M.R.O. 1—77,005—6-6-31.

(1) Number of pages 14

(2) Date of repair 3·11·38

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.
Con 29/12/60

G.O. No. 405 Press
Mis.
5753
Dated 24—2—1860

Not to be folded or roughly handled

I

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, for the month of February 1860.

Read the following letters.

No. 51. From J. T. BLISSETT, Esq., Deputy Superintendent Electric Telegraph, Madras Circle; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, dated 26th January 1860, No. 2-1559 of 1859-60.

I have the honor to inform you that the Kurnool office is not under the control of the Deputy Superintendent of the Madras Circle, I have, therefore, forwarded the orders of the Government, dated the 21st current, No. 164, together with its two enclosures, (as marginally noted), to the Deputy Superintendent of the Central India Circle for report.

Order of Government, No. 2855, dated 8th December 1859.
Letter from Acting District Engineer of Kurnool, No. 1151, dated 20th December 1859.

2. However in order to avoid delay, I beg respectfully to state for the information of Government, that it is not necessary that public messages should bear the countersignature of the chief civil or military officer at a telegraph station, inasmuch as the notifications of the 1st April and 22nd July 1859, do not allude to, or enforce the continuance of the practice; the officer despatching a public message being held responsible for the refund of its cost, should it be of a trifling nature. I beg further to add, that the practice has ceased to exist in this circle since the order enforcing cash payments on public messages came into operation, but it is highly important that the words "service telegram" should be superscribed on all public messages, to enable each circle to exhibit in its monthly accounts current submitted to the office of Account in Bengal, the pecuniary working and results of the telegraph, as regards its connection with the State and the public. Rule 4 of the notification, dated 4th April 1859, withdraws the privilege of precedence in despatch for all service messages, except in cases of pressing public emergency and importance, when priority of despatch may be claimed by the sender.

No. 52. From Mr. J. H. NOWILL, Deputy Superintendent Electric Telegraph, Central India Circle; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, dated Secunderabad, 14th February 1860, No. 1154 of 1859-60.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of documents, marginally noted, received from J. T. Blissett, Esq., Deputy Superintendent Electric Telegraph, Madras Circle, and in reply to state that the views of that gentleman accord with my own, as conveyed to you in his letter No. 2-1559 of 1859-60, under date the 26th ultimo, and the necessary instructions have been issued to the Assistant in charge of the telegraph office at Kurnool to pass all messages for the future on the public service under the signature of any Government servant.

Order of Government, No. 164, dated 21st January 1860.
Do. do. 2855, „ 8th December 1859.
Letter No. 1151, dated 20th December 1859, from Acting District Engineer Kurnool.

2nd. I regret that the circumstance was not brought to my knowledge by the Assistant at Kurnool at the time; I was totally ignorant of the matter until the receipt of Mr. Blissett's letters, a day or two ago.

No. 53. Ordered in consequence that the following letter be dispatched.

From T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George; to Sir W. O'SHAUGHNESSY, Kt., Chief Superintendent of Electric Telegraphs in India, dated 24th February 1860, No. 405.

In forwarding to you the accompanying correspondence as per margin, which it is requested may be returned. I am desired to ask whether, as stated by Mr. Blissett in his letter of 26th ultimo it is important that the words Service Telegrams should be superscribed on all public messages to enable officers in charge of circles to distinguish between public and private messages in the accounts.

From Chief Engineer 30th November.
G. O. 8th December.
From Chief Engineer 12th January and enclosure.
G. O. 21st January.
From Deputy Supt. 26th January.
From do. 14th February.

2. If it be, it is suggested that it may be well that some notification to that effect should be made. At present public officers are aware that they cannot send public messages except on payment, and that they must produce the Electric Telegraph Office receipts as vouchers for such charges in their contingent bills but it may be doubted whether it is generally known that messages sent on service should be so superscribed for the information of the Telegraph Department in the preparation of their accounts.

Electric Telegraph Departt:

No: 2/1559 of 1859/60

To,

T. Pycroft Esqr:

Chief Secretary to Government

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that the Karnúl Office is not under the Control of the Deputy Superintendent of the Madras Circle I have therefore forwarded the orders of the Government dated the 21st Current No: 1041 together with its two enclosures (as marginally noted) to the Deputy Superintendent of the Central India Circle for report.

2 However in order to avoid delay I beg respectfully to state for the information of Government that it is not necessary that Public Messages should bear the countersignature of the Chief Civil or Military

Order of Government No: 2855
dated 8th December 1859
Letter from Acting District Engineer
of Karnúl No: 1151 dated 20th Decr/59

Officer at a Telegraph Station inasmuch as the Notifications of the 1st April and 22nd July/59 do not allude to, or enforce the continuance of the practice, the Officer despatching a public Message being held responsible for the refund of its cost should it be of a trifling nature.

I beg further to add that the practice has ceased to exist in this Circle since the order inforcing Cash payments on public Messages came into operation, but it is highly important that the words "Service Telegram" should be superscribed on all Public Messages to enable each Circle to exhibit in its Monthly Accounts Current submitted to the Office of Account in Bengal the pecuniary working and results of the Telegraph as regards its connection with

the State and the Public. Rule 4 of the Notification dated 4th April/59 withdraws the privilege of precedence in despatch for all Service Messages except in cases of pressing public emergency and importance when priority of despatch may be claimed by the Sender.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant

J. Blissett.
Dy. Supdt. T.G.
Madras Circle

Deputy Supdts. Office
Camp Chicacole
26th January 1860

07

No. 1154 of 1859/60.

Madras

From

J. H. Maxwell Esquire

Dy. Superintendent T.G.

Central Indian Circle

To

J. Wright Esquire

Chief Secretary to

Government

Madras.

Sir,

I have the honor to

acknowledge receipt of

Memorandum, Investigating

noted, received Decr

J. S. Bliss Esquire,

Superintendent

Electric Telegraph Madras

Circle, Enclosing to Note

that the Revised Form

Hermann accompanies may

own, as Corrected agreeing in

Circular Nos 1559 of 1859/60.

Under date the 26th Novr

and the necessary instruc-

tions have been issued

to the Subordinates in Charge &c.

No. 1154 dated 21st Decr 59.

Nos 3855 — 4th Novr 1859.

Dated 26th December 1859

Asst Superintendent

Electric Engineer

Kurnool.

Cons: 31st January 60 No 78-79

" 10 Decr /59 — 113-114

Works

Public 1860 Departt

Dis: of Govt 9th February.

From

No. 382.

The Supt. Tele.

Tel: Madras Circle.

No. 1559 of 1859/160.

of 26 Nov

of 11th Feby } 1860.

No. 405. 24th Ulty.

Submits for information that it is not necessary that Public messages should bear the countersignature of the Chief, Civil or Subdy Officer at a Tel: station, but it is highly important that the words "Service Telegram" should be superscribed on all Public messages to enable the circle to exhibit in its monthly Assemblé current, the working and results of the Telegraph, as regards its connection with the State, and the Public.

No 51.

Communicated to the Chief Engr. with reference to the order 2nd cited.

Supt

Chief Engr

of the Telegraph Office
at Kurnool to post all
Messages for the future
on the Public Service under
the signature of any Govern
=ment Servant.

2nd I regret that the
Circumstance was not
brought to my knowledge
by the Assistant at Kurnool
at the time, I was totally
ignorant of the matter
until the receipt of Mr.
Blicketts letter a day or
two ago.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Hble & Obt. Servant
A. Brandt
Dy. Superintendent T. & I.
Central India
Dy. Supdt's office
Secunderabad
14th February 1860

Public Works Dept.

No 405

To

Sir H. O'Shaughnessy Bart

Chief Superintendent of

Electric Telegraphs in

India

Sir,

In forwarding to you the accompanying correspondence as per margin which it is requested may be returned - I am desired to ask whether, as stated by Mr Bidwell in his letter of 26th ultimo it is important that the words Service Telegrams should be superscribed on all Public messages to enable Officers in charge of circles to distinguish between public and private messages in

From Chief Engineer N.W. Prov. G.O. 8th December.
From Chief Engineer 12th Inst. and enclosure.
Do. 21st January
From Depy Supt 26th Inst.
From - do - 16th February.

P. Works 1860 No 29 Telegraphic Department.

No. 451.

Dated 31st January 60.

From H. Bidwell Esquire Officiating Chief Engineer Central Circle.

To

H. Forbes Esquire Chief Secretary Government of India

Subject Telegraphic Messages

Received 6th February 60

Answered

6-1-60 * Returned to Bidwell 29 Jan. 60. Replied that under the 8th Section of the Indian Telegraph Act, the Secretary of State has directed the Superintendence of the Electric Telegraph to the Home Department. Public Works Dept. 1852.

Agnos. 24th Feb.

Rs. Con. 31 Jany 60 - 18-19 - do 10 Dec/59 - 113 From H. Bidwell Elect. Engr. Russa. Circle. Peer 26 Jany 60, No 282

in the accounts.

If it be, it is suggested that it may be well that some notification to that effect should be made. At present Public Officers are aware that they cannot send public messages except on payment, and that they must produce the E.T. Office receipts as vouchers for such charges in their contingent bills but it may be doubted whether it is generally known that messages sent on service should be so superscribed for the information of the Telegraph Department in the preparation of their accounts.

Fort-St. George
24th Feby. 1860

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P.W. 31 Jany/60 No. 18-19.
—o—10th June/59—o—113-114-

Public Works 1860 Detail
Gen: of Govt 29th February.

No 405.

To
Sir W. O'Shaughnessy Kt
Chief Superintendent of
Electric Telegraphs in
India.

Dated 24th February 1860.

From Supdt of Elec: Tele:
in India & Ceylon of 29th Feb/60
Cat: 576.

Asking whether the
Telegraph Message
sent on Service should
be so superscribed.

No 51 at 53.

H Peck