M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-6-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1436 Press ~~Mis.~~

523.524

Dated 26-6-1863.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 26th June 1865.

No. 543. Read the following letter from F. S. CHAPMAN, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Revenue Department, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Bombay Castle, 6th June 1865, No. 2,379 :—

SIR,

I am directed to forward to you the accompanying copies of the papers noted in the margin, relative to the arrangements required to carry into operation the plan of affixing the Bi-color Stamp at this Presidency upon water-marked paper supplied from England, and to request that you will favor this Government with the views of the Government of Madras on the subject at your early convenience.

Letter from the Mint Master, No. 92, dated 20th May 1865.
Memorandum from the Officiating Superintendent of Stamps, No. 466, dated 27th May 1865, with accompaniment.

From Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. BALLARD, Mint Master, to the Secretary to Government, Financial Department, dated Bombay, 20th May 1865, No. 92 :—

SIR,

1. With reference to a letter, No. 1,941, of the 5th April last, from the Secretary to the Government of India, regarding the measures to be adopted for affixing bi-color stamps to water-marked paper, I have the honor to report that some correspondence has taken place between myself and the Superintendent of Stamps on the subject, copies of which will no doubt be forwarded to Government by that Officer.

2. The Government of India appear to have considered the advantages of having the paper stamped in England and sent out to Bombay ready for use, and of having the water-mark only prepared in England and the Stamp affixed in Bombay, and they have decided in favor of the latter method.

3. The Government of India have also directed that the Stamp is to be affixed at the Mint. I would, however, respectfully ask as to whether His Excellency in Council considers this a final order, as the advantages of it are not apparent as applied to this Presidency.

4. There are no appliances at present at the Mint for affixing these stamps. The machinery must be got from England and a building erected to receive it.

5. I believe it would be more convenient if this machinery was placed in the Stamp Office and the Stamps affixed by that Department. The case appears quite analogous to that of the preparation of Currency Notes. These are sent from England and the signature affixed by a Stamp in the Currency Commissioner's Office. It would not be a convenient arrangement to have the signature affixed at another office. The Superintendent of stamps will receive and be accountable for a certain number of water-marked sheets from England, and would probably find it much more convenient to stamp them in his own office as is done at Calcutta.

6. I do not see that having the stamps affixed at the Mint will be either a check on, or an assistance to the Stamp office, and there can be little doubt that economy will be most consulted by having the Stamp Office complete in itself.

Report by the Acting Superintendent of Stamps.

No. 466 of 1865.

1. With reference to the Government Endorsements No. 1,642, dated 20th April, and No. 2,209 of the 25th instant, I beg to submit in original, another letter from the Mint Master, No. 8, dated 20th instant, with its accompaniment from the Superintendent of Stamps at Calcutta.

2. According to the estimate of Colonel Ballard, two machines will be required to be obtained from England to print at the Mint the bi-color stamp on water-marked paper for this Office, at a cost of £1,500 each, and that working drawings of the machines and engine to work them are required. A building for the machines will also have to be erected. To work each machine five men will be required. It is presumed also that additional hands as Clerks and Examiners will also be required.

3. The subsidiary arrangements requisite to carry out the plan of the Government of India as regards this Office will be simple. The first necessity is a larger building for the Stamp Office. There is no room in the present Office to store any large number of stamped paper, such as will be necessary always to have on hand if the new plan is carried out. The plan will also entail additional work on this establishment. The water-marked paper which is to be sent to the Mint must

be correctly counted, and re-counted and examined on its return. Registers of issues and receipts to and from the Mint must be kept, and to do all this a better class of men than the present underpaid men in the Stamp Office, will have to be entertained. I need not however now enlarge further on this head, as to obtain the machines and engine, &c., from England and to get the whole into working order, will occupy at least eighteen months, and there will be sufficient time hereafter to discuss this point of the subject.

4. Colonel Ballard in his letter to Government, No. 92 of the 20th May, discusses the advisability of affixing the bi-color stamp at the Stamp Office rather than at the Mint. In the opinions expressed in his 5th paragraph, I entirely concur. I am also of opinion that having the stamps affixed at the Mint will "be neither a check on, or an assistance to the Stamp Office."

5. On the ground of economy also it will be preferable to have the stamps affixed in this Office. The expense of erecting a separate building for the machinery may be saved, and additional establishments both to this Office and the Mint will be avoided.

6. As requested in the 4th paragraph of Mr. Lushington's letter No. 1,941 of the 5th April last, I submit an Indent for water-marked paper of the new size, to be forwarded to the Secretary of State for India. I beg however strongly to recommend, as my predecessors have, the obtaining from England of water-marked paper of the size and form of foolscap paper for this Office. One class of paper only of the size resolved on by the Government of India, is wholly insufficient to meet the wants of this Presidency.

7. The original letter from Colonel Ballard, No. 92, of the 20th instant, is returned.

BOMBAY,
GENERAL STAMP OFFICE,
27th May 1865.

(Signed) A. T. CRAWFORD,
Acting Superintendent of Stamps.

From Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. BALLARD, Mint Master, to the Superintendent of Stamps, Bombay, dated Bombay, 20th May 1865, No. 8.

SIR,

1. In continuation of my letter No. 2, of the 3rd instant, I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from the Superintendent of Stamps at Calcutta.

2. Two machines would be required to supply Stamps according to the estimate made by Mr. Bellasis of the number of stamps which are used.

3. If it is decided to order out machines, the Secretary of State should be requested to send out, as soon as possible, working drawings of the machines and engine to work them, shewing how they are bedded and put up, so that a building for them and such foundations as are required to bed the machinery may be commenced.

From H. BALFOUR, Esq., Superintendent of Stamps, Fort William, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. BALLARD, Mint Master, Bombay, dated 11th May 1865, No. 924.

SIR,

1. In reply to your letter No. 238, of the 29th ultimo, I have the honor to state that the Bi-color Stamps used in this Presidency are impressed on water-marked paper manufactured in England expressly for the purpose. The machines by means of which the Bi-color Stamp is printed were manufactured by Messrs. Bryan, Donkin & Co.

2. The cost of one such machine to be landed in Bombay might be estimated as amounting to about £1,500.

3. The ordinary out-turn of work by a single machine is 1,000 sheets (giving 3,000 Stamps) per hour or 6,000 sheets per day (say for six hours) if stamps of one value are being printed. It may be reckoned that every change of value causes a loss of 20 minutes to half an hour.

4. Five men are required to work a machine, viz., one Headman, two Feeders and two Receivers or Messengers.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. A. BALLARD, Lieut.-Colonel,
Mint Master.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) F. S. CHAPMAN,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
26th June 1865.

Ordered that the following letter be despatched :—

No. 544. From W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, dated 26th June 1865, No. 1,436.

SIR,

Separate Revenue, No. 32.
Stamps.

1. In reply to your letter, dated 6th June 1865, No. 2,379, I am directed to inform you that the system of impressing the stamps at the Mint on the water-marked paper supplied from England to the Stamp Department, has been in force in this Presidency for some years, and is considered to afford a most valuable check on the working of the Stamp Department, and a material security against frauds on the public revenue.

2. No difficulty and but slight expense is apprehended from the substitution of the Bi-color Stamp for the plain impressed Stamp hitherto used, and the preliminary arrangements are now in progress for carrying out the change immediately on receipt of final orders.

3. The resources of this Mint are believed to be fully equal to the provision of the requisite machinery without having recourse to England, and it is not anticipated that steam power will be required for the purpose of turning out the required number of Stamps in this Presidency.

a material check to against frauds on the public. No difficulty & but slight expense is apprehended from the substitution of the Directors stamp for the plain impressed stamp hitherto used and the preliminary arrangements are now in progress for carrying out the change immediately on receipt of final orders.

The resources of this Institution believed to be fully equal to

the provision of the requisite machinery hitherto issuing [illegible] of England, and it is not anticipated that any steam power will be required for the purpose of turning out the required number of stamps in this Presidency

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Revenue 1865 Deptt
Pro: of Govt for June

No 1436.

To
The Chief Secretary
to the Govt of Bombay
Dated 26th June 1865.

Govt Pro No. 291-292
26-4-65
~ 104-105-
6-5-65

Govt of Bombay informed that the system of impressing water marked paper at the Mint has worked for some time and has proved a check against fraud.

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