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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 4-2-57

G.O. No. 1496 Press Mis.

Fo. 67

Dated 3 — 8 — 18 57

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 4th August 1857.

No. 66. Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Public Department, dated 15th July 1857, No. 952.

Read the following letter from Colonel W. E. BAKER, Secretary to the Government of India; to the Deputy Superintendent of the Electric Telegraphs, Madras, dated the 25th June 1857, No. 3117.

Public Works Department.
Electric Telegraph.

SIR,

In consequence of the receipt of a letter No. 239, dated 19th Instant, from the Officiating Superintendent Telegraphs, copy of which is annexed, I have, under the instructions of the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council, issued orders, of which copies are also transmitted to you, to the District Engineers of Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Rajamundry, and Nellore, and the Officer in charge of the Kistnah works to proceed at once with the erection of Posts along the proposed line of Telegraph.

2. I am directed to inform you however that in communication with the Home Department, an alteration has been made in the line laid down by Lieutenant Stewart. In that Officer's letter the line is directed to be carried from Ongole across the Kistnah to Masulipatam. But the main line of road going by Bezwara, and the annicut across the Kistnah at that place giving such facilities for the passage of the river, there can be no doubt that the route by Bezwara is that which should be followed, leaving a branch line to be made to Masulipatam hereafter if necessary.

3. It will be for you to consider whether this alteration in the line will cause any necessity for change in the destination of the Telegraph Stores understood to be about to be shipped for Masulipatam.

(Signed) W. E. BAKER, Colonel,
Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 3118.

Copy of the above together with copies of letters, &c. addressed to the District Engineers of Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Rajamundry and Nellore, and to the Officer in charge of the Kistnah works, forwarded to the Government of Madras for information.

By order of the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council.

Fort William,
Public Works Department,
The 25th June 1857.

(Signed) W. E. BAKER, Colonel,
Secretary to the Government of India.

From the Officiating Superintendent Electric Telegraphs in India; to Colonel BAKER, Secretary to the Government of India, Department Public Works, No. 239 of 1857-58.

SIR,

With reference to my verbal communication with you on the 17th Instant, and to the suggestion you were kind enough to make that the Officers of the Department Public Works should be permitted to construct, wholly or in part, some of the many new lines of Telegraph recently ordered by the Supreme Government, the rapid completion of which is at present of such importance, I have the honor to state, that I have already solicited, and obtained the kind assistance of the Officiating Chief Engineer, Bengal, in arranging for the immediate commencement of that portion of the lines from Calcutta to Madras, that lies between Kedgeree and Jellasore.

2. From Jellasore to the Southern boundary of the Cuttack Division, has also been provided for, through the kind co-operation of the Commissioner Mr. Cockburn; of the remaining

portion of the coast line to Madras, I think, that the Deputy Superintendent of Telegraphs in that Presidency may arrange personally for the superintendence of the portion south of the river Kistnah without interfering with the offices and new lines at present in his charge, but for the line north of the Kistnah, I am at present unable to make any arrangement likely to ensure the early completion of the line.

3. The line will pass from Ongole across the Kistnah to Masulipatam, thence by Rajamundry to Vizagapatam, Chicacole and Berhampore, and for this portion of the line, I would respectfully request, that orders be issued to the Offices of the Department Public Works in the nearest Stations or Divisions to endeavour to supply, and erect posts for a flying line with the least possible delay, all necessary details on this subject are, I think, contained in the accompanying Memorandum.

4. I regret, that press of work at present prevents my being able to prepare with greater care the general hints contained in the Memorandum I refer to, but I shall take the earliest opportunity of repairing the many omissions by writing again at greater length than I am at present able to do.

Camp Raneegunge,
The 19th June 1857.

(Signed) P. STEWART, Lieutenant, Engineers,
Officiating Superintendent Electric Telegraphs in India.

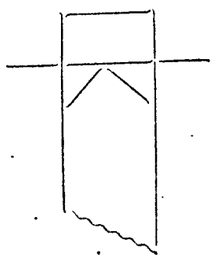
MEMORANDUM.

The measures at present necessary for the rapid construction of this line are, first, the collection of an abundant supply of cheap timber or bamboo for a flying line which will hereafter be gradually rendered permanent by the substitution of masonry, or hollow iron supports; second, the erection of these supports at proper intervals, and third, the distribution of the heavy wire.

2. The timber supports for the flying line need not necessarily be of a very durable description, as they may probably be replaced in less than a year from the date of erection, nor is it necessary that they should be straight or of large size. The cheapest description of support and that most readily procurable in large quantities should be made use of.

3. Posts should be *not less* than 12 feet long (of which 2 feet is to lie buried in the ground) but a length of 15 or 16 feet is preferable, and will admit of sinking the post 2½ or 3 feet in the ground, if of timber, they should be not less than 9 inches in circumference at the upper end, or if bamboo, not less than 7 inches. In the latter case, the post should be cut in such a manner as to leave a joint of the bamboo within 2 or 3 inches of each extremity. The bark and branches should be removed from timber posts, and the supports of whatever description should be stored at intervals of not more than 5 miles in proportion of fifty to each mile, as they are ultimately to be erected at intermediate distances of about (105) one hundred and five feet.

4. In preparing the grooves for the reception of the wire a simple notch should be cut across the end of the posts; if bamboos ¾ inch wide and 2 inches deep and terminating on the level of one of the joints (on which the wire should rest to prevent splitting) and if of timber, about ¾ of an inch wide and 1½ inches deep at the centre of the post, with the bottom of the groove sloped off in both directions from the centre, so that the wire, instead of coming in contact with a flat surface, the whole width of the post, may rest on a small ridge, the apex of which alone is in contact with it, as shown in the sketch section on the margin.



5. The posts when thus prepared should be erected where the road follows the line of a bund along the berm between the base of the bund and the excavations on the inner or land side, a position which is probably preferable to any other, especially for a flying line, as being protected to a great extent from wind and storms that might injure the line. In every case the line should be carried sufficiently near to the Dak or some other passable road to allow of its being inspected by any one who may be despatched along the road on the occasion of an interruption to ascertain where the line may have been injured.

Camp Raneegunge,
The 19th June 1857,

(Signed) P. STEWART, Lieutenant, Engineers,
Offig. Supdt. Elec. Tels. in India.

(2)

MEMORANDUM.

The flying line to be established with all possible despatch throughout that portion of the Northern Trunk Road lying within your district, and in conformity with the general directions conveyed in the accompanying memo. from the Officiating Superintendent of Electric Telegraphs.

As the line when completed will form a portion of one extending from Calcutta to Madras, it would seem advisable in order to secure the perfect continuity of the several divisional portions that you should in fixing the termini, place yourself in communication with the District Officers in the divisions immediately adjoining.

In selecting the line although its general direction will be as indicated that of the Northern Trunk Road, you must exercise your own judgment as to the propriety of diverging here and there cutting off angles, &c. as may seem advisable.

Fort William,
The 25th June 1857.

(Signed) W. E. BAKER, Colonel,
Secretary to Government of India.

To Nellore only. N. B.—Arrangements having been made for carrying the line from Madras as far as Ongole through the Agency of the Deputy Superintendent of Telegraphs at the former place, you will merely have to make preparation for the piece between Ongole and the Southern limit of the Trunk Road in the Guntoor District.

(Signed) W. E. BAKER, Colonel,
Secretary.

No. 3076.

From Colonel W. E. BAKER, Secretary to the Government of India.
To the District Engineer of Ganjam.

No. 3077 ,, of Vizagapatam.
No. 3078 ,, of Rajahmundry,
No. 3079 ,, in charge of the Kistnah Works at Bezwara.
No. 3080 ,, of Nellore.

Dated the 25th June 1857.

Public Works Department.
Electric Telegraph.

SIR,

Under instructions from the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council, I am directed to forward for your information and guidance, the enclosed Memoranda, relative to the erection of Telegraph Posts for the new Line of Telegraph to be constructed between Calcutta and Madras, and to request that you will immediately take steps for setting up posts on that part of the line indicated, which passes through your District.

2. The Right Honorable the Governor General in Council looks upon the rapid completion of this line of Telegraph as of very great importance, and trusts that you will use every exertion to carry out these orders with expedition.

3. You will be good enough to acknowledge the receipt of this Dispatch.

(Signed) W. E. BAKER, Colonel,
Secretary to the Government of India.

Fort William,
23rd June 1857.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) W. E. BAKER, Colonel,
Secretary to the Govt. of India.

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 4th August 1857.

Ordered to be communicated to the Department of Public Works and, also, to the Chamber of Commerce, with reference to their Chairman's letter of the 23rd May last.

(True Extract and Copies.)

(Signed) E. MALTBY,
Acting Chief Secretary.

No. 67. ORDER THEREON, No. 1496; dated 3rd August 1857.

Ordered to be communicated to the Chief Engineer for information.

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

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

No. 952.

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

Read the following letter from Colonel W. E. BAKER, Secretary to the Government of India; to the Deputy Superintendent of the Electric Telegraphs, Madras, dated the 25th June 1857, No. 3117.

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Electric Telegraph.

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(Signed) W. E. BAKER, Colonel,
Secretary to the Government of India.

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By order of the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council.

Fort William,
Public Works Department,
The 25th June 1857.

(Signed) W. E. BAKER, Colonel,
Secretary to the Government of India.

From the Officiating Superintendent Electric Telegraphs in India; to Colonel BAKER, Secretary to the Government of India, Department Public Works, No. 239 of 1857-58.

SIR,

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Camp Raneegunge, } (Signed) P. STEWART, Lieutenant, Engineers,
The 19th June 1857. } *Officiating Superintendent Electric Telegraphs in India.*

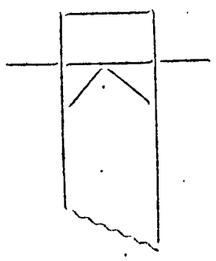
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Camp Raneegunge, } (Signed) P. STEWART, Lieutenant, Engineers,
The 19th June 1857, } *Offg. Supdt. Elec. Tels. in India.*

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Fort William, } (Signed) W. E. BAKER, Colonel,
The 25th June 1857. } *Secretary to Government of India.*

To Nellore only. N. B.—Arrangements having been made for carrying the line from Madras as far as Ongole through the Agency of the Deputy Superintendent of Telegraphs at the former place, you will merely have to make preparation for the piece between Ongole and the Southern limit of the Trunk Road in the Guntoor District.

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To the District Engineer of Ganjam.
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Dated the 25th June 1857.

Public Works Department.
Electric Telegraph.

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(Signed) W. E. BAKER, Colonel,
Secretary to the Government of India.

Fort William, } (True Copies.)
23rd June 1857. }

(Signed) W. E. BAKER, Colonel,
Secretary to the Govt. of India.

Ordered to be communicated to the Department of Public Works and, also, to the Chamber of Commerce, with reference to their Chairman's letter of the 23rd May last.

(True Extract and Copies.)

F. Shattley

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Department of Public Works.
,, Chamber of Commerce.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Public Works 1857 Dept.
Pol. Consltn. 3 August

No. 1535

Extract from the Mins. of Cons. in the Public Department.

Dated 15th July 1857
Rec'd 31st

Communicating to the Govt. N. W. P. also to the Chamber of Commerce, a letter from the Govt. of India, relative to the immediate erection of Telegraph Posts for the new Line of Telegraph to be constructed between Calcutta & Madras.

Wilh an Order
No. 1496 3rd Augt. L

No. 1496

Ordered, to be communicated to the Chief Engineer for information.

J. P. L.

Fort William
3rd August 1857

J. Cripps to the Chief Engr. Dept.

From the Govt. of India Pol. Dept. 24th July 1857 No. 1580 in 18 Augt

Govt. Mins. Cons. in the Public Dept. 22nd May 58 No. 56 in Cons

1866 & 67