M.R.O. 1—77,006—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. 2236-37 Press / Mis.
288-290.

Dated 20- 9- 1842.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 20th September 1872.

No. 288. Read the following letter from the Consulting Engineer for Railways, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 3rd September 1872, No. 467:—

With reference to the Order of Government No. 1,806, dated 30th July 1872, I have the honour to submit a letter* from the Agent of the Madras Railway Company relating to the submission of the audited weekly traffic returns.

*No. 586, dated 16th August 1872.

2. The Chief Auditor, while promising every exertion to render the returns promptly, states that it will be impossible to furnish them within three weeks in order to insure their reaching the Government of India in the fourth week; but he hopes to be able to submit them during the fourth week.

3. Under the circumstances explained in Mr. Church's letter, it is scarcely possible to expect anything better at present, but I shall not lose sight of the matter in the hope of being able to effect an improvement hereafter.

From the Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway Company, to the Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Madras, 16th August 1872, No. 586.

With reference to your letter of the 8th instant, No. 636, and to G. O, No. 1,806, dated 30th July, I have the honour to enclose you the copy of a letter* which I have this morning received from the Chief Auditor upon the subject of the submission of the audited traffic returns of this Railway.

* No. 713, dated 15th August.

2. You will perceive that Mr. Church promises that every exertion shall be made to render the returns promptly, though he does not consider that it will be possible to furnish you with the audited traffic statements within three weeks from the close of the periods to which they relate. The Chief Auditor, however, hopes to be able to submit the returns on a day in the fourth week.

From the Chief Auditor, to the Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway Company, dated Madras, 15th August 1872, No. 713.

Referring to the Consulting Engineer's letter No. 636, dated 8th instant, I beg to inform you that it has been our earnest desire to get our audited traffic accounts prepared as soon as possible in order that they might be forwarded to the Government of India by the earliest date practicable.

2. Since the date of the Resolution, No. 1,608, dated 1st September 1871, the most we have been enabled to do towards meeting the requisition of the Consulting Engineer, namely, to furnish the returns within three weeks from the close of the periods to which they relate, has been to send them on the 26th day.

3. I was in hopes that on the arrival of an Assistant from England with the latest experience of the English clearing-house, and of the practice on the best managed English Railways, we should have been able to see our way to a more prompt preparation of our audited traffic, and since the arrival of Mr. Kinselle we began to find that the arrears into which we had fallen in the early part of this year, consequent on a change in the station accounts, referred to in my letter No. 703, dated 11th July 1872, but more particularly in consequence of a misinterpretation on the part of the Great Indian Peninsula of the agreement entered into between the two Companies, both of which acted as a drag on our audit, were on the eve of being cleared up. But unfortunately at this very juncture Mr. Kinselle ran away from Madras in sheer fright of the climate and of dengue fever.

4. During the time Mr. Kinselle was with us many opportunities were taken both by Mr. Atkinson and myself to ascertain whether our system was in any way behind the practice on the best managed lines in England, and so far as Mr. Kinselle's experience carried him he informed us that it was identically the same as on English lines, excepting that we dealt with our traffic returns in more detail than they do in England. This, in my opinion, is all in favour of our system, and under no circumstances could I recommend a departure from it.

5. It is, however, doubtful whether we should ever have been able, even with the latest experience of traffic audit as conducted in England, to render our weekly audited traffic returns within the time prescribed by the Consulting Engineer, namely, "*within* three weeks," but I have very little doubt about our treading very closely on that limit.

Our returns from stations are received, say on the 6th day after date, our slip statement of traffic is rendered a week after, and our traffic may be completely audited and booked in another week. It has then to be abstracted from the books and the percentages and mileage calculated; so that the shortest period in which it can be prepared is on a day in the fourth week. This, of course, is on the supposition that all goes on smoothly, that every station renders its returns punctually, and that all information necessary for the completion of the week's traffic is forthcoming. But circumstances will arise such as those referred to in the early part of this letter which serve to upset the best laid plan and system.

No. 289. ORDER THEREON, 20th September 1872, No. 2,236.

RAILWAY, No. 50.

ORDERED that these papers be forwarded for the information of the Government of India, with reference to their Proceedings communicated with the under-mentioned orders:—

G. O., No. 2,415, dated 21st September 1871.
" " 1,806, " 30th July 1872.
" " 1,940, " 14th August "

(Here enter No. 2,237, dated 20th September 1872.)

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Exd. C. E. Shunker.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
OOTACAMUND, *20th September* 1872.

No. 290.

No. 2,237.

To

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

RAILWAY, No. 51.

From Government of India, No. 1,608, dated 1st September 1871..
Do. do., dated No. 1,068, 12th July 1872.
Do. do., dated " 479, 30th " "

SIR,—With reference to the correspondence noted in the margin calling attention to delay in the submission of the weekly audited traffic returns on Guaranteed Railways and pointing out the necessity for more promptitude in future, I am directed to forward the accompanying letters from which it will be observed that it is represented by the officers of the Madras Railway as being impracticable, under present circumstances, to forward the returns at a period earlier than the fourth week after that to which they relate. The Consulting Engineer will, however, keep the matter in view and endeavour to effect an improvement hereafter.

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

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

Exd E. C. Shunker.

weeks in order to insure their reaching the

5-9

RAILWAY DEPARTMENT. CONSULTING ENGINEER'S OFFICE.

No. 467-

From Lieutt Coll. J. H. M. Shaw-Stewart R.E.

Consulting Engineer for Railways,

To Colonel G. W. Walker R.E.

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

SIR,

With reference to the order of Government No. 1226 dated 30th July 1872, I have the honour to submit a letter from the Agent of the Madras Railway Company relating to the submission of the audited weekly traffic returns.

No. 586 dated 16th August 1872.

2. The Chief Auditor, while promising every exertion to render the returns promptly, states that it will be impossible to furnish them within three weeks in order to insure their reaching the

the Government of India in the fourth week, but he hopes to be able to submit them during the fourth week.

3. Under the circumstances explained in Mr. Church's letter it is scarcely possible to expect anything better at present, but I shall not lose sight of the matter in the hope of being able to effect an improvement hereafter.

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant

Madras
3rd September 1872

Lieutt Colonel R.E.
Cons: Engineer for Railways.

No. 586.

MADRAS RAILWAY.

AGENT AND MANAGER'S OFFICE.

Madras, 16th August 1872.

From

R. B. Elwin Esqre,

Agent and Manager, of the M & R.C.

To

Lieutt Col. J Hall & Law Stewart RE

Consulting Engineer for Railways.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 8th instant No 636 and to G.O No 1806 dated the 30th of July, I have the honour to enclose you the Copy of a letter which I have this morning received from the Chief Auditor upon the subject of the submission of the audited Traffic Returns of this Railway.

2 You will perceive that Mr. Church promises that every exertion shall be made to render the returns promptly, though he does not consider that it will be possible to furnish you with

713 - 15th August

P. W. 1872 Railway Department.

Govt of Fort St George

No. 4334.

Rd 21st July/72 Read. 26th

From

The Consulting Engineer for Railways,

To

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

Dated 20th July 1872.
Recd. 25th

C No. 2236. 2237. 20-7-72

No. 4847-

Submitting a letter received from the Agent & Manager of the M. & R. Railway, relating to the submission of the audited weekly traffic returns.

No. 288

Audited & duly forwarded

the audited Traffic Statements within 3 weeks from the close of the periods to which they relate. The Chief Auditor however hopes to be able to submit the returns on a delay in the 4th. week.

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your most Obedient Servant

Thos. H. Hawkins

Agent and Manager

MADRAS RAILWAY.

From

The Agent and Manager.

To

The Consulting Engineer

for Railways.

Dated 16 August 1872.
Recd. 17 Aug. 1872.
No. 5P6.

Inclosed Copy of a letter from the Chief Auditor forwarding information with regard to the arrangements of the Audited Traffic Returns by Postal Packages—

P.R. 42344/2.

Rec'd 19/8/72 L.D. 1285.

13a

Madras Railway Company
Chief Auditor's Office
Madras 15th August 1872

No 713.

Dear Sir,

Referring to the Consulting Engineer's letter No 636 dated 8th instant, I beg to inform you that it has been our earnest desire to get our Audited Traffic Accounts prepared as soon as possible in order that they might be forwarded to the Government of India by the earliest date practicable.

Since the date of the Resolution No 1608 dated 1st September 1871 the most we have been enabled to do towards meeting the requisition of the Consulting Engineer, namely to furnish the returns within three weeks from the close of the periods to which they relate, has been to send them out the 26th day.

I was in hopes that on the arrival of our Assistant from England with the latest experience of the English Clearing House, and of the practice on the best managed English Railways we should have been able to see our way to a more prompt preparation of our Audited Traffic, and since the arrival of Mr. Hamilton we began to find that the difficulties into which we had fallen in the early part of this year consequent on a change in the Station Accounts, referred to in my letter No 703 dated 11th July 1872 but more particularly in consequence of a mis-interpretation on the part of the G. I. P. of the Agreement entered into between the two Companies, both

of which acted as a drag on our Audit, were on the verge of being cleared up. But unfortunately at this very juncture Mr Hinxelle ran away from Madras in sheer fright of the climate and of Dengue fever.

During the time Mr. Hinxelle was with us many opportunities were taken both by Mr. A.T. Kinross and myself to ascertain whether our system was in any way behind the practice on the best managed lines in England, and so far as Mr. Hinxelle's experience carried him he informed us that it was identically the same as on English lines excepting that we dealt with our Traffic Returns in more detail than they do in England. This is my opinion is all in favour of our system, and under no circumstances could I recommend a departure from it.

It is however doubtful whether we should ever have been able, even with the latest experience of Traffic Audit as conducted in England, to render our Weekly Audited Traffic returns within the time prescribed by the Consulting Engineer namely "within 3 weeks", but I have very little doubt about our treading very closely on that limit.

Our returns from Stations are received say on the 6th day after date, our Skip Statement of traffic is rendered a week after, and our traffic may be completely Audited and booked in another week. It has then to be abstracted from the books and the percentages and mileage calculated. So that the shortest period in which it can be prepared is one day in the 4th week. This, of course, is on the supposition that all goes on smoothly, that every Station renders its returns punctually and that all information necessary for the completion of the weeks traffic is forthcoming.

But circumstances will arise such as those referred to in the early part of this letter which serve to upset the best laid plan and system.

Yours faithfully
(Sd) Fitzgerald Church
Chief Auditor.

The Agent and Manager,

True Copy
Agent & Manager.

WM

Pub. 4534/72.
Simla. Govt. Press.

Pub. Works

No. 1223 Dated 17th

Rec. 25th Sept. 72

Read the following

from the Secretary to the Govt. of India

No. 4334

Ordered that

these papers be forwarded

for the information of

the Government of India

with reference to their

Proceedings communi-

cated with the under-

mentioned orders.

G.O. No 2415 dy 21st Septr 1871

" " 1806 dy 30th July 1872

" " 1940 dy 14th Augt 1872

To The Secy to Govt

for Railways &c &c &c

To

No. 2237.

To

The Secretary to the
Government of India.

Sir,

With reference to the correspondence noted in the margin calling attention to delay in the submission of the weekly audited traffic returns on Guaranteed Railways and pointing out the necessity for more promptitude in future, I am directed to forward the accompanying letters, from which it will be observed that it is represented

From Govt of India
No 1608 of 1st Septr 1871
" 1068 " 12th July 1872
" 479 " 30th " " 1872.

represented by the Officers of the Madras Railway as being impracticable, under present circumstances, to forward the returns at a period earlier than the fourth week after that to which they relate. The Consulting Engineer will however keep the matter in view and endeavour to effect an improvement hereafter.

Genl

24/2

Desp 25/9/72 with 7 Encs
Govt 2236 of 1872.

No 4334

Govt. of {1872} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Executive Engineer
for Palacoy

Dated

Recd. Encl 2

G. O. 20 Sept No 2236-223

Nos. 288-289-290

Traffic Returns. Submits for
the Letter from the Comptr.
Submitting the Report from the
Agent, Madras Ry, Relative
to the Submission of the
audited weekly Traffic
Returns.

Forwards Correspondence
relating to the Submission of
the audited weekly Traffic
Returns.

Entered in Abstract Book Cor 11 S