

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

From Dr. J. BURGESS, Archæological Surveyor of Western and Southern India, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Bombay, 11th April 1883, No. 48.

As required by Government, I have the honor to inform you that I expect to leave India on deputation duty during the monsoon by the Mail steamer from Bombay of the evening of 27th instant, being the one nearest to 1st May.

2. I have also to report, briefly, on the work of the past season in the Madras Presidency. The working staff has consisted of Mr. A. Rea as First Assistant with three School of Art students, and for a short time four, a Pandit for about a month, and, while I was with the camp, an English Clerk.

3. During the latter part of November 1882 and early part of December, I visited a considerable number of places in the Madura District, guided by Mr. Sewell's Lists. Few of these proved deserving of detailed survey, but at nearly all of them inscriptions were collected—some apparently of considerable importance. These are being printed at the Government Press with translations by Mr. Natesa Sastri, Pandit. Drawings of ornamental details, mythological figures, &c., were also collected at several of the temples.

4. The camp reached Râmesvaram on the 24th December, and we at once began a very thorough survey of the great temple there, including a complete ground-plan, sections of portions, detail drawings of pillars, shrines, sculptures, &c., &c., in such numbers as will lessen the work to be done at any similar temple.

5. The whole of the drawings are in pencil, and it will probably occupy Mr. Rea's time the whole of the monsoon to ink them in and prepare them for publication. He should have at least one School of Art student on, say, Rs. 20 to 25 per mensem, to assist in parts of the work and learn to do the finer sort of it. Should he think he can finish the whole before the end of October, it may be practicable for him to go out during July, when I believe the weather is not unfavorable about Madras, and make detail drawings at the Seven Pagodas as required to complete the collection of plans, &c., reported on by Colonel Sankey and Mr. Chisholm.

6. Mr. Rea took charge of the photography, but without the necessary variety of lenses suited to the different kinds of views. The negatives have not all been developed yet nor any prints taken, so that I am as yet unable to say whether they are quite satisfactory or not.

7. I continued with the camp till 12th February and then visited Devipattam, Peruvayal and other places, making notes and copying inscriptions. At Madura I made *fac-simile* negatives of a large number of copper-plate grants; and reached Madras on 27th February, leaving it next evening for Bombay to superintend the operations of the survey there.

8. It will be evident from the above that the materials for a complete report on the work done cannot be ready before November or perhaps later, as I should like to include in it Tirumala Nayyak's palace and perhaps the temple at Madura. The report on the previous season's work has also been delayed because the slabs packed at

Amaravati did not come to Madras as arranged last monsoon. Should they come during the approaching rains, I should instruct Mr. Rea to have drawings of several of them prepared, and would arrange to photograph the rest early next season, so that the volume on Amaravati, Jaggayapet, and Tangada would form the first of the series.

Trusting that this brief outline will serve the present purposes of Government, I have, &c.

ORDER—dated 24th April 1883, No. 853, Public.

Recorded.

2. The Superintendent of the School of Arts will allow Mr. Rea the services of a student to assist him in preparing the drawings referred to in paragraph 4 on such remuneration within the limit proposed as may be considered suitable.

3. In case Mr. Rea should be able to proceed to the Seven Pagodas, he will report his intention to Government.

(True Extract.)

C. G. MASTER,
Chief Secretary.

To the Archaeological Surveyor to Government.

- „ Collector of Kistna.
- „ Public Works Department.
- „ Board of Revenue.
- „ Superintendent, School of Arts.
- „ Accountant-General.

Govt. of {1883} Madras.

PUBLIC.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 24th April 1883, No. 853.

no. 1369 waf 16 May/83

APRIL.

Reco. des. b.
Saf. CB

Re's 2? 9. 16. Arch. N.S.

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Exd. J. Wright,

Govt. of {1883} Madras.

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G.O., 24th April 1883, No. 853.

no. 1369 Raf. 10 May 83

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Records
of C.B.
Res. 2^d St. & 6th Cu. R. 85.

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Exd. J. Wright.

B. No. 1196W of 20-4-83

No 1369 W of 10th May 1883

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[Signature]

4/5/83

Govt. of (1883) Madras.

PUBLIC.

S.D.C.

Issued

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Encl.

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J.S.C.

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Two copies to 006/0/17-5-83

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S.E. Second Arch

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7th

Sept

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with the order