M R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages_____

(2) Date of repair_____

(3) Initials of the Reference_____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1899-1900 Press
176-178 Mis.

Dated 10- 8- 1872.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 176. Read the following letter from the Consulting Engineer for Railways, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 22nd July 1872, No. 383 —

I HAVE the honour to submit, for consideration, a letter* from the Agent of the Great Southern of India Railway Company in which Mr Betts urges the advisability of speedily settling the question as to the gauge which is to be finally adopted on the main line of that Railway, and states his opinion "that arrangements should be at once made for bringing about a change of gauge over the full extent of the open line, so that by the time the Southern Extension is ready for public traffic the whole of the system could be worked as a narrow gauge line."

* No 4,599, dated 19th July 1872

2 The Government of India have already recorded their† opinion to the effect that the ultimate conversion to the metre gauge, of the line between Erode and Negapatam, is inevitable; and, under the circumstances mentioned by the Agent, I cannot but think it highly desirable that this question should at once be finally settled, and that immediate measures should be adopted for carrying out the proposed change.

† In letter to Secretary of State, No 75-R, dated 13th July 1871—*Vide* G O, 19th August 1871, No 2,134

3. In my letters to you dated the 26th April and 1st May 1872, Nos. 204 and 214,‡ I have alluded to this question of the gauge to be adopted for the Erode and Negapatam line, pointing out how the fact of its being unsettled bears on other points at issue.

‡ *Vide* G. O, 14th May 1872, Nos 1,227 and 1,321

From the Agent of the Great Southern of India Railway, to the Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Negapatam, 19th July 1872, No 4,599

AT our recent meeting at Trichinopoly it was decided that no further renewals of iron for wooden sleepers should be made upon the eastern section, looking at the probability of a change of gauge soon being effected.

2. The Resident Engineer estimates he has only a sufficient quantity of wooden sleepers in hand to last until about December next, so that it is highly desirable that a decision on the question of gauge should be at once arrived at, or else steps must be taken for the purchase of a further supply of wooden sleepers of the dimensions now in use. I am of opinion that arrangements should be at once made for bringing about a change of gauge over the full extent of the open line, so that by the time the Southern Extension is ready for public traffic the whole of the system could be worked as a narrow gauge line. The existing rolling stock I would suggest could be utilized on the Hyderabad State line.

3 The working of a mixed gauge over a certain section would increase expenditure and prove of great inconvenience in the movement of traffic

Will you kindly take up this question and press for a speedy settlement of it

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
10th August 1872.

No 177. ORDER THEREON, 10th August 1872, No. 1,899.

RAILWAY, No 26.

ORDERED that these papers be forwarded to the Government of India.

(Here enter No 1,900, dated 10th August 1872.)

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R E,
Secretary to Government.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
OOTACAMUND, 10*th August* 1872.

No. 178.

No. 1,900.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY, No 27.

SIR,—In continuation of my letters Nos. 1,228 and 1,322, dated the 14th May 1872, I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to submit, for the consideration of the Government of India, the accompanying letter from the Consulting Engineer for Railways in which Lieutenant-Colonel Shaw-Stewart urges the necessity for speedily settling the question regarding the gauge which is to be adopted on the main line of the Great Southern of India Railway.

2. His Excellency the Governor in Council fully concurs in the views expressed in the despatch from the Government of India to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India, dated 13th July 1871, No. 71-R., namely, that the conversion of the Great Southern of India line between Erode and Negapatam must be regarded as inevitable sooner or later, and might be most advantageously undertaken at once. It was under this conviction that the definitive orders of the Government of India on this subject were solicited in my letter No. 1,228, dated 14th May 1872, and I am now directed to urge, in addition to the grounds already brought forward, that to save further delay on renewals which will eventually be thrown away, as well as to obviate the extra expense that will certainly be entailed by the necessity for working a line of mixed gauge, permission be granted for the early conversion of the existing line to the narrow gauge, and that such permission may be conveyed by telegram.

3. On its receipt the requisite estimates now awaiting a decision on the question will be submitted for the approval and sanction of the Government of India.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Colonel, R E,
Secretary to Government.

Exd E C. Shunker.

Govt. of {1872} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT

OF INDIA.

Dated August 10th.

Recd. *Encl.*

G O, 10th August 1872, No. 1,900.

AUGUST.

No. 178

REQUESTING permission for the early conversion of the existing line of the Great Southern of India Railway to the narrow gauge.

5

No. 4599 GREAT SOUTHERN OF INDIA RAILWAY.

AGENT'S OFFICE,

NEGAPATAM, July. 19 1872

From

THE AGENT,

Great Southern of India Railway,

To The Consulting Engineer
for Railways
Madras

SIR,

At our recent meeting at Trichinopoly it was decided that no further renewals of iron for wooden sleepers should be made upon the eastern section – looking at the probability of a change of guage soon being effected.

The Resident Engineer estimates he has only a sufficient quantity of wooden sleepers in hand to last until about December next, so that it is highly desirable that a decision on the question of guage should be at once arrived at or else steps must be taken for the purchase of a further supply of wooden sleepers of the dimensions now in use

No 81079

Views

Chs Agents

General Ps

No

Chs Canadian Pacific

Jas Railways

Dated 17th July 1879

Recd 22.

Regarding renewals

of leases for meadow &c. at Ogden

I am of opinion that arrangements should be at once made for bringing about a change of guage over the full extent of the open line, so that by the time the Southern Extension is ready for public traffic the whole of the system could be worked as a narrow guage line. The existing rolling stock I would suggest could be utilised on the Hyderabad State line

The working of a mexed guage over a certain section would increase expenditure and prove of great inconvenience in the movement of traffic

Will you kindly take up this question and press for a speedy settlement of it

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obt Servt
Chas Williams Bell
Agent

RAILWAY DEPARTMENT. CONSULTING ENGINEER'S OFFICE.

No. 383.

From Lieutenant John Hawksley Stewart R.E.
Consulting Engineer for Railways,

To Lieut. Col. J. W. Walker R.E.
Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department,
Fort Saint George.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit, 4599 dated 19th July 92 for consideration a letter from the Agent of the Great Southern of India Railway Company, in which he begs to ask the advisability of speedily settling the question as to the gauge which is to be finally adopted on the main line of that railway, & states his opinion "that arrangements should
" be at once made for bringing about
" a change of gauge over the full
" extent of the open line, so that by
" the time the southern extension is
" ready for public traffic the whole
of

"of the system could be worked as a narrow gauge line."

2. The Government of Bombay have already recorded their opinion to the effect that the ultimate conversion to the metre gauge, of the line between Erode & Negapatam, is inevitable; and under the circumstances mentioned by the Agent, I cannot but think it highly desirable that this question should be once for finally settled, & that immediate measures should be adopted for carrying out the proposed change.

3. In my letters to you dated the 26th April, & 1st May 1872, Nos 204 & 214, I have alluded to this question of the gauge to be adopted on the Erode & Negapatam line, pointing out how the fact of it being unsettled bears on other points at issue

× Vide Secretary of State No 75 R. dated 13 July 1871 & vide G.O. 17th Aug 1871 No 2134.

× Vide G.O. 11th May 1872 Nos 1227 & 1321.

Madras — 22nd July 1872

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
Lieutenant Colonel R.E.
Com'r Ry: for Railways

Public Works 1872 Depart.
Proc: of 4th Oct. 1872
No. 3568

RAILWAY DEPARTMENT

1872.

From

The Consulting Engineer
for Railways,

To

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

Dated 22nd July 1872.
Recd. 24th

Enclos: One

No. 383.

No. 1899-1900-10 Aug. 6
Urging the advisability of speedily settling the question as to the gauge which is to be finally adopted on the main line of the G. I. P. Ry.

No. 1176
Copied to Board 25th Sept. 72

the Consulting Engineer
for Railways in which
Lieutenant Coll. Shaw
Stewart urges the necessity
for speedily settling
the question regarding
the gauge which is
to be adopted on the
main line of the
Great Sw. of India
Railway.

His Excellency
the Governor in Council
fully concurs in the
views expressed in the
despatch from the
Govt. of India to the
Right Honble the Secretary

of State for India
dated 13th July 1871
No. R. wz that the
connexion of the Great
Sw. of India Line
between Agra and Ne.
Japatam must be
regarded as inevitable
sooner or later, and
might be most advan.
tageously undertaken
at once. It was under
this conviction that the
definitive orders of the
Government of India
on this subject were
solicited in my letter
No. 1228 dated 11th
May 1872, and I am
now directed to urge
in addition to the
grounds already brought

awaiting a decision on the question will be submitted for the approval and sanction of the Government of India -

Dispatch 16/8/72 with Correspondence 1899 of 1872.

Cho 35, 8.

Govt. of 1872, Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS. ✓

To The Commanding Engrs for Railways & To the Secretary to the Govt of India

Recd

Encl / V

G.O. 10 Aug 72, No 899-900

Nos. 176-177 & 178

(No 33) (Great Sn of India Rly)

Forwarding orders on letters from the C.E. Supt for Rly urging the desirability of speedily settling the question as to the gauge which is to be finally adopted on the main line of the G.I.P. Rly.

Requesting permission to clearly conversion of the branch line of the Great Sn of India Railway gauge.