

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
21st April 1875.*

No. 543. Read the following endorsement of the Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Madras, 20th March 1875, No. 166 :—

SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAY.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT.

Report of Accident.

1. *Collectorate.*—Tinnevely. 2. *Railway District, Section and Mile.*—District No. 13, Section No. 2, 15 Miles 32 Chains. 3. *Between what two stations, and name of nearest village.*—Between Tuticorin and Maniachee, at Melur. 4. *Whether at a level crossing or not.*—No. 5. *Date of the Accident.*—16th January 1875. 6. *Nature of the Accident.*—Compound fracture of thigh, and leg of the left extremity attended with laceration. Death took place in about two hours. 7. *Circumstances which caused the accident.*—Child was playing on the line near wagon that was being loaded with sand; Coolies bringing up another wagon let it bump against the former driving it over child's leg. 8. *Nature of assistance afforded.*—Taken to Civil Dispensary at once. 9. *Name, age, caste, and occupation.*—Shunmugum, aged 3 years; Boy, Pullen Casté, son of a Cooly. 10. *Gratuity proposed to be given or not; if so, how much.*—None. 11. *Whether reported to the Police authorities, and verdict of inquest (if any).*—Reported on the 16th January 1875. 12. *Remarks by the Company's Officers.*—Work being done by contract; no Company's Officer present. Child's parents who were present loading sand should have looked after it. 13. *Remarks by the Consulting Engineer.*—Nil.

NEGAPATAM,
22nd January 1875.

(Signed) W. S. BETTS,
Agent.

From W. S. BETTS, Esq., Agent of the South Indian Railway, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. M. SHAW-STEWART, R.E., Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Negapatam, 4th February 1875, No. 393.

In continuation of my letter, No. 363, of the 21st ultimo, I have to call your attention to the following report from the Assistant Engineer in charge of District No. 13 :—

“The report to the Police was delayed in this case by being addressed to the Assistant Superintendent who was not at Tuticorin. The Constables at the Police Station refused to forward the report, as did the Inspector of Police who returned it to my office the next day. The Inspector also stated that the child had been buried before he heard of it on account of the report being addressed to the Assistant Superintendent. When, therefore, you telegraphed for copy of verdict, I wrote to *Police Inspector*, but letter was returned from Police Station because he was in camp. I then addressed the Civil Apothecary who said that he thought there had been an inquest, but did not know the result. A Tamil letter was then written to the Officer in charge of Police Station, and the reply was that the Inspector was absent, but had been informed that I had applied for a copy of verdict. On the 27th instant, I again addressed Inspector of Police reminding him that copy of verdict applied for had not been received, and to-day I have his reply that “he does not see the necessity of supplying me with any report of the matter.”

2. If it be the desire of Government that this Company's Officers should be furnished with copies of verdicts arrived at in cases of accidents in Railway works, will you please arrange for the necessary instructions to be issued to the Magistracy and Police?

From W. S. BETTS, Esq., Agent of the South Indian Railway, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. M. SHAW-STEWART, R.E., Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Negapatam, 8th February 1875, No. 397.

In continuation of my letter, No. 393, of the 4th instant, the Chief Engineer now informs me, re-accident to a boy at Tuticorin, that he was at the Tuticorin dispensary for ten days, after which he was removed by his parents to his village at Sagarpoorum where he remained for seventeen days, and was afterwards taken to the hospital at Palamcottah where he died eight days after admission. “No inquest was held.”

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
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SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. I learn from the Inspector-General of Police that orders have been issued for immediate steps being taken for holding inquests in cases of Railway accidents, and for copies of verdicts being furnished to the Railway Authorities; also that the Inspector has been reprimanded for the obstructiveness and want of civility displayed by him.

(Signed) J. H. M. SHAW-STEWART, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Consulting Engineer for Railways.

No. 544. ORDER THEREON, 21st April 1875, No. 1,123.

RAILWAY, No. 67.

It is observed that column 6 of the report, dated 22nd January 1875, mentions that death took place *two hours* after the occurrence of the accident, while the Agent's letter, No. 397, dated 8th February, shows that the deceased survived *thirty-five days*. This is a discrepancy which requires explanation. The latter report is evidently incorrect. The accident is stated to have occurred on the 16th January; and if thirty-five days elapsed before death resulted, the 20th February would have been reached. But the final report of death is dated 8th February.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

Public Works Department.

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DEPARTMENT.

Report of Accident

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SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

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CONSULTING ENGINEER'S OFFICE,
Madras, 20 March 1875.

W. M. R. E.,
Consng. Engineer for Railways.

To
The Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department,
Fort Saint George.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the

Read the following:—

From the Chief Engineer
for Railways

C.N.R. No. 166 dated 20 March/75

It is observed that Column 6 of the Report dated 22nd January 1875 mentions that death took place two hours after the occurrence of the accident, while the Agent's letter No. 397 dated 8 February shows that the deceased survived thirty five days. This is a discrepancy which requires explanation. The latter report is evidently incorrect. The accident is stated to have occurred on the 16th Jan and if thirty five days elapsed before death resulted, the 20th February would have been reached. But the final report

P. W. 1875 Dept.
RAILWAY DEPARTMENT

1875

From The Consulting Engineer
for Railways,

To The Secretary to Government,
P. W. Department,
Fort St. George.

Dated 20 March 1875
Received 22

No. 166.

E. 3. Submitting a
report of an accident
to a child on Southern
extension with two
letters from the Agent
South Indian Railway
Nos. 393 & 397 of 4 & 8/2/75
respectively.

G.O. No. 1123 - 21-4-

No. 523

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of death is dated 8th February. Accidents S.S. Ry.

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