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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2167-68	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
504/508.		
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Dated	29.8.	473
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Not to be folded or roughly

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
29th August 1873.*

No. 504. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. M. SHAW-STEWART, R.E., Consulting Engineer for Railways, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 23rd July 1873, No. 387 :—

I HAVE the honour to submit, for the consideration of Government, a letter* from the Agent of the Madras Railway giving cover to an extract from the Board's letter, No. 512, dated the 20th June 1873, in which the Directors express their concurrence with the Company's Officers at Madras in an opinion opposed to the proposal to transfer to the Government the maintenance and technical supervision of the Telegraph wires required for the separate use of the Company.

2. A copy of the Proceedings of the Committee alluded to in the Board's letter, at a meeting held in Madras upon the 19th July 1872, is also submitted for the information and consideration of Government.

3. Previous correspondence upon the subject is embodied in the following Proceedings of Government :—

No. 2,331, dated 14th September 1871.

„ 2,782, „ 3rd November „

„ 3,052, „ 2nd December „

„ 1,878, „ 8th August 1872.

From J. W. MELLIS, Esq., for the Acting Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway Company, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. M. SHAW-STEWART, R.E., Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Madras, 22nd July 1873, No. 523.

WITH reference to your letter, No. 233, of the 5th of March 1873, and to previous correspondence upon the subject of the transfer of Railway Telegraphs to the Government, I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of the 8th paragraph of a letter received from the Board of Directors, No. 512, dated the 20th of June 1873.

Extract from a letter from the Secretary, Madras Railway Company, No. 512, dated London, the 20th June 1873.

PARAGRAPH 8.—Adverting to paragraphs 39 and 40 of 1,042, and to the Order of Government, No. 6, dated 3rd March 1873, on the subject of the modified arrangements for the rent of Government Telegraph wires, I am directed to state that it appears to the Board that these rules are such as would have to be taken into consideration after the Railway Company had consented to transfer to the Government the maintenance and technical supervision of the telegraphs retained for the Company's own separate use, but they in no way affect the very strong reasons against any such transfer. The whole question of the transfer to the Government was carefully considered by a Committee of the Company's Officers at Madras, and in the views expressed by them the Board entirely concur. It may be mentioned that in this country the Postal Telegraph Department has, it is believed, without a single exception, left the entire control, maintenance, and working of the Railway Telegraphs in the hands of the Railway Companies to whom they belong.

(True Extract.)

J. W. MELLIS,
for Ag. Agent and Manager.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
29th August 1873.*

MADRAS RAILWAY.

*At a Meeting held at the Agent and Manager's Office, Royapooram Terminus, on Friday
the 19th of July 1872.*

PRESENT :

Mr. B. ANDERSON, Chief Engineer.
.. H. E. CHURCH, Traffic Manager.
.. R. B. ELWIN, Agent and Manager.

The Agent and Manager read paragraph 12 of the Secretary's letter, No. 492, dated London, the 24th of May 1872, in which the Directors desire that the question of the transfer to Government of the Railway lines of Telegraph may be re-considered, for though the Board continue to agree with their officers in India that the measure is undesirable both for economical and other important reasons, they do not wish to stand in the way of any measure which may be generally agreed to by the other Companies, provided it can be carried into effect on equitable principles and without injury either to the interests of their shareholders or the efficiency of the public service.

2. The Committee having again carefully considered their former report, and having had the advantage of reading Act CX. of the 31st July 1868, and also a copy of an agreement founded thereon made between Her Majesty's Postmaster-General and the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway Company, are more than ever convinced that no transfer to the Government either of the Company's lines of Telegraph, or of the maintenance and technical supervision thereof, could be effected without seriously jeopardising the efficient working of the Railway.

3. Before proceeding further the Committee desire to remind the Directors that the Telegraph on the Madras Railway was erected solely for the purposes of working the traffic, and that it may be said to be now used exclusively for that purpose, for although public messages are received for transmission by the Railway wires, such messages are very few in number, and are only received upon the condition that the Company's own messages are in all cases to take precedence.

4. The necessity for thus reserving the wires exclusively for the purpose of working the line will be apparent when it is borne in mind that the Madras Railway is a single line of 832 miles in length, on which all operations in connection with the alterations of meeting stations of ordinary trains, and the running of all special trains, are entirely dependent upon the efficient conduct of the Telegraph.

5. The Committee consider it scarcely necessary to remind the Directors that such a state of things has no existence upon English lines. It is nevertheless explicitly provided in Clause IX., paragraph 2, of Act CX. of 31st July 1868, that "all the posts, wires, instruments, and other telegraphic apparatus belonging to the Railway Company, and also all posts, wires, instruments, and other telegraphic apparatus belonging to the Telegraph Companies on the Railway Company's lines and Canals, which are necessary for establishing a complete system of telegraph in connection with the working of trains and the traffic of the lines and canals, shall become the absolute property of the Railway Company, and shall be handed over to them by the Postmaster-General free of charge in efficient working order, so that the Railway Company may be in a position at once to take up and carry on their own Telegraph, work on their own system, and thereafter the said posts, wires, instruments, and other telegraphic apparatus shall be maintained and worked by the Railway Company."

6. Seeing the importance which the Railway Companies in England attach to the retention in their own hands of the management and maintenance of the lines of Telegraph required for the working of the traffic on their several undertakings, which are almost without exception double lines of Railway, it appears to the Committee to be much more essential that a Company working a single line of railway like this should be responsible for and have a perfect control over the management and maintenance of such wires as are required for working the traffic; and in the

* Vide Appendix.

case of the Madras Railway, as has been shown above, the whole of the Company's existing Telegraph system is used, and is absolutely necessary for such purposes.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
29th August 1873.*

7. The Committee have less hesitation in stating their views so strongly in consequence of their notice having been specially called by the Directors to the essential points in the agreement between Her Majesty's Postmaster-General and the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway Company. Among these points as set out in the Secretary's letter is the reservation to the Company of "absolute freedom in the management of such telegraphic lines, apparatus, and establishments as may be required for the safe working of the Railway at all times, etc., etc."

8. The Committee having given the subject their most attentive consideration regret that, under the circumstances of the Madras Railway, they are unable to submit a proposal for the transfer to Government of any portion of its Telegraph system, or of the maintenance and technical supervision thereof, that could, in their opinion, be carried out without "injury to the shareholders or the efficiency of the public service."

(Signed) B. ANDERSON,
Chief Engineer.
(..) H. E. CHURCH,
Traffic Manager.
(..) R. B. ELWIN,
Agent and Manager.

APPENDIX.

Memorandum of the number of Wires on the Telegraph Posts of the Madras Railway Company.

	WIRES.
Madras to Perambore Workshops	4
Perambore Workshops to Trivellore	3
Trivellore to Beypore	2
Salt Cota Junction to Salt Cota Station	2
Arconum to Raichore	2
Goondacul to Bellary	2
Jollarpett to Bangalore	2

No. 505. ORDER THEREON, 29th August 1873, No. 2,167.

RAILWAY, No. 70.

ORDERED that these papers be forwarded for the consideration of the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Exd. W. H. French.

Spare Copies.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
OOTACAMUND, 29th August 1873.

No. 508.

No. 2,163.

FROM

COLONEL G. W. WALKER, R.E.,

Secretary to the Government of Madras,

Public Works Department.

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

Public Works Department.

RAILWAY, No. 71.

From Government of India, No. 125-I., dated
7th March 1871.

To do. do. No. 2,187, dated 25th Aug. 1871.

From do. do. " 337-I., " 19th " "

To do. do. " 2,783, " 3rd Nov. "

To do. do. " 2,969, " 23rd " "

To do. do. " 3,053, " 2nd Dec. "

To do. do. " 1,879, " 8th Aug. 1872.

From do. do. " 1,832-A. I., dated 17th Feb.
1873.

SIR,—Adverting to the correspondence quoted in the margin, I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to forward, for the consideration of the Government of India, the accompanying papers in regard to the assumption by the State of the maintenance and technical supervision of the Telegraph lines of the Madras Railway.

2. It will be observed from the extract of the letter from the Board of Directors that they entirely agree in the opinion of the Company's Officers that the proposed transfer is inexpedient, and in this view the Governor in Council is disposed to concur.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

Exd. W. H. French.

Spare Copies.

No. 523.

MADRAS RAILWAY.

AGENT AND MANAGERS OFFICE

Madras, 22 July 1873

From

The Acting Agent and Manager of the M.R.C.

To

Lieut Col. J. H. Stewart, B.E.

Consulting Engineer for Railways

Sir,

With reference to your letter No 235 of the 5th of March 1873, and to previous correspondence upon the subject of the transfer of Railway Telegraphs to the Government, I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of the eighth paragraph of a letter received from the Board of Directors, No 512 dated the 20th of June 1873.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant

J. H. Mellis.

For the ag agent & manager

Extract from a letter from the Secretary
Madrass Railway Company No 572 dated
London the 20th June 1873.

As to modi-
fied arrange-
ments for rent
of Govt Tele-
graph wires

Para 8. Adverting to paras 39 and
40 of 1042, and to the Order of Govern-
ment No 6, dated 3rd March 1873, on
the subject of the modified arrange-
ments for the rent of Government
Telegraph Wires, I am directed to
state that it appears to the Board
that these rules are such as would
have to be taken into consideration
after the Railway Company had
consented to transfer to the Govern-
ment the maintenance and technical
superintendence of the telegraphs retained
for the Company's own separate use,
but they in no way affect the very
strong reasons against any such
transfer. The whole question of the
transfer to the Government was
carefully considered by a Committee
of the Company's officers at Madras
and in the views expressed by them
the Board entirely concurs. It may
be mentioned that in this Country
the Postal Telegraph Department
has, it is believed, without a
single exception left the entire
control, maintenance, and working
of

From
The Agent and Manager.
MADRAS RAILWAY.
To
The Consulting Engineer
for Railways.
Dated 22nd July 1873.
Recd. 23rd July 1873.
No. 523.
Forwarding copy of your
letter of 18th July 1873
to the Board of
Directors having referred
it to the Secretary
of the Government
of Madras.

Mr. Webb / 23-1
no: 2167 / 23-1
23-1

155 5
p. 100 and 101. Welland and Railways. 11 7. 27 1870
(to be read) [unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
Meeting held at the Agent and Manager's
Office, [unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
the 19th of July 1872. [unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]

Present

Mr. Percival Anderson, Chief Engineer
Mr. H. C. Church, Traffic Manager
Mr. R. B. Elwin, Agent and Manager
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
The Agent and Manager read
Paragraph 12 of the Secretary's letter of 492
dated London the 24th of May 1872 in which
the Directors desired that the question of the
transfer to Government of the Railway lines of
Telegraph may be reconsidered upon the
Board continued to agree with their Officers
in India that the measure is inadvisable both
for economical and other important reasons,
they do not wish to stand in the way of any
measure which may be generally agreed to by
the other Companies, provided it can be carried
into effect on equitable principles and without
injury either to the interests of their Shareholders
or the efficiency of the Public Service. [unclear]
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
The Committee having regard
carefully considered their former Reports,
and having had the advantage of reading

P.M. 2166/3
4.10.1872

Act IX of the 31st of July 1868 and also copy
of an Agreement founded thereon made
between Her Majesty's Postmaster General
and the London Brighton and South Coast
Railway Company, are more than ever convinced
that no transfer to the Government either of
the Company's lines or telegraphs, or of the
maintenance and technical supervision thereof
could be effected without seriously
prejudicing the efficient working of the
Railways.

Before proceeding further the Committee
desire to remind the Directors that the telegraph
on the Chichester Railway was erected solely for
the purpose of working the traffic and that
it may be said to be now used exclusively
for that purpose, for although telegrams
are received for transmission by the
Railway wires, such messages are very few
in number, and are only received upon the
condition that the Company's own messages
are in all cases to take precedence.

The necessity for this preserving the
wires exclusively for the purpose of working
the line will be apparent when it is borne
in mind that the Chichester Railway is a
single line of 802 miles in length, on which
all operations in connection with the alter-
ation of meeting stations of ordinary trains
and the running of all special trains are
entirely dependent upon the efficient conduct

of the telegraph.

The Committee consider it scarcely
necessary to remind the Directors that such
a state of things has no existence upon English
lines. It is nevertheless explicitly provided
in Clause IX, Paragraph 2 of Act IX of
31st July 1868 that "all the posts, wires, instru-
ments, and other telegraphic apparatus belong-
ing to the Railway Company, and also all
posts, wires, instruments, and other telegraphic
apparatus belonging to the telegraph Companies
in the Railway Company's licensed canals
which are necessary for establishing a com-
plete system of telegraphy in connection
with the working of trains and the traffic of
the lines and canals shall become the absolute
property of the Railway Company, and shall
be handed over to them by the Postmaster
General free of charge in efficient working
order, that the Railway Company may be
in a position to take up and carry on
their own telegraphs, with in their own system,
and thereafter the said posts, wires, instruments,
and other telegraphic apparatus shall be
maintained and worked by the Railway
Company."

Seeing the importance which the
Railway Companies in England attach to
the retention in their own hands of the manage-
ment and maintenance of the lines of telegraph
required for the working of the traffic on their

50147
several undertakings, which are of himself with-
out exception double lines of Railway, it
appears to the Committee to be much more
essential that as Company working a single
line of Railway like this should be in the
power of the Government have a perfect control over
the management and maintenance of
such wires as are required for working the
traffic and in the case of the Atlantic
Railway as has been shown above the whole of the
Company's existing telegraph system
is used, and is absolutely necessary for
such purposes.

The Committee have less hesitation
in stating their views so strongly in conse-
quence of their notice having been specially
called by the Directors to the essential points
in the Agreement between Her Majesty's
Postmaster General and the London,
Brighton and South Coast Railway Company.
Among these points are set out in the
Secretary's letter is the reservation to the
Company of absolute jurisdiction over the
management of such telegraphic lines, in-
struments and establishments as may be
required for the safe working of the
Railway at all times &c &c.

The Committee having given the
subject their most attentive consideration
regret that under the circumstances of the
Atlantic Railway they are unable to

submit a proposal for the transfer to Govern-
ment of any portion of its telegraph system
or of the maintenance and technical super-
vision thereof, that could in their opinion
be carried out without injury to the share-
holders or the efficiency of the Public Service.

By Percival Anderson
Chief Engineer

By H. C. Church
Traffic Manager

By Robt. B. Clavin
Agent & Manager

True copy
W. H. Church
Agent & Manager

Wm

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10.2167/9250-20
P.M. 4166/73

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Railway Department.

CONSULTING ENGINEER'S OFFICE.

No. *287*

From

LIEUT.-COLONEL 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,

No 523
722 July 1923

I have the honour to
submit, for the consideration of
Government, a letter from the
Agent of the Madras Railway
giving cover to an extract from
the Board's letter No 512, dated
the 20th June 1923, in which the Directors
express their concurrence with
the Company's Officers at
Madras in an opinion opposed
to

to the proposal to transfer to the Government the maintenance and technical supervision of the telegraph wires required for the separate use of the Company.

2. A copy of the proceedings of the Committee alluded to in the ~~Board's~~ letter, at a meeting held in ~~London~~ ^{London} the 19th July 1872, is also ~~submitted~~ ^{submitted} for the information and consideration of Government.

3. The ~~present~~ ^{present} correspondence upon the subject is ~~herewith~~ ^{herewith} in the following proceedings of Government:—

No 2331 14th September 1871
2782 3rd November 1871
3052 2nd December 1871
1878 8th August 1872

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant

Wm. Henry Smith Esq. M.P.

Cous. Esq. for Railway

Received
23rd July 1873

responsiveness quoted in the
margin, I am directed by
His Excellency the Governor
in Council to forward for
the consideration of the Govt
of India the accompanying
papers in regard to the
assumption by the State
of the maintenance and
technical supervision of the

telegraph lines of the
 Madras Railway

It will be observed
 from the Extract of the letter
 from the Board of
 Directors that they entirely
 concur in the opinion of
 the Company's Officers
 that the proposed transfer
 is inexpedient.

I am directed to
 add that, in the
 opinion of this
 Govt, it is an im-
 practicable mea-
 sure as far as
 relates to Gu-
 nanteed Rail-
 ways, as distin-
 guished from
 those under State
 management.

No 504-506.

Railway Telegraphs

with the previous Reg-

and in this view the
 Govt is bound to refuse

Council

Forwarding certain
 papers in regard to the
 assumption by the State
 of the maintenance and
 technical supervision
 of the Telegraph lines
 of the Madras Railway

SC Deshpande 20/9/73
 with the previous Reg-

10/10/73

C^o No 4166
Gobt. of 1873 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Consulting Engineer for
Railways
&
To The Secretary to the
Govt of India

Dated

Recd.

Encl. 4

G. O. 29 Aug 73. No 2167-216

No. 604-575 & 606

Telegraphs (Madras Railways)

Letter from the Cong: Engr
submitting for consideration
papers on the subject of the
transfer of the maintenance
and technical supervision
of the Telegraphs wires to
the Government, ordered to
be forwarded to the Govt
of India.

Forwarded