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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	29 34-35	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	2 - 11	18 76 195

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
2nd November 1876. No. 2,935.*

No. 21. Read the following endorsement of the Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Madras, 26th October 1876, No. 515 :—

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, 19th October 1876, No. 1,060.

With reference to your letter of the 6th instant, No. 1,062, and to the Proceedings* of Government forwarded therewith, I have the honor to state that at the present time there is only one school on the Madras Railway, which is aided by the Company, and that was opened at Pothanore on the 2nd instant.

2. It is hardly fair to say that this school is "aided" by the Company, as all the money assistance that it has received was in the form of a donation of Rupees 50 towards the purchase of books and school furniture.

3. The Company provides a room in which the school is held.

4. With reference to this school the Rev. James Sharp, the Chaplain to the Railways, writes as follows :—

"The only school aided by the Railway Company within my range is one at Pothanore which I opened on the 2nd instant. The number of children on the roll on the opening day was twenty-four, viz., eleven girls and thirteen boys. Since then, there have been six admissions, three girls and three boys, bringing up the total to thirty children.

"The school has been divided into four classes, containing respectively five, ten, twelve, and three children, the last two being infant classes.

"The first-class read and write fairly in English, and are working 'addition of fractions' in Arithmetic.

"The second-class are able to read and write easy lessons in English, but can only do up to 'compound addition' in Arithmetic.

"The third and fourth classes have no knowledge of Arithmetic except their numbers; and in English, some are able to read and spell words of two and three letters, while others are just commencing with the alphabet.

"Plain sewing and knitting is taught to the girls on two afternoons in every week.

"Although most of the children in this school have been attending a school at Coimbatore, I have found on examination that the instruction they received there must have been of the most elementary character, not more than the merest rudiments of knowledge, and I consider them far behind children of the same age in our national schools at home. Judging from the behaviour of the children, the discipline must also have been very unsatisfactory. All this in great part at least I attribute to the fact that the school in question was a dame school, and therefore not at all suited to boys of twelve years of age.

"Knowing the defects of the dame school system, I determined to place a Master in charge of this school, and I have been fortunate enough to obtain a Master of experience and considerable ability. It is also my intention to place the school under Government inspection; and although the Master will have hard work for the

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
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next six months, owing to the backwardness of the children, I have reason to believe that the result will be satisfactory.

"At two other stations in my range, Perambore and Jollarett, schools are greatly needed."

5. In former years schools existed at Perambore and at Beypore and were granted donations, as in the case of the Pothanore school, and were further aided by private monthly subscriptions from the chief officers of the railway; but owing I believe to the death of the Master in the case of Perambore, and to the changes amongst the staff which periodically take place, these schools ceased to attract attention and were closed.

6. In concert with my brother officers I will endeavour to arrange for the re-establishment of schools at Perambore and at Beypore, and the opening of a school at Jollarett and at any other stations where the advantages of a national school do not exist.

No. 21-A. 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, 23rd October 1876, No. 2,357.

Your letter No. 1,083 of the 6th instant. No schools have been established by this Company. Indirectly the Company aids the schools formed in each municipal town through which it passes, by the payment of taxes to the Municipal Commissioners, who in turn grant funds therefrom for educational purposes.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government with reference to Proceedings, No. 2,529, dated 21st September 1876.

(Signed) C. J. SMITH, Major, R.E.,
for Consulting Engineer for Railways.

No. 22. ORDER THEREON, 2nd November 1876, No. 2,934.

RAILWAY, No. 3.

ORDERED to be forwarded for the information of the Government of India with reference to their letter, No. 2,358 R, dated 11th September 1876.

2. His Grace the Governor in Council would observe that the circumstances of the two railways in this Presidency differ greatly as to requirement of special arrangements for schooling of the children of their European and East Indian employés. Those of the South Indian Railway are located at towns through which the line passes, so that the educational establishments of the country are available to them. But some of the larger stations or workshops of the Madras line, such as Pothanore, Beypore and Perambore, are so far from towns as to require special educational establishments. His Grace the Governor in Council regrets to learn that those which formerly existed have been allowed to die out; and desires that the

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
2nd November 1876. No. 2,935.*

Director of Public Instruction be instructed in the Educational Department to take the matter into consideration with the Railway Authorities, with a view to their re-establishment on an efficient and permanent footing.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. V. WALKER, Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 23. (DOCKET No. 2,935, dated 2nd November 1876.)

COPY of the above forwarded to the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies

No 234

Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the

2 Nov 76.

Read the following:—

Law

The Consulting Engineer
for Railways

(H.L. No. 575 of 26 Oct 1876)

Ordered to be forwarded
the information of the
Government of India with
reference to their letter No.
2358 R dated 11 September
1876.

2. His Grace the Governor
in Council would observe
that the circumstances
of the 2 Railways in this
Presidency differ greatly
as to requirement of special
arrangements for schooling
of

of the children of their European and East Indian employees. Those of the South Indian Railway are located at Lums through which the line passes, so that the educational establishments of the country are available to them. But some of the larger stations or branches of the Madras line such as Pothanore, Kyzoor and Arambore are so far from Lums as to require special educational establishments. His Grace the Governor in Council regret to learn that ^{these} which formerly existed have been allowed to die out; and desires that

the Director of Public Instruction be instructed in the Educational Dept to take the matter into consideration with the Railway Authorities; with a view to their reestablishment on an efficient and permanent footing.

(H.R. No 2935 of 2 Nov 76)

Copy of the above forwarded to the Government of India.

C.M.W.

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Desd. - 13-11-76

Ch. J. N. S. - 21
Educ. Dept 7

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Govt. of 1876 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

the Com^r Eng^r for M^o

Recd
3/15

Date

Issued

Recd

Encl.

G. O. 2nd November 1876, No.

2934
2935

Nos. 21/23

Schools aided by Railway
carries — Passing
sent on letters submitted
by the Com^r Eng^r for P^{ro}g^r regard
-ing the ———

sent in P^{ro}g^r
11-11-76

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Lin 30-10-76