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# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

## Government of Madras

*Public Works* DEPARTMENT

|                     |      |                 |
|---------------------|------|-----------------|
| G.O. No.            | 3153 | Press           |
| <del>B.P. No.</del> |      | <del>Mis.</del> |
| Dated               | 6-11 | 1874            |
|                     |      | 195             |

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
6th November 1874.*

No. 97. Read the following Proceedings of the Government of India in the Public Works Department, (Account—Guaranteed Railways,) dated Fort William, 13th October 1874, Nos. 476—79 A.—G. R.—

*Rate of exchange for Family Remittances on account of Railway Companies' servants.*

Read again—

Public Works Department Resolution Nos. 296—99 A.—G. R., dated 6th June 1874.

Read also—

Despatch from the Secretary of State for India, to the Government of India, dated 27th August 1874, No. 121 R.

With reference to your Excellency's Despatch of the 21st January last,

- Circular letter, dated 13th April 1874, to the East Indian, Madras, Scinde, Punjab and Delhi, and Eastern Bengal Railway Companies.
- Letter from East Indian Railway Company, No. 4,291, of 24th April 1874.
- Letter from Eastern Bengal Railway Company, No. 1,255, of 28th April 1874.
- Letter from Madras Railway Company, No. 2,991, of 8th May 1874.
- Letter from Scinde, Punjab and Delhi Railway Company, No. 542, of 8th May 1874.
- Circular letter, dated 5th August 1874, to the East Indian, Madras, and Scinde, Punjab and Delhi Railway Companies.
- Letter dated 5th August 1874, to the Eastern Bengal Railway Company.

No. 11, and to mine of the 26th March and 16th April, Nos. 39 and 56, I transmit copies of correspondence\* with the East Indian, the Madras, the Scinde, Punjab and Delhi, and the Eastern Bengal Railway Boards, relative to the rate of exchange at which family remittances shall be allowed to be made by servants of those Companies.

2. It will be seen that, in consequence of the inconvenience which, it is represented by some of the Boards, would attend the enforcement of the rule that

the payments should be made at the rate annually fixed for transactions between the Imperial and the Indian Governments, I have consented, in the case of the above-named Companies, to allow the remittances to be made at the contract rate of 1s. 10d. the rupee. Family payments in the case of the other Companies having the same contract rate of exchange, are not made through the Government Treasury.

Circular from Sir LOUIS MALLET, Under Secretary of State for India, to Secretaries, London Boards, E. I., Madras, S., P. and E. B. Railway Companies, dated 14th April 1874.

The attention of the Secretary of State for India having been drawn to the practice which has prevailed of allowing servants of some of the Guaranteed Railway Companies to make family remittances at the rate of exchange specified in the contracts between Government and the Companies, I am directed to acquaint you that it would, in His Lordship's opinion, be more equitable that the remittances in question should be made at the rate annually fixed for transactions between the Imperial and Indian Governments. He also considers that no servant should be allowed to remit a larger amount than £300 per annum; nor, in the case of Engineers and servants of a similar class, than 25 per cent., or in that of mechanics, than 50 per cent. of his salary. The Marquis of Salisbury does not desire that any change should be made with regard to persons already in the service of the Railway Company, but requests that in future agreements a stipulation to the above effect may be inserted.

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6th November 1874.*

From the Managing Director, London Board, East Indian Railway Company, to the Under Secretary of State for India, dated 24th April 1874, No. 4,291.

I BEG leave to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, in which you state that the attention of the Secretary of State for India has been drawn to the practice which has prevailed of allowing servants of some of the Guaranteed Railway Companies to make family remittances at the rate of exchange specified in the contract between the Government and the Companies, and that it would, in the opinion of the Secretary of State, be more equitable that the remittances in question should be made at the rate annually fixed for transactions between the Imperial and Indian Governments; also that no servants, in each of the specified classes, should be allowed to remit more than certain sums per annum, and further that the Secretary of State does not desire that any change should be made with regard to persons already in the service of this Company, but requests that a stipulation to the above effect should be inserted in future agreements.

2. The Board instruct me to say, in reply, that although an alteration in the rate of exchange, varying from year to year as now proposed, might at times be favorable to the class of servants chiefly interested, it is doubtful whether such a course would be either understood or appreciated by them or their families, so much as the present mode of payment at a fixed rate of exchange.

3. The Board would point out that all transactions with the Government being at the contract rate of 1s. 10d. the rupee, it would, in their judgment, be objectionable to introduce a different rate in this particular instance, and further that it might tend to create difficulties if one fixed rate of exchange were in force for old servants, and another, and varying rate, for new servants. These payments amounted in the last month to but 75 in number, ranging from 10s. to £12.

4. The Board do not, as a rule, allow of the remittance through this office of the monies of their servants to this country, excepting in sums of comparatively small amount for the provision of the current expenses of their families and other purposes of a strictly analogous character.

5. Under these circumstances, the Board would suggest for the re-consideration of the Secretary of State whether in their case any change is desirable.

From J. T. WOOD, Esq., Secretary, London Board, Eastern Bengal Railway Company, to the Under Secretary of State for India, dated 28th April 1874, No. 1,255.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of Sir Louis Mallet's letter of the 13th instant, on the subject of the family remittances made by servants of the Guaranteed Railways, and to state that the Board of Directors of the Eastern Bengal Railway agree to the proposal, that as regards servants who shall hereafter enter the service of the Company, the remittances in question should be made at the rate annually fixed for transactions between the Imperial and Indian Governments, and that the amount of such remittances should be limited as stated in the letter under reply.

From J. BYRNE, Esq., Secretary, London Board, Madras Railway Company, to the Under Secretary of State for India, dated 8th May 1874, No. 2,991.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th ultimo, stating that the Secretary of State, whose attention has been drawn to the subject, is of opinion that the family remittances made by servants of some of the Guaranteed Railway Companies should be at the rate of exchange annually fixed for transactions between the Imperial and Indian Governments, instead of at the rates specified in the contracts between Government and the Companies; that he considers also that no servants should be allowed to remit a larger amount than £300 per annum, nor, in the case of Engineers and servants of a similar class, than 25 per cent., or in that of mechanics, than 50 per cent. of his salary, adding that the Marquis of Salisbury does not desire

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
6th November 1874.*

that any change should be made with regard to persons already in the service of the Company, but requests that in future agreements a stipulation to the above effect may be inserted.

2. In reply, I am directed to state that the Board apprehend that the introduction of a varying rate of exchange for recording a portion of the transactions between the London office and the Agent and Manager in India would lead to inconvenience and complication in the accounts. At present family payments are only made here on account of 14 of the Company's servants in India, and with two exceptions they are of small amount, ranging from £ 1-10 to £ 12-10 per month, and are evidently merely for subsistence money. It further appears to the Board that it would be inexpedient to make a rule for servants at present in the Company's services and another for any that may hereafter be engaged, particularly as the family payments affect, for the most part, a class of men who would be slow to understand or appreciate the difference.

3. Under these circumstances, the Board trust that, on further consideration, the Secretary of State will not desire that any change should be made in the existing arrangements which are found to work well in every respect.

From N. P. ANDREW, Esq., Chairman, Sindh, Punjab and Delhi Railway Company, to the Under Secretary of State for India, dated 8th May 1874, No. 542.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Sir Louis Mallet's letter of the 13th ultimo, relative to family remittances, i. e., payments made by the Company in England on account of the salaries of employes on the Indian establishment, suggesting that such payments should be made at the rate of exchange annually fixed for transactions between the Imperial and Indian Governments, instead of at the rate specified in the contract between the Government and the Company, and further that certain limits specified should be fixed as the maximum which persons who may hereafter enter the service of the Company in India, should be allowed to remit through the Company to this country.

The Directors have given these suggestions their best consideration, and I have to request that you will do me the favor to inform the Marquis of Salisbury that they will take the necessary steps to carry out His Lordship's wishes with regard to limiting the amount which servants of the Company in India should be allowed to draw in this country.

With regard, however, to the rate of exchange at which such payments or remittances should be made, I beg that you will be good enough to represent to Lord Salisbury that the Directors consider that any advantage which might be gained by the proposed change in this respect would be more than counterbalanced by the inconvenience of adopting a rate liable to periodical alteration, and differing in its effects in the case of different employes.

The existing arrangement is simple in its operation, and is well understood by the employes, and the Directors hope that the Secretary of State will, on further consideration, be disposed to sanction its continuance.

Circular from Sir LOUIS MALLET, Under Secretary of State for India, to Secretaries, London Boards, East Indian, Madras, and Scinde, Punjab and Delhi Railway Companies, dated 5th August 1874.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the \* No. †,

\* 24th April 1874.  
† No. 4,291.  
\* 8th May 1874.

† No. 2,991.  
\* 8th May 1874.  
† No. 542.

offering objections to the arrangement proposed in my letter of the 13th April last, according to which family payments in this country on

behalf of servants of the Company, would be made at the rate of exchange annually adopted for transactions between the Imperial and Indian Governments.

In reply, I am to acquaint you that recognising the force of these objections, the Marquis of Salisbury withdraws the proposal to which they apply, and is content that the family payments in question should be made at the contract rate of 1s. 10d. the rupee. He requests, however, that the amount of the several remittances may be limited in the manner specified in my letter of the 13th April.

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6th November 1874.*

From Sir LOUIS MALLET, Under Secretary of State for India, to the Secretary, London Board,  
Eastern Bengal Railway Company, dated 5th August 1874.

With reference to the correspondence noted in the margin, I am directed to state that the  
Marquis of Salisbury, in consideration of  
objections urged by some of the Railway  
Boards to the adoption of the rate of exchange  
annually fixed for transactions between the  
Imperial and the Indian Governments, as that at which family payments of Railway Companies'  
servants shall be made, is of opinion that the balance of convenience is in favour of that arrange-  
ment. He therefore requests that the suggestions contained in my letter of the 13th April last,  
may be held to be withdrawn, except in so far as they relate to limitation of the amount of remit-  
tances, such limitation, however, being regularly enforced.

ORDER.—Ordered that the foregoing be communicated to the Local Gov-  
ernments and Officers marginally noted,  
for information and guidance.  
(Signed) C. H. DICKENS, Colonel, R.A.,  
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 98.

ORDER THEREON, 6th November 1874, No. 3,153.

RAILWAY, No. 11.

COMMUNICATED to the Consulting  
Engineer for Railways and the Examiner  
of Railway Accounts.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,  
Secretary to Government.

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways.  
„ Examiner of Railway Accounts.

Ed. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

*6596*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

ACCOUNT.

Guaranteed Railways.

To

THE GOVERNMENTS OF MADRAS AND BOMBAY,  
IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,  
RAILWAY BRANCH.

THE CONSULTING ENGINEER FOR RAILWAYS,  
CALCUTTA AND LAHORE.

Nos. 476—79 <sup>A</sup>/<sub>G-R</sub>.

Dated October 13, 1874.

Received *21*

*To Engineer for Ry -  
Accounts -  
of Capital Dept 12/11/74.*

*Comd to the Eng: Engineer for Railways and the  
Examiner of Railway Accounts -  
1874*

*No 3153 - 6th November 1874*

Forwards copy of Despatch from Secretary of  
State and correspondence relative to rate of  
exchange for Family Remittances on account  
of Railway Companies' servants.

P. W. D. Press—13-10-74—100.

*With an Order*

*97-98*  
*28/10/74*  
*sent to Secy, P. W. D.*

6596

Govt. of 1874 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The Comg: Ingr.  
for Railways.

Dated

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 6 Nov. 1874, No. 3153

Nos. 97-98.

Rate of exchange for  
Family Remittances on  
account of Railway Com-  
panies' servants - To:

= enclosing of the Govt: of India  
forwarding copy of des:  
= patch from Secy of  
State & correspondence  
relative to rate of ex-  
= change, Comd to the Comg:  
Eng: for Rys & the Examin:  
of Railway Accounts.  
With an Order.

sent to Govt: of India