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(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	640-41	Press
~~B.P. No.~~ 292.292A 293. 294		~~Mis.~~
Dated	12-3-1844	~~195~~ .

Not to be folded or roughly handled



Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 12th March 1874.

No. 292. Read the following Proceedings of the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Telegraph,) dated Fort William, 5th January 1874, No. 8-T:—

COPY of the following forwarded to the Government of Madras, in the Public Works Department, for favour of opinion.

(By Order,)

(Signed) G. P. SKIPWITH, Captain, R.E.,

Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 292A. From the Director-General of Telegraphs in India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, dated Calcutta, 20th December 1873, No. 377.

I SUBMIT an estimate, amounting to Rupees 50,043, for the re-construction of the line, Mysore to Ootacamund, 76 miles.

2. The supports of the present line consist of 988 wooden posts, 171 stone-slabs, and about 100 Hamilton's $\frac{3}{4}$ standards, with wooden tops; and as the wooden supports are much decayed, this re-construction is one that must be carried out sooner or later if telegraphic communication is to be maintained with Ootacamund *via* Mysore.

3. I should mention that the Madras Railway has now a line of telegraph from Madras *via* Coimbatore to Metapolliem, whence this department has a single wire line to Ootacamund, and, therefore, if the line from Mysore to Ootacamund be dismantled, the latter place would not be cut off from telegraphic communication with the rest of India. Ootacamund is, however, the seat of the Government of Madras for the greater part of each year, and being so, it may be considered not advisable to leave it entirely dependent on one line of telegraph, and that one to the south composed of the short section, Ootacamund to Metapolliem, belonging to this department, 27 miles long, and the longer section, Metapolliem to Madras, belonging to the Madras Railway about 330 miles long, and cut off from direct communication to the north as it would be were the line, Mysore to Ootacamund, abandoned. On this point I conclude the opinion of the Madras Government will be asked; I myself am opposed to telegraph lines once erected being abandoned or dismantled, except under very exceptional circumstances.

4. But there is another point connected with the abandonment of the line, Mysore to Ootacamund, which should not be lost sight of in disposing of this reference. It is that if telegraphic communication with Ootacamund is to be maintained only by the line *via* Metapolliem and Coimbatore to Madras, the Madras Railway will be entitled to half the traffic receipts on all messages to and from Ootacamund; and although this will be a loss of just so much revenue to this department, there will be no actual loss to the State for many years to come, or till the Madras Railway pays a dividend in excess of the Government guarantee; on the other hand, by abandoning the line from Mysore to Ootacamund, the cost of its re-construction and future maintenance will be saved.

5. With reference to the estimate now submitted, I have to observe that very few new stores will be required, as all the additional posts and the greater portion of the insulators will become available from the lines, Carwar to Goa and Coompta

to Mangalore, which sections will be dismantled on the completion of the line, Carwar to Dharwar.

6. The six miles of extra wire rendered necessary by the new selected line being slightly longer than the old one, but this alteration of alignment is a most desirable one, as it will greatly facilitate inspection.

7. If this work is sanctioned, it is proposed to carry it out during the working season of 1874-75; but in the event of the question of re-constructing or abandoning the line, Mysore to Ootacamund, being referred to the Government of Madras, I solicit permission to include the estimate for the work provisionally in the schedule of works now under preparation.

8. The favour of an early reply is requested.

No. 293. ORDER THEREON, 12th March 1874, No. 670.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 32. ORDERED that the following letter be sent:—

(Here enter No. 671, dated 11th March 1874.)

(True Extract.)

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

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.
Spare Copies

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE, 12*th March* 1874.

No. 294.

No. 671.

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.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 33.

Sir,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 8-T., dated 5th January 1874, requesting the views of the Madras Government on the question of the abandonment of the existing line of telegraph between Mysore and Ootacamund, His Excellency the Governor in Council is decidedly of opinion that it would be impolitic to cut off Ootacamund, the seat of Government for a portion of the year, from direct communication with the imperial system of lines ramifying over Central and Northern India, and to leave the temporary head-quarters of the Presidency dependent on a circuitous route by Mettapolliem, Coimbatore, and Madras, with only a short length of 27 miles of single wire under the immediate control of the State.

2. The large outlay on account of re-construction seems, moreover, to be more apparent than real, the stores available from other lines, the dismantlement of which is inevitable, being utilized to a large extent on the work.

3. On a review of all the circumstances, His Excellency the Governor in Council trusts that it will be considered expedient to re-construct the line from Mysore to Ootacamund, and His Excellency believes that a station might, with advantage, be placed at Coonoor.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.
Spare Copies

All communications should be addressed to the Secretary.

No. 8 T.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Telegraph.

Fort William, 5th January 1874.

Copy of the following forwarded to the Government of Madras in the Public Works Department for favor of opinion.

By Order.

Fras. Beilby Smith Capt. R.E.
Assistant Secretary to the Govt. of India

No. 377

From The Director General of Telegraphs in India,

To, The Secretary to the Government of India
Public Works Department

Calcutta, the 20th of Decr. 1873.

Sir,

I submit an Estimate amount-
ing

ing to Rupees 50.043. for the reconstruction of the line Mysore to Potacammund, 76 miles.

2. The supports of the present line consist of 988 wooden posts. 171 Stone Slabs and about 100 Hamiltons 3/4 Standards with wooden tops, and as the wooden supports are much decayed this reconstruction is one that must be carried out sooner or later if telegraphic communication is to be maintained with Potacammund via Mysore.

3. I should mention that the Madras Railway has now a line of Telegraph from Madras via Coimbatore to Metapolium: whence this Department has a single wire line to Potacammund and, therefore, if the line from Mysore to Potacammund be dismantled the latter place would not be cut off from telegraphic communication with the rest of India - Potacammund is, however, the seat of the Government of Madras for the greater part of each year and being so, it may be considered not advisable to leave it entirely dependent on one line of Telegraph, and that one to the South composed of the short section Potacammund

Potacammund to Metapolium belonging to this Department 27 miles long and the longer Section Metapolium to Madras belonging to the Madras Railway about 330 miles long, and cut off from direct communication to the North as it would be were the line Mysore to Potacammund abandoned. On this point I conclude the opinion of the Madras Government will be asked. I myself am opposed to Telegraph lines once erected being abandoned or dismantled except under very exceptional circumstances.

4. But there is another point connected with the abandonment of the line Mysore to Potacammund which should not be lost sight of in disposing of this reference. It is that if telegraphic communication with Potacammund is to be maintained only by the line via Metapolium and Coimbatore to Madras, the Madras Railway will be entitled to half the traffic receipts on all messages to and from Potacammund, and although this will be a loss of just so much revenue to this Department, there will be no actual loss to the State for many years to

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come, of till the Madras Railway pays a divi-
dend in excess of the Government guarantee;
on the other hand by abandoning the line from
Mysore to Potacamund the cost of its recon-
struction and future maintenance will be
saved.

5. With reference to the Estimate now
submitted I have to observe that very few new
stores will be required as all the additional
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as it will greatly facilitate inspection.

7. If this work is sanctioned, it is
proposed to carry it out during the working
season of 1874-75, but in the event of the ques-
-tion of reconstructing or abandoning the line
Mysore to Potacamund being referred to the
Government of Madras, I solicit permission
to include the Estimate for the work provision-
-ally

8. I have &c.

(Sd)

in the above mentioned work now under the
Head of an early reply is requested.

S.P. Department

Pro: of the Madras Government

Read the following:-

From

The Govt. of India - (H.E. No 8. J. dt 5th January 1874.)

670

Ordered that the following letter be sent.

H.E. No 671 dated

To

The Secretary to the Govt.

of India. S.P.D.

Sir

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No 8. J. dated 5th January 1874 requesting the views of the Madras Government on the question of the abandonment

S.P. 1874 Dept
No 186

From
The Govt of India

Dated 5 Jany 74
Read 12 Jany 74
No 8. J

Forwarding a copy of a letter from the Director General of Telegraphs in India on the subject of the telegraphic communication with Cotacamund via Metapolliem & Mysore -

No. 670 & 671 12-3-74

No. 292.

Lr 3 Feb 74
Rec 19 Feb 74
Lr 13 Feb 74 Rec 19 Feb 74

-ment of the existing line of telegraph between Injore and Ootacamund.

His Excellency the Governor in Council is decidedly of opinion that it would be impolitic to cut off Ootacamund, the seat of Government for a portion of the year from direct communication with the interior system of lines ramifying over Central and Southern India, and to leave temporary head quarters of the Presidency dependent on as circumstances may be by Settlements pollicum Cumbatore and Madras with only a short length of 27 miles of single wire under the immediate control of the State.

The large outlay on account of reconstruction seems moreover to be more apparent than real, the stores available from other lines the dismantlement of which is inevitable, being utilized to a large extent on the work.

On a review of all the circumstances His Excellency the Governor in Council trusts that it will be considered expedient to reconstruct the line from Injore to Ootacamund and His Excellency believes that a station

might with advantage be placed at Coonoor.

Lyttw

Despatched S.C 14/3/74

2.6

292 @ 294.

Cir 28/3/74

Ind

Letter from the Government of India
No. 8. T. dated 9th January 1874.

Circulated for orders.

X Rec'd 19th March 1874
Mr. Telegraph
Mr. Forward

Ist Maintain - the cost to South and line Hart brings ost into direct connection with the Imperial System in Europe - If the Ootacamund line is to be our only line considerable expense should required in increasing the strength & improving the

1st

It is submitted that it would be highly inexpedient to incur an outlay of Rs. 50,000 for renewing the Telegraph

The real extended line Klein Galagamund is for less than 8,000 to Mysore, between existing stations which places there is the utilised 1st no town of the least importance.

I would advise recantonment the line

Fort St. George
19th January 1874

Walker Colonel
Secy to Govt. of India

C/o 135 ☆

Govt. of 1874 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The Secretary to the
Govt. of India.

Dated

Rcvd. Encl.

G. O. 12th March 1874. No. 670 & 671.

Nos. 292-293 & 294.

Telegraph. Railway matters

Re the erection of the new Command Office existing line of Telegraph between Bezwada & Palacaimmid.

Considering it expedient to remove the line from Bezwada to Cota-