

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2915	Press ~~Mis.~~
499.500	
Dated 27. 11. 1860	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

21

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
27th November 1865.*

No. 499. Read the following letter from the Acting Mint Master, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Mint, 30th September 1863, No. 160 :—

1. With reference to Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st September 1863, No. 5,973, regarding the Bi-color Stamping machines recommended to be obtained from England, I have the
- One letter.
One Bi-colored Stamp.

honor to state that the machines can be constructed at the Mint at much less cost, and in about the same time that will be required to have them brought out from Europe.

2. I beg to forward copy of a letter addressed by Lieutenant-Colonel F. C. Cotton, Acting Mint Master, to J. Lushington, Esq., Superintendent of Stamps, on the 23rd January 1857, in which that Officer states that he had "succeeded in printing a Stamp in two colors, and that the face of the die used for that purpose can be engine-turned of any required pattern." A specimen of the stamp then prepared is also forwarded for inspection.

3. The lathe referred to by Colonel Cotton was subsequently purchased for the Mint, and as the dies could be adapted to the presses now in use in the Stamp Department, the cost of manufacturing the Stamps will be very trifling.

4. With regard to the number of Stamps that could be printed in one day, it is estimated that 2,880 sheets, or 8,600 Stamps, could be struck off from one press, worked as at present by hand.

5. The cost of completing the dies and fitting up one press would be about Rupees 220, and the time required about two months.

No. 500.

ORDER THEREON, 27th November 1865, No. 2,915.

Separate Revenue, No. 24.
Stampa.

Recorded, with reference to G. O. dated 28th October 1864, and 6th May 1865, Nos. 1,996 and 937 respectively.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Mint Master,

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

N^o 231 Fort St George
Mint
23rd January 1857

From Lieut Col F. C. Cotton Engineers
Acting Mint Master

To J. Lushington Esq. Supt of Stamps
Sir

Parath Before I answered your note regarding the preparation of a new description of Stamp paper in the Madras Mint I thought it better to try what could be done by the means within my reach and I have now the pleasure to send you a specimen stamp which will shew that we have succeeded in printing in two colors and that the face of the die used for that purpose can be engine turned with any required pattern. Having established these points I have no hesitation in saying that stamps could be prepared in the Mint as well suited to their purpose as those now issued in Calcutta and that there will be no occasion either to send to England for costly machinery or to spend any considerable sum in its preparation here

2nd The Press required for printing in two colors has been suggested by me and can be made in the Mint for 100 Rupees. I cannot say with accuracy what number of stamps it will turn out in a day but Mr Smith the Superintendent of the Government Printing

Printing Office considers that I might reckon upon about 1000 copies being struck off in such a press daily. Calculating on that number three presses would be required and probably it would answer to produce the 3000 stamps required by three such very simple presses rather than to attempt a complicated apparatus which could not be so readily made.

3^d. There is no lathe in the Madras Mint by which Engine turning can be executed and I am indebted to Mr. Rohde for the patterns on the stamp I now send you. The same lathe could produce far more complicated patterns, but it might be well to use for some of the stamps an eccentric cutter which would trace figures still more difficult to imitate.

4th. Mr. Rohde's lathe is to be sold for 1200 Rupees which is not less than 700 Rupees below its original cost and 500 at least below its present value. An eccentric cutter to fit this lathe might be obtained from England and would cost about 200 Rupees more. With the presses and lathe I am speaking of the stamps might be prepared and the whole cost of the apparatus would not amount to 2500 Rupees.

5th. I have on more than one occasion expressed an opinion that no work should be permanently established in the Mint but the fabrication of coin, but as in the preparation

of stamps the same caution is necessary and much the same skill is required. I think that it might well be to put up the presses within the compound, and make the whole operation of cutting the dies and stamping the paper a regular operation of the Mint. To do this however, rooms must be built as there is even now a want of covered space for the ordinary work of the establishment. Rooms for this new purpose might be built over the Treasury, and the cost would not probably exceed three thousand Rupees.

6th. With regard to the Establishment, I recommend that the Department should be organized as shown in the margin. The Superintendent should be a man who understands the apparatus used and the preparation of the dies, which latter would require skilful management and occasional renewal.

7th. I allow three artificers, a Die Setter who being a Smith will be able to repair any part of the apparatus which gets out of order.

281. A Turner who has been instructed in the use of the lathe, so as to be able to cut new dies, and an Engraver to letter and number the dies would both be required, not only to prepare the apparatus in the first instance, but to renew the dies when they were worn out and

as

as the Mint is in want of such men to meet
the greatly increasing expenditure of dies in
the Coinage their services would never be
lost

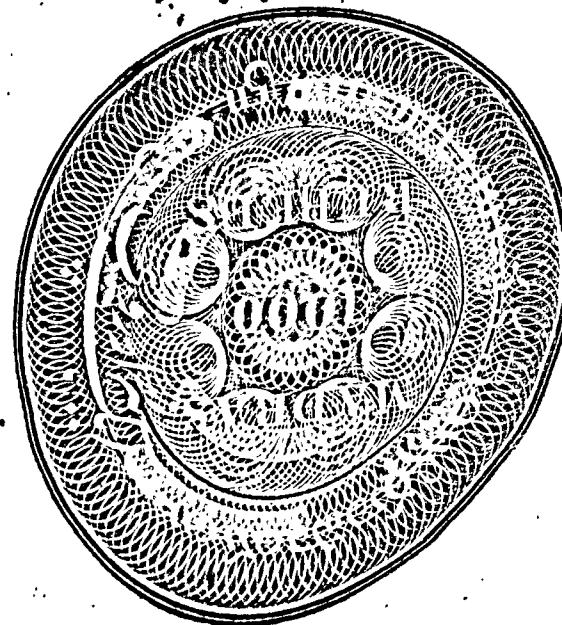
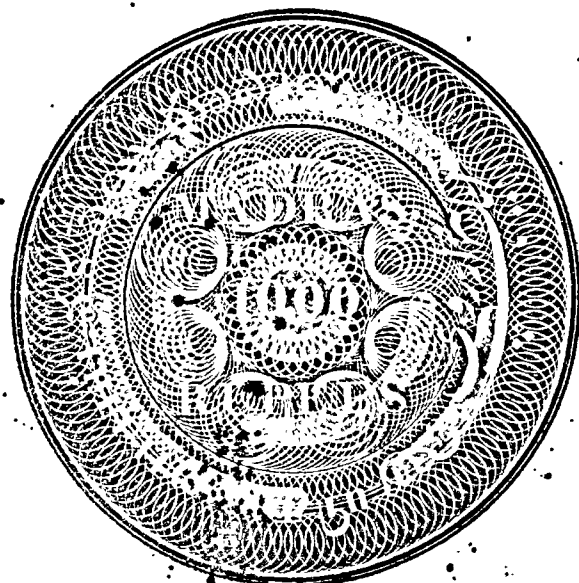
I have &c.

Signed J. C. Cotton

Acting Mint Master

True copy

G. J. Davis
Acting Mint Master



Rev 2352/63

Not

Rev: 1863 Dept
 Washington
 From N.Y. 23521

The City of New York
 To the Secretary to Govt
 Fort St. George.

Placed 30th Sept 1863
 Dec 10th 1863

N.Y. 1863

With an Enclosure.

No 2915-24th Nov

It is that proceeding for the
 colored stamps can be made
 at the print at 145 East and
 in about the same time as
 with the previous to get them
 from England - Stamps, Copy
 of the letter from Col. Cotton to the
 Capt of Stamps together with a
 specimen stamp prepared in
 January 1857. Estimate the cost
 of getting a 10p 15 print 8000
 stamps per day at 2.50 per 1000
 N.Y. 1863

2 Stamps from New York, 29th Nov

27th Nov 1863

111

by

Recorded with reference of O. L. 28th Nov
 1864 and 16th May 1865 & 1996 and 937 see below

N.Y. 1863