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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.
Con 2074/60

G.O. No.	737	Press
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Dated	27.28 13-4	1860

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

No. 27. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Honorable the President of the Council of India in Council, dated Fort William, 15th March 1860, No. 1,413 :—

Read the following Despatch addressed by the Honorable Sir C. WOOD, Bart., Her Majesty's Secretary of State, to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council, dated India Office, London, 31st January 1860, No. 10 of 1860.

In your letter No. 64 of the 26th September last, a question which has been carefully considered by me in Council, is raised, as to the expediency of "maintaining or completing Trunk Roads running more or less parallel to Railways, in course of construction or to be constructed hereafter." The subject is brought forward in consequence of a disapproving notice in my Despatch No. 31 of the 4th August last, of the announced intention of your Government to hasten the completion of roads between Ferozepoor and Lahore and between Lahore and Mooltan, places which will all three be ere long connected by means of the Punjab Railway.

2. From your observations on the opinion expressed in that Despatch, it would seem that its language has been somewhat misapprehended. It was not intended to prohibit expenditure on roads of manifest military importance, even though running in the same direction as sanctioned Railways. Existing roads of that description ought undoubtedly to be preserved from deterioration, and if unfinished, should be completed with all convenient speed. They should not, however, be completed in the same expensive style in which they have been commenced. The compact and substantial metalling, and the costly bridges of the Grand Trunk Road would on them be out of place, and often, instead of bridging intersecting streams, it might be sufficient to ramp and slope their banks. But although to abandon existing roads would be unwise, to apply large sums to the construction of new roads on lines parallel and contiguous to those selected for Railways would be at least equally objectionable. The commercial and social utility of such roads need not be disputed, and it may be admitted too that they might, on occasion, prove of great military value ; but the necessity for them is certainly not so obvious or so pressing as to justify a large outlay upon them at a time like this, when in every part of India, public works most urgently required for the development of the resources of the country, are left unexecuted for want of funds. As a general rule, whatever new roads are made in the immediate neighbourhood of Railways, ought to be such as will bear upon them, so as to serve as feeders, without which no Railway of considerable length can fully answer its purpose.

Ordered, that a copy of Despatch No. 10 be forwarded for information, and guidance to the Government of Fort Saint George.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. H. DICKENS, Captain,
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 28.

ORDER THEREON, 13th April 1860, No. 737.

Communicated to the Chief Engineer.

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Dy. Secretary to Government.

PUBLIC.

No. 10 of 1860.

To

HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HON'BLE
THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

INDIA OFFICE,
London, 31st January 1860.

MY LORD,

IN your letter No. 64 of the 26th September last, a question which has been carefully considered by me in Council, is raised, as to the expediency of "maintaining or completing Trunk Roads running more or less parallel to Railways, in course of construction or to be constructed hereafter." The subject is brought forward in consequence of a disapproving notice in my Despatch No. 31 of the 4th August last, of the announced intention of your Government to hasten the completion of roads between Ferozepoor and Lahore and between Lahore and Mooltan, places which will all three be ere long connected by means of the Punjab Railway.

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I have the honour to be,

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's most obedient and humble Servant,
C. WOOD.

20 April/60
No. 27-28

20 April 1860

No. 1413

EXTRACT FROM THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE HON'BLE THE PRESIDENT OF
THE COUNCIL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
Fort William, 15th March 1860.

Communications.
Metalled Roads.

READ the following Despatch addressed by H. M.'s Secy. of State to the Govt. of India :—
No. 10, dated 31st January 1860.—Question of the expediency of maintaining or completing
Trunk Roads running more or less parallel to Railroads.

ORDERED, that a copy of Despatch No. 10 be forwarded for information,
and guidance to *the Govt. of Fort Saint George*—
(True Extract)

W. D. Clerk
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

D^d 77-1860 Departh
 No. of Court 20th April.
 No. 813.

From the Offg. Secy
to the Secy of India

Noted 15th March
Received 2^d April } 1860.

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Forwarding Copy of the
Home Despatch on the
Expediency of maintain-
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roads running more or
less parallel to Railroads

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J. H. George
 134 Ave. C
 106 Broadway New York City
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