

(1) Number of pages _____

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

(Public Works) **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	956	Press
172-173		Mis.
Dated	12 4	18 12.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
12th April 1872.*

No. 172. Read the following Proceedings of the Government of India in the Public Works Department, (Telegraph,) dated Fort William, 13th March 1872, No. 114—25 T:—

Cutting of trees which interfere with the working of telegraphs.

Read the following papers:—

- Letter from Officiating Director-General of Telegraphs, No. 203, of 29th September 1871 and enclosure.
- Letter to Officiating Director-General of Telegraphs, No. 421 T, of 20th October 1871.
- Letter from Officiating Director-General of Telegraphs, No. 281, of 4th December 1871, and enclosure.
- Letter to Officiating Director-General of Telegraphs, No. 495 T, of 21st December 1871.
- Letter to Secretary, Government of Bengal, Public Works Department, No. 496 T, of 21st December 1871.
- Letter to Secretary, Government of Bengal, General Department, No. 497 T, of 21st December 1871.
- Letter from Officiating Director-General of Telegraphs, No. 333, of 5th January 1872, and enclosures.
- Letter to Officiating Director-General of Telegraphs, No. 29 T, of 17th January 1872.
- Letter from Secretary, Government of Bengal, Public Works Department, No. 1,036, of 24th February 1872.
- Letter from Officiating Director-General of Telegraphs, No. 411, of 2nd March 1872.
- Letter to Officiating Director-General of Telegraphs, No. 105, of 11th March 1872.
- Letter to Secretary, Government of Bengal, Public Works Department, No. 106, of 11th March 1872.

OBSERVATIONS.—Complaints have been made of officers of the Telegraph Department cutting down trees, and removing branches which interfered with the telegraph wires, without the knowledge or consent of the Civil authorities, or the officers under whose charge the trees were. Again, the Telegraph officers complain of obstructions to their work, and it is mentioned that trees are often planted below the lines, so that they must grow up and stop communication. It may perhaps, not be generally known that contact of the wires, with trees, even with leaves and twigs, may stop messages going along the wires, and certainly will impair the communication. It is thought advisable therefore to frame a set of rules on the subject for the guidance of Telegraph and other public officers. It is desired that, on the one hand, the telegraphic communication, which is so valuable to the Government and the public, may not be impeded by the Telegraph officers being hampered in their action in removing promptly causes of interruption and of imperfect communication; and that, on the other hand, unnecessary injury to trees, whether as private or public property, as affecting the convenience of travellers, the wishes of the people and Local authorities, or the beauty of the country, may not be occasioned by the hasty action of officers, who in their zeal for their own work, may be apt not to give due attention to these matters.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department.
12th April 1872.*

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of the foregoing Observations be forwarded to the Local Governments and Administrations marginally noted, with a request that the Government of India may be favoured with suggestions regarding the rules to be adopted.

(Signed) C. H. DICKENS, Colonel, R.A.,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 173.

ORDER THEREON, 12th April 1872, No. 956.

TELEGRAPH, No. 4.

COMMUNICATED, through the Revenue Department, to the Board of Revenue for any suggestions they may have to offer.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.

Secretary to Government.

To the Revenue Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Ct 1429
Govt. of Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To *The Revenue Department*

Date

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 12th April No. 956.

Nos. 172 & 173

Telegraphs. No. of the Govt.
of India forwarding copy
of observations relative
to the cutting of trees
which interfere with the
working of telegraphs
& requesting suggestions
regarding the framing
of a set of rules, &c.
The Rev. Dept.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

TELEGRAPH.

To

No. 114—25 T.

Dated March 13, 1872.

Received — 21.

*Cutting of trees which interfere with the
working of telegraphs.*

P. W. Dept. Press—13-3-72—102.

No. 956-12 April 1872

With an order