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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.
Con 23.12.57

G.O. No. 2372 Press Mis.

91.92

Dated 22—12—1857.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 23rd December 1857.

No. 91. Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, in the Public Department, dated 15th December 1857, No. 1769.

Read the following letter from C. W. READE, Esq., Agent to the Governor; to T. PYCROFT, Esq,. Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Vizagapatam, 10th December 1857, No. 67.

SIR,

Having just received an express from the Post Master General intimating that the Line between Calcutta and Bombay had been destroyed, it occurs to me that all service communications destined for the Government of India should be consigned to me here when I can at once pass them on by Telegraph to the Commissioner at Cuttack who will forward them by express to their destination. Cuttack is 325 miles from this, so that by adopting my suggestion, nearly 3 days' time will be gained and it is probable that in a few days the entire Line from this to Calcutta will be complete when the messages can be sent direct from this to the Metropolis.

2. I have by this express addressed the Resident at Hyderabad suggesting that until more direct communication is open, he should likewise adopt the above course in all matters of sufficient importance.

I enclose a message just received from the Commissioner at Cuttack containing 2½ days later news from Calcutta than we have by the ordinary Dawks. The message is an answer to one from me which I sent immediately on receipt of the Post Master General's express regarding the entertainment of additional runners throughout to Calcutta which will anticipate his express to the writer by about 3 entire days, so that the extra runners will be all ready from Cuttack to Calcutta before the present express reaches the former place.

(Signed) C. W. READE.

No. 16. *From Cuttack 10th December.*

From the Commissioner; to C. W. READE, Esq., Vizagapatam.

Orders been given for the extra 4 runners.

No news to-day from Sumbulpore and nothing of importance from the Upper Provinces

Received from Cuttack 5-55 P. M. Despatched 6 P. M.

Vizagapatam,
Electric Telegraph Office,
10th December 1857.

(Signed) R. MONK,
Assistant in charge Electric Telegraph Office.

(True Copy)

(Signed) C. W. READE,
Agent to the Governor.

The Government approve the suggestion contained in the above letter and will act upon it.

It is observed that the line from Madras to Nellore is now open and that to Bezoarah will it is hoped be opened shortly.

Messages for Calcutta or any intermediate place will therefore be sent by Telegraph to Nellore whence they will be forwarded by Express or ordinary post according to their urgency to Vizagapatam.

From Vizagapatam they will be despatched by Telegraph to Cuttack, and on the completion of that part of the line to Calcutta; but in the interim by post.

The Collector of Nellore will, in communication with the Officer in charge of the Telegraph there and with the Post Master General, to whom copy of this order will be sent, arrange for the transmission of messages from Nellore to Vizagapatam by post. The Collector of Masulipatam will arrange similarly on the line being opened to Bezoarah.

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 23*rd December* 1857.

The Agent at Vizagapatam will make the necessary communication to the Commissioner i. Cuttack.

(True Extract and Copies.)

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 92. ORDER THEREON, No. 2372; dated 22nd December 1857.

Ordered that the foregoing Extract be recorded.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT:

No. 1769.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, under date the 15*th December* 1857.

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The Agent at Vizagapatam will make the necessary communication to the Commissioner in Cuttack.

(True Extract and Copies.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of Nellore.
" Masulipatam.
" Vizagapatam.
To the Post Master General.
" Deputy Superintendent Electric Telegraphs.
" Revenue and Public Works Department.
" Military Department.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Public Dispatch 1857 Dept
Cons: 23d December

No 2464

Extract Minute Council
in the Public Dept

Dated 15th
Received 16th December 1857.

Approving the suggestion of the Agent at Vizagapatam, intimating that the Telegraph Line between Calcutta and Bombay having been destroyed, it occurred to him, that all service communications destined for the Government of India, should be consigned to him at Vizagapatam, when he can at once have them on by Telegraph to the Commissioner at Cuttack, who will forward them by express to their destination.

No 91 & 92.

To be recorded

Mr Secy Grant No 2372
22d Dec 1857