M.R.O. 1—77,004—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2169 Press
179-180 Mis.

Dated 12- 9- 1872.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 179. Read the following letter from the Officiating Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Railway,) to the Governments of Madras and Bombay, and the Consulting Engineers at Calcutta, Lahore, and Lucknow, dated Simla, 23rd August 1872, Nos. 1,365—69 G.R. :—

I AM directed to forward a copy of the papers noted in the margin, detailing the instructions issued by the Quarter Master General's Department for the safe custody of the padlocks and keys to be used with baggage waggons in extra troop trains. Under these instructions, the responsibility for the safe custody of the padlocks and keys rests with the Military Authorities; the intervention of the Railway Authorities being restricted to aiding in the return of the padlocks to the particular station from which supplied, by granting "free transit labels;" and I am desired to request that the assent of the Railway Companies may be obtained to the proposed arrangement.

From Quarter Master General, to Military Department, No. 2,167, dated 17th June 1872.
From Military Department, to Quarter Master General, No. 498, Transport—Railway, dated 25th June 1872.
From Quarter Master General, to Military Department, No. 3,490, dated 30th July 1872.
From Military Department, to Government of India, Public Works Department, No. 270, Transport—Railway, dated 10th August 1872.

From Colonel P. S. LUMSDEN, Quarter Master General, to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Military Department, dated Simla, 17th June 1872, No. 2,167.

WITH reference to Military Department letter No. 510 (Transport—Railways), dated 16th October 1871, conveying the decision of Government regarding the responsibility of Railway Companies for the baggage of troops conveyed by extra troops trains, I am desired by the Right Honourable the Commander-in-Chief to suggest that padlocks and keys to be used with baggage waggons may be deposited at railway stations in charge of the Station Master, by whom the number required will be made over to the Officer Commanding the troops, the latter furnishing a receipt for the same.

2. At the end of the journey the padlocks and keys will be made over by the Commanding Officer to the Station Master, whose receipts will be forwarded by the said Commanding Officer to the Staff Officer, who originally despatched the train, or, in the event of a transfer of trains, to the despatching officer at the station from which the padlocks were received.

3. His Excellency foresees considerable inconvenience and trouble both to staff and regimental officers, if any other course is adopted. The officers of this department have no means at their disposal for securing the safety of a large number of padlocks, neither have regimental officers; and at the end of the journey, when the troops march away from a station, unless the railway officials are authorized to take the padlocks over, it will be scarcely possible to avoid their being mislaid or lost.

From Colonel H. K. BURNE, Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to the Quarter Master General, dated Simla, 25th June 1872, No. 498.

I AM directed to acknowledge your letter, "Railways," No. 2,167, dated 17th June 1872, regarding the custody of the padlocks and keys required to secure the baggage waggons of extra troop trains, and in reply to state that the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council is of opinion that probably the Railway Authorities would object to take charge or to be held responsible for the instant provision of these articles, which are the property of the Military Authorities. Should they, however, make no objection to doing so, His Excellency in Council considers that it would be far more expedient that these padlocks and keys should not remain in the railway station, but in the custody of those for the protection of whose baggage they are intended.

2. I am to inquire, therefore, whether, under the orders of the Right Honourable the Commander-in-Chief, some arrangement cannot be devised in your department which shall secure the safe keeping of the padlocks without incurring the loss and inconvenience contemplated in your letter under reply.

From Colonel J. WRIGHT, Officiating Quarter Master General, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, dated Simla, 30th July 1872, No. 3,490.

In acknowledging the receipt of Military Department No. 498 (Transport—Railways), dated 25th June 1872, I am directed by the Right Honourable the Commander-in-Chief to intimate that instructions have been issued for the padlocks and keys used with troop extra trains to be issued as required and taken charge of by Deputy Assistants Quarter Master General, Station Staff Officers, and Transport Serjeants, as may be most convenient at the different stations, the intervention of the Railway Authorities being restricted to aiding in the return of the padlocks to the particular station from whence supplied, by granting "free transit labels."

2. I am accordingly to convey His Excellency's recommendation that the necessary arrangements may be entered into with the Railway Authorities to comply with applications for "free transit labels" for this purpose, when required by any of the officials above named.

Office Memorandum by Colonel A. JOHNSON, Officiating Deputy Secretary to the Government of India in the Military Department, dated Simla, 10th August 1870, No. 270.

With reference to the correspondence marginally cited, regarding the responsibility of Railway Companies for the baggage of troops conveyed by extra troop trains, the undersigned is directed to transmit to the Public Works Department the documents noted in the margin, showing the instructions issued for the safe custody of the padlocks and keys to be used with baggage waggons, and to request that if there be no objection, the proposed arrangements may be made with the Railway Authorities in view to the return of these articles to the particular station whence they were supplied by the grant of "free transit labels."

From Public Works Department, No. 1,938-R., dated 5th October 1871.
To ditto No. 511, dated 16th do. do.
From Quarter Master General, No. 2,167, dated 17th June 1872.
To ditto No. 498, dated 25th June 1872.
From ditto „ 3490, „ 30th July „
} Return requested.

No. 1,370-G.R.

Copy forwarded to the Military Department for information, with reference to its memorandum No. 270, (Transport—Railway,) dated 10th August 1872, the original enclosures of which are herewith returned as requested.

No. 180. Order thereon, 12th September 1872, No. 2,169.

RAILWAY, No. 29.

Communicated to the Consulting Engineer for Railways with a view to the assent of the Railway Companies being obtained to the arrangement proposed in these papers.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

No. 1872 Dep.
No. 429.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY.

To

THE GOVERNMENTS OF MADRAS AND BOMBAY,
AND THE CONSULTING ENGINEERS, CALCUTTA,
LAHORE, AND LUCKNOW.

Nos. 1365—70 G—R.

Sated Simla, 23rd August 1872.

Received 3rd September 1872.

Enc: 1.

C.R. for Rly. Dept.
Rly. Dept.
Aug. 23/72
Aug. 24/72

No. 2169.

Communicated to the Cavalry
Engrs. for Rly.
the Railways with a view to the necessary
Railway Companies being obtained to the
arrangements proposed in the accompanying papers.

Ens.

Forwards copy of papers detailing the instructi
issued by the Quarter Master General's Department
the safe custody of the padlocks and keys to be used w
baggage wagons in extra troop trains, and requests t
the assent of the Railway Companies may be obtained
the proposed arrangement.

No. 2169 - 12 Sept 1872

Cl. 4296

Govt. of {1872} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Consulting Engr. for Railways

Dated

Rcd. Encl. 1

G. O. 12th Septr No. 2169.

Nos. 179 & 180

Track Drains. Letter from the Govt. Madras forwarding Copy of Papers detailing instructions issued for the safe custody of the Rail Chairs & Keys to be used with Luggage Engines in Ophir Troop Trains & Regrets that the assembly of Rly. Co.s may be obtained of the proposed arrangement, from which Engineers