

(1) Number of pages 8(2) Date of repair 1.1.31(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.. 952.	Press
721-22.	-Mis.-
Dated 31-3.	1871 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

14

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
31st March 1871.*

No. 721. Read the following Endorsement of the Deputy Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Madras, 15th March 1871, No. 100:—

From the Locomotive Superintendent, to the Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway Company, dated Perambore Works, 16th December 1870, No. 334.

I BEG to inform you that the Locomotive Foreman at Cuddapah reports that three waggons loaded with cotton and a goods brake van, attached to the 8-20 A. M. train from Ghooty of the 13th instant, took fire at the 169th mile, seventh telegraph post; the whole of the wood-work was destroyed.

2. The Driver of the train was P. Connor, Engine No. 109. He gives the following statement:—

“ When looking back at the 169th mile, seventh telegraph post, I observed
“ fire issuing from one of the waggons, and also a danger signal exhibited by one of
“ the Guards. I immediately shut off steam and brought my train to a stand-still.
“ Driver Davis who was a passenger on my engine ran up and found the third, fourth,
“ and fifth waggons, and a goods brake van, next to the carriages, on fire, and he
“ at once uncoupled the burning waggons. I then drew ahead about 200 yards,
“ and uncoupled the remaining two unburnt waggons next to the engine, and
“ proceeded to the carriages. Afterwards I proceeded to Cuddapah with the two
“ unburnt waggons and one of the Guards.”

3. Foreman W. Barefoot examined the spark-catcher and the ash-pan jet cock, and reports them both in good order.

To the Acting Consulting Engineer for information, in continuation of the Agent and Manager's letter, No. 716, of the 15th instant.

(Signed) R. B. ELWIN,
Agent and Manager.

16th December 1870.

From the Traffic Manager, to the Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway Company, dated Madras, 9th March 1871, No. 31-107-C.

COTTON waggons on fire at 169th mile, North-West Line, on 13th December. Consulting Engineer's letter Nos. 24 and 99, of 16th January and 8th February.

The train consisted of fourteen vehicles, marshalled in the following order:—

Engine.	1 Second-class Carriage.
5 Waggons of half-pressed cotton.	1 Composite.
1 Road Brake.	1 Luggage Van.
5 Third-class Carriages.	

and travelled safely up to the 169th mile, when the third waggon from the engine was seen to be on fire. The train appears to have been stopped at once, but by this time the fourth and fifth waggons were on fire as well as the end of the road brake waggon, which is described to have been so hot that the Under Guard was obliged to vacate it. The engine driver, with great presence of mind, unhooked the cotton waggons and road waggon from the carriages and drew them ahead, and then detached the burning waggons from the first and second waggons in the train which were saved.

2. There can be no doubt, I think, that the fire was due to a spark from the engine falling on a waggon of cotton insecurely sheeted; and, as the Chief Guard's attention had been previously drawn to the imperfect sheeting of the waggons, he has been reduced to an Under Guard.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
31st March 1871.*

3. The contents of the waggons (154 bales of half-pressed cotton, weighing about 14 tons) were entirely consumed, and a claim of Rupees 6,586-6-9 has been paid. The wood-work of the three waggons, as well as of the road waggon, was also consumed.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government, with reference to this office endorsement, No. 485, dated 16th December 1870.

(Signed) C. J. SMITH, Captain, R.E.,
Deputy Consulting Engineer for Railways.

No. 722.

ORDER THEREON, 31st March 1871, No. 952.

RAILWAY, No. 74.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Acting Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

No. 100

Submitted for the information of Government, with
reference to this Office endorsement
No. 485, dated 16th December 1870.

C. J. Smith Capt. R.E.,
Deputy Consulting Engineer for Railways.

ACTING ENGINEER'S OFFICE,
15th March 1871.

The Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department,
Fort Saint George.

No 14 January 71 A. 217-218

For L. Smith & Co
31 Dec 71

For L. Smith & Co
31 Dec 71

[Signature]

Dist. No. 100

10952

RAILWAY DEPARTMENT

[Signature]
1871
No 1193

From

The Consulting Engineer
for Railways

To

The Secretary to Government,
P. W. Department,
Fort St. George.

Dated 15th

March 1871

Received 16th

Ex: 2.

No. 100

Submitting for the in-
formation of Government
further particulars
regarding cartons waggons
on fire at the 169th mile
North West Line on the
13th December 1870.

[Signature]
in order

14 March 71 B. 222

117193
Govt. of 1871 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The Agent-General
for Railways

Date.

Recd.

at 31 March 1872 952

Nos. 7218722

Tramway Report giving
further particulars
of the fire which broke
out in the tramway at
the 8.20 A.M. from
Shanty on the 13th Dec.
Recorded.