

(1) Number of pages 2

(2) Date of repair 4 3

(3) Initials of the Referencer

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

*Public Works* DEPARTMENT.

|               |                          |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| G.O. No. 2347 | Press<br><del>Mis.</del> |
| 77-78         |                          |
| Dated 3 8     | 1867.                    |

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
3rd August 1867.*

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No. 77. Read the following letter from the Consulting Engineer for Railways, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Coimbatore, 22nd July 1867, No. 209 :—

1. Having received intimation, on the 19th instant, that the South-West Line, between Palghaut and Beypore, had been damaged by floods the day before, I took the first opportunity of proceeding to the spot in company with the Agent and Manager. We proceeded from Coimbatore by the ordinary train of the 21st instant, and were able to pass through to Beypore. We learnt that the damage to the line had been caused by a flood in the Ponany. The river takes a sharp turn at the 377th mile of the Railway, where it encounters a rocky cliff. This must have tended to head up the water immediately above, and the Railway embankment, which runs through some low paddy land and within a few yards of the river, was overflowed. The ballast from under the rails was carried away for a distance of about ten chains, and the traffic was in consequence interrupted. The embankment was not injured in any other way, and by great exertions on the part of the Resident Engineer, Mr. Hardinge, and his subordinates, who worked night and day, the line was repaired sufficiently to allow of the 1 p. m. train from Coimbatore passing through to Beypore on the 20th instant, so that traffic was stopped for only a little over forty-eight hours.

2. The line of Railway was also submerged at the 372nd mile by the heading up of the river Thoota, which was also in flood, but no damage occurred there; and a third portion of the line was overflowed by the Ponany, between the 378th and 382nd mile.

3. It is said that the floods were higher than they had been for a period of thirteen years. It will probably be found advisable to raise several portions of the embankment, which can be done at a moderate expense, but as the damage that has occurred is of trifling extent, and the interruption to traffic of but little importance, I question if it will be expedient to incur the heavy outlay which would be necessary to raise all the bridges on the portions of the line which have been submerged, since future floods that may be anticipated are not likely to be more injurious than those of the present season, which have not injured the bridges at all.

No. 78. ORDER THEREON, 3rd August 1867, No. 2,347.

RAILWAY, No. 2.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. M. SHAW STEWART, Major, R. E.,  
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No 209.

To The Secretary to Government  
Public Works Department

Having received information on the 19th instant that the South West line between Palghat and Kanyakumari had been damaged by floods the day before, I took the first opportunity of proceeding to the spot in company with the Agent and Messrs. He proceeded from Coimbatore by the ordinary train of the 21st instant and was able to pass through to Kanyakumari. He learnt that the damage to the line had been caused by a flood in the Ponnai. The River takes a sharp bend here at the 37th mile of the Railway, where it encounters a rocky cliff. This must have tended to head up the water immediately above and the railway embankment which runs through some low paddy land and within a few yards of the river was overflowed. The ballast from under the rails was carried away for a distance

*[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.]*

*22nd July 1867*

*Sent St. Louis  
22nd July 1867*

*Received*

*2247*

*W. W. [Signature]*  
1867: 2778  
RAILWAY DEPARTMENT.

From  
The Cong. Engineer for Railways,  
To  
The Secretary to Government,  
P. W. Dept.

Dated 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1867.  
Received 23<sup>rd</sup>

No. 209.

Enclosures, No. *one*.

*en 2347-32nd July 1867*

Reporting that  
the South West line  
between Palphumb and  
Reyfore had been  
damaged by flood.

*ai 81* Recorded.  
*W. W.*  
20 C E for Reyfore 1867.

*No. 44-78*

*22nd July 1867*