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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras

Public Works

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	660	Press	<i>Original</i>
B.P. No.		Mis.	
Dated	8 - 3 -	1875	
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Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
8th March 1875*

No 236 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, 16th February 1875, No. 104 —

I HAVE the honor to submit, for the information of Government, certain papers*

* From Agent, Madras Railway—	connected with a fire which broke out in a
No 42, 13th January 1875	covered goods wagon attached to a spe-
" 58, 15th "	cial train when running from Tirupetty
" 173, 13th February "	to Arconum on the 9th January 1875

2. The train was engaged by the Rajah of Indurjee for the conveyance of himself and his followers, and when between the Nuggery and Tirutany stations, in the 57th mile, the wagon in question was observed to be on fire. The train was at once pulled up, and the fire extinguished

3. On arrival at Arconum the wagon was examined, and both it and its contents were found much damaged. Among the contents sulphur matches and crackers were discovered, which were handed over to the Police. One of the Rajah's followers was said to have threatened the engine driver with a dagger, but the charge was probably exaggerated, and was not pressed against him.

4. Under Section XV. of the Railway Act of 1854 any person carrying dangerous goods by train, without giving due notice, is liable to a penalty not exceeding Rupees 200, but it will be observed that, in this instance, the Railway Authorities have determined not to prosecute any person in connection with the fire, nor to seek to recover from the Rajah the cost of the damage sustained by the wagon.

5. It is stated by the Agent, in explanation, that it would be very difficult to establish the fact that the fire was caused by the explosive substances found in the wagon, and also that, in his opinion, it would be very impolitic on the part of the Company to make claims under the circumstances, as tending to discourage native gentlemen from taking special trains. In this I concur, especially as regards the latter argument. In the case in question the Rajah of Indurjee travelled by special train from Ranchore to Arconum and back, the Company's receipts therefrom being upwards of Rupees 4,000. Although the cost of repairing the wagon is estimated at Rupees 1,300, I am of opinion that it would be unadvisable to make any claim against the Rajah.

From E. C. BOODLE, Esq., Acting Locomotive Superintendent, to R. B. ELWIN, Esq., Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway Company, dated Perambore Works, 11th January 1875, No. 19

I beg to inform you that as the 10 A.M. special, with the Rajah of Indurjee, was proceeding from Tirupetty to Arconum on the 9th instant, a covered goods wagon, No. 25, attached to the train was observed to be on fire. The train was at once brought to a stand at the 56th mile, 9th telegraph post, and the fire extinguished.

2. The Locomotive Foreman reports that the probable cause of the fire was due to articles of a combustible nature being stored in the wagon, such as matches and crackers. The wagon was laden with sundry articles of luggage, and was considerably damaged.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
8th March 1875*

- 3 Both the spark-arrester and the ash-pan of the engine No 93 are reported as in perfect order
4 The train was detained one hour and forty minutes owing to the accident

No 42

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways for information.

(Signed) R B ELWIN,
Agent and Manager

13th January 1875

From R B ELWIN, Esq., Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway Company, to Lieutenant-Colonel J H M SHAW-STEWART, R E, Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Madras, 15th January 1875, No 58

With reference to your letter of the 14th instant, No. 61, and in continuation of my endorsement, No 42, of the 13th instant, I have the

honor to enclose you copy of a letter* from the Traffic Manager and of the two enclosures referred to therein

2 I am in communication with Mr Church on the subject, and will address you again in a few days

From L S MOSS, Esq., Deputy Traffic Manager, to R. B. ELWIN, Esq., Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway Company, dated Madras, 11th January 1875, No C/ $\frac{36,701}{7,050}$

One wagon of luggage on fire at 56th mile, 9th telegraph post

I beg to forward the attached copy of telegram and extract from the journal of the 10 A M special of the 9th January for your information

2 Further particulars will be furnished in due course

Extract from Guard's Journal of the 10 A M Rajah's Special, from Tirupetty to Arconum, dated 9th January 1875

"Stopped at the 56th mile, 9th telegraph post, owing to covered goods No 25 being on fire. the fire was put out by the assistance of the Rajah's people and the gang coolies. While unloading the contents matches (sulphur) and crackers were discovered, the same was handed over to the Police at Arconum, while Driver Anderson was taking the matches one of the men threatened him with his dagger, the man was handed over to the Police at Arconum"

Telegram from Station Master, Naggery, to Traffic Manager, Madras, dated 9th January 1875
GUARD of 10 A M special from Tirupetty reports one wagon of luggages on fire at 56th mile, 9th telegraph post, available assistances are sent to the spot

From R B ELWIN, Esq., Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway Company, to Lieutenant-Colonel J H M. SHAW-STEWART, R E, Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Madras, 13th February 1875, No 173

With reference to the conversation that took place at the meeting of the Committee held in my office yesterday on the subject of your letter, No 61, of the 14th of January last, I have the honor to state that it is not proposed to prosecute any person in connection with the fire which occurred in the Rajah of Indurjee's special train on the 9th ultimo, nor to seek to recover from the Rajah the cost of the damage done to the wagon

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
8th March 1875.*

2. In the first place it would be a very difficult matter to establish the fact that the fire was occasioned by the combustibles that were undoubtedly found amongst the luggage, and in the second place I think it would be very impolitic on the part of the Company to make claims of this sort, as tending to discourage native gentlemen from taking special trains on the railway. It would, I think, be equally impolitic to endeavour to get a fine imposed in this case, as it is not at all probable that there was any guilty intention. The Rajah has made no claim upon the Company for the value of his property destroyed in the fire

3 The cost of repairing the damage done to the wagon is roughly estimated by the Acting Locomotive Superintendent at Rupees 1,300, which will be met from the Fire Insurance Fund

No. 237

ORDER THEREON, 8th March 1875, No. 660

RAILWAY, No 24.

ORDERED to be recorded

2. The authorities of the Madras Railway have probably used a wise discretion in the treatment of this case.

(True Extract)

Colonel, R E,

Secretary to Government

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways

Frd W J Lewis

Spare Copies

Extract from Guards Journal of the 10.00 Am
O'clock Rajah's Special from Tirupetty
to Arcotum dated 9th January 1875.

Stopped at the 56th mile 9th Tel. Post.
owing to G. Goods No 25 being on fire, the
fire was put out by the assistance of the
Rajah's people, and the gang coolies. While
unloading the contents matches (sulphur)
and crackers were discovered the same
was handed over to the Police at Arcotum.
while driver Anderson was taking the
matches one of the men threatened him
with his dagger, the man was handed over
to the Police at Arcotum.

/True Extract/
/Ed/ W.H.

Madras 9th Jan'y 1875
From Station Master Naggery To Traffic Manager Madras

Guard of 10 Am Special from Tirupetty
reports one waggon of luggages on fire at
56/9 mile, available assistances are sent
to the spot.

/Signed/ W.H.
/True copies/

J. H. Mellis.
for the Agent & Manager

Extract from Guards Journal of the 10th Am
O'clock Rajah's Special from Tirupetty
to Arcotum dated 9th January 1875.

"Stopped at the 56th mile 9th Tel. Post.
owing to C. Goods No 25 being on fire, the
fire was put out by the assistance of the
Rajah's people, and the gang coolies. While
unloading the contents matches (sulphur)
and crackers were discovered the same
was handed over to the Police at Arcotum.
while driver Anderson was taking the
matches one of the men threatened him
with his dagger, the man was handed over
to the Police at Arcotum.

[True Extract!]
[Ed] W.H.

Madras 9th Jany. 1875
From Station Master Naggery To Traffic Manager Madras

Guard of 10 Am Special from Tirupetty
reports one waggon of luggages on fire at
56/9 mile, available assistances are sent
to the spot.

[Signed] W.H.
[True copies]

J. H. Mellis.
for the Agent & Manager

Railway Department.

CONSULTING ENGINEER'S OFFICE.

No. 104

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,

I have the honour to submit
for the information of Government certain
papers connected with a fire which
broke out in a covered goods wagon
attached to a special train when run-
ning from Tirupetty to Arcanum on
the 9th January 1875.

The train was engaged by the
Rajah of Andurjee for the conveyance
of himself and his followers; and
when between the Nuggery and Ti-
rutany stations, in the 57th mile, the
wagon in question was observed to
be on fire. The train was at once
pulled

* From Agent Madras Railway
No. 42 - 13th January 1875
- 58 - 18th -
- 173 - 13th February -

pulled up, and the fire extinguished.

3. On arrival at Arcanum, the wagon was examined, and both it and its contents were found much damaged. Among the contents sulphur matches and crackers were discovered, which were handed over to the Police. One of the Rajah's followers was said to have threatened the engine-driver with a dagger; but the charge was probably exaggerated, and was not pressed against him.

4. Under Section XV of the Railway Act of 1854, any person carrying dangerous goods by train, without giving due notice, is liable to a penalty not exceeding Rs. 200; but it will be observed that, in this instance, the Railway Authorities have determined not to prosecute any person in connection with the fire,

fire, nor to seek to recover from the Rajah the cost of the damage sustained by the wagon.

5. It is stated by the Agent, in explanation, that it would be very difficult to establish the fact that the fire was caused by the explosive substances found in the wagon; and also that, in his opinion, it would be very impolitic on the part of the Company to make claims under the circumstances, as tending to discourage native gentlemen from taking special trains. In this I concur, especially as regards the latter argument. In the case in question the Rajah of Indurjee travelled by special train from Panchore to

to Arcanum, and back; the
Company's receipts therefrom
being upwards of Rs. 4,000.

Although the cost of repairing
the wagon is estimated Rs. 1,300,
I am of opinion that it would
be unadvisable to make any
claim against the Rajah.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most obedient servant

Machao
16th February
1875

Ministrowat
L. C. C. C.

Consulting Engineer for P. & F.

10101

6061 1875 30ndms

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Engineering Corp.

Dated

Recd

8 March 1875, No 117

Nos. 126-229.

Accident 1st letter from
The Engineering Corp. and
the other papers relating
to the accident of fire
which broke out in a
house attached to a station
house on the 9th Jan'y 1875.

Recorded -

Engineering Corp.
10-3-75

1912

Ordered to be recorded.
The authorities of the Railroad
have probably made a wise
decision in the treatment of this
case.

P. W. 1875 Dec 1st
The Railroad
RAILROAD DEPARTMENT
No: 1048

From
The Consulting Engineer
for Railways,

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

Dated 16 February 1875.

Recd

8.5.17
No 104

Submitting with

separate papers re-

lating to a fire which

broke out in a C. & G.

house attached to a

the Station of the Railway

special on 9th Jan'y

with Order

6182-75