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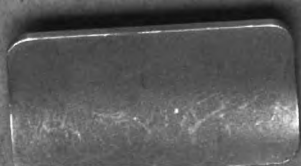
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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
HOME DEPARTMENT.

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH,



DECEMBER, 1864.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HON'BLE SIR JOHN LAIRD MAIR LAWRENCE, G.C.B. AND K.S.I., GOVERNOR
GENERAL.

MAJOR GENERAL THE HON'BLE SIR ROBERT NAPIER, K.C.B.

THE HON'BLE H. B. HARRINGTON.

THE HON'BLE H. S. MAINE.

THE HON'BLE SIR CHARLES EDWARD TREVELYAN, K.C.B.

THE HON'BLE W. GREY.

ABSENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY GENERAL SIR HUGH ROSE, G.C.B., COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

CALCUTTA:

Printed at the Home Secretariat.

A. D. 1865.

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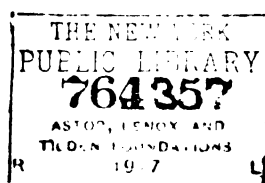
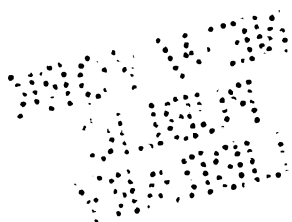
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CALCUTTA:

Printed at the Home Secretariat.

A. D. 1865.



Electric Telegraph.

Proceedings of the Government of India for the month of December 1864.

Index Nos. of the Proceedings.	Subject.	Date of Proceedings.	Date of Report to the Secretary of State for India.	Numbers and dates of previous Proceedings.	Page.
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8 to 10	Communication from the Chief Commissioner of British Burmah, forwarding a letter from the Rangoon Chamber of Commerce regarding the great delay which has occurred in the completion of the Telegraph Line from Arracan to Pegu; with orders thereon.	Dec. 7		Prog. 28th Dec. 1863, Nos. 20 to 27. T. S. Prog. 31st Dec. 1863, No. 16. Prog. 14th Jan. 1864, Nos. 9 & 10. Prog. 12th Feb. 1864, No. 12.	196 & 197
11 to 22	Correspondence on the subject of the Indo-European Line of Telegraph, the business relating to the arrangement for the working of Turkish and Mekran Lines of Telegraph being transferred from the Foreign to the Home Department.	Dec. 15	Letter No. 3 of 1864, dated 15th Dec.	Prog. 9th Feb. 1863, Nos. 7 to 19. T. S. Prog. 1st July 1864, Nos. 1 to 4. T. S. Prog. 26th July 1864, Nos. 24 to 26. Prog. 20th Oct. 1864, Nos. 7 & 8.	197 to 213
23 & 24	Communication from the Director General of Telegraphs in India, reporting the steps that have taken for the recovery from Mr. Maguire of Rupees 1,515-8-6, being the unadjusted balance of his accounts.	Dec. 20		Prog. 6th Oct. 1864, Nos. 3 to 6.	213
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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

HOME DEPARTMENT PROCEEDINGS,

December, 1864.

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.

Abolition of the system of Cash Payments for Service Telegraph Messages.

No. 1. Office Memorandum, Financial Department,—No. 1386, dated the 12th March 1864.

IN transmitting for consideration and orders, in the Home Department,

From the Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, No. 31, dated 13th January 1864.

Report thereon by Mr. G. W. Kellner, dated 4th February 1864.

From the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, No. 159, dated 12th February 1864.

a copy of the correspondence noted in the margin, the undersigned is directed to observe that the objections stated by Mr. Kellner against the continuance of cash payments on account of messages sent by Telegraph, have been forcibly

expressed by that Officer, and they have the entire concurrence of this Department.

2. Much consideration is due to the loss of valuable public time, and the unnecessary volume and complexity of the public accounts arising from this practice of cash payments.

3. The true remedy against the abuse of the Telegraph apparently consists in the introduction of more stringent Rules than have hitherto been in force regarding the despatch of messages, and in a closer examination of the messages in the Electric Telegraph Department, and the enforcement in all cases of the full cost of the messages improperly sent.

4. The determination, however, of the extent to which permission to despatch messages should be conceded, and the subsequent scrutiny they should undergo in the Electric Telegraph Department, are points for consideration in the Home Department.

(Signed) E. H. LUSHINGTON,
Secy. to the Govt. of India, Finl. Dept.

No. 2. From A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Esquire, Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, to E. H. LUSHINGTON, Esquire, Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department,—No. 31, dated the 13th January 1864.

IN their (Financial) Resolutions, dated 31st July and 18th August last, Nos. 3486 and 3837, the Supreme Government ruled that, for reasons stated, the system of interdepartmental cash payments should cease.

I am directed to inquire whether it is intended that the Electric Telegraph should continue to be an exception to this sound and convenient principle. Payment is now required in cash for every Service Message transmitted; all Officers having occasion to send such messages are obliged to provide funds for the purpose in their Budget Estimates, the Audit Offices have to check the payments, and altogether the same processes involving correspondence, delay, &c., have to be gone through as if Government were paying for services rendered by other than its own servants. In fact, however, the Government is only paying its own servants for doing its own work, and issuing money out of one pocket to be re-placed in another. The sum which thus passed in 1861-62 between the Telegraph and other Government

Abolition of the system of Cash Payments for Service Telegraph Messages.

Offices, for Government work, appears from the Administration Report of that year to have been nearly Rupees 1,26,000. The same Report shows that the numbers of Private and Service Messages in that year were, respectively, 208,000 and 36,000, so that the Government work in extent is of quite secondary importance, and can really add but little to the expenditure which must otherwise be incurred; though even if it were not so, that would be no sufficient reason for the anomaly of Government paying in cash for the work done by its own Establishments.

3. The demand for cash, I am to state, is no check on the unnecessary or improper transmission of messages, as the vouchers sent into the Audit Office in support of payments merely show the number of words contained in the message, and the distance the latter was sent.

4. The Post Office Department executes a far larger amount of business for Government than the Telegraph, without feeling the necessity of cash payments; and there seems to be nothing so peculiar in Telegraphic work as to need such payments. I am, therefore, directed to recommend that the Rule, prohibiting interdepartmental cash payments, may be expressly extended to the Electric Telegraph Department, in which alone it now appears to prevail.

No. 3. From G. W. KELLNER, Esquire, on Special Duty, to E. H. LUSHINGTON, Esquire, Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department,—Dated the 4th February 1864.

I HAVE the honor to reply to your Docket No. 1430 of the 25th ultimo, requesting my report on a communication from the Government of Fort St. George, dated the 13th idem, in which objections are raised against the system of cash payments for Telegraph Messages on the Public Service.

2. Similar objections were urged by the Budget and Audit Committee in February 1861, but were over-ruled by the Government* on the ground that the system was adopted after other expedients for preventing the improper use of the Telegraph had failed, and that the expected result had been attained in an eminent degree.

3. When the Telegraph was first established, Service Messages were subject to the same rates as Private Messages, but were paid for not in cash, but in *pro forma* receipts; the privilege of sending such messages being restricted to the Heads of the Government, the Secretaries at the seats of Government, and the Chief Civil and Military Officers at other Stations. It was found, however, that the privilege was abused, and the instances of abuse brought to light by Sir William O'Shaughnessy were so flagrant that no course apparently remained for the Government but to try the effect of cash payments. The new Rule came into operation on the 1st May 1859. The number of Service Messages in 1859-60 was less by 44 per cent. than the number in the preceding year, while the decrease in the value of messages was 67 per cent. The number and value of Service Messages from the establishment of the Telegraph to the present time is shown in the following Statement:—

Years.	Number of Messages.	Value. Rupees.
1855-56	6,863	66,139
1856-57	9,008	79,249
1857-58	not ascertainable.	1,80,702
1858-59	56,670	3,64,739
1859-60	31,868	1,20,169
1860-61	35,489	1,20,244
1861-62	35,970	1,25,841
1862-63	31,301	1,02,528
May to October 1862	14,956	46,858
November 1862	3,963	19,161
December 1862	3,563	17,784

Abolition of the system of Cash Payments for Service Telegraph Messages.

4. Without detracting from the good effects claimed for the cash system, it is impossible to overlook the fact that its introduction was contemporaneous with the restoration of order and tranquillity, and that the Military operations of 1858-59, the interruption of Postal communications, the political and even the financial exigencies of the State, contributed to increase the Service Messages in that year. A remarkable illustration of the effect of such causes on the business of the Telegraph Department is afforded in the Returns of the Director General for November and December last, when, owing to the Military operations on the frontier, and the illness and death of Lord Elgin, the value of Service Messages was more than double the average for previous months.

5. The payment by Government in cash, for work done by its own Establishments, has been found objectionable as a general rule. It multiplies the pecuniary responsibilities of Officers in all Departments, complicates accounts, and is moreover inconsistent with the economical working of the Government cash balances. The Rule of cash payments might as well be enforced to check abuse of the privilege of franking letters, or indenting for Government stores, as for preventing the transmission of private, useless, or lengthy messages on the Public Service; but it has long ceased to exist throughout the Departments in England and in this country, the Indian Telegraph being apparently the only exception.

6. The question, therefore, whether the object proposed by this exceptional arrangement may be attained in a more simple way is well deserving the consideration of Government.

7. The cash system, whatever its effect at first, has been somewhat modified by the order* of Government, authorizing Heads of Departments to draw permanent advances, with the view of paying for Service Messages, the amount of such payments being recovered on audit of their contingent bills. The audit is confined to a mere verification of the items in the contingent bills with the receipts of the Telegraph Officers, and forms no check against the improper use of the Telegraph. The check is instituted at a later period in the Office of the Director General of Telegraphs, who submits to the Government Monthly Reports of objectionable messages forwarded on the Public Service. But in all this there is nothing to *prevent* the transmission of an objectionable message. On the contrary, the pre-payment in cash obviates objection on the part of the Telegraph Department, where the power of prevention really lies. In illustration I beg leave to submit a Statement derived from the latest Returns of the Director General:—

* See Resolution of Government of India, Financial Department, No. 14873 of 31st December 1861.

Statement of Service Messages objected to by Director General, from May 1862 to September 1863.

Nature of objection.						Number objected to.	Total number of Service Messages transmitted.
Too wordy	...	...	...	...	...	43	
Not urgent	...	...	...	...	...	65	
Messages about leave	...	...	...	...	...	287	
Ditto on other subjects, not on the Public Service	...	...	...	...	...	217	
Precedence and cleared line improperly claimed	...	...	...	...	...	6	
						618	34,402

It will be seen that nearly one-half of these objectionable messages referred to applications for leave, which are excluded by orders of Government from the category of service communications. Their transmission as Service Messages, if claimed free of charge, could easily have been prevented by the Officers of the Telegraph Department; but being pre-paid in cash, they were forwarded as a matter of course; their objectionable character remaining unnoticed for several months.

Abolition of the system of Cash Payments for Service Telegraph Messages.

8. The cash system, therefore, fails in some respects as a preventive measure, and the necessity for its continuance seems questionable when regard is had to the class of Officers by whom the Telegraph is used "on the Public Service." The following Statement shows the relative cost of Service Messages from several classes of Officers:—

Governments and Administrations.	Secretaries to Governments, Private Secretaries to Governors and Lieutenant-Governors.	Auditor General, Deputy Auditors and Accountants General, Financial Commissioner, Board of Revenue.	Other Officers.	Total.
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.
Supreme Government of India, from April 1861 to March 1863	24,441	1,659	4,964	31,064
Madras, from October 1862 to March 1863	1,300	726	1,571	3,597
Bombay, from May 1861 to October 1862	8,085	3,438	5,329	16,852
North-Western Provinces, for ditto	2,027	1,588	2,896	6,511
Punjab, from May 1861 to April 1862	5,875	1,739	2,789	10,403

The Returns are not so complete as could be desired, but they serve to show how very large a proportion of Service Messages proceeds from the highest Officers of the Government.

9. If the privilege of forwarding messages free of charge were restricted to this class of Officers, and if Rules were promulgated defining in general terms the character of messages inadmissible on the Public Service, there would be no need of checks against abuse of the privilege beyond the prompt enforcement of the Rules. Telegraph Officers might be instructed, immediately on presentation of an objectionable message, and without delaying its transmission, to notify the objection to the sender, and report the result to the Director General. Other Government Officers might also be requested to afford their co-operation in the same way, *i. e.*, on receipt of a Service Message liable to objection under the Rules, to notify the objection to the sender, as well as to the Director General. Lastly, the Monthly Reports of the Director General should be made with promptitude, and be followed by a cash recovery in every case where the objections to a Service Message were found to be valid. This would ensure a sufficient check without the objections of the cash system, and I venture to suggest it as an experimental arrangement, should the Government desire any change of the existing system.

10. The value of Service Messages will, in any case, be exhibited in the Annual Administration Report as revenue of the Telegraph Department, and as a charge against the Departments transmitting them.

No. 4. From A. D. ROBERTSON, Esquire, Officiating Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to E. H. LUSHINGTON, Esquire, Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department,—No. 159, dated the 12th February 1864.

WITH reference to the orders of the Government of India, directing the discontinuance of the practice of interdepartmental payment for stores supplied by one Department to another, I am desired to solicit instructions whether under those orders cash payments to the Electric Telegraph Department for Public Service Messages should not be discontinued.

2. The Acting Controller of Military Finance, who has raised this question, observes that "the present system is attended with much inconvenience, and apparently involves the same objectionable principle which it is the object of the orders under acknowledgment to discountenance in the Public Accounts, that is the cost of the Electric Telegraph Establishments

Abolition of the system of Cash Payments for Service Telegraph Messages.

being already charged to Government, the payments made for Public Service Messages by other Departments, and debited in their accounts, involve a double charge.

3. "I presume the main object, with which cash payments were ordered to be made for Public Service Messages, was to ascertain the gross value of the services performed by Electric Telegraph Department; but this could be done as easily, I should think, by that Department taking credit in account for the value of all Government Messages."

No. 2467, dated the 5th April 1864.

FORWARDED in original to the Director General of Telegraphs in India, with an earnest request that he will report on the case as quickly as possible.

The papers to be returned with the reply.

By Order,
(Signed) J. W. S. WYLLIE,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 5. From Lieutenant-Colonel C. DOUGLAS, Director General of Telegraphs in India, to E. C. BAYLEY, Esquire, Secretary to the Government of India,—No. 36, dated the 4th May 1864.

HOME Office No. 2467 of the 5th April, calling for Report on the proposal to abolish cash payments in the case of Service Messages.

2. The proposal is supported by the Financial Department on the ground that the present system of cash payments wastes valuable time and complicates the public accounts.

3. If by the valuable time here referred to as wasted is meant that involved in bringing the payment to account, it should be remembered that a single line in the Contingent Bill of an Office will suffice for the entry of cost of all the Telegrams which the Office may have sent during the month however numerous, and the only other waste of the kind that occurs to me is that involved in the Civil Pay Master's Offices in checking the charge against the vouchers,—and the cost of labor of the class of Clerks who would be employed on such work is not high.

4. In reality the main inconvenience of cash payments is, I apprehend, that of having to provide the cash necessary to accompany the message, and this, though reduced to a minimum in the larger towns by permitting the payment to be in arrears, and those of several messages to be made at the same time, must certainly be felt as an inconvenience in the case of many public Officers, the scale of whose transactions with the Telegraph is too limited to render such an arrangement a convenient one either to the Department or themselves.

5. It was, however, just this inconvenience which gave a value to the system of payments in cash; for this system was supposed, and as I believe correctly, to debtor from the unnecessary use of the Telegraph. But there are many cases in which the system had no such effect, such as in that of the larger Offices where the trouble of personally providing for, and keeping accounts of, such payments falls not in the sender but on a subordinate, and it was to meet cases of this class that, in December 1860, the existing arrangements for the examination of Service Messages were introduced.

6. In Mr. Kellner's Report, paragraph 7, it is objected that the system of cash payments does not prevent the transmission of objectionable messages. This is true, but it will be true also of any system, for even under the proposed change, and under almost any limitations that may accompany it, an examination of Service Messages will be as indispensable as now, for under no system can the despatch of objectionable messages be entirely prevented.

7. Mr. Kellner remarks in his 7th paragraph that as messages on the subject of leave are excluded from the category of Service communications,

Abolition of the system of Cash Payments for Service Telegraph Messages.

their transmission, if claimed free, could easily have been prevented by the Officers of the Telegraph. Such is not the case; for the Government Order prohibiting the transmission of such messages on the Public Service did not give any sanction to the Offices of this Department to refuse their transmission, nor, as a general rule, are the Assistants of this Department qualified, either by education or personal intelligence, for exercising the delicate task of adjudicating in such messages, for some of these are fair subjects for transmission on the Public Service; the social status also of our Assistants is not such as to render it expedient to entrust them with a power of veto on the messages of, perhaps, the Chief Civil Officer of a District; and the ill-will to the Department, which the exercise of such a power by such men would excite, would largely counterbalance any good which could possibly result to this Department by its exercise.

8. But such power is not at all necessary; for the compulsory payment under the orders of Government for messages, reported by this Department as improperly sent, would prevent their being any burden to it.

9. Mr. Kellner's suggestion that Telegraph Officers should be instructed, without prejudice to the prompt despatch of a message to notify their opinion of its objectionable nature to the sender is, I consider, undesirable on the general grounds just mentioned, and because any such act would not prevent their despatch unless the sender chose on such notice to withdraw the message, and his application to do so were received in time; but great inconvenience would be entailed on the Department as well by the correspondence which such a course would entail, and for which our Assistants are not fitted, and have not time, as by the correction of Registers and cancelment of Receipts which this would give rise to; and I think it preferable not in any way to anticipate the usual action of the Message Examiner's Office, but to let such messages pass, and convert them into revenue by a subsequent recovery.

10. Mr. Kellner, in his 9th paragraph, remarks, that the Reports to Government on objectional Service Messages should be made with more promptitude, and at the close of his 7th paragraph apparently attributes to these Reports delays of several months.

11. In the margin I give the dates on which the Reports on these mes-

Messages for	Sent to Govern- ment on	Interval in days.
September ...	5th December ...	66
October ...	9th January ...	73
November ...	4th February ...	66
December ...	27th " ...	58
January ...	4th April ...	64
February ...	2nd May ...	63
Average ...		6½

sages, for the past six months, have been forwarded to Government; from which it will be seen that the interval between the dates of the Reports, and those of the last message examined in them, has averaged a little over two months,—an interval which includes the Postal time, which last in the case of some Offices, including the three clear days during which it is required that every message shall remain in the Signal Office for

reference previous to despatch, aggregates 24 days.

12. It is a condition of the economical employment of any Establishment that its work should be continuous. Hence the examination of a month's messages must be spread over an entire month; and as it is only after the examination and selection of the messages by the Clerk employed that their further examination by myself and transcript for Government can be made, the time shown, as occupied in these examinations and reports far from being excessive, could not well be materially less.

13. I do not consider that any control over the improper transmission of Service Messages can be more effective or uniform in action than the existing one, unless at the cost of greater inconvenience to all parties than it occasions. Certainly were every Telegram, which it is proposed to send on Service, first reviewed by the Head of the Sender's Department, it would prevent many unnecessary transmissions; but it is only in the larger Stations that such

Abolition of the system of Cash Payments for Service Telegraph Messages.

previous scrutiny would be possible, and the sender would usually in all but such stations be the sole representative of his Department on the spot; and even were it otherwise, the control would affect by much the smaller number of Service Messages sent,—the larger number being sent by the Secretaries and higher Officers of the Government; but as it has doubtless been determined, at least as an experiment, to change the system in favor of the convenience of a comparatively small body of Public Officers, I would suggest the following as the conditions under which messages on the Public Service might be sent without payment. It is quite possible that the conditions may be considered by those most concerned as more onerous than those they replace; but that is beside the question which is to simplify Public Accounts, and to render a smaller amount of currency sufficient for the purposes of the Empire.

14. I would propose that no message should be accepted at a Telegraph Office, for transmission on Service, at foot of which it is not certified on honor that it is not on the private business of the sender, but exclusively on the Public Service, and that inconvenience to that Service would result from its transmission by Post, and that it is expressed in the fewest words consistent with perspicuity.

15. I would suggest that the power of sanctioning the transmission of Service Telegrams, and of clearing the line, should be limited by a List similar to, but much more exclusive, than that in force in the Post Office; and I would require that every Service Message should, before despatch, if not signed by an Officer authorized under the List to frank telegrams, be countersigned by such Officer.

16. I would further, in the case of a message which it had been desired to send on the Public Service, but transmission of which had been refused, whether from the absence of a sufficient signature or countersignature as above, or from being in the List of prohibited Service Messages, or on any other technical or other ground, and being in consequence paid for as a private message, require that no charge for such Telegraph message should be entered in a Contingent Bill until the message had been first examined in this Office, and passed by the Secretary to Government in the Home Department; for were it possible, under any plea, to obtain payment of the money disbursed on a paid message in Contingent Bills, without such previous check, it is evident that, as such message from being private would not have been scrutinized in this Office, it would escape scrutiny altogether.

17. The Officers of the Public Service authorized to send messages under their own signature, or to pass by their countersignature the messages of others, might be those mentioned in the following List. The power of clearing the line, or in any form giving precedence to a message, being limited to those to which the letters C. L. have been added :—

The Governor General and his Private and Military Secretaries—C. L.
The Governor of Bengal, Madras, and Bombay, and their Private Secretaries—C. L.

The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and the N. W. Provinces—C. L.
Members of the Governor General's Council—C. L.

CIVIL.

The Chief Civil Officer at the Station—C. L.
The Accountant General or Deputy Accountant General—C. L.
The Agents to the Governor General—C. L.
The Civil Auditor.
The Director General of Post Office—C. L.
The Secretaries to Governments—C. L.
The Secretaries to all Boards appointed by Government.
The Inspector General of Police—or other Chief Officers of Police, under the various Presidencies—C. L.

Abolition of the system of Cash Payments for Service Telegraph Messages.

The Inspector General of Police under the various subordinate Governments—C. L.

The Chief Commissioner of Currency—C. L.

ECCLESIASTICAL.

The Bishops of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay.

MARINE.

The Controller of Marine, or Chief Officer of Marine, under the various Governments—C. L.

MEDICAL.

The Chief Medical Officer under the Presidencies of Bengal, Madras, and Bombay—C. L.

MILITARY.

The Chief Military Officer at the Station—C. L.

The Commander-in-Chief in India and his Military Secretary—C. L.

The Commander-in-Chief at Madras and Bombay—C. L.

The Chief Officer of the Adj. Genl's. Dept. at Head Quarters—C. L.

Ditto ditto ditto at the Presidency—C. L.

The Chief Officer of the Qr. Mr. Genl's Dept. at Head Quarters—C. L.

Ditto ditto ditto at the Presidency—C. L.

The Adjutant General at Madras and Bombay—C. L.

The Quarter Master General at Madras and Bombay—C. L.

The Chief Engineers.

The Inspector General of Ordnance.

The Superintendent, Trigonometrical Survey.

The Surveyor General of India.

18. The above List has been proposed after inspection of the similar List of the Postal Department; and as it may be necessary in considering the propriety of the selection made to refer to that List, a copy of it accompanies.*

19. The enclosures of your letter are herewith returned.

* Will be sent to-morrow.

No. 6.

List No. 1.

Parties authorized to send by Post (without actual payment of postage), all letters, packets, or parcels, *bond fide* and exclusively on the Public Service, the same to be certified on each letter in the Form prescribed in Rule 36.

Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

President and Secretaries of the Board of Control.

Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the East India Company.

Secretary, Deputy Secretary, and Assistant Secretary at the India House.

The Governor General.

The Governors of Bengal, Madras, and Bombay.

The Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal, the North-Western Provinces, and Punjab.

The Governor of the Straits Settlement.

Governors of the Foreign European Settlements in amity with Her Majesty.

Members of Council.

Members of the Legislative Council.

CIVIL.

Accountant General or Deputy Accountant General.

Accountant.

Agents,—Political, or to the Governor General.

Civil Auditor.

Abolition of the system of Cash Payments for Service Telegraph Messages.

Clerk of the Legislative Council.

Collectors.

Collectors, Sub-Deputy or Assistant, having special charge.

Collectors and Deputy Collectors of Customs.

Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners.

Controller of Salt Chowkies.

Conservator of Forests, all Presidencies (A).

Consulting Engineer and Deputy ditto.

Curator of Government Books, Agra, (B).

Deputy Superintendent, Electric Telegraph, (C).

Directors of Public Instruction, (D).

Director General of the Post Office of India.

Head Clerks in the following Offices :—

Civil Auditor's Office, (E).

Commissary General, (F).

Commissioners of Revenue, (G).

„ of Customs, (G).

Judges of Her Majesty's High Courts, (H).

Judges of the High Courts when on circuit or deputation only.

Judges,—Sessions and Zillah.

Judges, subordinate and Assistant, having special charge.

Inspectors of Prisons, (K).

Inspectors of Schools.

Magistrates.

Magistrates,—Joint, Deputy and Assistant, having special charge.

Members of Boards and Commissions when on circuit or deputation only.

Mint Masters.

Opium Agents and Deputies.

Post Masters General.

Post Masters.

Private Secretary to Governor General, or to Governor, or to Lieutenant-Governor of any Presidency.

Registrars of High Court.

„ of the Calcutta University, (L).

Resident Councillors in the Straits Settlement.

Residents at Foreign Courts.

„ Assistants having separate and special charge.

Remembrancer of Legal Affairs.

Salt Agents.

Secretaries to Government.

Secretaries,—Under, Deputy and Assistant.

Secretaries to all Boards, Commissions and Committees appointed by Government.

Secretary for preparing a scheme for the establishment of Universities in the Presidency Towns of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay, (M).

Sub-Treasurer.

Superintendent or Chief Magistrate of Police.

„ of the Government Lithographic Press.

(A)	No.	Secretary to Government, Home Department, dated	24th November 1864.
(B)	„ 593	„	„ 22nd March 1859.
(C)	„ 1489	„	„ 3rd October 1856.
(D)			„ 6th February 1855.
(E)	„ 1159	„	„ 25th July 1856.
(F)	„ 905	„	„ 20th July 1856.
(G)	„ 1054	„	„ 4th July 1856.
(H)		„	„ 24th October 1854.
(K)		„	„ 10th November 1854.
(L)	„ 2695	„	„ 18th December 1857.
(M)	„	„	„ 10th February 1855.

Abolition of the system of Cash Payments for Service Telegraph Messages.

Superintendent of the Stamps.
 „ of the Stationery.
 „ for Suppression of Thuggee, and Assistants having special charge.
 „ of Electric Telegraphs.
 „ of Regimental Schools, (A).
 Visitor General of Schools.

ECCLESIASTICAL.

Bishops of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay.
 Archdeacons of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay.
 Registrars to the Archdeaconries.
 Secretaries to the Bishops of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay.

MARINE.

Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Naval Forces.
 „ of the Indian Navy.
 Commander of the Indus Flotilla, (B).
 Secretary to Her Majesty's Naval Commander-in-Chief.
 „ to Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Navy, (C).
 „ to the Marine Board.
 Superintendent of Marine.

MEDICAL.

Apothecary to the Company, or Medical Store-keeper.
 Inspector and Deputy Inspector General of Her Majesty's Hospitals.
 Superintending Surgeon.
 Principal of the Medical College.

MILITARY.

Commander-in-Chief of the Army in India,
 „ at Madras and Bombay.
 Adjutants General, Deputies, Assistants and Deputy Assistants.
 Agents for Army Clothing.
 Auditor General.
 Auditor of Commissariat Accounts, (D).
 Brigadiers.
 Brigade Majors, (E).
 Commandants of Forces or Stations.
 Commanding Officers of Corps or Detachments.
 Commissary General and Deputy.
 Commissariat Senior Executive Officer at the Presidency or at Out-Stations.
 Commissaries of Ordnance and Deputies, being Commissioned Officers.
 Director of Artillery Depôt of Instruction.
 Engineer, Chief—
 „ Civil or Executive—
 „ Superintending—
 Fort or Town Major.
 General Officers on the Staff.
 Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines, (F).
 Judge Advocate General and Deputies of Divisions.
 Pay Masters and Deputy Pay Masters.

(A)	No.	Secretary to Government, Home Department, dated 3 rd January 1856.
(B)	497	„ „ 25th March 1856.
(C)	426	„ „ 11th February 1858.
(D)	„	„ „ 24th October 1854.
(E)	„	„ „ 31st January 1855.
(F)	„	„ „ 14th May 1855.

Abolition of the system of Cash Payments for Service Telegraph Messages.

Quarter Masters General, Deputies, Assistants and Deputy Assistants.
 Secretary, Military, to Governor General or Governor.
 „ to Commander-in-Chief.
 „ to all Boards, Commissions and Committees appointed
 by Government except Municipal Boards, Commis-
 sions or Committees, (A).
 Superintendent of Canals and Bridges
 „ Family Payments and Pensions.
 „ Gun-carriages.
 „ Gunpowder.
 „ Roads.
 „ Studs.
 „ Trigonometrical and other Surveys.
 Surveyor General, Deputy and Commissioned Assistants.
 The Assistant Presidency Pay Master, (B).
 The Main Commissioners in the Fort St. George, (C).
 The Deputy ditto ditto (C).
 Special Assistant to the Main Commissioner, Fort St. George.
 The Principal of the Medical College at Madras, (C).
 The Assistant Superintendent of Marine at Madras, (D).
 Her Majesty's Envoy to the Court of Persia, (E).
 Deputy Superintendents of Forests, Rangoon, (F).
 Director, Revenue Settlement ...
 Deputy ditto ... } Madras, (G).
 Uncovenanted Assistants, ditto ...
 Superintendent Trumaon Iron Work, (H).
 Assistant ditto ditto (H).
 Superintendent of the Penal Settlement of Port Blair in the
 Andamans, (K).
 Superintendents of Supplies on Grand Trunk Road, and Officers appointed
 to assist them (L).
 Curator, Government Books, Punjab, (M).
 The Consulting Engineer of the Madras Irrigation Company, and the
 Assistant Superintendent General of Irrigation in the North-Western
 Provinces, (N).
 Conservator of Forests, and his Assistant that of the Madras Presi-
 dency, (O).
 Head Assistant to the Commissioner of Non-Regulation Provinces, (P).
 Commissioner of the Introduction of Paper Currency, (Q).
 Lieutenant-Colonel H. M. Durand, C. B., on special duty with the
 Governor General, (R).
 The Assistant Controller of Marine Affairs and Under Secretary to the
 Government of India in the Marine Department, (S).
 Inspectors General of Police ...
 Deputy Inspectors General of Police ... } (T).
 District Superintendent of Police ...
 Assistant District Superintendent of Police ...

(A)	No. 1348	Secretary to Government, Home Department, dated 9th September 1858.
(B)	528	„ „ „ 14th March 1859.
(C)	639	„ „ „ 21st January 1859.
(D)	380	„ „ „ 22nd February 1859.
(E)	1859	„ „ „ 13th August 1858.
(F)	1137	„ „ „ 5th May 1858.
(G)	1164	„ „ „ 7th May 1858.
(H)	280	„ „ „ 6th July 1858.
(K)	2425	„ „ „ 5th November 1858.
(L)		„ „ „ 21st October 1857.
(M)	545	„ „ „ 21st March 1859.
(N)	552	„ „ „ 16th March 1860.
(O)	737	„ „ „ 13th March 1858.
(P)	1054	„ „ „ 4th July 1856.
(Q)	104	„ „ „ 10th April 1860.
(R)	165	„ „ „ 22nd May 1858.
(S)	4448	„ „ „ 22nd August 1862.
(T)	801	„ „ „ 22nd April 1861.

Abolition of the system of Cash Payment for Service Telegraph Messages.

- The Medical Examiner at Bombay, (A).
 The Assistant to the Resident in Travancore and Cochin, (B).
 Superintendent of the Office of the Secretary to Government of North-Western Provinces, Public Works Department, Railway Branch.
 The Head Clerk of the Office of the Inspector General of Prisons.
 Registrar of the Surveyor General's Office.
 Major W. E. Gastrell, from the Office of the Surveyor General of India, temporarily attached to the Office above named, (C).
 The Principals of all Medical Colleges and Schools, (D).
 Dr. D. Brandes, Conservator of Forest in British Burmah, when employed on special duty under the Government of India, (E).
 Personal Assistants to Commissaries General, (F).
 Superintendent of Excise and Stamps in Oude, (G).
 The Head Assistant to the Examiner of Ordnance, Barrack and Dock-yard Accounts, (H).
 Civil Divisional Engineers attached to the Public Works Department, (K).
 The Commissary to the Lord Bishop of Calcutta ... }
 All Chaplains to frank official communications ... } (L).
 Addressed to the Commissary to the Lord Bishop of Calcutta ... }
 Presidency Officers Commanding Depôts are considered to come under the designation of Commanding Officers of Corps and Detachments, (M).
 Superintendent of Government Printing of India, (N).
 Deputy Registrar and Assistant Registrar of the High Court on its Appellate side, (O).
 The Personal Assistant to the Director General of Telegraphs, (P).
 District Inspector of Musketry, (Q).
 Secretary to the several Sanitary Commissions established under G. G. Orders in the Military Department, No. 87, dated 2nd February 1864, (R).
 Head Assistant in the Land Revenue Branch of the Office of the Sudder Board of Revenue, Calcutta ... }
 Head Assistant in the Customs, Salt and Opium Branch of Calcutta ... } (S).
 Head Assistant of Superintendent of Stamps and Stationery in Calcutta ... }
 Head Assistant of Collector of Stamps and Abkarree in Calcutta ... }
 Presidents of the several Sanitary Commissions established under G. G. Orders in the Military Department, No. 87, dated 2nd February 1864 (T).
 Examiner of Forest Accounts in British Burmah, (U).
 The President of the Indigo Commission and the Clerk of the Indigo Commission, (V).

(A)	No. 3247	Secretary to Government, Home Department, dated	30th June 1862.
(B)	" 3644	" "	" 21st July 1862.
(C)	" 2277	" "	" 7th April 1863.
(D)	" 3060	" "	" 15th May 1863.
(E)	" 225	" "	" 18th May 1863.
(F)	" 3502	" "	" 2nd June 1863.
(G)	" 4235	" "	" 3rd July 1863.
(H)	" 4411	" "	" 14th July 1863.
(K)			
(L)	" 6579	" "	" 16th October 1863.
(M)	" 1327	Director General's letter,	" 29th August 1863.
(N)	" 4	Secretary to Government, Home Department,	" 2nd January 1864.
(O)	" 233	" "	" 13th January 1864.
(P)	" 167	" "	" 9th January 1864.
(Q)	" 916	" "	" 6th February 1864.
(R)	" 1171	" "	" 19th February 1864.
(S)	" 1623	" "	" 7th March 1864.
(T)	" 1660	" "	" 9th March 1864.
(U)	" 1746	" "	" 12th March 1864.
(V)	" 969	" "	" 21st May 1860.

Abolition of the system of Cash Payments for Service Telegraph Messages.

Chief Inspector of Musketry, (A).
 Head Clerk of the Office of the Adjutant General of the Army and Assistant to the Inspector General of Mofussil Police, Madras, (B).
 Head Assistant to the Auditor of Commissariat Accounts, Bombay, (C).
 Head Clerk of the Office of the Adjutant General of Her Majesty's Forces, (D).
 Superintendent of Inland Navigation in the Punjab, (E).
 The Superintendent of the Office of the Chief Commissioner of Central Provinces, (F).
 Assistant Examiner of Commissariat Accounts, (G).
 Commissioner of Stamps and Excise in the North-Western Provinces, (K).
 The Commodore of the Indian Division; the Secretary to the Commodore of the Indian Division, (L).
 The Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of Pegu ... { (M).
 The Settlement Officer in Pegu ... {
 Deputy Superintendent of Electric Telegraphs, (N).
 Special Assistant to the Main Commissioner, Fort St. George, (O).
 Lieutenant-Colonel S. J. Blane, Military Secretary to the late Viceroy.
 Head Assistant to the Commissioner of Non-Regulation Province, (P).
 Principal and Secretary to the Lawrence Asylum, (Q).
 Lieutenant-Colonel W. A. Crommelin, C. B., Royal Engineer, attached on special duty to the Public Works Department of the Government of India, (R.)
 Superintendent of the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces, Public Works Department, Railway Branch, (S).
 Personal Assistant to the Inspector General of Police, North-Western Provinces, (T).
 Head Clerk of the Office of the Inspector General of Prisons, (U).
 Registrar of the Surveyor General's Office (V).
 Civil Divisional Engineers attached to the Public Works Department, (W).
 Assistant to the Inspector General of Public Works Department, (X).

The 5th May 1864.

FORWARDED to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, with reference to the *N. B.* to this Office No. 36, dated 4th May 1864.

(Signed) C. DOUGLAS, *Lieut - Col.*,
Director General of Telegraphs in India.

(A)	No. 1765	Secretary to Government, Home Department, dated 18th September 1860.
(B)	" 2377	" " " 11th December 1860.
(C)	" 30	" " " 3rd January 1861.
(D)	" 130	" " " 17th January 1861.
(E)	" 519	" " " 28th January 1862.
(F)	" 788	" " " 10th February 1862.
(G)	" 1102	" " " 28th February 1862.
(K)	" 5312	" " " 30th September 1862.
(L)	" 6460	" " " 13th November 1862.
(M)	" 996	" " " 26th May 1860.
(N)	" 1484	" " " 30th October 1856.
(O)	" 1652	" " " 22nd August 1859.
(P)	" 1054	" " " 4th July 1856.
(Q)	" "	" " " 5th November 1858.
(R)	" 345	" " " 16th July 1863.
(S)	" 687	" " " 30th January 1863.
(T)	" 101	" " " 2nd January 1864.
(U)	" 688	" " " 30th January 1864.
(V)	" 1107	" " " 17th February 1863.
(W)	" 417	" " " 9th September 1863.
(X)	" 468	" " " 26th September 1863.

Delay in the completion of Telegraph Line from Arracan and Pegu.

No. 7.

The 3rd December 1864.

READ the following papers regarding a proposed abolition of the system of cash payments for service Telegraph Messages:—

Office Memorandum from the Financial Department, No. 1386, dated 12th March 1864.

From the Director General of Telegraphs in India, No. 36, dated 4th May 1864.

Erom ditto, dated 5th May 1864.

RESOLUTION.—After a full consideration of the subject the Governor General in Council has decided that no change shall be made in the existing system of cash payments for Telegraph Messages on the Public Service.

Nos. 6101 and 6102.

ORDERED, that the above Resolution be communicated to the Financial Department and the Director General of Telegraphs in India.

Delay in the completion of Telegraph Line from Arracan and Pegu.

No. 8. From Major H. NELSON DAVIES, Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of British Burmah and Agent to the Governor General, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,—No. 814, dated Rangoon, the 14th November 1864.

I HAVE the honor, by direction of the Chief Commissioner, to forward, in original, communication this instant received from the Rangoon Chamber of Commerce on the great delay which has occurred in completing the Line of Electric Telegraph between Arracan and Pegu.

2. The Chief Commissioner trusts that every effort will be made to complete the remaining portion of the line with the utmost expedition.

No. 9. From J. CONNELL, Esquire, Honorary Secretary to the Rangoon Chamber of Commerce to Major H. NELSON DAVIES, Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of British Burmah,—Dated Rangoon, the 12th November 1864.

I HAVE the honor, by direction of the Committee of this Chamber, to address you on the subject of telegraphic communication between this place and India.

It is now some two years and a half since the old line to Calcutta was abandoned, and it seems quite uncertain whether it may not be as long before the new line is completed.

The intense anxiety which was universally felt as to the cause of the non-arrival of three consecutive Mail Steamers last month, to say nothing of the serious inconvenience to which the mercantile community were subjected of itself, points so strongly to the necessity for a speedy re-establishment of telegraphic communication with India that the Committee believe no more fitting time than the present could be found for bringing this matter forcibly before the Local Government.

The Committee have learned from a reliable source that the portion of the line under the direction of the Superintendent of Telegraphs, Pegu Circle, extending as far as Aeng, was completed on 17th June last; and that on that date the line between Aeng and Akyab, with the exception of a break of 20 miles, was also finished. Notwithstanding the shortness of the distance thus remaining to complete the entire line, the setting in of the rains appears to have put a stop to the work. Under peremptory orders from Government, however, it appears shortly afterwards to have been resumed; and the line seems to have been actually completed when it was found that some of the river-crossings between Aeng and Akyab had given way—a catastrophe which proved fatal, as no provision had been made for such a contingency; and there was no material at hand out of which to construct new cables.

The absence of any spare materials to replace portions of the line that might give way displays a want of the most ordinary foresight, which can only be attributed to an utter disregard, on the part of the Government of India, for the interests of this Province.

Indo-European Telegraph Line.

It is but just to add that, so far as the portion of the line between this and Calcutta comprised within the limits of the Pegu Circle is concerned, everything that could be done appears to have been done, as the satisfactory working of that part of the line for the last few months amply testifies; and doubtless if the same energy had been shown by those in charge of the other portions of the line, as has been shown by Mr. O'Donnell, the entire line would long ere this have been open.

The Committee cannot refrain, however, from expressing their surprise that no official announcement was made of the completion of the line so far as Aeng, and the consequent facilities for communication with Akyab and Calcutta.

It has been brought to the notice of this Chamber that it is proposed to lay down a sub-marine line of Telegraph between this place and Singapore, and that there is some probability of Government guaranteeing a dividend to share-holders in the undertaking; and the Committee desire me to take this opportunity of bringing to your notice the great objections which exist to such a course.

The Committee feel assured that they need not do more than point to the almost universal failure of sub-marine Telegraph cables even, as shewn above, of the short cables required for river-crossings, in support of their adverse opinion. And where, as in the present instance, every facility exists for the construction of a land line, which would not only be better in every way, but greatly cheaper to construct, the Chief Commissioner will doubtless agree with them in thinking that the proposal to lay down a sub-marine cable should be resisted to the utmost.

The Committee further desire me to express a hope that the Chief Commissioner will take the earliest opportunity of laying the views of the Chamber on these important subjects before the Supreme Government, and they would respectfully suggest that the growing necessity for a *land line* of Telegraph between Moulmein and Singapore might, with advantage, be urged at the same time.

In conclusion, I have the honor to request that this letter may be submitted to His Honor the Chief Commissioner without delay.

No. 10. From A. P. HOWELL, Esquire, Officiating Under Secretary to the Government of India, to Lieutenant-Colonel C. DOUGLAS, Director General of Telegraphs in India,—Dated the 7th December 1864.

WITH reference to the communication marginally noted, I am directed to request that you will report at once the progress which has been made in the construction of the line between Arracan and Pegu, (sanctioned in the Resolution forwarded to you on the 31st December 1863), and that you will, at the same time, reply to the complaint made by the Rangoon Chamber of Commerce regarding the delay in the completion of the line.

From Secretary to Chief Commissioner, British Burmah,
No. 814, dated 14th November 1864, with enclosure.

Indo-European Telegraph Line.

No. 11. From Lieutenant-Colonel W. F. MARRIOTT, Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to Colonel H. M. DURAND, C. B., Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, Simla,—No. 161, dated the 20th July 1864.

REFERRING to your Telegram as per margin, I am directed to transmit copies of the Despatch from the Secretary of State, No. 3, dated 16th May therein, referred to with its accompaniments, and of the Government Resolution thereon, No. 161 of this date, and to request, with reference to the 3rd paragraph of the Despatch, that copies thereof and of the accompaniments may be sent to Colonel Douglas, with a view to determining the uniform charge of the Indo-European Telegraph on the hither side of Kurrachee.

"Referring to Secretary of State's Despatch to Bombay Telegraph Department, No. 3, dated 16th May, the Government of India will be glad to receive any suggestion on the points therein adverted to."

Indo-European Telegraph Line.

RESOLUTION—Copies of this Despatch and of the manuscript accompaniments to be sent to Mr. Walton for transmission to the Traffic Managers at Kurrachee, Bushire and Bussorah.

* Since received and are herewith forwarded.

The Forms* mentioned have not yet been received, and will be forwarded hereafter.

Mr. Walton's attention is requested to the directions regarding report to be made to Mr. Courtenay, the Commissioner for the Indo-European Telegraph at Constantinople, and to Mr. Lyne at the India Office.

The Government of India will be addressed, with suggestion that copies of the Despatch and of its accompaniments may be sent to Colonel Douglas, with a view to determining the uniform charge on the hither side of Kurrachee.

No. 472, dated Simla, the 8th September 1864.

COPY forwarded to the Home Department for communication to the Director General of Electric Telegraphs in India for compliance with the request of the Bombay Government.

(Signed) C. U. AITCHISON,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India, Foreign Dept.

No. 2867, dated Simla, the 23rd September 1864.

FORWARDED to the Director General of Telegraphs in India for immediate report, with reference to the letter addressed to him on the 17th February 1860 No. 339, and to the correspondence noted therein. The return of the papers now sent is requested.

By Order,
(Signed) A. COLVIN,
Offg. Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Indo European Telegraph Line

From Lieutenant-Colonel C. DOUGLAS, Director General of Telegraphs in India, to E. C. BAYLEY, Esquire, Secretary to the Government of India,—No. 1920, dated the 19th October 1864.

I FORWARD, for the orders of Government, copy of correspondence between myself and Mr. Brasher, and Table and Rules in original, on the subject of the Indian charges to be made on messages passing between Stations in India and the terminus of the Indo-European Line at Kurrachee.

2. From the correspondence it will be seen that the charges proposed to be credited to the Government of India are as follows:—

	Rs.	As.	P.
For a message of 20 words including the address between Kurrachee and any Station in the Island of Ceylon ...	8	4	0
Ditto ditto between Kurrachee and any Station east of Calcutta ...	6	12	0
Ditto ditto to all other Stations in India ...	4	12	0

Half the above prices to be paid for every ten words or fraction of ten words in excess.

3. These charges are, as respects Ceylon, messages 50 per cent. in excess of those which were levied on messages of the same length sent between that Station and the Red Sea Company's Terminus at Kurrachee in 1860; 50 per cent. in excess of those between Stations east of Calcutta and the same place; and 58·31 per cent. in excess of those between all other Stations in India and Kurrachee; but it will be seen that, in association with this increase in charge, it is proposed by Colonel Stewart that the messages shall be "repeated" on the Indian Lines.

4. Setting aside the condition under which these charges have been framed, viz., that of "repetition," and in view to the general increase of the Indian Tariff for all messages which will probably follow the Report called for in Home Office No. 986 of 9th February 1863, I think the charges proposed are reasonable, being but slightly in excess of those suggested by me to Mr. Brasher in my No. 1870 of the 30th ultimo, which were Rupees 1·8 in excess of the charges made on messages between this Department and the Red Sea Company.

5. I, however, have strong objections to any arrangement which will render the "repetition" of messages compulsory. I do not consider that the repetition of any message is necessary beyond that portion which, under Departmental Rules, is already always repeated, whether repetition price has been paid or not, viz., all proper names and the address of sender and receiver, as well as certain words—over the correct receipt of which the context offers no check, such, for instance, as *Vernacular* words or unusual commercial or technical terms as "bottomry," lay days, &c., and all numbers and dates; and when it is considered that a refund of the cost of every message that is delivered in an unintelligible state is made to the sender, whether the message has been paid for at repetition price or not, I consider that the compulsory repetition of messages is very undesirable.

6. Refunds by this Department on account of mutilated messages would, of course, apply to those messages only which had been mutilated on the Indian Lines.

7. The return of the original Tariff is requested as early as possible in view to, in the event of its approval, its publication to the Department.

From A. BRASHER, Esquire, Traffic Manager, Indo-European Telegraphs, to Lieutenant-Colonel C. DOUGLAS, Director General of Telegraphs in India,—No. 69, dated Kurrachee, the 31st August 1864.

In anticipation of the approaching opening of the Indo-European Sub-marine Line for through traffic, I have the honor to forward you Tables of the Tariff which will be adopted from Kurrachee to the United Kingdom, to the Capitals and Chief Towns on the Continent of Europe, and to the principal places connected with the European systems of Telegraphs.

2. It will be found that the Tariff comprises nearly every place of importance at which a Telegraph Station exists. The Tariff to the minor Stations will follow, as soon as possible, after I shall have received from Constantinople the necessary information to enable me to draw it out.

Indo European Telegraph Line

3. Accompanying the present Table of Tariffs is an abstract of Rules relating to the acceptance, transmission, and general treatment of through messages, made in accordance with the "Convention de Bruxelles" in conformity with which the Home Government, in Article VIII. of the Indo-Ottoman Convention, undertakes that the Sub-marine Line shall be worked. I have, therefore, the honor to request that, upon the opening of the Line, all messages from India may be handed into our Kurrachee Office for transmission in accordance with these Rules.

4. With reference to the Tariff for India, I beg to state that Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart, C. B., shortly before his departure, gave me the Telegram, forwarded by you dated 21st May 1864, in which you assent to the charge of a general rate of three Rupees for messages of 20 words from Kurrachee to any part of India (not east of Calcutta,) to a general rate of 4½ Rupees for places east of Calcutta, and to 5½ Rupees for Ceylon. Notice of this scale of charges has, in consequence, been forwarded by me to the Traffic Manager at Constantinople for the information of the Continental Administrations, and to the Traffic Office in London for the information of the English Companies.

5. With respect to the future interchange of accounts, a complete Return of all messages received from the Indian Lines, and transmitted by the Indo-European Telegraph, showing the proportion of charges due from Kurrachee to their various destinations, will be despatched to you from this Office monthly. A deduction from the total amount therein debited to the Indian Telegraph Lines of the sum due to the Indian Telegraph Administration for the same period for messages transmitted by it from the Sub-marine Line, will show the balance due to this Office, which balance, I beg, may be placed to my credit in the Treasury, either monthly or quarterly as may be found by you to be most convenient.

From Lieutenant-Colonel C. DOUGLAS, Director General of Telegraphs in India, to A. BRASHER, Esquire, Traffic Manager, Indo-European Telegraphs, Kurrachee,—No. 1870, dated the 30th September 1864.

YOUR No. 69 of the 31st August forwards a Table of the Tariff which will be adopted for messages between Kurrachee and the United Kingdom, and the Capitals and Chief Towns of the Continent of Europe, and also with the principal places connected with the European systems.

2. In your 4th paragraph you appeared to be under a misapprehension regarding my assent to the charge of a general rate of three Rupees for messages of 20 words from Kurrachee to any part of India.

3. When Colonel Stewart proposed to open the line *experimentally*, I said there could be no objection, for the time the experiment might last, to make the charges the same as those sanctioned some time before in connection with the Red Sea Telegraph Company, viz., three Rupees for 20 words from Kurrachee to any part of India west of Calcutta; four-half Rupees to any Station east of Calcutta; and five-half Rupees for any Station in Ceylon; but the power to sanction such a charge for permanent adoption, in connection with the Indo-European Line, rests entirely with the Government of India.

4. Supposing there is no increase in the Indian Tariff of charges generally, such as the Government are prepared to make, I still think that an increase on the rates charged to the Red Sea Company of at least Rupees 1-8 should be made.

5. Since writing the above, copy of a communication has reached me from Her Majesty's Secretary of State, to His Excellency the Hon'ble the Governor in Council, Bombay, from which I extract as follows:—

"One point in which the earliest possible information is required is the amount of the uniform local charge, which may be fixed by the Government of India, for the transmission to Kurrachee from places beyond of telegrams designed to be forwarded from Kurrachee by the Persian Gulf Cable.

"Pending the receipt of such information, it is proposed to frame the Tariff of charges on messages despatched from places on this side of the Persian Gulf on the supposition that the Indian charge for transmission beyond Kurrachee will be 10 shillings.

"The arrangements described in the paper sent herewith are only provisional, and will be open to revision hereafter; but the arrangements which may in the meantime be adopted in India should obviously be in conformity with them."

6. Under these circumstances, and until a charge has been sanctioned by the Government of India, and such time thereafter has elapsed as may be necessary for its communication to all concerned, an uniform Indian charge of 10 shillings on each single message of 20 words including the address, and half the price of a single message for every 10 words or fraction of 10 words in excess, must be adopted.

Telegram,—From Mr. BRASHER, Kurrachee, to Lieutenant-Colonel DOUGLAS, Calcutta,—Dated the 29th September 1864.

By recent alteration the Turkish proportion on through messages has been increased by one Rupee. It will, therefore, be necessary to add one Rupee to each rate on the Table of through tariffs I sent you.

Indian Empire Telegraph Line

Telegram,—From Mr. WALTON, Director, Sub-marine Telegraph, to the Director General of Telegraphs in India,—Dated Kurrachee, the 4th October 1864.

THE following message, dated Constantinople, 17th September, has been received by me from Colonel Stewart, with a request that the arrangements contained therein may be telegraphed to Colonel Douglas. Official intimation has been sent to Bombay, which will reach you in due course, and our Tariff will now be prepared on this scale:—

“The settlement of accounts is now arranged for in the manner originally suggested by me; but, in order to allow of all European messages being repeated on the Indian lines, it is proposed to alter the rates east of Kurrachee as follows:—From Kurrachee to Galle or Stations in Ceylon, sixteen shillings and six pence (half of thirty-three shillings); Kurrachee to Rangoon, Pegu, or Stations east of Calcutta, thirteen shillings and six pence, (half of twenty-seven shillings); Kurrachee to all other Indian Stations, nine shillings and six pence, (half of nineteen shillings.) This will make the total charge from London to Calcutta, Bombay or Madras, exactly five pounds.”

COPY of message, dated 4th October sent by Telegraph, is forwarded to the Director General of Telegraphs in India.

KURRACHEE; }
The 6th October 1864. }

(Signed) H. I. WALTON,
Director, Mekran Coast and Sub-Marine Telegraph.

Indo-European Telegraph Line.

No. 13. From Lieutenant-Colonel C. DOUGLAS, Director General of Telegraphs in India, to A. COLVIN, Esquire, Officiating Under Secretary to the Government of India,—No. 1955, dated the 22nd October 1864.

I BEG to return the papers received with your No. 2867 of the 23rd ultimo, as requested.

The Report called for has been anticipated by my No. 1920 of the 19th current.

No. 14. From Lieutenant-Colonel C. DOUGLAS, Director General of Telegraphs in India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,—No. 2034, dated the 31st October 1864.

I FORWARD copy of a message, received yesterday (Sunday), from Mr. Walton, the Director of the Mekran Coast Line of the Indo-European Telegraph.

As it will be necessary to provide every Office in India with a copy of the Tariff, ere notifying to the public the opening of any portion of the Indo-European line, I solicit the favor of early instructions on my No. 1920 of the 19th October.

Telegram,—From Mr. WALTON, Director, Mekran Coast, Sub-marine, Kurrachee, to the Director General of Telegraphs in India, Calcutta,—Dated the 29th October 1864.

Urgent.—FROM Monday next, the 31st instant, the Telegraph will be open to the public between Kurrachee and Fao, and to intermediate Stations. Messages can be sent at the rates which Mr. Brasher has already communicated to you. Please telegraph intimation of the opening of this line to all Stations, India and Ceylon; and kindly telegraph acknowledgment of receipt of this message.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) T. G. TEALE,
Personal Asst. to Dir. Genl. of Tels. in India.

C/S From Lieutenant-Colonel W. F. MARRIOTT, Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to Colonel H. M. DURAND, C. B., Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department,—No. 236, dated the 1st November 1864.

REFERRING to my letter No. 204, dated 15th September last, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a letter from the Director Mekran Coast and Sub-marine Telegraph, No. 752, dated 19th October, and of its enclosure, regarding the despatch of private messages to Stations in Turkey and Persia, and of a Telegram addressed to him in reply.

From H. I. WALTON, Esquire, Director of Mekran Coast and Sub-marine Telegraph, to Lieutenant-Colonel W. F. MARRIOTT, Secretary to the Government of Bombay,—No. 752, dated Kurrachee, the 19th October 1864.

I HAVE the honor to request that I may be favored with instructions regarding the despatch of private messages to Stations in Turkey and Persia with which Kurrachee is now connected by Telegraph.

2. Owing to the very large number of Telegrams tendered for transmission, for forwarding which I have no

"The telegraph beyond Kurrachee is not open to the public; messages, however, countersigned by a Secretary to Government will be forwarded. Many long messages from Bombay are being offered, for forwarding which I have not received the sanction of Government.

authority, I despatched a message, copy of which is given in the margin, to Mr. Galbraith, the Director of the Western Division of Telegraphs in India, on the 4th

instant, but to which I received no reply. In the meantime I have caused to be forwarded to their destinations, free of charge, all such messages that were offered for despatch.

3. It has, however, been brought to my notice that, by forwarding messages from Bombay only, a great hardship is inflicted on merchants and others at other places. I have, therefore, issued instructions that no messages are to be forwarded free of charge, pending the formal opening of the line by Government, unless every such message bears the countersignature of a Secretary to Government, or of the chief Civil Authority of the Station from which it is despatched.

4. Owing to the excitement in the grain market since the receipt of the disastrous news from Calcutta, and the publication by Government of correspondence on the subject of a probability of a famine in Guzerat, messages have been despatched by this line to the value of from two to three hundred Rupees per diem. But the free despatch of messages is objectionable, as it opens the door to bribery and favoritism; and while messages are despatched from Bombay only, it is damaging to dealers at other places who, if the line were opened to all on payment, would equally use it.

5. As the Superintendent of Telegraphs in Scind and the Director of the Western Division have taken no steps in the matter, and I am confident that great partiality is unintentionally shown to dealers at one particular port, I have addressed a letter to the former Officer, of which I beg to attach a copy, and in which I have definitely refused to receive any more messages for despatch, except on the terms suggested, and of which I trust Government will approve.

5. I would respectfully beg to call attention to my letter No. 588, dated 15th August, and to state that the division from Kurrachee to Bushire and Bussorah is in working order, and ready to open for the despatch of messages immediately on receipt of the orders of Government. As an example of the working of the line, I may mention that a message of three hundred and seventy-four words, despatched from Kurrachee at 11-46 A. M. yesterday, was received at Bussorah at 1-15 P. M., after being recorded at each intermediate Station.

6. Until the telegraph is opened to and beyond Bagdad, I would suggest that the Offices should only keep open from 6 A. M. to 9 P. M.

7. I observe that the private messages which continue to pour in from Bombay are five or six days *en route*.

From H. I. WALTON, Esquire, Director of Mekran Coast and Sub-marine Telegraph, to the Superintendent of Scind Circle Telegraphs in India,—No. 748, dated Kurrachee, the 18th October 1864.

NOTWITHSTANDING my telegram to the Director of Telegraphs in Western India, informing him that the telegraph west of Kurrachee has not yet been open to the public, and that the sanction of Government to the transmission of messages has not yet been obtained, I notice that there are daily offered for transmission a large number of messages from Bombay.

2. Under these circumstances, I have the honor to inform you that I should not feel justified in forwarding any more messages, unless it is certified, at the foot of each message, that the sanction of Government has first been obtained for its transmission.

Telegram—From Lieutenant-Colonel W. F. MARRIOTT, Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to H. I. WALTON, Esquire, Director of Mekran Coast and Sub-marine Telegraph.

IF you can arrange for the payment of messages going beyond Bushire, you can at once receive all messages indiscriminately; and in any case you can receive messages for Bushire and Fao.

The Government will now announce that the line between Kurrachee, Bushire, and Fao, is open to the public.

Indo-European Telegraph Line.

No. 16. From A. P. HOWELL, Esquire, Officiating Under Secretary to the Government of India, to Lieutenant-Colonel C. DOUGLAS, Director General of Telegraphs in India,—No. 5479, dated the 17th November 1864.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letters noted on the
No. 1920, dated 19th October 1864. margin, with their enclosures, on the subject of
„ 2034, dated 31st ditto. the Indian charges to be made on messages passing between stations in India, and the terminus of the Indo-European Line at Kurrachee.

2. In reply, I am directed to authorize you to accept, subject to future settlement, the rates specified in Mr. Walton's message of the 4th October, and to intimate that "repetition" will be made to the extent specified in your letter to Government, dated the 19th ultimo, *i. e.*—

Address of sender and receiver.

All numbers and dates.

All special or technical terms used in commercial messages

3. It is further requested that you will take immediately such steps as are necessary to enable the public to make use of the line as soon as possible.

4. You will be separately addressed on other points connected with the subject which require the orders of Government.

Ele. Tel.

Indo-European Telegraph Line

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Indo-European Telegraph Line
No. 5820

FROM

THE HON'BLE R. N. CUST,

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India,

TO

LIEUT.-COL. C. DOUGLAS,

Director General of Telegraphs in India,

SIR,

Dated Fort William, the 25th November 1864.

HOME DEPT.
Elec. Tel. IN continuation of my letter No. 5479, dated the 17th instant, regarding the Indian charges to be made on messages passing between Stations in India, and the terminus of the Indo-European line at Kurrachee, I am directed to communicate to you the following further remarks and instructions.

2. The Governor General in Council observes that, on the 16th May 1864, the Secretary of State, in his Despatch No. 3, to the Government of Bombay, on the subject of this line of Telegraph and the arrangements which, in connection therewith, the Indian Government would be required to make, wrote as follows:—"The Kurrachee Office should also immediately advise Mr. Courtenay of any complaints which may arise in India relative to delays, errors, and non-transmission or non-delivery of telegrams destined for Europe, in order that he may examine such complaints, and communicate them to the several Administrations concerned. It is further essential that full and early information respecting tariffs, opening of Stations, and any change that may take place in the Telegraph Service in India, should be furnished both to Mr. Courtenay at Constantinople, and Mr. Lyne, whom I have appointed to the charge of the business of the Indo-European Telegraph in this (the India) Office. * * * * * One point on which the earliest possible information is required is the amount of the uniform local charge, which may be fixed by the Government of India for the transmission to Kurrachee, from places beyond, of telegrams designed to be forwarded from Kurrachee by the Persian Gulf Cable. Pending the receipt of such information, it is proposed to frame the tariff of charges on messages despatched from places on this side the Persian Gulf, on the supposition that the Indian charge for transmission beyond Kurrachee will be ten shillings."

3. The Government of India, on receiving a copy of the above Despatch, telegraphed to the Government of Bombay, and asked for any suggestion that it might be desired to make on the points adverted to by the Secretary of State.

4. The Bombay Government replied by sending a copy of the correspondence referred to in the Despatch, and suggested a reference to you, with a view to determine the uniform charge on this side of Kurrachee.

5. The papers, including Sir Charles Wood's Despatch of 16th May, were forwarded to you from Simla on the 23rd September, for "immediate report," with reference to the letter addressed to you in February 1860,* when the Red Sea Telegraph was being opened, and must have reached you in ordinary course by the end of September.

* No. 336, dated 17th February.

6. On the 19th ultimo you forwarded for orders a copy of a correspondence between yourself and Mr. Brasher, the Traffic Manager of the Indo-European line at Kurrachee, on the subject of the charges to be made on messages passing between Stations in India and the terminus of the Indo-European line at Kurrachee, the very subject upon which an immediate report had been called for by the Government of India on the 23rd September. You made no allusion to that call, or to the correspondence of 1860 to which your attention had been specifically directed; but on the 22nd ultimo you returned the papers sent to you on the 23rd September, with the mere remark that "the report called for has been anticipated" by your letter of the 19th ultimo. This, so far as the subject of the rates to be charged between

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Kurrachee and Stations in India was concerned, was correct, but there were other matters besides this referred to in the papers forwarded to you on the 23rd of September, and of these you have taken no notice whatever.

7. On the 17th instant the Government of India authorized you to accept, subject to future settlement, the rates specified in Mr. Walton's message of the 4th October for Stations east of Kurrachee, and you were told "to take immediately such steps as are necessary to enable the public to "make use of the line as soon as possible." The Government has yet to receive official information of the course which you followed, upon receiving these urgent instructions; but so much is known that, instead of the prompt action which the occasion obviously called for, no information of the rate of charge fixed for messages between Kurrachee and Stations in India was sent either to Kurrachee or to Bombay until the 21st instant.

8. Upon the above points, I am to request a full explanation; and with advertence to the Extracts quoted from the Secretary of State's Despatch of May last, you are desired to report as to—

I.—The arrangements, if any, which you have made for ensuring the immediate communication to Mr. Courtenay at Constantinople of complaints which may arise in India relative to delays, errors, and non-transmission or non-delivery of Telegrams destined for Europe; the Governor General in Council presumes that you have not disregarded the necessity of having a thoroughly efficient staff at Kurrachee, though you have failed to reply to the reference specially made to you on this point on the 29th June last.

II.—The means you have adopted, or propose to adopt, for keeping Mr. Courtenay and Mr. Lyne informed of the opening of Stations and changes in the Telegraph Service in India.

9. You will also report whether you have prepared the Telegraph Department in India to act in conformity with the Indo-European line; whether the Rules referred to by Mr. Brasher in the 3rd paragraph of his letter to you, dated the 31st August, No. 69, are unobjectionable; whether the arrangements for the future interchange of accounts, reported by Mr. Brasher in the 5th paragraph of the same letter, are approved by you; and whether you are satisfied that the Department under your control is ready and able to meet the large stress of work that may be expected to be thrown upon it when the through line is completed.

10. The original Tariff of charges from India to Europe including the United Kingdom, which accompanied your letter of the 19th ultimo, is herewith returned. It will apparently require revision, with reference to Mr. Brasher's Telegram to yourself of the 29th September, and printed copies of it should, it is presumed, be circulated throughout your Department. Practically, it will probably be required only at the larger Stations, at all events at first; but in this, as on all other points, the responsibility rests with you to take such measures as shall prevent the recurrence, on the further opening of the line, of the embarrassment and the general absence of mutual understanding between yourself and the Officers of the Indo-European line which have been apparent in connection with the present opening of the line to Fao.

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) R. N. CUST,

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 6021

COPY forwarded to the Foreign Department, with remark that although the correspondence relating to the construction of the Turkish line, and the line from Kurrachee to meet it, has hitherto been conducted in the Foreign Department, it seems essential that the arrangements and correspondence relating to the working of the line in connection with the Indian lines should be conducted in the Department to which the Indian Telegraph belongs.

R. N. Cust

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Indo-European Telegraph Line.

No. 18. From the Hon'ble R. N. CUST, Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, to A. D. ROBERTSON, Esquire, Secretary to the Government of Bombay,—No. 5822, dated the 25th November 1864.

I AM directed, by the Governor General in Council, to forward, for the information of the Government of Bombay, a copy of the correspondence noted in the margin, having reference to the Indian charges to be made in Telegraphic messages passing between Stations in India, and the Terminus of the Indo-European line at Kurrachee.

From Director General of Telegraphs, No. 1920, dated 19th October, and enclosures.

From ditto, No. 2084, dated 31st October.

To ditto, No. 5479, dated 17th November.

To ditto, No. of this date, with Endorsement to Foreign Department, No. of this date.

No. 19. From Lieutenant-Colonel W. F. MARRIOTT, Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to Colonel H. M. DURAND, C. B., Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department,—No. 264, dated the 24th November 1864.

REFERRING to my letters No. 204 of 15th September and No. 225 of 19th October, and to a telegram addressed by His Excellency Sir Bartle Frere to the Governor General on the 21st instant, I am desired to submit the accompanying copies of letters as per margin, and to point out that the reply sent to my letter No. 204, by Mr. Under Secretary Howell's letter in the Home Department No. 5002 of 20th October, did not touch the principal matter, the charges for the distances in India beyond Kurrachee. The charges proposed by Colonel Stewart are stated in one of the accompaniments to my letter No. 225 of 19th October.

The favor of early decision is requested to remove the extraordinary inconveniences described by Mr. Walton, the Director of Sub-Marine Telegraph.

No. 633, dated the 10th December 1864.

TRANSFERRED to the Home Department for disposal, in continuation of No. 572, dated 6th October last, with an intimation that the proposed rates have been published in the G. O. issued from this Office under date the 14th ultimo, No. 497.

(Signed) C. U. AITCHISON,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India, Foreign Dept.

No. 20. From A. BRASHER, Esquire, Traffic Manager, Indo-European Telegraph, to H. I. WALTON, Esquire, Director, Mekran Coast and Sub-Marine Telegraph,—No. 115, dated Kurrachee, the 9th November 1864.

In answer to your letter No. 800 of yesterday, I have the honor to inform you that all arrangements in my power to make for the interchange of traffic between this Department and the Department of Telegraphs in India were made by me on 31st August last, when I forwarded to Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas a table Tariffs worked out from the terminal station here to the United Kingdom, and to all the principal places in Europe, or in connection with the European system of Telegraphs, together with the tariff submitted to Government for the stations on the Sub-Marine Line, and a List of the rules relating to the acceptance and general treatment of through messages.

I at the same time wrote respecting the adjustment and settlement of Accounts between this and the Indian Department, but have not yet received any reply upon the latter subject, nor upon the subject of the Rules.

From H. I. WALTON, Esquire, Director, Mekran Coast and Sub-marine Telegraph, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay,—No. 808, dated Kurrachee, the 10th November 1864.

IN forwarding the accompanying letter in original from the Traffic Manager regarding the treatment of 'through' messages tendered for transmission at stations in India, I would

Indo-European Telegraph Line.

very respectfully beg to bring to the notice of Government that the Superintendent of Telegraphs in Scind informs me that he still continues to receive messages for the Persian Gulf Stations but that he has received instructions to forward them by Steamer, and not by Telegraph; he further informs me that, in consequence of this order, he has now upwards of one hundred messages on hand.

2. The line having been by order of Government opened to the public the senders of messages from the Gulf Stations pay from Rupees (30) thirty to Rupees (40) forty for each message to Bombay, and their replies are addressed to them correctly, but are detained at Kurrachee to be forwarded by a Steamer which plies only once in six weeks. Setting aside the loss of confidence which must result to the senders of messages from such treatment, perhaps I may be permitted to express an opinion that the Telegraph Authorities in Bombay are scarcely justified in accepting money for the transmission of messages which the senders could as easily despatch by Steamer through the Post Office.

3. The Traffic Manager communicated full particulars regarding the tariff and the adjustment of accounts to the Director General of Telegraphs in India on the 31st August last, but he has not yet been favored with a reply to his communication. I intimated to Colonel Douglas by Telegraph on the 1st instant that the line as far as Fao was opened to the public by order of Government, and begging that Officer to be kind enough to acknowledge receipt of my message by telegraph. To this telegram I have received no reply.

No. 21. Extract of Demi-official letter from Mr. WALTON,—Dated Kurrachee, the 10th November 1864.

THE Merchants of Bunder Abbas Bushire and Busrah are using the Telegraph freely, but you will observe from my letter No. 808 of this date that no arrangements whatever have been made in India regarding the despatch of messages to the Indo-European Stations, and consequently they are not forwarded beyond Kurrachee. I think that Mr. Galbraith should be instructed not to accept telegrams under the circumstances, for he has sent a message to the Superintendent of the Sind Circle as follows:—

“By order of the Director General no message for Persian Line can be received until the Government sanctioned the tariff,” and get messages continue to arrive in Kurrachee in numbers.

I have offered to transmit all the messages accumulated in the Kurrachee Office, and arrange about the payment afterwards, but the Superintendent here says he is not authorized to forward them except by Steamer. The Traffic Manager and myself have done our utmost to carry out Colonel Stewart's wishes with respect to being prepared to open communication with England at any moment; but as our letter and telegrams to the Indian Telegraph Authorities meet with no response, I fear nothing can be done until Government appoint an Officer to come to Kurrachee and settle the details.

No. 21A. Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Foreign Department, (Political),—No. 616, under date the 5th December 1864.

READ a docket from the Home Department, No. 5821, dated 25th November, forwarding copy of a letter to the Director General of Telegraphs in India, respecting the Indian charges to be made on messages passing between stations in India and the terminus of the Indo-European Line at Kurrachee, and remarking that, although the correspondence relating to the construction of the Turkish Line, and the line from Kurrachee to meet it has hitherto been conducted in the Foreign Department, it seems essential that the arrangements and correspondence relating to the working of the line in connection with the Indian lines should be conducted in the Department to which the Indian Telegraph belongs.

ORDERED, that the Home Department be informed that the Viceroy and Governor General in Council sanctions the transfer from the Foreign to the Home Department of all correspondence relating to the arrangements for the working of the Turkish and Mekran Lines of Telegraph in connection with the Indian Lines.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

C. U. AITCHISON,

Under Secy. to the Govt. of India, Foreign Dept.

Non-adjusted Balance against Mr. Maguire.

No. 22. From the Hon'ble R. N. CUST, Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, to Lieutenant-Colonel W. F. MARRIOTT, Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Military Department,—No. 6521, dated the 15th December 1864.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter to the Foreign Department, No. 264, dated the 24th ultimo, and in reply to refer the Government of Bombay to the letter to their address, No. 5822, dated the 25th ultimo, as showing exactly the action of the Government of India, in the Home Department, in the matter of the proposed charges on messages by the Indo-European Line of Telegraph for the distances in India beyond Kurrachee.

2. With regard to your letter to the Foreign Department, No. 225, dated the 19th October, I am directed to state that that letter was not transferred to the Home Department, as orders were issued upon it at once by the Foreign Department by the publication of the rates in Notification No. 497 dated the 14th ultimo.

REPORTED to the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India in letter No. 3 of 1864, dated the 15th December.

Non-adjusted Balance against Mr. Maguire.

No. 23. From Lieutenant-Colonel C. DOUGLAS, Director General of Telegraphs in India, to the Hon'ble R. N. CUST, Officiating Secretary to the Government of India,—No. 2515, dated the 15th December 1864.

HOME Office No. 3241 of the 6th October last enquires, with reference to my No. 1779 of the 27th September last, "what steps have been taken for "the recovery of Rupees 1,515-8-6 from Mr. Maguire, being the unadjusted "balance of his accounts."

2. Mr. Maguire was called upon to pay the balance due by him to this Department; but he was unable to do so. He stated, however, that he had written to his uncle Mr. William Byron of London, who is one of his sureties to pay the amount for him; meanwhile, Mr. Byron, hearing of Mr. Maguire's difficulties, remitted £60 to a Calcutta Firm to be disbursed under my instructions towards meeting the expenses of obtaining legal advice at Mr. Maguire's trial.

3. Mr. Byron's letter advising me of the remittance of £60 did not, however, reach me until after Mr. Maguire's trial had been concluded; I therefore informed Mr. Byron that as the trial was over, the object for which the remittance was made no longer existed, and I had, therefore, not disposed of any portion of the £60, and suggested that, as Mr. Maguire was indebted to the Department in a sum of Rupees 1,515-8-5 for which his sureties were, under the terms of his Bond, liable, he (Mr. Byron) might probably authorize me to appropriate the £60 in part liquidation of Mr. Maguire's Departmental liabilities. To this letter I have had no reply.

No. 24. From A. P. HOWELL, Esquire, Officiating Under Secretary to the Government of India, to Lieutenant-Colonel C. DOUGLAS, Director General of Telegraphs in India,—No. 6807, dated the 20th December 1864.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2515, dated the 15th instant, and in reply to request that, within three months from the date of your last letter to Mr. Byron, Mr. Maguire's surety, you will again write to him, informing him that, at the expiration of six months from the date of your second letter, the penalty of the Bond will be enforced, unless he can, meanwhile, shew cause for delay.

Newspaper comments against the Telegraph Department.

Telegraph Messages connected with a case of Treason against Moulouee Ahmedulla of Patna.

No. 25. From Lieutenant-Colonel C. DOUGLAS, Director General of Telegraphs in India, to the Hon'ble R. N. CUST, Officiating Secretary to the Government of India,—No. 2527, dated the 21st December 1864.

WITH reference to the annexed letter in original, to be returned, the signature to which cannot be verified in this Office, I should be glad to learn whether I have the sanction of Government to forward to the Magistrate of Patna a copy of the message referred to.

No. 26. From T. E. RAVENSHAW, Esquire, Magistrate of Patna, to Lieutenant-Colonel C. DOUGLAS, Director General of Telegraphs in India,—Dated the 16th December 1864.

I AM now engaged, under orders of Government, in investigating charges of treason &c., to be preferred against Moulvie Ahmedulla of Patna.

I find that a telegram was despatched from Umballa, dated 26th May 1863, No. 549, from Mahomed Shuffee (convicted of treason) to Moulvie Ahmedulla of Azimabad, referring to an hoondie or draft for Rupees 500.

I shall feel obliged by your procuring from the Complaint Office either the original telegram, or an authenticated copy of it, the amount about which this telegram was sent from Umballa to Patna was forwarded for treasonable purposes.

A reply by return of Post will greatly oblige.

No. 27. From A. P. HOWELL, Esquire, Officiating Under Secretary to the Government of India, to Lieutenant-Colonel C. DOUGLAS, Director General of Telegraphs in India,—No. 6772, dated the 22nd December 1864.

IN reply to your letter No. 2527, dated the 21st instant, I am directed to authorize you to furnish Mr. T. E. Ravenshaw, the Magistrate of Patna, confidentially, with an authenticated copy of the message alluded to in his letter to you, dated the 16th instant, which is herewith returned.

Newspaper comments against the Telegraph Department.

No. 28. From Lieutenant-Colonel C. DOUGLAS, Director General of Telegraphs in India, to the Hon'ble R. N. CUST, Officiating Secretary to the Government of India,—No. 2519, dated the 16th December 1864.

As it is possible that the enclosed extract from the *Bombay Mercantile News* of the 1st September may have attracted the attention of Government, I enclose a copy of Mr. Galbraith's Report on the subject to the address of the Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

No. 29. From C. GALBRAITH, Esquire, Officiating Director of Telegraphs, Western Division, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay,—No. 852, dated the 13th September 1864.

IN reply to your No. 1543 of 6th instant I have the honor to submit the following Report for the information of His Excellency the Governor in Council.

2. For convenience I have numbered the paragraphs of the Article in the *Mercantile News*.

3. *Paras. 1, 2, and 5*—I believe I shall not be expected to comment upon. It is true that the writer professes to direct his attack on the administration in "this Presidency," but the Telegraph Department has one system throughout, and it is to the system and not to any local misuse of it that the remarks apply. Where accusations are really directed against the Local Officers, they are replied to below.

4. *Para. 3.*—When the Indian Lines were first erected, they were mostly uninsulated. Latterly it has been determined to make insulation universal in India, and the work is progressing as rapidly as our means allow. In this state of things, as 14,000 miles cannot be done in a night, an observer will meet with places where there are as yet no insulators.

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Those now being applied to the Hamilton's posts were invented and manufactured in Europe two or three years ago, and imported into India some twelve months ago. The story of their being condemned stores of years, hence is ridiculous. As to thousands of them lying in the Dock-yard, Captain Young, Commander Robinson, the Store-keeper, and the Assistant Store-keeper, do not know of any, nor can I imagine how the idea originated. Again, the insulator used on the Bhore-Ghaut is the invention or adoption of the Superintendent Railway Telegraph. It is, like many other insulators, theoretically good, but it has yet I believe to be tried on long distances, or, in other words, in, numbers. It is very common for Telegraphs to invent an insulator, and conscientiously to believe they have at last arrived at perfection, and for the ordeal of actual service to develop some weak point.

5. The idea that the Railway had been using our condemned insulators probably originated in the fact that, some time ago, the Superintendent, Railway Telegraphs, obtained from this Department fifty of an old, primitive, kind of insulating earthenware ring, chiefly because they afforded a convenient 'slop' for holding the wires at straining posts. As insulators they would, I imagined, hardly be acknowledge, by modern Electricians. They are like small quoits; those we are introducing are—as a Writer in the *Gazette* lately, ridiculing them, said—like inverted flower pots; and these two descriptions the Writer in the *Mercantile News* states to be the very same.

6. *Para. 4.*—It is quite true that English top poles have been condemned as unfit for use in India, and justly so. Those that had been fixed proved total failures, and an order was issued by the Director General to use no more. The order was wise, but it necessitated such delay in consequence of the impossibility of supplying ourselves largely all, in a moment, with teak poles, that the rains found us comparatively unprepared and the Department has felt the effects ever since. The matter, will, I have no doubt, be fully reported on to the Government of India by the Director General. The efficiency of the Telegraph Officials is not implicated, as certainly whether it was Sir Charles Wood or the Director General of Stores for India in London, or whoever it was that decided on sending out English poles, it certainly was not a Telegraph Official. The Newspaper Writer, I perceive, would have us go from bad to worse, for he intimates that we should choose wood with plenty of sap,—green wood, in short.

7. Again an order has been issued to make all the Indian Lines permanent with Hamilton's iron standard. Eighty of the best selected wooden posts,—eighty *picked specimens*—I ordered to be brought to Colaba for the Post Office Line. They cost about a Rupee each for carriage, while the value of a Hamilton is about seventeen Rupees. They are *not* "as good now as on the day they were first put up," but they are "strong enough and good enough" for the use they are to be put to. They will never be called upon to bear more than one wire, and that a light one, and posts that we could not trust to fifty or a hundred miles beyond reach of a Telegraph Office, and carrying a line along which messages are constantly passing, may safely be used where a man can visit the whole of them in ten minutes, and carrying a line in use only for a few minutes once a week.

8. *Para. 6.*—It cannot excite surprise to know that this Department takes precautions against finding itself suddenly left without working hands. Each Probationer engages himself by Bond, or his Securities engage for him, to serve the Department a certain number of years, and also not to leave the Department, after the term has expired, without a certain notice, on penalty of a certain payment. A short time since numbers of young men were wanted for the Customs Department, and some apprehension was felt by this Department that serious consequences would ensue from many of our Signallers leaving us, simultaneously. One Signaller indeed wanted to leave, not only without notice, but before the expiration of the term of apprenticeship. It was, therefore intimated that the terms of the Bond would be rigorously enforced. Another Signaller who happened not to be under bond actually left his post at Sattara without giving us time to replace him by another; and considering he had done enough by forfeiting any pay that was due to him. Arriving at Bombay, he applied for a letter to the Customs Department stating that we had no objection to his leaving us. It was thus seen to be possible that an Office might suddenly be left without a soul in it. This last named Signaller is probably the one spoken of "as a somewhat similar instance."

I submit that the case is analogous to that of the soldier, and that the Writer of the mischievous paragraph 7 might, with as much reasonableness, exclaim against the tyranny that prevented a man leaving the Army when he could obtain "a situation in another branch of Government employ; the salary attached to which was nearly four times the amount paid him in the ranks,"—and state that rumours were afloat that action was likely to be taken which would tend to the entire disorganization of the army throughout the length and breadth of India." This, it is true, is comparing small things with great, yet I think it will be allowed, even granting all the shortcomings attributed to the Department, that "the entire disorganization of the Telegraph throughout the length and breadth of India," that is the sudden and total cessation of all work, would not be a trifling matter.

On the expression "first batch of Superintendents and Assistants England to supersede the present Establishment" I beg to submit for inspection of His Excellency (requesting that it may be returned when done with) copy of a letter from the Secretary of State for

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India to the Governor General which will show how far the expression is warranted. Twelve successful candidates have lately arrived in India, two of whom have been posted to the Bombay Circle and two to the Indore Circle,—in all, four to the Western Division.

No. 30. Abstract from the *Bombay Mercantile News*,—dated Bombay, the 1st September 1864.

IN our issue of the 13th ultimo, we directed public attention to the administration of affairs in the Electric Telegraph Department in this Presidency, and endeavoured to show that the chief cause of all the trouble and annoyance to which the public is subjected by the perpetual delay of messages were the systematic bad treatment of the employés, the want of efficient supervision of the offices and lines, the totally inadequate pay of the Signallers, and the general discontent of the whole staff.

2. In the Article referred to, we dealt with the former part of the subject; and we now purpose laying before our readers some further remarks with reference to the way in which the public money is squandered, together with a few facts calculated to show an utter want of system and a total disregard of the rights of the subordinates of the Department.

3. A Calcutta paper recently set up an excuse for the Telegraph delinquencies by asserting that it was no use grumbling, as the lines were not properly insulated, and could not be made to work well during the monsoons. Badly insulated, indeed! If the Calcutta lines are insulated after the fashion of the Bombay lines in some places, they are not insulated at all! Between Nareel and Kurjut, in this Presidency—and indeed nearly the whole length of the line until recently—the wires are simply dropped into notches on the top of the posts, and consequently whenever the posts get wet they become conductors of electricity; the current is destroyed or carried to the earth, and an interruption is the result. There is at this moment, we are informed, thousands of insulators lying unused in the Bombay Dockyard, where they have been for some years, having been condemned as useless as soon as they were landed in the country, on whose or what authority we know not; but we do know that the Officers of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Telegraph, acting on better counsels, were glad to purchase a large quantity of them when erecting their new line over the Boree-Ghaut, about eighteen months since, and they find from experience that the condemned insulators act admirably. Strange to relate, we perceive that the Government Telegraph people at this moment using none of the Hamilton posts—now being substituted throughout India for the wooden posts originally put up—the very insulators they condemned some years ago as useless.

4. The posts known as the Hamilton posts are in two parts, the lower part being a hollow tube of iron, about three quarters the length of the whole post, and the upper or top quarter of wood, made so as to drop into the iron tube. As all the old posts are to be substituted by Hamilton posts, large numbers have been set out from England, and we believe that at this moment there are some thirty thousand tubes, and the same number of wooden tops, stored up in the Dépôt, at Boree Bunder, and distributed over the line between Bombay and Kirkee; and what will be thought of the efficiency of the Telegraph officials, both in England and in India, when our readers are informed that those 30,000 pieces of wood, each of which had to be cut to the required length, rounded, and painted in England, are found, on arrival and partial distribution in India, to be without sap, and consequently worthless, and are now being substituted by pieces of teak? Again a line of Telegraph is being erected between the Fort and the Observatory at Colaba, and seeing that the Government are so impressed with a sense of the value of the Hamilton posts, it would not be too much to expect, especially as they have a large stocks stored near Boree Bunder, that some of those posts would be put up on this line; but strange to say, wooden posts have been brought from Kallian—where they have been substituted by Hamilton's—and put up in the new line between the Fort and the Observatory! Those wooden posts are found in reality to be as good now as on the day they were first put up at Callian; and if they are strong enough and good enough for Bombay, it is surprising that they should have been removed at all.

5. The Director General of Telegraphs, in his last Report, showed that the cost of maintaining the Telegraphs in India was just double the receipts of the Department; and if we take the administration of the line in Bombay as a fair sample of the state of the Department throughout India, we do not wonder at this alarming result.

6. We hear complaints on all sides of the difficulty of obtaining men for this Department, and no wonder, when they are subjected to such bad treatment at the hands of their superiors as we are about to relate. An instance is before us, in which a Signaller, in the receipt of Rupees 40 per month, obtained a situation in another branch of Government employ, the salary attached to which was nearly four times the amount paid him in the Telegraph Department. He succeeded in procuring the situation, and on application to the Superintendent of his Circle for permission to leave, obtained his discharge, the usual certificate to that effect being furnished him. Some few days afterwards, he was informed by the Head of his new Department that he had received a letter from his former Superintendent, stating that, by allowing

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this man to leave, he had incurred the displeasure of the Director of the Division, and that he must resign his more lucrative appointment and return to his duties in the Telegraph Office. This the man very naturally declined to do; he was then suspended from his new appointment;—eventually the Telegraph officials exacted the sum of *one hundred Rupees* from him before he was permitted to resume his duties in his new situation. This is A FACT. We are also acquainted with a somewhat similar instance, in which a man is restrained—*literally prevented*—on the plea of the “exigencies of the Public Service” from leaving the Telegraph employ, although he has an opportunity of bettering his condition to the same extent as the former.

7. Can any one be surprised, when such injustice is practised towards almost defenceless men, that there is a difficulty in getting people to join the Department; or, after they are deceived into joining, that they soon become dissatisfied; and being dissatisfied, unwilling, negligent, and sometimes faithless. Rumours are afloat, we understand, that as soon as the first batch of Superintendents and Assistants arrive from England, to supersede the present Establishment, action is likely to be taken which will tend to the entire disorganization of the Telegraph Department throughout the length and breadth of India. Should such occur, where can be the wonder? Will the warning be taken? *Verbum sap.*

No Orders.

Electric Telegraph.

Tabular Statement of matters of routine for the month of December 1864.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

No.	SUBJECT AND ORDER.	DATE OF ORDER.	DATE OF PREVIOUS ORDERS.
1 to 3	<p>Communication from the Director General of Telegraphs in India, forwarding Return of Collections of service and private messages transmitted from each Circle of the Telegraph Department during the month of October 1864.</p> <p>The results considered satisfactory.</p>	Dec. 8	
4 & 5	<p>Secretary of State's Despatch No. 5, dated 31st October 1864, forwarding, in reply to letter No. 4, dated 3rd September 1864, a triuplicate of the last pay certificate issued to Mr. B. C. Bailey of the Telegraph Department previously to his leaving England.</p> <p>Forwarded to the Auditor General of India, with reference to his letter No. 564, dated 12th August 1864.</p>	Dec. 15	Prog. 3r ^d Sept. 1864, No. 4.
6	<p>Communication from the Director General of Telegraphs in India, soliciting sanction to an increase of rent from Rupees 80 to Rupees 100 per month, for the Telegraph Office at Poona.</p> <p>Sanctioned in the Financial Department on the 17th December 1864.</p> <p>Communicated to the Director General of Telegraphs in India.</p>	Dec. 20	
7	<p>Telegram from the Government of Bombay, communicating the following telegraphic report from the Resident at Bushire:—all quiet, season sickly. Telegraphs to Tehran and Tabreez are still stopped, and export of grain from Southern Persia prohibited under instructions from Tehran.</p> <p>Copy forwarded to the Director General of Telegraphs and Foreign Department for information.</p>	Dec. 29	

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