any press in the world. This of itself, if true, goes to shew that he does not know what good printing is. Mr. Thomas was at one time an employe here, appointing him is breeding in and in. I have no desire to depreciate unfairly the work of the Asylum Press, but I do not think it is equal to the work turned out at some other presses in Madras say Gank's and Foster's.

I must say that

by

by appointing Mr. Thomas
 I think that Government
 would tend to lower the
 style of its own printing
 greatly, to run some
 risk of undoing, in a
 measure, the benefits
 effected by introducing
 piece work, and in the
 prospect (improbable one)
 of Mr. Thomas having
 for a lengthened period
 (say in the case of
 Mr. Morgan's taking
 furlough on sick certificate)
 to assume charge of
 the Press, to introduce
 into the Press a different
 fairer system very preju-
 dicial to its good work.
 My own ideas
 point directly to obtain-
 ing an active man from
 home, of 26 to 32 years
 of age, of good character,
 a leading hand, or foreman
 of

x Mr. Morgan originally
 came out at £150, and said
 after, he had been wholly de-
 ceived - that he heard he was
 to move to a shop of 100 - he
 found one of 400 to 500 - & so on.
 He was prepared to leave the
 Press, & was retained under lease
 in 1859, that for 1859 he
 should draw £900 per annum
 for 1860 - £250
 61 - £400 -
 62 - £450 -
 63 - £500 -
 And this was carried out.

of a shop, in Eyre &
 Spottiswoodes, 'Virtue's
 Cloves', or any of the
 first class printing
 houses - and get him
 out on terms similar
 to those granted in Mr.
 Morgan's case - I believe
 that Eyre & Spottiswoodes
 as the Queen's Printers,
 would willingly make
 a selection (I found
 them most obliging in
 some work I asked them
 to do), and it need not
 take more than four
 months or so before we
 had a man with all
 the newest ideas in
 printing, who would
 talk to and put up
 Mr. Morgan in the
 latest printing improve-
 ments - and generally

tend

tend to improve the
style of printing at
the Presidency, which
is not good.

Of course the risk
would be run of his
not being sober and
the rest - but in those
points that poor fellow

Dunn the late Head
Examiner, and Mr. Mac-
gaw, who were so got
out, have not gone to
the bad, and I don't
to thinking that risk
preferable to the dead
certainty in the other
case of at the best,
a vulgar mediocrity.

J.M.

I think the advantages of
the improvement he would be
made in the working of our
Press establishment, by getting
a man from a first rate
Printer in England and so
great that we may run
the risk of a man turning
out ill - All the hands in
the Govt Press speak English
so that he would not have
to wait till he understood
the Vernacular.

N^o 699.

Madras, 12th December, 1868.

From

H. I. Brockman
Government Solicitor, Madras

To

The Under Secretary to Government.
Madras.

Sir,

1. With reference to Mr. Under Secretary Walker's demi-official communication to my address under date the 25th Ultimo, I have now the honor to forward herewith a Form, which I have prepared in accord-
-ance with the instructions therein contained, of the Agreement proposed to be entered into with the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India in Council, by the person to be engaged in England as Deputy Superintendent to the Government Press.

2. I trust that the Form contains all necessary provisions.

3. I return the Agreement between Mr. Henry Morgan and Mr. Henry Smith dated 10th September 1856, which was forwarded to me with Mr. Walker's letter above noted, and

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your Most Obedient Servant

H. I. Brockman.

Govt Solr

13
25th Dec
C. B. Smith Esq
1869 Dec 1

Per Mr. 1869 Sept
From Mr. J. J. Smith
The Secretary
to the Government
Quebec.

Dated 12th Dec 69

12699
Quebec
1869 Dec 22

Enclosed a form of
affidavit proposed to
be entered into by the
persons to be engaged
in England as Agents
Superintendent of the
Government of the
Province of Quebec.

Not an order

W. N.

1869. 9 Jan 69.

Received that the
following letter is deposited
with the Right Honourable the
Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Have entered 9th Dec 1869
1869.