

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

213

Press

~~Mis~~

130-131

Dated

14-2-1870

72

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th February 1870.*

No. 130. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 27th January 1870 :—

Read the following letter from the Commissioner of Paper Currency, in charge of Stamp Paper Department, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 14th January 1870, No. 40.

In continuation of my letter, No. 37, of 10th instant, it has occurred to me that I might have explained more fully the composition of the metal we employ in the preparation of our dies, used for the Stamp Paper Department. Although in the correspondence this metal has been called brass, is not such, but is a composite consisting of two parts of pure copper, one of zinc, and an admixture of tin.

2. In a general way, in commerce, amalgams of copper and zinc are called *brass*, and of copper and tin, *bronze*, but neither of these metals, in their ordinary state, would be suitable for dies. Copper alone is subject to verdigris, and does not wear well. Zinc is too brittle, and tin too soft; but, combined in the proportions we use, experience proves that they make a very serviceable metal for printing dies. The dies prepared from this metal are free from rust, do not require lubrication, and are unaffected by the printing-ink—all very important considerations.

3. If steel was substituted for the metal now in use, I do not think it would be found suitable for the following reasons :—To preserve steel dies from rust, they must be freely oiled, which would soil the stamps and the paper in printing; next the printing-ink, being of an acid basis, would very quickly act on the face of the steel die, and corrode it; thirdly, if the steel dies were worked without lubrication, the parts would be very stiff, and with the same appliances would not turn out half the number of stamps in same given time that our present metal ones do; lastly, there would be the enormously increased expense and delay that the preparation of steel dies would entail, and the greatly enhanced difficulty of keeping them in serviceable order when made.

4. The ordinary metal used for printing-type is composed of three parts of lead and one of antimony; but this metal is not nearly so hard or serviceable as the composition of copper, zinc, and tin, we use in the preparation of our dies; and I do not think any better could be substituted for this purpose.

SUBMITTED to Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings, 19th January 1870, No. 381.

No. 131. ORDER THEREON, 14th February 1870, No. 213.

Separate Revenue, No. 7.

Stamps.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. WELLESLEY,
Acting Under-Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Ed. F. R. Bantleman.

Jan 26 1870 No 252-93

Revenue 1870 @ Voff
 No 278
 Proceedings of the
 Board of Revenue

Dated 27 January
 1870

Submitting to Govt
 Copy of letter from Comr
 of Paper Currency in
 charge of Stamp & L,
 giving full explanation
 of composition of metal
 employed in preparing dies,
 & of the uselessness of
 substituting other metals
 instead

213
 RECORDED
 14th Feb 1870

In To Mr. D. C. D. 1870

Govt. of 1870

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated January, 1870

G. O. 14th February 1870, No. 213.

FEBRUARY.
 No. 130-131

Metal employed in preparing dies - Letter
 from Commissioner of Paper Currency giving full
 explanation of its composition, returned.