

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2302

~~Press~~
~~Mis.~~

495.496

Dated

25.9.1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
25th September 1865.*

Read the following Endorsement of the Acting Deputy Consulting Engineer for Railways, in charge, dated Madras, 8th September 1865, No. 451.

No. 495. Read the following letter from R. B. ELWIN, Esq., Agent and Manager, Madras Railway Company, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. C. ANDERSON, R. E., Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Madras, 7th September 1865, No. 633:—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to enclose a copy of paragraphs 15 to 19 of the Managing Director's letter No. 364, dated the 28th of July last, having reference to a recommendation of mine, that, in order to secure regular supplies of firewood, for use in our Locomotives, the Company should undertake the planting of tracts of land with suitable trees.

2. The Directors, you will observe, in paragraph 18, desire to be placed in possession of the terms upon which land necessary for the cultivation of firewood, would be granted by the Government.

3. I should imagine that such tracts of land, as we require, would be obtained under the Tope Rules, and be free of rent for twenty years; but with a view to enable me to place the matter clearly before my Board, I shall feel obliged by your soliciting the orders of Government on the subject.

Extract of a letter from the Managing Director, No. 364, dated 28th July 1865.

Paragraph 15. Your Annual Report, dated 7th March last, contained a suggestion that, for the purpose of ensuring regular supplies of wood fuel, a point of very great importance for the economical working of the Railway, the Company should undertake the planting of tracts of land with trees, in suitable situations; such tracts to be of about 500 Acres in extent, in places where village labor could be commanded, and the estate superintended at little cost by a subordinate pensioned officer.

16. The Government Orders of the 2nd May also called our attention to the necessity of the Company, who are large consumers of fuel, taking steps for the growth of firewood, to meet future requirements, and in your letter No. 641 you have requested our early consideration of the subject.

17. The Board fully recognize the importance of the object in view, and trust that the endeavours now making by the Government to re-clothe a portion of the denuded surface of the country, to the improvement of the climate, and the increased supply of fuel, may meet with every success. The interests of the Railway Company are bound up with those of the country in such improvements, besides their more immediate interest in permanent supplies of firewood; and they have every desire, therefore, to co-operate as far as they properly can in these measures.

18. The Board, however, are hardly prepared, without further information, to undertake the planting and management of such estates as you have suggested. We require to know something of the terms on which the land would be granted by the Government, the expense of enclosing and planting, of maintaining, and the probable out-turn of wood fuel from it. The result of the Government operations in the Bellary District, stated in paragraph 11 of the orders, is not at all encouraging; but that may only shew the unsuitableness of the spot for the growth of trees. If the Company went into the project, it would be better to limit operations, in the first instance, to one block of land in the most suitable locality, and in reporting to the Board on the points above indicated, you will submit your opinion as to the spot to be preferred for such experiment.

19. In the meantime, however, there are, we believe, many places within the Railway boundaries which may be planted with trees to advantage, not merely for the purposes above refer-

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red to, but also for the shade about stations, and upon embankments and cuttings for their protection from the action of rain and wind. We understand that where trees have been grown in such situations on our lines, the effect has been very beneficial; and we are desirous that this system should be followed wherever there is space for planting, and no special objection exists. On this subject the Engineers in charge of Permanent Way should be called on to report fully.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. B. ELWIN,
Agent and Manager.

1. It is clear from paragraphs 2 and 13 of the Proceedings of Government in the Revenue Department, of the 2nd May last, No. 896, that waste land will be granted for the purpose of planting firewood and topes, free of assessment for twenty years.

2. The Proceedings were communicated to the Agent and Manager, and by him to the Railway Board of Directors in England, but as they desire some further information of the terms on which the land will be granted, I submit the Agent and Manager's letter, together with the Extract which accompanied it, for the orders of Government.

(Signed) H. L. D. PRENDERGAST, Major, R. E.,
Ag. Dy. Cons. Engr. for Railways in charge.

Referred to the Revenue Department.

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government, P. W. D.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
11th September 1865.

No. 496. ORDER THEREON, 25th September 1865, No. 2,302.

Land Revenue

The Agent is correct in supposing that waste land will be granted to the Railway Company under the Tope Rules for planting firewood. These Rules provide that the grant shall be free of assessment for twenty years, at the expiration of which time the ordinary assessment will be charged on the land if retained. The assessment on waste land of the description likely to be available, and taken up for this purpose, would probably not exceed a few pence per Acre.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Department.
,, the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 633

MADRAS RAILWAY COMPANY.

AGENT AND MANAGERS' OFFICE

Madras, September 7th 1865.

From

P. B. Elwin Esq.,
Agent and Manager. M. N.

To

Lieut. Colonel J. L. Anderson, R.E.
Consulting Engineer for Railways.

SIR,

I have the honor to enclose a copy of paras 15 & 19 of the Managing Directors' letter No. 364, dated the 28th of July last, having reference to a recommendation of mine, that in order to secure regular supplies of firewood, for use in our locomotives, the Company should undertake the planting of tracts of land, with suitable trees.

2. The Directors you will observe, in para 18 desire to be placed in possession of the terms upon which land necessary for the cultivation of firewoods, would be granted by the Government.

3. I should imagine, that such tracts of land as are required, would be obtained under the Tope Rules, and be free of Rent for 20 years, but with a view to enable me to place the matter clearly before my Board, I shall feel obliged by your collecting the orders of Government on this subject.

202 May 165 No. 22-23.

Recd. 1973 Office of the Agent and Manager
MADRAS RAILWAY

From The Agent and Manager
No. 22555

The Consulting Engineer
for Railways

Dated 1st September 1865
Recd. 1255

No. 633

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Yours most obedient servant,
W. B. Harris
Agent and Manager

Enclosed is copy of letter No. 1509 of the Hon. Secretary to the Hon. Member for the Madras Legislative Council, dated 11th August 1865, regarding the 110 acres of land which may be selected, as the site for the new station, for the purpose of the proposed extension of the railway from the present station to the new station, and for the purpose of the proposed extension of the railway from the present station to the new station.

United Scottish Press

W. B. Harris
Agent and Manager

the subject.
1865-66

Approved by the Revenue Department.

Wm. C. C. R. E.

Secy to Govt. of M. S.

1st Sept 1865

No. 2302.

in the planning that has been made with the Government of the Madras Legislative Council, and for the purpose of the proposed extension of the railway from the present station to the new station, and for the purpose of the proposed extension of the railway from the present station to the new station.