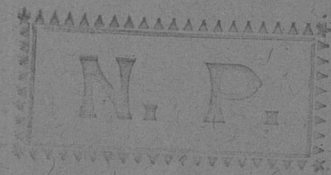


Educational (190 /) Department.

ORDINARY PRINTED.

G.O., No. 68

DATED 9. 2. 01



INDEXED.

ORIGINAL

[Despatch Abstract.]

Amaravati tope

Cons with remarks to Mr. R. Sewell,
taken from the Supdt. Govt Museum
on the subject of photographing
monuments numbered 13 in the report
on the ——— & other selected slabs
of the tope

The Notes
in these Proceedings have been printed.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Government {1901} of Madras. EDUCATIONAL.

Recd.

Regd.

1901.

Enclosures

Spare copies

ORIGINAL

G.O., No. 68, 9th February 1901.

FEBRUARY.

Amaravati Tope.

Communicating, with remarks, to Mr. B. Sewell letter from the Superintendent, Government Museum, on the subject of photographing marble numbered 13 in the report on the — and other selected slabs of the tope.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers:—

From R. SEWELL, Esq., Indian Civil Service (Retired), to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated London, S.W.

I hope I may be pardoned for troubling you with a request which I hope may be granted without much difficulty.

2. Amongst the sculptured marbles excavated by me on the site of the Amarāvati tope, and now lying, as I understand, in the Madras Museum, is one bearing the representation of a battle, in which the grouping and rendering are very life-like. In my "Report on the Amarāvati Tope," published by order of Government by Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode in 1880 (Royal 4to), this marble is given the number "13", and will be found described on pages 34 to 36. Scenes of warfare are very rare on Buddhist buildings, and, though twenty years have elapsed, I am still unable to assign it to any known historical event, or to any of the known Buddhist legends, or "Jātakas."

3. The question as to what it refers to has lately again arisen, and I am very anxious to obtain a photograph of the slab—several copies of it—in order to obtain the opinion of scholars in Europe. Three copies of a (very inferior) photograph are all that were ever taken, so far as I know, and I cannot lay my hands on any of these. One was sent to the Madras Government, one to General Sir Alexander Cunningham, and one to Mr. James Fergusson. Both these gentlemen are dead and their libraries scattered.

4. I have the honour, therefore, to ask whether, as a great favour, I may have (say) six copies of a photograph of this sculpture sent to me.

5. If photographs have not been taken of the rest of the marbles from that very important tope at Amarāvati, I might perhaps venture to suggest that a set of them would be highly prized by several museums and societies in England and on the Continent. The marbles are extremely interesting and valuable, and deserve to be better known. Those in the British Museum form the principal ornament of the grand staircase, but none of them are in such good preservation as many of those excavated by me in 1877 and now lying at Madras.

Endt. No. 47, Public.

Transferred to the Educational department.

(Signed) A. R. KNAPP,
Under Secretary.

11th January 1901.

Referred to the Superintendent, Government Museum, for report whether he can arrange for taking at an early date the particular photograph desired by Mr. Robert Sewell.

2. Remarks on the question raised in the last paragraph of Mr. Sewell's letter may be separately furnished.

(Signed) A. T. PRINGLE,
Assistant Secretary to Government.

18th January 1901.

From EDGAR THURSTON, Esq., Superintendent, Government Museum, to the Secretary to Government, Educational department, dated Madras, 29th January 1901, No. 88.

I have the honour to return herewith Mr. Sewell's letter relating to the Amarāvati marbles, and the linked papers.

2. In connection with paragraphs 2 to 4 of the letter under reference, the sculptured slab, representing a battle-scene, has already been very well reproduced in Plate XXIV, 1, of Burgess' 'Amarāvati and Jaggayapeta Stupas' (Archæological Survey of Southern India), 1887. This slab is set up as a fixture in the Archæological gallery of the Museum, and I am asking the Survey department to have a fresh negative taken, if there is sufficient working room for the camera, with a view to sending Mr. Sewell the six prints, which he is anxious to possess.

3. As concerning paragraph 5 of Mr. Sewell's letter, the marbles excavated from the Amarāvati Stupa down to the year 1882, which are preserved in the Madras Museum, and to which, I gather, Mr. Sewell refers, have already been fully illustrated in Burgess' work referred to above. The remaining marbles, to the number of 288, were subsequently transferred to the Madras Museum in 1890-1891, and include many sculptures of types similar to those previously received. The cost of reproduction would, I imagine, be considerable; and I would suggest that, before any further action is taken, Dr. Burgess should be asked whether, in the event of photographs being taken by the Survey department of selected slabs, such as differ materially from those already illustrated in his book, he would be willing to undertake the publication thereof, and prepare the necessary letter-press.

4. I recently had taken for Dr. Burgess, with a view to publication, negatives of the series of Gandhara sculptures (Indo-Greek: Punjab) preserved in the Madras Museum. But Dr. Burgess writes that "Government has reduced the subscription to the 'Journal of Indian Art' to a figure that would involve a serious loss on the printer, so that, beyond the work actually on hand, I fear no more may be published."

5. Dr. Burgess' address is 22, Seton Place, Edinburgh.

ORDER—No. 68, Educational, dated 9th February 1901.

Mr. Sewell will be furnished with a copy of the Superintendent's letter No. 88, dated the 29th January 1901, and will be informed that if Mr. Thurston succeeds in photographing the marble numbered 13 in the Report on the Amarāvati tope, six copies of the photograph will be sent to him.

2. The suggestion in paragraph 3 of Mr. Thurston's letter will be considered in the Public department.

(True Extract.)

M. HAMMICK,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To R. Sewell, Esq.,
the Superintendent, Government Museum.
the Public department.

Edt. A. F. Eccleston.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O., No. 68, EDUCATIONAL, DATED
9TH FEBRUARY 1901.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

From Mr. R. Sewell, London, S.W.

„ the Superintendent, Government Museum, No. 88, dated 29th Jan. 1901.

[SUBJECT.—Sculptured marbles of the Amaravati Tope.]

Mr. Sewell may perhaps be furnished with a copy of Mr. Thurston's letter and informed that if Mr. Thurston succeeds in photographing the marble, six copies of the photograph will be sent to him as desired.

2. Orders are solicited on the suggestion in paragraph 3 of Mr. Thurston's letter. The action taken may also be mentioned in the reply to Mr. Sewell.

3. As regards paragraph 4 of Mr. Thurston's letter, the Madras Government has recently agreed to subscribe for 109 additional copies of the "Journal of Indian Art" or 150 in all—*vide* G.O., No. 1128, Financial, dated 6th November 1900.

P. T. THARYAN.
1-2-01.

Please draft according to instructions given to-day.

A. T. PRINGLE.
1-2-01.

The draft placed below may issue with the concurrence of the Public department.

P. T. THARYAN.
4-2-01.

Will Public department accept the draft?

2. The suggestion in paragraph 3 of Mr. Sewell's letter appears to be one which concerns Public (Archæology) more than Educational.

A. T. PRINGLE.
4-2-01.

Public Department u.o.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

Public accepts the draft.

A. R. KNAPP.
5-2-01.
G. STOKES.
6-2-01.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Submitted to Secretary.

A. T. PRINGLE.
7-2-01.
M. HAMMICK.
8-2-01.

Public (1907) Department.

CURRENT No. 52

From

[Name] R. Sewell Esq

[Designation] Retired Indian Civil Servant

[Station] London S. W.

No. —

Received 1. 1. 1901.

Dated — 1901.

Enclosures nil

Registered 8. 1. 1901.

Refce 9/1/01.

SUBJECT.

Requesting to be favoured with some copies of the photo of a sculptured marble excavated by him on the site of the amravati tope, if possible.

BACK PAPERS.

50. 5000 7 6-2-00
673 7 3-10-99

FURTHER PAPERS

12/1

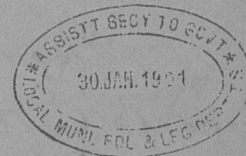
Educational (190/) Department. ²⁵ ^b

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Public Department.

CURRENT No. 124

From

[Name] Edgar Thurston Esq.[Designation] Superintendent, Govt. Museum,[Station] Madras.No. 88Received 30.1. 190/.Dated 29th January 190/.Registered 30.1. 190/.Enclosures Two.

SUBJECT.

Returning herewith Mr. Suvell's letter relating to the Amaravati Marbles and the linked papers and stating that the sculptured slab representing a battle scene has already been very well reproduced in Plate XXIV. 1 of Burgess' 'Amaravati and Jaggayapeta Stupas' (Arch. Survey of India 1887) and he is asking the Survey Department to have a fresh negative taken.

BACK PAPERS.

FURTHER PAPERS.

3. As Concerning para 5 of Mr. Sewell's letter. The marbles excavated from the Amaravati Stupa down to the year 1882, which are preserved in the Madras Museum, and

30 *Ans* R. Sewell Esq: } *22/10*
 The Suppl. Govt Museum
 - Public debt. *19/2* *76/*
5101

First copy sent to Press. 9/2/01.

Returned for signature. 14/2/01.

Despatched in print.

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
1

DATED

CURRENT No. 52 ~~124~~ A

Encl. 47 Pub. 11-1-01 A

Encl. 18-1-01 A

Cuo 124 A

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

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