

(1) Number of pages 10(2) Date of repair 1/1/36(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1573	Press
		Mis.
Dated	15/1/36	1871

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government. Public Works Department.
15th June 1871.

No. 223. Read the following Proceedings of the Government of India in the Public Works Department, (Account—Railway,) dated Simla, 23rd May 1871, No. 330 A—R:—

Rate of exchange at which remittances to their families will, in future, be allowed to be made by the Servants of Railway Companies.

READ the following:—

From the Secretary of State for India, to the Government of India, dated India Office, London, 30th March 1871, No. 16 R.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Excellency's information, copy of a correspondence* with the

• Letter to Mr. Wood, dated 31st January 1871, and enclosure.	Directors of the Eastern
Do. from do. do. 17th February, 1871, No. 1,102.	Bengal Railway Com-
Do. to do. do. 9th March 1871.	pany, relative to the
Do. from do. do. 23rd „ 1871, No. 1,107.	

rate of exchange at which remittances to their families will, in future, be allowed to be made by the Company's servants.

From the Under Secretary of State for India, to the Secretary to the London Board, E. B. Railway Company, dated India Office, London, 31st January 1871.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for India to transmit herewith copy of a despatch* which has been addressed to the Government of

• No. 38, dated 18th August 1869. Bombay on the subject of family payments,

and to state that, if it be considered desirable by the Board to continue to draw the money for such payments from this Office, the course directed in that despatch must be followed in future.

From the Secretary of State for India, to the Government of Bombay, dated India Office, London, 18th August 1869, No. 38 R.

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch of the 25th February last, No. 7, I transmit herewith a copy of a letter* from the Directors

• No. 117, dated 12th July 1869. of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company,

from which it will be seen that the practice of remitting the amount representing the ordinary Home expenditure chargeable to revenue has been discontinued.

2. The remittances still made by the Agent, by means of bank bills, represents the proportion of wages, chargeable to revenue, paid in this country to the wives and families of the Company's servants in India. It is explained by the Board that this has been done in order that the men might obtain the benefit of the exchange of 2s. the rupee; but as I agree with you that it is desirable that the contract rate should be adhered to in all cases where money is transferred from one country to the other, I have directed that remittances for any purpose through private banks be discontinued, and that payments in this country be carried to account in the books in India at 1s. 10d. the rupee.

From THOMAS R. WATT, Esq., to the Under Secretary of State for India, dated No. 3, New Broad Street, London, E. C., 12th July 1869, No. 117.

HAVING submitted to the Board your letter of the 1st instant, I am instructed to explain that it is not the Agent's practice to draw out of the Government Treasury the amount representing the Home expenditure chargeable to revenue, and to remit the same to this country. The amount representing the Home establishment expenditure chargeable to revenue was on one or two occasions remitted Home by the Agent, but, in compliance with the desire of the Government, he ceased to do so with the half-year ended 30th June 1869.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
15th June 1871.*

2. The amount which the Agent now remits by bank bill represents the proportion of the wages chargeable to revenue paid here to the wives and families of engine-drivers and other servants. It is a great boon to the men to be enabled to make these allotments of their wages payable at Home. From the first they have been allowed to do so, at the rate of exchange of 2s. a rupee, and to alter that now would lead to great confusion, and would interfere with the regular remittance of their necessary family payments. The proportion of the wages so remitted to the 31st December last amounted to Rupees 66,075-5-7, representing £6,607 10s. 8d., but it would have required Rupees 72,682-2-11 to have produced the same sum in sterling, at the contract rate of exchange. Under these circumstances, the Board trust that the Agent may still be allowed to remit the money in question direct, rather than through the Government Treasury.

From the Secretary to the London Board, E. B. Railway Company, to the Under Secretary of State for India, dated No. 13, Gresham Street, London, E. C., 17th February 1871, No. 1,102.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st ultimo, transmitting copy of a despatch from the Secretary of State for India, Railway, No. 38, dated the 18th of August last, and addressed to the Government of Bombay, on the subject of family payments, and requesting that if it be considered desirable by the Board to draw the money for such payments from the India Office, the course directed in that despatch may be followed in future.

The despatch referred to states that "the remittances still made by the Agent (of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway) by means of bank bills represent the proportion of wages chargeable to revenue paid in this country to the wives and families of the Company's servants in India. It is explained by the Board that this has been done in order that the men might obtain the benefit of the exchange of 2s. the rupee; but as I agree with you that it is desirable that the contract rate should be adhered to in all cases, where money is transferred from one country to the other, I have directed that remittances for any purpose through private banks be discontinued, and that payments in this country be carried to account in the books in India at 1s. 10d. the rupee."

I am directed to state that the Board of the Eastern Bengal Railway Company, on the 9th of January 1862, passed a resolution at their meeting held on that day, "that in future the engagements of servants and officers be made in rupees and not in pounds sterling payments in England on account of salary to be made at the rate of exchange of 2s. the rupee."

In pursuance of this resolution, the Board have undertaken in the contracts with many of the Company's servants to allow the family remittances to be made at the exchange of 2s. the rupee, it is consequently not in the power of the Board to act contrary to the terms of such contracts.

The sums paid in England under these contracts are carried to account in the books in India at 1s. 10d. the rupee, and the difference between that rate of exchange and the rate of 2s. is charged in the books in India against capital or revenue expenditure according to the nature of the services rendered by the person sending Home the family remittance.

The arrangement has, in fact, hitherto operated as an inducement to providence, on the part of their servants who save a portion of their earnings for the maintenance in England of those dependent on them.

As, however, the Secretary of State objects to the present arrangements, the Board will, as regards future contracts, fix the rate of exchange for family payments at 1s. 10d. the rupee.

From the Under Secretary of State for India, to the Secretary to the London Board, E. B. Railway Company, dated India Office, London, 9th March 1871.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for India to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th ultimo, No. 1,102, and to acquaint you, in reply, that he approves the Board's resolution therein stated, to fix the rate of exchange for family remittances at 1s. 10d. the rupee in all future contracts with their servants on the understanding that this rate shall apply to the case of those now employed, if they continue in the service of the Company after the conclusion of their present engagement.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
15th June 1871.*

From the Secretary to the London Board, E. B. Railway Company, to the Under Secretary of State for India, dated No. 13, Gresham Street, London, E. C., 23rd March 1871, No. 1,107.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th instant, informing the Board that the Secretary of State approves of their resolution to fix the rate of exchange for family remittances at one shilling and ten pence the rupee in all future contracts with their servants, but on the understanding that this rate shall apply to the case of those now employed, if they continue in the service of the Company after the conclusion of their present engagements.

I am, however, directed by the Board to inform you that the terms of the present agreements with the Company's servants are that they shall govern continued services.

ORDER.—Ordered, that the documents read be forwarded for information and guidance to the Local Governments and Administrations noted in the margin, with a request that the procedure laid down by the Secretary of State may be enforced on all Guaranteed Railways.

Government of Madras.
Do. of Bombay.
Do. of Bengal.
Do. of Punjab.
Chief Commissioner of Oudh.

(Signed) J. J. McLEOD INNES,
Depy. Secretary to the Govt. of India.

No. 224. ORDER THEREON, 15th June 1871, No. 1,596.

RAILWAY, No. 27.

COMMUNICATED to the Consulting Engineer for Railways, in continuation of G. O., No. 720, dated 10th March 1871.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Acting Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 330 A—R.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
ACCOUNT.
Railway.

SIMLA, MAY 23, 1871.

Rate of exchange at which remittances to their families will, in future, be allowed to be made by the Servants of Railway Companies.

READ the following :—

No. 16R, dated India Office, London, the 30th March 1871.

From—The Secretary of State for India.

To—The Government of India.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Excellency's information, copy of a

- Letter to Mr. Wood, dated 31st January 1871, and enclosure.
- Ditto from do. do. 17th February 1871, No. 1102.
- Ditto to do. do. 9th March 1871.
- Ditto from do. do. 23rd " 1871, No. 1107.

correspondence* with the Directors of the Eastern Bengal Railway Company, relative to

the rate of exchange at which remittances to their families will, in future, be allowed to be made by the Company's servants.

Dated India Office, London, the 31st January 1871.

From—M. E. GRANT DUFF, ESQ., Under Secy. of State for India.

To—The Secretary to the London Board, E. B. Railway Company.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for India to transmit herewith copy of a despatch* which has been addressed to the Government of Bombay,

• No. 33, dated 18th August 1869. on the subject of family payments, and to state that, if it be considered desirable by the Board to continue to draw the money for such payments from this Office, the course directed in that despatch must be followed in future.

No. 33R, dated India Office, London, the 18th August 1869.

From—The Secretary of State for India.

To—The Government of Bombay.

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch of the 25th February last, No. 7, I transmit herewith a copy of a letter* from the Directors of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company, from which it will be

• No. 117, dated 12th July 1869. seen that the practice of remitting the amount representing the ordinary home expenditure chargeable to revenue has been discontinued.

2. The remittances still made by the Agent, by means of bank bills, represents the proportion of wages, chargeable to revenue, paid in this country to the wives and families of the Company's servants in India. It is explained by the Board that this has been done in order that the men might obtain the benefit of the exchange of 2s. the rupee; but as I agree with you that it is desirable that the contract rate should be adhered to in all cases where money is transferred from one country to the other, I have directed that remittances for any purpose through private banks be discontinued, and that payments in this country be carried to account in the books in India at 1s. 10d. the rupee.

No. 117, dated No. 3, New Broad Street, London, E. C., the 12th July 1869.

From—THOS. R. WATT, Esq.

To—The Under Secretary of State for India.

HAVING submitted to the Board your letter of the 1st instant, I am instructed to explain that it is not the Agent's practice to draw out of the Government Treasury the amount representing the Home expenditure chargeable to revenue, and to remit the same to this country. The amount representing the Home establishment expenditure chargeable to revenue was on one or two occasions remitted Home by the Agent, but, in compliance with the desire of the Government, he ceased to do so with the half-year ended 30th June 1868.

2. The amount which the Agent now remits by bank bill represents the proportion of the wages chargeable to revenue paid here to the wives and families of engine-drivers and other servants. It is a great boon to the men to be enabled to make these allotments of their wages payable at Home. From the first they have been allowed to do so, at the rate of exchange of 2s. a rupee, and to alter that now would lead to great confusion, and would interfere with the regular remittance of their necessary family payments. The proportion of the wages so remitted to the 31st December last amounted to Rs. 66,075-5-7, representing £6,607 10s. 8d., but it would have required Rs. 72,082-2-11 to have produced the same sum in sterling, at the contract rate of exchange. Under these circumstances, the Board trust that the Agent may still be allowed to remit the money in question direct, rather than through the Government Treasury.

No. 1102, dated No. 13, Gresham Street, London, E. C., the 17th February 1871.

From—J. T. WOOD, Esq., Secy. to the London Board, E. B. Railway Company.

To—The Under Secretary of State for India.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st ultimo, transmitting copy of a despatch from the Secretary of State for India, Railway, No. 38, dated the 18th of August last, and addressed to the Government of Bombay, on the subject of family payments, and requesting that if it be considered desirable by the Board to draw the money for such payments from the India Office, the course directed in that despatch may be followed in future.

The despatch referred to states that "the remittances still made by the Agent (of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway) by means of bank bills represents the proportion of wages chargeable to revenue paid in this country to the wives and families of the Company's servants in India. It is explained by the Board that this has been done in order that the men might obtain the benefit of the exchange of 2s. the rupee; but as I agree with you that it is desirable that the contract rate should be adhered to in all cases, where money is transferred from one country to the other, I have directed that remittances for any purpose through private banks be discontinued, and that payments in this country be carried to account in the books in India at 1s. 10d. the rupee."

I am directed to state that the Board of the Eastern Bengal Railway Company, on the 9th of January 1862, passed a resolution at their meeting held on that day, "that in future the engagements of servants and officers be made in rupees and not in pounds sterling, payments in England on account of salary to be made at the rate of exchange of 2s. the rupee."

In pursuance of this resolution, the Board have undertaken in the contracts with many of the Company's servants to allow the family remittances to be made at the exchange of 2s. the rupee, it is consequently not in the power of the Board to act contrary to the terms of such contracts.

The sums paid in England under these contracts are carried to account in the books in India at 1s. 10d. the rupee, and the difference between that rate of exchange and the rate of 2s. is charged in the books in India against capital or revenue expenditure according to the nature of the services rendered by the person sending Home the family remittance.

The arrangement has, in fact, hitherto operated as an inducement to providence, on the part of their servants who save a portion of their earnings for the maintenance in England of those dependent on them.

As, however, the Secretary of State objects to the present arrangements, the Board will, as regards future contracts, fix the rate of exchange for family payments at 1s. 10d. the rupee.

Dated India Office, London, the 9th March 1871.

From—H. MERIVALE, Esq., Under Secy. of State for India.

To—The Secretary to the London Board, E. B. Railway Company.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for India to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th ultimo, No. 1102, and to acquaint you in reply that he approves the Board's resolution therein stated, to fix the rate of exchange for family remittances at 1s. 10d. the rupee in all future contracts with their servants on the understanding that this rate shall apply to the case of those now employed, if they continue in the service of the Company after the conclusion of their present engagement.

No. 1107, dated No. 13, Gresham Street, London, E. C., the 23rd March 1871.

From—J. T. WOOD, Esq., Secy. to the London Board, E. B. Railway Company.

To—The Under Secretary of State for India.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th instant, informing the Board that the Secretary of State approves of their resolution to fix the rate of exchange for family remittances at one shilling and ten pence the rupee in all future contracts with their servants, but on the understanding that this rate shall apply to the case of those now employed, if they continue in the service of the Company after the conclusion of their present engagements.

I am, however, directed by the Board to inform you that the terms of the present agreements with the Company's servants are that they shall govern continued services.

ORDER.—Ordered, that the documents read be forwarded for information and guidance to the Local Governments and Administrations noted in the margin, with a request that the procedure laid down by the Secretary of State may be enforced on all guaranteed Railways.

Government of Madras.
" of Bombay
" of Bengal
" of Punjab.
Chief Commissioner of Oudh.

Mr. Leadam
Depy. Secretary to the Govt. of India.

The Government of Madras
P. H. Depy. Railway Board

11. 1871
No. 2541.
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

ACCOUNT.
Railway.

To

No. 331 A—R.

Dated Simla, 23rd May 1871.

Received 5th June/71

Rate of exchange at which remittance to their families will, in future, be all to be made by the Servants of Rail Companies.

159646
Communicated to the Consulting Engineer for
Railways, in continuation of No. 2022 of 10th March/71

For
15th Dec 1871
L. S. Smith Esq.

For
15th Dec 1871
L. S. Smith Esq.

17. 10. 77
Govt of 1871 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

1. The City Commissioning Engrs
for Railways

Date

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 15 June 71, No. 1596.

Nos. 221 & 224

[Faint handwritten text, likely a letter or report, mostly illegible due to fading.]