

P. W. DEPARTMENT.
RAILWAY.

Bombay Castle, 13th October 1879.

FROM

THE ACTING UNDER SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

SIR,

With reference to Public Works Department Circular No. 33, Railway, dated 7th November 1878, calling attention to printed papers on the subject of rules for the carriage of explosives by Rail, I am directed to forward a copy of the Rules in force on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, and to invite attention to the 8th Rule under which Dynamite and Explosives of a similar character are not accepted for conveyance on that line.

2. This restriction in the case of dynamite has led to some correspondence with the firm of Messrs W. M. Macaulay & Co. of Bombay, who have been endeavouring for the last six months to introduce dynamite into India, and have communicated the opinion of various authorities to induce the removal of the prohibition above referred to.

3. In forwarding these papers to the Government of India, I am to request that they may be referred to the Consulting Engineer to the Government of India for State Railways for opinion, and that the views of the Government of India may be communicated.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

G. W. OLDHAM, Major, R. E.,
Acting Under Secretary to Government.

Accompaniments to this letter :—

- Letter from Consulting Engineer No. 2216, dated 26th May 1879.
- Letter from Messrs. W. Macaulay, & Co., dated 30th August 1879.
- Letter from Consulting Engineer No. 3630, dated 9th September 1879.
- Letter from Messrs. Macaulay, & Co., dated 10th October 1879.
- Great Indian Peninsula Railway Traffic Circular No. 185, dated 11th June 1879.
- Memorandum from the Consulting Engineer No. 3944, and accompaniments.
- Memorandum from the Consulting Engineer No. 4013, dated 9th October 1879, and accompaniment.

GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.

P. W. DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF INDIA,

IN THE P. W. DEPT.,

RAILWAY.

No. 2611.

Dated 13th October 1879.

Received

Rules in force on the Great Indian Peninsula
Railway, regarding the carriage over that line
of Dynamite, &c.

P. W. D. Press.—13-10-79.

No. 4013 of 1879.

Consulting Engineer's Department,

Bombay, 9th October 1879.

Memo.

Reports in continuation of his
No. 3944 dated 29th ultimo, that the under-
signed attended a series of experiments
with dynamite, detailed in the accompany-
ing list which were carried out by Mr.
Harris, Agent of the Manufacturers of
dynamite, on the 8th October at Antop
Hill, Bombay, where the dynamite is stored.

These experiments, the newspaper
account of which is attached, were entirely
successful, and proved that from ordinary
dangers to which explosives are liable in
transport by rail, dynamite is safer
than Gunpowder.

A box of dynamite was placed
on an iron plate over 20 lbs of gunpowder
which was then exploded. The iron plate
was sent several hundred feet into the air.
The wooden box containing the dynamite
was broken and the dynamite scattered
about, but it had neither exploded
nor ignited. It is unlikely that it would
be

be exposed to severer concussion in a collision in the Railway.

The dynamite is imported in wooden cases containing 50 lbs. It is made up in cartridges of 9 or 12 to the lbs, the paper of which is not water-proof, but prevents to a great extent exudation of the nitro-glycerine. The cartridges are packed in packets of 50 in water-proof paper glued at the ends. These packets are again packed in water-proof cloth in the wooden cases.

This manner of packing which is that prescribed by the Authorities in England is not, it will be perceived, entirely waterproof. Stores coming to India packed in this manner are frequently damaged from the cases lying in water, and as a matter of fact, some dynamite lately imported arrived with the paper of the Cartridges damaged, rendering it necessary to repack the cases. There is acknowledged danger from the nitro-glycerine being precipitated if the dynamite is allowed to be in water. This and exposure to excessive heat

heat in carriage by rail in India appear to be the only dangers which have to be guarded against. Indian heat would soon destroy the waterproof qualities of the packing materials.

The restrictions which occur to the undersigned as necessary to be imposed for transport by rail in India are the following:-

1. That no dynamite should be accepted for transport by rail except that which has been approved, as to quality, by a Government Inspector.
2. That before despatch by rail each case should be opened and re-packed in presence of a Government Inspector, with an additional covering of munda or felt inside and outside the case. This would serve the double purpose of keeping the dynamite from great heat and also from concussion in the case of collision.
3. The cases of detonators must never be carried in the

same

same wagon as the dynamite, and ought to be at the other end of the train.

If dynamite is to be stored by the purchasers up country, and it is understood that considerable quantities have been sent into the interior, the Government Inspector should be furnished before despatch with a Certificate signed by the Magistrate of the District to which it is consigned that the dynamite will be stored on arrival under government inspection, and in such manner as government may direct.

(Signed) G. W. Oldham,
Major M. E.
Acting Consulting Engineer
for Railways.

J. N. C. R. 8173

Rec^d 27/12/80

N^o. 3187 of 1880
Public Works Department (Railway)
Bombay (letter 24th December 1880.

To The Secretary to the Government
of Madras.

Sr.

With reference to your letter N^o. 2585 N. dated 10th November 1880, I am directed to forward copy of Bombay Government letter N^o. 2611 dated 13th October 1879, in which the question of the carriage of Dynamite on the C. P. R. Railway was referred to the Government of India, whose reply is still awaited.

2. I am also to forward copy of a Memorandum by the Consulting Engineer for Railways on the carriage of Dynamite by Rail and to add that, some restrictions

+ N^o. 4013 d
9th Oct 1879

J. W. C. 8175

8175

Instructions appear to His
Excellency the Governor in
Council to be required to
ensure it being carried with
safety.

Sp-2

Recd 27/12/80

Have the honour to be
Sir

Your most obed^t serv^t

~~Maurice~~ Colonel R.E.

Under Secretary to Government

B. No. 1386 W. 22-2-80.

" " 2585 W. 10-11-80.

C. 6.1.81. 12.12.1.

J. W. C. Dept
No 95 W dt 14 Jan 1881

to

The Secretary to the
Government of Bombay
P. W. D., Railway

Sir

I am directed to ac-
knowledge the receipt of
your letter No 3187 dt 24th
December 1880 enclosing
copy of a letter to the
Government of India on
the subject of the con-
veyance of Dynamite by
Rail, and to request that,
with the permission of
His Excellency the Governor
in Council, a copy of the
reply of the Government
of India may be furnished
in due course

for

R. S.

Done
15-1-81

For the information of this
Government.

Att

6/1/81

B. 95W. 7/14 January/81

119 + 120

6.28.51 R. b. 6.81

24. C. 6.1.81. R. 12.1.

No 96W of 14 January/81

Revised
Att

13-1-81

121 + 122

178

From, J. W. C. 205.
The Superintendent of Works.
Godavari.

To,
The Chief Engineer
Public Works Department
Madras.

No. 12-12-81
Dowlaisuperam 7 January/81
No. 27

Report No. 10 on the
Progress of Works at the
Whadrachellum Coal Field.
16th to 31st December 1880.

- (1) Shaft deepened by
8 feet to 64 feet.
- (2) Soil passed through
"different kinds of clay".
- (3) Removal of huts to side of
shaft finished.

C. C. Wells
Superintendent of Works Godavari

comp'd
by 28

No 96W
R. 12.1
No. 100W

Sof W. Godavari
Per P.W. Kistai
15-1-87

With
Yrs.

No. 2896.

FROM,

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF WORKS

GODAVARI DISTRICT.

TO,

THE Chief Engineer
Public Works Department.
Madras.

Enclos.

Dowlaiswaram,

6 January 1881.
Despoys

SIR,

With reference to H.O. No. 23506,
dated 12th October 1880, I have the honor
to forward herewith an extract from the
Proceedings of the Government Agent
Godavari dated 5th November 1880, dis-
missing the appeal filed by L. Sub-
bramhaniam of Dummagudem against
the decision of the Special Assistant
Agent at ledadigudem.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your Most Obedient Servant



Superintendent of Works Godavari.

Compd. S. V.