

(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.	22	Press
1102.463		Mis.
Dated	2. 3. 18	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

100

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
22nd January 1873.*

No. 462. Read the following letter from the Consulting Engineer for Railways, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 12th December 1872, No. 683:—

WITH reference to the Order of Government, dated 15th ultimo, No. 2,693, I have the honour, at the request of the Agent of the Madras Railway Company, to submit his letter,* dated the 10th instant, for the consideration of Government.

* No. 900, with enclosure.

2. So far as I am concerned the subject under discussion has been exhausted, and I have nothing to add to my letter dated 3rd October 1872.

No. 529, vide G. O., 15th Nov. 1872, No. 2,693.

From the Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway Company, to the Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Madras, 10th December 1872, No. 900.

I HAVE the honour to request that you will be so good as to submit to the Government the enclosed copy of a letter* from the Chief Engineer, which has reference to your letter No. 952 of the 18th ultimo.

* No. 578, 9th December 1872.

2. In that letter you inform me that my letters noted in the margin, with their enclosures and accompaniments, have been laid before the Government, and that with reference thereto His Excellency the Governor in Council has ordered the papers to be recorded, with an

No. 630, 31st August 1872.
" 635, 2nd Sept. "
" 676, 17th " "
" 684, 18th " "

expression of the satisfaction felt by him on ascertaining that you were eventually enabled to certify that the Bangalore Branch of the Madras Railway had been maintained in good working order throughout the half-year ending the 30th June 1872.

3. I regret exceedingly that upon the representations made by the Chief Engineer, I have no alternative but to trouble the Government again in this matter. In July last you called upon me to report, for the information of Government, that certain portions of the Bangalore Branch had been ballasted up. You were informed in reply that, in the opinion of the Chief Engineer, the parts of the line alluded to were in perfect order, and in no need of ballast. To this you rejoined by informing me that "in the event of the repairs in question not being executed before the close of the year" you might be "unable to countersign the certificate respecting the permanent-way, etc., which is attached to the half-yearly Revenue Accounts."

4. I am now informed that His Excellency the Governor in Council has expressed his satisfaction that you were eventually enabled to sign the certificate; and this, coupled with Captain Ross Thompson's statement* that the

* Vide Report enclosed with your No. 740, 11th Sept. 1872.

places alluded to in his report of June had in September been "attended to," is certainly calculated to give my Directors the impression that their officers have been wrong in this matter throughout.

5. I need not point out to the Government that anything that tends to diminish the confidence of the Directors in officers over whom they have the power of appointment, promotion, and dismissal, is a most serious matter to men who have to depend upon their reputations and appointments for a livelihood.

6. I am fully sensible that the correspondence on this subject has already reached a length which is much to be regretted. Holding the position I do however, I do not think I should be doing my duty to the Company or its officers were I to allow the matter to drop at this stage, and I have therefore the honour to request that His Excellency the Governor in Council will be pleased to re-consider the whole correspondence and pass further orders thereon.

From the Chief Engineer, to the Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway Company, dated Madras, 9th December 1872, No. 578.

CONSULTING Engineer's letter No. 952 of 18th ultimo, stating that certain correspondence, having reference to the Officiating Deputy Consulting Engineer's report, dated 28th June 1872, had

Railway Department.

CONSULTING ENGINEER'S OFFICE,

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
22nd January 1873.*

been laid before Government, and that His Excellency the Governor in Council had ordered the papers to be recorded, with an expression of the satisfaction felt by him on ascertaining that the Consulting Engineer was eventually enabled to certify that the Bangalore Branch of the Madras Railway had been maintained in good working order throughout the half-year ending 30th June 1872.

2. In justice to Mr. Wilkinson, a most able and efficient member of my staff, and to my own professional reputation, I cannot rest satisfied with this disposal of the question.

3. In his letter No. 692, dated 29th August, the Consulting Engineer states that "in the event of the repairs in question not being executed before the close of the year, I may be unable to countersign the certificate respecting the permanent-way, etc., which is attached to the half-yearly Revenue Accounts," and in the letter now under review it is stated that the Governor in Council expressed satisfaction that the Consulting Engineer was eventually enabled to certify that the Bangalore Branch of the Madras Railway had been maintained in good working order throughout the half-year ending 30th June 1872.

4. The logical deduction from this is that on the 29th August certain parts of the Bangalore Branch were in such a state as to justify the Consulting Engineer in threatening to withhold his signature from the usual half-yearly certificates, but that repairs were subsequently effected which eventually enabled him to certify that the line had been maintained in good working order.

5. This is very far from being a correct version of the case. I have all along distinctly maintained that the repairs so peremptorily called for by the Consulting Engineer were not required, and, as a matter of fact, they have never been executed, and I feel that I am entitled to a decided expression of opinion that the Consulting Engineer's threat was uncalled for, and that there never existed a justification for his reminding the Government that "so far as I know there has never until now been an instance in which Railway officers have neglected to carry out repairs which have been pointed out as necessary by the officers of this department; but the course to be followed in case of such neglect is distinctly pointed out in Clause 11 of the Company's contract, dated the 2nd January 1871," which clause is to the following effect: "That if at any time or times default shall be made by the Company in any of their covenants to keep the said railways and works, or such part thereof respectively as shall have been completed and opened for traffic in repair and condition, for the space of one calendar month next after notice in writing in that behalf from the Secretary of State in Council to the Company at Madras, it shall be lawful for the Secretary of State in Council by his Agents to enter on the said railways and works, or any of them, and to do and execute all such works as may be required for fulfilling the said covenants, and to charge the expenses of the same against the Company, etc., etc."

6. I hold my appointment as Chief Engineer of the Madras Railway from the Chairman and Directors, and it is a matter of the last importance to me that I should have their entire confidence. All letters written by the Consulting Engineer to you and all orders of Government having reference to the Madras Railway are sent home for information, and it is impossible that such action as that taken by the Consulting Engineer should fail to create a feeling of uneasiness, and tend to shake the confidence of the Board in their engineering staff, unless it is fully shown to have been unwarranted.

No. 463. ORDER THEREON, 22nd January 1873, No. 224.

RAILWAY, No. 56.

His Excellency the Governor in Council considers that further discussion on the question to which the papers above recorded have reference is unnecessary, and has no doubt that the Directors of the Company will be satisfied with the issue of the certificate.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways.
Exd. S. T. Austin.

No. 683

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,

With reference to the Order of Government dated the 15th ultimo, No. 2693, I have the honour, at the request of the Agent of the Madras Railway Company, to submit his letter dated the 10th instant for the consideration of Government.

2. So far as I am concerned, the subject under discussion has been exhausted, and I have nothing to add to my letter dated the 3rd October 1872.

I have the honour to be
Sir
your most obedient servant
J. H. M. Shaw Stewart
Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Madras
12th December 1873

Madras Railway Company
Agent and Manager's Office
Madras 10th December 1872

No. 900

From

R. B. Clavin Esq
Agent and Manager, M. R. Co.

To

Lt Col. J. H. Shaw Stewart, R.E.
Consulting Engineer for Railways

Sir,

I have the honour to request that you will be so good as to submit to the Government the enclosed copy of a letter from the Chief Engineer which has reference to your letter of 9th of the 18th ultimo.

In that letter you inform me that my letters noted in the margin, with their enclosures and accompaniments, have been laid before the Government and that with reference thereto His Excellency the Governor in Council has ordered the Papers to be recorded, with an expression of the satisfaction felt by him on ascertaining that you were eventually enabled to certify that the Bangalore Branch of the Madras Railway had been maintained in good working order throughout the Half year ending the 30th June 1872.

3.

I regret exceedingly that upon

No 15 December 1872

Madras 10th Dec 1872

R. B. Clavin Esq
Agent and Manager, M. R. Co.

From

The Consulting Engineer
for Railways

To

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

Dated 12th Dec 1872
Recd 13th Dec 1872

No 224-32 Dec 1872

32

Submitted for the consideration of the Government and a letter received from the Chief Engineer in the subject of the Bangalore Branch of the Madras Railway in regard to the Bangalore Branch.

the representations made by the Chief Engineer. I have no alternative but to trouble the Government again in this matter. In July last you called upon me to report for the information of Government that certain portions of the Bangalore Branch had been ballasted up. You were informed in reply that in the opinion of the Chief Engineer the parts of the line alluded to were in perfect order, and in no need of ballast. To this you rejoined by informing me that "in the event of the repairs in question not being executed before the close of the year" you might be unable to countersign the Certificate respecting the Permanent Way ~~xxx~~ which is attached to the Half-Yearly Revenue accounts.

4. I am now informed that His Excellency the Governor in Council has expressed his satisfaction that you were eventually enabled to sign the Certificate; and this, coupled with Captain Ross Thompson's statement that the places alluded to in his Report of June had in September been "attended to", is certainly calculated to give my Directors the impression that their Officers have been wrong in this matter throughout.

Wife Report
enclosed with
your No. 740,
11th Sept 1872

5. I need not point out to the Government that any thing that tends to diminish the confidence of the Directors

C^e 5

in Officers over whom they have the power of appointment promotion and dismissal, is a most serious matter to men who have to depend upon their reputations and appointments for a livelihood.

b. I am fully sensible that the correspondence on this subject has already reached a length which is much to be regretted. Holding the position I do however, I do not think I should be doing my duty to the Company or its Officers were I to allow the matter to drop at this stage, and I have therefore the honour to request that His Excellency the Governor in Council will be pleased to reconsider the whole correspondence and pass further orders thereon.

I have the honour to be
Your most obedient ^{serv} servant

W. J. V. M.
Agent & Landowner.

2-7-278

Consulting Engineers letter N^o 952 of 18th ultimo stating that certain correspondence having reference to the officiating Deputy Consulting Engineers report dated 28th June 1872 had been laid before Government and that His Excellency the Governor in Council had ordered the papers to be recorded with an expression of the satisfaction felt by him on ascertaining that the Consulting Engineer was eventually enabled to certify that the Bangalore Branch of the Madras Railway had been maintained in good working order throughout the half year ending 30th June 1872.

3 In his letter No 692 dated 27th August the Consulting Engineer states that "in the event of the repairs in question not being executed before the close of the year, I may be unable to counter-sign the certificate respecting the permanent Way, &c", which is attached to the half yearly Revenue Accounts", and in the letter now under review it is stated that the Governor in Council expressed satisfaction that the Consulting Engineer was eventually enabled to certify that the Bangalore Branch of the Madras Railway had been maintained in good working order throughout the half year.

Yhesel-gant Yellowgreen

Y^{rs} Obedt^l Son & Daughter
for Father & Mother

Recd 10th Dec 1911

1-1-90

10/19/92

of the former the change

the present occasion and
of the Government

the system which the
Communist asked, they

State, for a 100 ft. provided;
by the State in the amount
that the Excise Tax was

sentenced to 10 years in the penitentiary.

[illegible]

ending 30th June 1872

The logical deduction from this is that on the 29th August certain parts of the Bangalore Branch were in such a state as to justify the Consulting Engineer in threatening to withhold his signature from the usual half yearly certificates but that repairs were subsequently effected which eventually enabled him to certify that the line had been maintained in good working order.

5 This is very far from being a correct version of the case. I have all along distinctly maintained that the repairs so peremptorily called for by the Consulting Engineer were not required and, as a matter of fact, they have never been executed, and I feel that I am entitled to a decided expression of opinion. That the Consulting Engineer's threat was recalled for and that there never existed a justification for his reminding the Government that so far as at present there has never existed nor been an instance in which Railway officers have neglected to carry out repairs which have been pointed out as necessary by the officers of this department; but the course to be followed in cases of such neglect is distinctly pointed out in clause 11 of the Company's contracts, dated the 2nd Jan'y 1871 which clause is to the following effect: "That if at any time or times default shall be made by the Company in any of their covenants to keep the said Railways and Works, or such parts thereof respectively as shall have been completed and opened for traffic in repair and condition, for the space of one calendar month next after notice in writing in that behalf from the Secretary of State

in council to the Company at Madras, it shall be lawful for the Secretary of State in Council by his agents to enter on the said Railways and Works, or any of them, and to do and execute all such works as may be required for fulfilling the said covenants, and to charge the expenses of the same against the Company &c &c"

6 I hold my appointment as Chief Engineer of the Madras Railway from the Chairman and Directors and it is a matter of the last importance to me that I should have their entire confidence: all letters written by the Consulting Engineer to you and all orders of Government having reference to the Madras Railway are sent home for information and it is impossible that such action as that taken by the Consulting Engineer should fail to create a feeling of uneasiness, and tend to shake the confidence of the Board in their Engineering staff, unless it is fully shown to have been unwarranted.

Yours faithfully
Signed/ Beresford Anderson
Chief Engineer

/ True Copy /
W. J. E. Hurri
Agent and Manager

The material point involved in the correspondence now under consideration is the state of the Permanent Way of the Bangalore Branch of the Madras Railway. And His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to see from the Consulting Engineer's Certificate appended to the Revenue Returns for the half year ending

I think it will be prudent simply to record these papers. The estimate which is habitually being made only be directed by me to see from the Consulting Engineer's Certificate - and his order is required for the same.

10/11/12

30th June, that Mr. Stewart
Col. Shaw Stewart Wilkins is full
 has been able to counter in for time
 sign the Chief Engineer's hand d. in the
 statement that the other in the
 same had been main I think it is
 obtained in good working hardly worth
 condition' and repair is being done
 during that period. of the last in the
 To which Certificate account.

he has been able to add
 the testimony that its
 condition is satisfactory
 at the present time.

His Excellency in
 Council cannot but
 attribute such satisfactory
 condition of the line to

I quite agree with
 Mr. Shaw and I
 suppose that the fact
 of its order after
 these papers had been
 sent its satisfactory
 that the line is full

in the opinion of the
 C. Engineer is a
 satisfactory condition

[Signature]

to the combined action
 of the Railway Staff
 and vigilance of the
 Consulting Engineer
 and his Assistants;
 and he regrets that
 such good results
 have been attained
 at the expense of some
 portion of the good
 feeling and cordiality
 with which these gentle-
 men have hitherto
 cooperated in the pub-
 lic service of the

That ballast was
 required at some
 points, and still more
 required at others, noted
 in the 11th para of

Captain Rob Thompson:
sons Report, just as
it was required little
more than 3 months
before at points noted
by Captain C. I. Smith;
is undoubted. The ex-
pression "urgently required"
used by the former Officer
would appear to have
been too strong, as the
Railway Actions show
that no fresh Ballast
had to be supplied,
but that the deficiencies
had been remedied
by collecting and re-
placing the displaced
ballast in the ordinary

19th 11
routine of repair -
That such ordinary
routine work was
effectual for the purpose
is proved by the Comd
Eng^r and his Deputies
testimony in Sept^r.
It follows therefore
in the opinion of
His Excellency in
Council that the
Executive Officers
of the Malacca Railway
have proved themselves
fully competent to
maintain the condition
of the line under their
charge.

It is none the
less incumbent, however,
on

on the Government -

Officers to place on record
the places most in need
of repair observed by
them in their tours of
inspection. Their notes
are often of great value,
and to none more than
to the Railway Officers,
and judging from the
cordial cooperation that
has hitherto prevailed
between all parties the
Governor in Council
has the strongest grounds
for believing that they
have been duly appreciated.
He must therefore express
his

13.
his displeasure at the
contemptuous way in
which Mr. Nicholson
has taken the liberty
of writing of an Extract
of one of Captain
Smith's reports in the
2nd para of his letter
to the Chief Engineer
dated 31st August.
The Agent is greatly to
blame for permitting
a remark so provocative
of quarrel to pass
unnoticed, and will
be reminded to take
better heed for the future
of his Board's instructions
as to the conduct of
correspondence. The

The notes of the Officers
of the Consulting Eng^rs
Department should be
utilized by Mr. Wilkison
and other Executive
Railway Officers as
they are intended to
be used, namely as
indices of weak points
of their line most demanding
their attention. They may
themselves be aware of
these weak points but
should not feel themselves
aggrieved when they are
pointed out by others
whose bounden duty
it is to notice them.
And

And the Chief Eng^r
above all others should
value the independent
means of check thus
placed at his disposal
in the Notes primarily
recorded for informa-
tion of Government.
Emile

Public Works Department
 No 324
 Proceedings of the Madras Government
 Read the following
 From The Consulting Engineer
 for Railways } H.E. No 6837/12th Decr/12.

His Excellency the
 Governor in Council con-
 sidered that further dis-
 cussion on the question
 to which the papers above
 recorded have reference is
 unnecessary, and has no
 doubt that the Directors
 of the Company will be
 satisfied with the issue
 of the Certificate
G.M.

28
 12

To the Secy to Govt

Cor 8 Balm

Public Works Department
16
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Read the following
199
From The Consulting Engineer
for Railways. P.O. No 683 of 12th Decr
1872/

will suggest the following
order.

His Excellency the Governor
in Council considers that
further discussion on the
question to which the papers
above recorded have reference
is unnecessary.

The Agent & Officers of the
Madras Railway Company
should not be satisfied with
a certificate furnished by
the Consulting Engineer which
affirms "that the Company's
permanent eng. stations buildings
telegraphs, fencing &c." have
during the past half year
been maintained in &

His Excellency
the Governor in Council
declines to reopen
this subject; and
draws the attention
of the Railway
Officials to paragraphs 22,
and 23 of their Board's
letter No 500 of 8th
November relating
to

to it.

QMN

June 10/9

working condition & repair"

His Excellency the Govt. in
Council entirely concurs
in the opinion expressed
in para 22 of the letter no
10/8 November last
from the Secretary to
the Railway Company that
it is to be regretted that the
Agent & Manager should
have forwarded to the
letter from the ^{Company's Chief} ~~Company's~~ ^{Engineer} ~~Engineer~~
in which
this correspondence has
been seen.

W.H.

I think the fram 1 of
the 2nd draft was
sufficient. He may let
add - "and has
in the fact that the
Director of the Co.
will be satisfied

with the issue of
the certificate.
Col Stewart &
not, I believe have
decide from this
letter - and with 2
para 2 as a re-
fection on him.

I shall not note
the Director's letter at
all. Para 22 and
instructs on Col the
Stewart's conduct - &
if no notice was given
of the matter: as the
he thought to acquiesce
in the rest of it.

J. O. S.

W.H.

C/2199

Govt. of (1873) Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To
The Consulting Engineer for
Railways

Dated

Recd.

Encl.

G. G. 22nd Dec 73 No. 224.

Nos. 162 & 163

Bangalore Branch,
Madras Railway.

Replying orders on
letter from the Engineer
concerning correspondence
on the subject of the
misunderstanding in
regard to the Dy. Engr.
Engr's report on the
Bangalore Branch.

1620 Dec 73