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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
26th September 1872.

No. 156. Read the following Endorsement of the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated 16th September 1872:—

Read the following letter from the Consulting Engineer for Railways, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Fort St. George, dated Madras, 14th September 1872, No. 495.

I HAVE the honour to submit for the favourable consideration of Government a letter* from the Agent of the Great Southern of India Railway Company, in which he requests that his Company may be allowed equal facilities with the Madras Railway Company for a supply of firewood at Erode by the Forest Department.

* No. 4,680, 11th September 1872.

2. Mr. Betts mentions that on asking the Conservator of Forests whether a large stock of firewood which had been collected at Erode was intended for sale to the railways, and if so, at what rate, he was informed that preparations were being made to supply the Madras Railway Company with firewood at Erode at Rs. 6 per ton, and that should the Agent of that Company not require the whole of the wood, the balance could be made over to the Great Southern Railway Company, if desired.

3. I cannot understand that it was the intention of Government, when the formation of a firewood depôt at Erode was authorized, that the fuel stored there was to be reserved exclusively, or chiefly, for the Madras Railway Company. I believe that the idea of forming a depôt at Erode originated with me, and a reference to paragraph 9 of my letter* dated the 8th April 1869 will show that in making the suggestion I had in view the wants of the Great Southern of India Railway Company equally with those of the Madras Railway Company.

* *Vide* G. O., Revenue Department, 21st May 1869, No. 1,436.

4. If either of the two Companies is more entitled, on general grounds, than the other to draw their supply of fuel from the Erode depôt, it is certainly not the Madras Railway Company, which is well supplied at other points of their line, such as Amboor, Vaniembady, Jollarpett, Palghaut, Ballapully, Codoor. On the other hand, the Great Southern Company, as Mr. Betts points out, can receive supplies from the Forest Department only at Erode; and all that is asked for is that they should have equal facilities with the Madras Railway Company for receiving firewood there.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From W. S. BETTS, Esq., Agent, Great Southern of India Railway Company, to the Consulting Engineer for Railways, Madras, dated Negapatam, 11th September 1872, No. 4,680.

ON the 13th ultimo I wrote to the Conservator of Forests that I had been informed there were several hundreds of tons of firewood belonging to his department stocked alongside the banks of the Cauvery near Erode, and I asked if this firewood was intended for sale to the Railway Company, and if so, at what rate.

Lieutenant-Colonel Morgan, in his reply, No. 1,439, dated the 5th instant, states that preparations are being made to supply the Madras Line at Erode with fuel at Rs. 6 per ton; and he adds, "should the Railway Agent not require the whole of the wood, the balance can be made over to you if you desire it."

I beg to submit for the favourable consideration of Government that the Great Southern of India Railway Company be allowed *equal* facilities with the Madras Railway Company for a supply of firewood at Erode by the Forest Department.

We cannot now obtain firewood in sufficient quantities in the Tanjore and Trichinopoly Districts, and it is at Erode only where this Company requires to draw supplies from the Forest Department.

Will you kindly endeavour to obtain an early order on this subject, so that the stock now at Erode may be partly used by the Great Southern of India Railway Company.

TRANSFERRED to the Revenue Department.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

REFERRED to Colonel Morgan in charge of Inspector of Forests' Office for his remarks.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

16*th September* 1872.

No. 157. From Lieutenant-Colonel H. R. MORGAN, Officiating Inspector of Forests, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 20th September 1872, No. 1,461.

WITH reference to the Consulting Engineer's letter No. 495, (herewith returned,) of the 14th instant, referred to me for remarks, I have the honour to observe that there is no objection to supplying the Great Southern of India Railway with fuel, but I consider the South-West Line has the best right to the first supply, as, on communication with Mr. Barton Wright, he offered at once to take wood, if it was good, at Rs. 6 a ton. Whereas I understood the other line refused to pay more than Rs. 4 a ton for wood offered to them from the padugay lands near Trichinopoly.

2. In reply to the Consulting Engineer's statement regarding the supply of fuel from a depôt at Erode being his idea, this only extended to plantations, paragraph 10 of his letter No. 117 of 8th April 1869. It was in July 1869 that the scheme of floating wood down the Cauvery was reported on by Major Beddome and myself after an examination of the Nuddacovil forests and the Cauvery river.

3. Plantations were found to be out of the question, as the Collector would not make over to us irrigated land.

4. We have stored our wood on ground, the property of the Madras Railway Company; of course, it rests with them to come to an amicable arrangement with the Great Southern of India Railway.

5. I have explored the river to Trichinopoly, and there are several places where wood might be delivered from the river to the Railway at a slightly enhanced rate, if the Agent of the Great Southern of India Railway desires it.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
26th September 1872.

No. 158. ORDER THEREON, 26th September 1872, No. 1,356.

Forests, No. 14.

THE Governor in Council entirely approves of equal facilities being afforded to both of the Railway Companies to supply themselves with wood from the Erode depôt, subject of course to the due fulfilment of any existing arrangements regarding wood already stored there between the Forest Department and the Madras Railway Company.

2. The price offered by the Great Southern of India Company's Agent at Trichinopoly for wood from the padugay lands is no criterion of the charge they may be willing to incur at Erode, where the quality of the fuel must be certainly very superior.

3. The question of forming depôts of wood from the Bhowani and Cauvery forests at points lower down the river than Erode for the convenience of the Great Southern of India Company should be considered by the Inspector of Forests in communication with the Consulting Engineer and Railway Agent.

4. It is presumed that at Erode no difficulty will be found in securing an independent site for the depôt, or in forming an additional depôt for the Great Southern of India Company.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways.
,, the Inspector of Forests.
,, the Board of Revenue.
,, the Public Works Department.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Read the following letters:—

RAILWAY DEPARTMENT. CONSULTING ENGINEER'S OFFICE.

No. 496

56 From Lieut.-Colo. 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 favourable consideration of Government, a letter from the Agent of the Great Southern of India Railway Company, in which he requests that his Company may be allowed equal facilities with the Madras Railway Company for a supply of firewood at Erode by the Forest department.

No. 4686 - 11th September 1872.

department.

2. Mr. Betts mentions that, on asking the Conservator of Forests whether a large stock of firewood which had been collected at Erode was intended for sale to the railways, and if so at what rate; he was informed that preparations were being made to supply the Madras Railway Company with firewood at Erode at Rs 6 per ton, and that, should the Agent of that Company not require the whole of the wood, the balance could be made over to the Great Southern Railway Company, if desired.

3. I cannot understand that it was the intention of Government, when the formation of a firewood depot at Erode was authorised, that the fuel stored there was to be reserved exclusively or chiefly for the Madras Railway Company. I believe that the idea of forming a depot at Erode originated with me, and as reference to paragraph 9 of my letter* dated the 8th April, 1869 will show, that in making the suggestion I had in view the wants of the Great Southern of India Railway Company equally with those of the Madras Railway Company.

* Vide G.O. Rev. Deptt. 21st May 1869, No. 1436.

4. If either of the two Companies is more entitled, on general grounds, than the other to draw their supply of fuel from the Erode depot, it is certainly not the Madras Railway Company, which is well supplied at other points of their line, such as Ambaoor, Vaniembaddy, Jollarapetta, Palghaut, Ballapilly, Coïdoor. On the other hand the Great Southern Company, as W. Better points out, can receive supplies from the Forest department only at Erode; and all that is asked for is that they should have equal facilities with the

Madras

Madras Railway Company for receiving firewood there.

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant
V. Mauritius Lieut. R.E.,
Cons: Engineer for Railways.

Madras
14th September
1872

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Revenue Department.

No. 1356.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 26th September 1872.

Read the following letters

From the Consulting Engineer for Railways, Submitting a letter from the Agent, G. I. P. Railway, regarding the supply of Firewood at Erode. (Nos. 14th Sept. 1872, No. 495)

From the Offg. Inspector of Forests. Submitting his observations with regard to the supply of Fuel to the G. I. P. Railway Company (Nos. 20th Sept. 1872, No. 1461)

The Governor-in-Council entirely approves of equal facilities being afforded to both of the Railway Companies to supply themselves with wood from the Erode depot, subject of course to the due fulfilment of the

any existing arrangements regarding wood already made between the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company

Revenue 1872 Sept. 26 No. 2029

Department.

Transferred to the Revenue Department.

Dy. No. 5022 dated 16th Sept. 1872

Railway Department.

1872. No. 1356

From

The Consulting Engineer for Railways,

To

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

Dated 14th Sept. 1872.

Rec'd 16th Sept. 1872.

No. 495 of 1872. Submitting a letter from the Agent, G. I. P. Railway, regarding the supply of Firewood at Erode.

Transferred to the Revenue Department.

Dy. No. 5022 dated 16th Sept. 1872.

Railway Department.

1872. No. 1356

From

The Consulting Engineer for Railways,

To

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

Dated 14th Sept. 1872.

Rec'd 16th Sept. 1872.

No. 495 of 1872. Submitting a letter from the Agent, G. I. P. Railway, regarding the supply of Firewood at Erode.

The price offered by the G. S. I. Company's Agent at Trichinopoly for wood from the Padugay lands is no criterion of the charge they may be willing to incur at Erode where the quality of the fuel must be certainly very superior.

The question of forming depots of wood from the Bhawani and Cavery forests at points lower down the river than Erode for the convenience of the G. S. I. Company should be considered by the Inspector of Forests in communication with the Consulting Engineer and

Both railways should be charged the same price. N.S.

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and Railway Agent.

It is presumed that at Erode no difficulty will be found in securing an independent site for the depot or in forming an additional depot for the G. S. I. Company.

13 To the Consulting Engineer for Railways Dey Dl
3 " the Inspector of Forests "
14 " the Board of Revenue "
21 " the Public Works Dept "

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Sept. 1892

21 Sept. 1892 R. 24 Sept.