

Holograph draft of MINT00131 (/catalogue/record/MINT00131), (Mint 19/1/334-5).

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The Act of 18 Car. II chap. 5 saith that no moneys leviabie & payable by this Act shall be applied or converted to any use or uses whatsoever other then to the defraying the charge or expence of the Mint or Mints & of the Assaying melting down wast & coinage of Gold & Silver & this encouragement of bringing in of Gold & Silver into the said Mint or Mints there to be coyned &c. The first is the charge of supporting a standing Mint, the second is the further charge of carrying on the coynage in that Mint. And by the next clause of the Act the first is limited to 3000^{li} for preventing needless extravagance & the other is left unlimited for encouraging the coynage. The words are: And it is hereby further enacted that there shall not be issued out of the Exchequer of the said moneys, in any one year, for the fees & salaries of the Officers of the Mint or Mints & towards the providing maintaining & repairing of the Houses Offices & Buildings & other necessaries for assaying melting down & coyning above the summ of three thousand pounds sterling money, & the overplus of the said moneys so kept or to be kept as aforesaid shall be employed for & towards the expence wast & charges of assaying melting down & coynage & buying in of gold & silver to be coyned, & not otherwise. Here the charge of salaries & buildings with their appurtenances necessary for constituting a Mint, (such as are Hearths & Chimneys convenient for furnaces, floors convenient for Mill-rooms, blocks convenient for the Presses & Flatters, benches convenient for the Cutters & for the Graver & Smith, Tables convenient for sizing & for Weighing & telling, stalls & Desks for the Clerks to rate & standard, money chests & boxes for the Treasury & Pix, Locks for the Offices, Gates for the Mint & Wells Pumps & Pipes for water) are limited to 3000^{li}. And the overplus is for defraying the charges arising by the coynage, such as are the charge of stationary ware for the Clerks, ballances & weights for the severall Offices, Furnaces, Cuppels, water-silver, Aqua fortis & Charcoal for the Assay-Office, Refining & Allay for bringing the gold & silver to standard, Flasks furnaces melting & wast in the Melting houses, Mills Dyes coining & wast in other Offices, Indentures & Warrants for carrying on the coynage, & charges of making Tryal-pieces & trying the Pix.

After the making of this Act, the salaries upon the establishment of the Indenture of the Mint amounted unto 2600^{li} & there remained only 400^{li} for the providing & repairing of buildings, which charge in the old Accounts usually amounted unto two or three & sometimes almost four hundred pounds per annum, or within 20 or 25^{li} over or under. And there is an Article in the Indenture which obliges the Master to pay unto the Warden such summ & summs as are payable by him for salaries & repairs & such other expences of the Mint as have been heretofore usually paid by him.

The Act made in the 4th & 5th year of her Majestys reign for en <337v> larging the summe of 3000^{li}. to that of 3500^{li} was not intended to charge the 3000^{li} with any sort of payments which had not been used to be put upon it, but on the contrary to make more room for bearing those sorts of payments which used to be put upon it as the words of the Preamble of the Act import. And accordingly a new salary of 400^{li} per annum was settled upon the Moneyers presently after the passing of the Act. And the salaries of the Clerks of the Mint

being thought too small were intended to be augmented. But it was thought fit first to take care of the old buildings which were ready to fall. And since that time there has been spent upon rebuilding about 900^{li} or 1000^{li}. As a part of the charge of rebuilding the Engineers shop comes into the Account of the year 1712.

In the Account of that year the salaries upon the Indenture payable by the Warden are 1435^{li}, those payable by the Master to the Officers under him 1080^{li}, to the Smith 40^{li} in lieu of 50^{li}, to the Graver for an Apprentice 35^{li} in lieu of 95^{li}. The new salary to the Moneyers is 400^{li}. And the charges of the buildings in the Wardens Account are in one Article 389^{li}. 2^s, in another 11^{li}. 13^s. 6^d. Total 3390^{li}. 15^s. 6^d.
