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. 1456, 457	2495	Press / Mis.
Dated	28 11	1892

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 28th November 1872.

No. 456. Read the following Proceedings of the Government of India in the Public Works Department, (Railway,) dated Simla, 2nd November 1872, No. 1,743—7 G. R:—

Transport of Military Prisoners by Rail.

READ—

From the Officiating Quarter Master General, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, dated Simla, 12th July 1872, No. 2,773.

As the necessity for sending military prisoners by rail for trial at the different High Courts is of frequent occurrence, I am directed by the Right Honourable the Commander-in-Chief to suggest the advisability of a railway carriage on each of the existing lines being fitted up for this especial purpose, so that the journey may be accomplished without incurring more risk than can reasonably be avoided.

2. At times, long distances have to be traversed by rail, and it appears to His Excellency that the ordinary railway carriage with its unprotected glass windows and often unclosed doors presents great facilities for the escape of prisoners, and offers to daring and reckless men the opportunity of defeating justice by injuring themselves during transit, while the insecurity commented on entails an undue degree of responsibility and anxiety on the escort answerable for the prisoners' safety, which it appears very desirable to lessen.

From the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to the Officiating Quarter Master General, dated Simla, 22nd July 1872, No. 546.

I AM directed to acknowledge your letter "Railways," No. 2,773, dated 12th July 1872, and to state that, before addressing the Public Works Department on the subject, I am desired to inquire whether it is known if there are any special carriages on English lines for prisoners, and further, whether in speaking of unclosed doors merely unlocked doors is meant, as ordinarily the doors are always closed and sometimes locked; while in the case of a carriage carrying prisoners they would always be locked.

From the Officiating Quarter Master General, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, dated Simla 7th October 1872, No. 7,353.

WITH reference to Military Department, No. 546, dated 22nd July 1872, $\frac{\text{Transport}}{\text{Railway}}$, I am directed by the Right Honourable the Commander-in-Chief to submit, for the consideration of Government, the correspondence noted in the margin, relating to the means adopted by the East Indian Railway Company for the conveyance of civil prisoners, on sufficient notice being given.

1.—No. 6,252, dated 6th August 1872.
2.— „ 6,685, „ 22nd „ „
3.— „ 7,077, „ 9th September „ from Agent, East Indian Railway Company.

2. The Commander-in-Chief is of opinion that the precautions adopted will provide sufficiently for the safety of military prisoners; but as only a portion of a carriage will be fitted up for their reception, as occasion requires, His Excellency considers that some sort of screen is very necessary to protect European prisoners from the view of the inmates of other compartments.

Memorandum from the Agent, East Indian Railway Company, to the Officiating Quarter Master General, dated Calcutta, 6th August 1872, No. 6,252.

IN reply to your letter, No. 3,410, of the 27th ultimo, the Agency have the honour to state that they are not aware of any special carriage being employed in England for the conveyance of prisoners.

2. On the Company's line here, there are special vehicles for the conveyance of prisoners, the use of which can be obtained by giving sufficient previous notice.

From the Agent, East Indian Railway Company, to the Officiating Quarter Master General, dated Calcutta, 22nd August 1872, No. 6,685.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your No. 4,371, of 16th August, asking for a description or plan of the prison van, and in reply to state that the special vehicle built for this purpose was found to be unsuitable for the purpose not in respect of the acccommodation it afforded, but because the running of a whole carriage was seldom or never required.

2. In consequence of this, another plan has been adopted, which is applicable to any third class carriage, and can be put on for one or more compartments in five minutes. It consists simply of an iron frame which is applied from inside of the carriage. Four projecting eye-bolts stand out from the frame far enough from the body to admit of threading to horizontal bars through which padlocks are fixed.

3. If it be likely that these iron frames will meet the requirements of the Military authorities, as it has already been decided that they will do for civil purposes, you can, if you please, depute some one to see them attached to a carriage at Howrah, and on your signifying a wish to this effect, the necessary orders will be given on any day that may suit your convenience.

4. Should you wish to inspect the model of the prison van purposely constructed for this purpose, it can be seen here or sent over to Fort William for your inspection. The objection to it is simply the extra expense involved when there are not sufficient prisoners to fill it.

From the Agent, East Indian Railway Company, to the Officiating Quarter Master General, dated Calcutta, 9th September 1872, No. 7,077.

IN reply to your letter, No. 5,418, of the 2nd instant, I beg to state that in the temporarily converted compartments of third class carriages referred to, the prisoners are not screened from the view of the inmates of the other compartments. The compartments are divided by perpendicular iron bars hardly wide enough to admit of a hand passing through.

From the Officiating Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to the Officiating Quarter Master General, dated Simla, 21st October 1872, No. 727.

I AM directed to acknowledge your letter No. 7,353,* dated 7th October 1872, and in reply to acquaint you, for the information of the Right Honourable the Commander-in-Chief, that the Honourable the President in Council concurs with His Excellency in thinking that the means adopted by the East Indian Railway Company for the conveyance of civil prisoners, will, with the addition of some sort of screen, answer perfectly for the safe conveyance of military prisoners.

2. A copy of the correspondence will be forwarded to the Public Works Department, in view to the Company being asked to provide the screen suggested by His Excellency.

* "Railways."

No. 728.

COPY of the foregoing, with a copy of the documents marginally noted, forwarded to the Public Works Department, with a request that, should there be no objection in that department, the requisite steps may be taken for causing the screen suggested by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief to be added to the existing accommodation.

From Quarter Master General, No. 2,773, dated 12th July 1872.
To do. No. 546, dated 22nd July 1872.
From do. No. 7,353, dated 7th October 1872, and annexures.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Governments and Officers noted in the margin for information, with a request that steps may be taken to meet His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief's wishes, and that any information as to the framework referred to as in use on the East Indian Railway, may be obtained direct from the Consulting Engineer to the Government of India for Guaranteed Railways at Calcutta.

Governments of Madras and Bombay.
Consulting Engineers to the Government of India for Guaranteed Railways at Calcutta, Lahore, and Lucknow.

(Signed) K. C. PYE,
Assistant Secretary.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
28th November 1872.

No. 457. ORDER THEREON, 28th November 1872, No. 2,795.

RAILWAY, No. 74.

COMMUNICATED to the Consulting Engineer for Railways, who will, in communication with the Railway Agents, report in what manner the object in view may best be met.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

P. W. 1872 Department
No 3576.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY.

To

Nos. 1743—7 G—R.

Dated SIMLA, *2nd November* 1872.

Received 13th November 1872.

Comg Engineers per Railways
No 12 29/11/72

No 2795
Forwarded to the Executive Engineer for Railways,
who will, his communication
the objection with the Railway Agents, be kept in view when
Sd/ [illegible]

Transport of military prisoners by rail.

No 2795-28th Nov/72.
With an Order

Ch-5376

Govt. of {1872} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The Consulting Engineer

for Railways.

Dated

Rec'd.

Encl.

G. O. 28th March 1872, No. 295.

Nos. 456 & 457

Transport of Military prisoners by rail. Prov. Rules passed by the provision of Special accommodation for the transport of Military prisoners by rail, Con.d. Law Charges. with instructions.